



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR FORENSIC GENETICS

Internationale Gesellschaft für Forensische Genetik e.V.

<http://www.isfg.org>

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR FORENSIC HAEMOGENETICS (ISFH)
ON AUGUST 19, 1999 AT 17.00
IN THE NOB HILL MASONIC CENTER,
1111 CALIFORNIA STREET,
SAN FRANCISCO / USA**

TOP 1 Welcome by the President

W. Bär (as Vice President, replacing the ill President, B. Olaisen) opened the General Assembly at 17.08 and welcomed the participants.

TOP 2 To Commemorate the Dead

The death of the following members since the last General Assembly was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee: W. Helmbold, N. Ito, H. Leithoff and K. Graf von Schönborn.

The Vicepresident asked the Assembly to stand in commemoration of the dead.

TOP 3 Adoption of the Protocol of the General Assembly in Oslo, September 4, 1997

The Executive Committee had not received any comments regarding 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 Vicepresident

W. Bär reported that the Executive Committee had handled its business since the last Congress in only 4 sessions (2 in Zurich, 1 in Tenerife and 1 in San Francisco).

He thanked again all individuals involved in the organisation of the 17th International Congress in Oslo for their excellent work; furthermore, he thanked all people involved for their work concerning the 18th International Congress in San Francisco.

With regard to the Biennial Scientific Prize, W. Bär mentioned that a winner has been selected: Lutz Roewer (Berlin) for his work concerning the Y-chromosomal polymorphisms.

Furthermore, W. Bär reported that the proceedings of the ISFH Conference will be published by Elsevier (Amsterdam) as „Progress in Forensic Genetics“ due to the fact that this publisher offered an excellent service and a cheaper price for the publication of the book.

4.2. Report of the Secretary

W.R. Mayr reported that the total number of members of the ISFH on August 10, 1999 was 759 (in comparison, the number of members on August 30, 1997 was 750). 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 156.000,-- DM; due to the increase of the membership fees and the reduction of the costs for the publication of the proceedings, the financial situation of the ISFH has been stabilised.

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 reported furthermore that the homepage of the ISFH in the internet has been further improved.

The work done by EDNAP and ENFSI would be coordinated in order to avoid major overlappings of the activities of these two groups.

The DNA commission had a meeting in San Francisco and will publish in due course recommendations concerning mt-DNA.

4.5. Report of the Auditors of the Account

V. Pascali stated that he checked the accounts together with B. Dupuy. The accounts were 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 S. Rand, the Executive Committee was relieved of its duties by the General Assembly.

TOP 5 Membership Fee

Due to the stabilisation of the financial situation of the ISFH, it was not necessary to change the amount of the membership fee (DM 70,-- / year).

TOP 6 Change of the Name of the Society into „International Society for Forensic Genetics (ISFG)“

As the work of the members of the society is concerned with forensic genetics (and not only with forensic haemogenetics), the Executive Committee proposed in its invitation to the General Assembly to change the name of the ISFH into International Society for Forensic Genetics (ISFG). In a vote, 93 out of 95 members being present were in favor of this motion; 2 abstentions were observed. As more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members being present were in favor, the change of the name was accepted.

TOP 7 Honorary Membership

W. Bär proposed on behalf of the Executive Committee that A. Fiori (Rome) and E. Villanueva (Granada) be elected as Honorary Members; these outstanding personalities in the field of forensic genetics were elected with acclamation.

TOP 8 Elections of Members of the Executive Committee

This business was performed by an Election Committee headed by S. Rand. 90 members were present.

8.1. Election of the President

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

A. Carracedo was elected: 85 yes, 1 no and 4 abstentions.

8.2. Election of the Treasurer

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

N. Morling was elected unanimously (4 abstentions).

8.3. Election of the Representative for all Working Parties

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

P. Schneider was elected unanimously (3 abstentions).

8.4. Election of two Auditors of the Account

V. Pascali and B. Dupuy, as well as A. Alonso and B. Eriksen (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 2001

The offer by B. Brinkmann to organise the 19th International Congress of the ISFH in Münster in the year 2001 was gratefully accepted by the General Assembly.

TOP 10 Miscellaneous

The General Assembly thanked G. Sensabaugh and his collaborators for the large amount of work done in order to organise the very successful meeting in San Francisco.

Thereafter, W. Bär thanked all participants and closed the General Assembly at 18.12.