

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR FORENSIC HAEMOGENETICS (ISFH) ON SEPTEMBER 4, 1995 AT 18.00 IN THE RADISSON SAS SCANDINAVIAN HOTEL, N-0144 OSLO, NORWAY**

**TOP 1 Welcome by the President**

B. Olaisen opened the General Assembly at 18.10 and welcomed the participants.

**TOP 2 To Commemorate the Dead**

The death of the following members was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee since the last General Assembly: H.W. Goedde, A. Krüger, N. Salaru and G. Schewe. The President asked the Assembly to stand in commemoration of the dead.

**TOP 3 Adoption of the Protocol of the General Assembly in Santiago de Compostela, September 14, 1995**

The Executive Committee had not received any comments regarding to the minutes of the last General Assembly. Since nobody asked for discussion, the above-mentioned protocol was adopted.

**TOP 4 Report of the Executive Committee and the Auditors of the Account**

*4.1. Report of the President*

B. Olaisen reported that the Executive Committee had handled its business since the last Congress in only 4 sessions (1 in Münster, 1 in Zürich and 2 in Oslo).

He thanked again all individuals involved in the organisation of the 16th International Congress in Santiago de Compostela for their excellent work; furthermore, he thanked his collaborators for their work concerning the 17th International Congress in Oslo.

With regard to the Biennial Scientific Prize, B. Olaisen mentioned that a committee directed by W. Bär selected two winners out of the applications: A. Sajantila (Helsinki), as well as C. Kimpton and the UK DNA Database Group (Birmingham).

Furthermore, B. Olaisen reported that F. de Stefano plans to establish a „School of Forensic Haemogenetics“ in Sestri de Levante (Italy) which should organise courses on different aspects of this field.

Other points regarding the financial situation of the ISFH and the nomenclature of DNA PCR-polymorphisms can be found under TOP 4.3. and TOP 6, respectively.

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#### *4.2. Report of the Secretary*

W.R. Mayr reported that the total number of members of the ISFH on August 30, 1997 was 750 (in comparison, the number of members on Sept. 10, 1995 was 747). This is only a small increase and some publicity is needed in order to recruit more members; all members of the ISFH were asked to be active in this respect.

#### *4.3. Report of the Treasurer*

P. Lincoln reported that the total balance was 101.701,-- DM. During the last two years, expenditure has continued to exceed income and our total balance has decreased by 25.000,-- DM, mainly due to the high expenses for the production of „Advances in Forensic Haemogenetics“ (the proceedings of the International Congresses). In order to compensate for these expenses, the Executive Committee selected another publisher, obtained sponsorship and proposed to the General Assembly to increase the membership fee by 20,-- DM (from DM 50,-- to DM 70,--) in 1998 - see TOP 5. As a result of these measures, it is possible to deliver the proceedings of this Congress without additional charges both to members and also to non-members who attended the Congress..

#### *4.4. Report of the Representative of the Working Parties*

A. Carracedo gave a short review on the increasing activities of the 7 Working Parties, especially with respect to standardisation and quality control.

A. Carracedo reports furthermore that he installed a homepage for the ISFH in the internet.

#### *4.5. Report of the Auditors of the Account*

A. Kloostermann stated that he checked the account together with B. Eriksen. The account was found to be in order and handled in a perfect way. Therefore, the Treasurer is relieved of his duties by the General Assembly.

#### *4.6. Relief of the Executive Committee*

On a motion by N. Morling, the Executive Committee was relieved of its duties by the General Assembly.

### **TOP 5          Membership Fee**

The increase of the membership fee to 70,-- DM (see TOP 4.3.) is accepted unanimously by the General Assembly.

### **TOP 6          Report of the Activities of the DNA Commission**

A recommendation on PCR-based polymorphisms (designation of alleles) has been produced and published in the ISFH Newsletter of June 1997 as well as in scientific journals (e.g. Forensic Sciences International and the International Journal of Legal Medicine).

**TOP 7 Honorary Membership**

B. Olaisen proposed on behalf of the Executive Committee that Richard Walker be elected as Honorary Member; this outstanding personality in the paternity testing field was elected with acclamation.

*D. Walker*

**TOP 8 Elections of Members of the Executive Committee**

This business was performed by an Election Committee consisting of N. Morling and S. Rand. 98 members were present.

*8.1. Election of the President*

The Executive Committee proposed B. Olaisen; no alternative candidate was put forward by the General Assembly.

B. Olaisen was elected: 92 yes, 1 no, 3 abstentions and 2 invalid votes.

*8.2. Election of the Secretary*

The Executive Committee proposed W.R. Mayr; no alternative candidate was put forward by the General Assembly.

W.R. Mayr was elected unanimously (2 abstentions).

*8.3. Election of the Representative for all Working Parties*

The Executive Committee proposed A. Carracedo; no alternative candidate was put forward by the General Assembly.

A. Carracedo was elected unanimously (1 abstention, 1 invalid vote).

*8.4. Election of two Auditors of the Account*

B. Eriksen and A. Alonso, as well as V. Pascali and B. Dupuy (substitutes) were elected with acclamation.

The newly elected members of the Executive Committee accepted their election and declared that they will fulfil their duties in the best possible way.

**TOP 9 Place and President of the next International Congress in 1999**

The offer by G. Sensabaugh to organise the 19th International Congress of the ISFH in San Francisco, CA (USA), probably in the week of August 16, 1999), was gratefully accepted by the General Assembly.

**TOP 10 Miscellaneous**

The General Assembly thanked B. Olaisen and his collaborators for the large amount of work done in order to organise the very successful meeting in Oslo.

Thereafter, B. Olaisen thanked all participants and closed the General Assembly at 19.25.