

International Union for the Study of Social Insects
International Committee
Monday August 9, 2010
19:30
Large Meeting Room

MINUTES

Call to Order, Welcome, and President's Report Koos Boomsma
President Boomsma opened the meeting with a brief review of how the 2010 Congress was developed. He described how the Organizing Committee and Program Committee were appointed, and also reviewed budgetary details.

Report of Secretary-General Joan Herbers
Secretary-General briefly described issues addressed in her written report. Several delegates asked for clarification of the process by which we evaluated publication offers for our Journal. She then reviewed how the duties of her office are described in our current Constitution and how they would be elaborated and better-defined in the draft under consideration.

Editor-in-Chief's Report Johan Billen
Editor Billen reviewed historical data on subscriptions, submissions, and publications in our Journal. He then gave additional information for the most recent four years, including data on acceptance rates, focal taxa and country of authors. Finally, he announced that Professor Penny Kukuk would step down as Associate Editor. After thanking her for her 8 years of service, he asked for approval to appoint Professor Miriam Richards as an Associate Editor, with primary responsibility to handle manuscripts on bees.

Discussion of Constitution Koos Boomsma
President Boomsma led a discussion of the draft document that had already been circulated among sections. A number of issues provoked extensive discussion, and the group agreed there are some we simply cannot decide at this point. Issues deferred to the next Congress include whether to institute new officers for the Union, whether to set term limits for all officers, and how best to decide on size and representation of sections on the International Committee.

After issues had been discussed, President Boomsma asked for a show of hands to accept the Constitution as amended, and to forward it to the General Assembly for final discussion and adoption. The Committee agreed unanimously.

Publisher for **Insectes Sociaux** Joan Herbers
Secretary-General Herbers reviewed the principal provisions in the contract we are negotiating with Springer-Basel. There will be substantial new revenues coming to the Union, as a profit-

sharing agreement. There also will be improvements in communication between the Union and the publisher, and service to authors.

After responding to questions, Herbers then asked for nominations of individuals to be appointed to the Financial Subcommittee, as described in the draft Constitution. There were three nominations, which were accepted on a voice vote: Heike Feldhaar (Central European section), Mike Breed (North American Section), and Koos Boomsma (Northwest European Section).

Proposals for 2014 Congress

Koos Boomsma

The Australian section is the only one to put in a bid for the next Congress, and their President Ben Oldroyd presented the proposal to have the 2014 Congress in Cairns. After a few questions and discussion, the bid was accepted unanimously.

Officers for 2010 – 2014

Koos Boomsma

President Boomsma announced that the current Editor-in-Chief Johan Billen, Secretary-Treasurer Joan Herbers, Archivist Chris Starr, and Webmaster David Nash are all willing to serve another four-year term. There being no discussion, the re-appointment of these individuals was recommended unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 22:15.