



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 GENETICS (ISFG) ON AUGUST 30, 2001 AT 17.30 IN THE HALLE MUENSTERLAND, MUENSTER / GERMANY

TOP 1 Welcome by the President

A. Carracedo, President of the ISFG, opened the General Assembly at 17.35 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: Marino BARGAGNA, Rosa CALVET, Eugen OSTERHAUS and Ruth SANGER (Honorary Member of the ISFG)

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

TOP 3 Adoption of the Protocol of the General Assembly in San Francisco, August 19, 1999

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 President

A. Carracedo reported that the Executive Committee had handled its business since the last Congress in only 4 sessions.

He thanked again all individuals involved in the organisation of the 19th International Congress in Muenster for their excellent work.

The name of the Society has been changed from International Society for Forensic Haemogenetics (ISFG) to International Society of Forensic Genetics (ISFG). The Society is really international as individuals of more than 57 countries are ISFG members.

The DNA Commission published recommendations on mtDNA and on Y-chromosomal markers; a new commission has been launched which will elaborate recommendations on paternity testing.

With regard to the Biennial Scientific Prize, A. Carracedo mentioned that no suggestions or requests have been submitted to the Executive Committee; he stated that a call for applications will be again announced in 2003.

Furthermore, A. Carracedo reported that the proceedings of the ISFG Conference in Muenster will be published by Elsevier (Amsterdam) as „Progress in Forensic Genetics 9“ 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 ISFG on August 15, 2001 was 843 (in comparison, the number of members on August 10, 1999 was 759). In spite of this increase, some publicity is needed in order to recruit more members; all members of the ISFG were asked to be active in this respect.

4.3. Report of the Treasurer

N. Morling reported that the total balance was 106.000,-- DM; due to the recent increase of the membership fees (in 1997) and the reduction of the costs for the publication of the proceedings, the financial situation of the ISFG seems to be stabilised.

4.4. Report of the Representative of the Working Parties

P. Schneider gave a short review on the increasing activities of the Working Parties, especially with respect to standardisation and quality control. Due to the size of the Spanish-Portuguese Working Party, there are discussions to establish a separate Latin American Working Party; furthermore, a new Central European Working Party is envisaged. ISFG members who are willing to collaborate in such a group are encouraged to contact the Representative of the Working Parties.

He reported furthermore that the homepage of the ISFG in the internet (<http://www.isfg.org>) has been further improved and that many informations can be found there. A “member-only” password-protected area containing documents which are relevant for the ISFG members has been installed. The contents of the homepage will be expanded and the Board hopes that the ISFG website will serve in due future as communication tool between the members of the ISFG.

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 change of the DEM to Euro, the amount of the membership fee has been fixed to € 40,-- / year (this corresponds to an increase of the fee of approximately 10 percent).

TOP 6 Honorary Membership

A. Carracedo proposed on behalf of the Executive Committee that Patrick Lincoln be elected as Honorary Member; this outstanding personality in the field of forensic genetics, who served 22 years as member of the ISFG Board, was elected with acclamation.

TOP 7 Elections of Members of the Executive Committee

This business was performed by an Election Committee headed by S. Rand. 80 members were present.

7.1. Election of the President

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

A. Carracedo was elected unanimously (1 abstention)

7.2. Election of the Secretary

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

W. Mayr was elected unanimously (3 abstentions).

7.3. 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 (2 abstentions).

7.4. Election of two Auditors of the Account

A. Alonso and B. Hoste, 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 8 Place and President of the next International Congress in 2003

The offer by C. Doutremepuich to organise the 20th International Congress of the ISFG in Bordeaux/Arcachon (France) in the year 2003 was gratefully accepted by the General Assembly.

TOP 9 Miscellaneous

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

Thereafter, A. Carracedo thanked all participants and closed the General Assembly at 18.27.