

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE POUR L'HISTOIRE DES RELIGIONS

IAHR

IAHR BULLETIN
1
FEBRUARY 1986

Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear Fellow-members of the IAHR,

This letter comes to you as part of a new bulletin on IAHR matters which is intended to facilitate liaison between officers, committee members and constitutive associations. The bulletin is the response to a proposal made during the committee meetings held in the context of the recent Congress at Sydney and is intended to carry a wider range of information and exchange of views than is suitable for inclusion in Numen. Essential formal notices will continue to be carried in Numen also since it is the official published organ of the IAHR. In order to keep costs to a minimum the circulation of this bulletin will normally be limited, at least in the first instance, to members of the Executive and International Committees, with occasional complimentary copies to persons who are directly affected by the contents. It may be recalled that the International Committee is quite large, consisting of two representatives of each constitutive national association. Unless information is received to the contrary it will be assumed that these representatives are the same as the President and Secretary of a given national association. The bulletin will include minutes and reports of meetings, announcements of future meetings, forward planning decisions and elections, news items from national associations and elsewhere, and correspondence on matters affecting the IAHR and its work. It is expected that the bulletin will be issued two or three times each year, but on an occasional rather than a routine basis. It will be numbered sequentially. Although the first issue is in the English language, contributions in other languages will be welcome, especially in the other languages also used in Numen, namely French, German and Italian. Suggestions about the bulletin will be most welcome. With all best wishes,

Michael Pye (February 1986)

I.A.H.R. CONGRESS 1985 (SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA)

(For Agenda see Annex I)

Minutes of EXECUTIVE BOARD meeting

A meeting of the Exec. Board was held on Sunday, 18 August 1985, at 11.15 a.m. at Wesley College, University of Sydney, with the President, Prof. Annemarie Schimmel, in the chair. All members of the Board were present with the exception of Profs. Hultkrantz, Kitagawa, Tyloch and Ries (from all of whom apologies were received).

1. The Secretary-General apologised for not having circulated a written report. He reported on the activities of the Secretariat: meetings of members of the Bureau; correspondence with member groups, with individual scholars, and with countries and institutions encouraged to establish member groups. These at times difficult and onerous contacts (because of lack of contact addresses) with countries lacking member groups, happily resulted in the formation of new groups and in the attendance at our congresses of scholars from countries such as China and Pakistan. The Secr.-Gen. also reported that a planned colloquium on meso-American religions (Mexico 1982) had to be cancelled because of the unfortunate death of the local convener. A report was also given on the relations of the IAHR with CIPSH/UNESCO and on the projects funded with the help of CIPSH subsidies. He expressed concern over the many overlappings and collisions due to the mushrooming "congress industry" and the resultant harm to our congresses. The Secr.-Gen. report was unanimously accepted.
2. The Hon. Treasurer circulated the printed financial report and gave additional information. The report was unanimously accepted.
3. The Secr.-Gen., in his capacity of co-editor of IAHR publications, reported on the work of the Editorial Board. NUMEN is printed in 950 copies. Ten volumes of Supplementa have been published and well received since the present editors took over from the late Prof. Bleeker. Prof. Eric Sharpe had indicated his readiness to withdraw from the Editorial Board, considering the fact that reasons of geographical distance rendered effective and efficient collaboration difficult. The Exec. Board accepted Prof. Sharpe's suggestion, recommending however that he join the Editorial Advisory Board. The report was accepted.
4. The Secr.-Gen. recalled his letter to the Board of 18 December 1984 and re-iterated his apologies for his non-compliance (through oversight) with the rules concerning the appointment of a Nominations Committee. The Exec. Board agreed to propose a list of candidates for election and to present it to the International Committee (see Annex I).
5. The Secr.-Gen. presented the request of the newly established Danish Assoc. for the History of Religions for membership in the IAHR. The Danish group, who had recently held a regional (Scandinavian) symposium, had also sent in their statutes and membership list. The application was examined and approved.
6. Invitations for the venue of the 16th Congress (1990) had been submitted by Italy and Poland (in writing) and by Finland (orally). The Board decided to consider the invitations in the sequence Rome-Helsinki-Warsaw after having heard further explanations from the representatives of the respective countries. The Board felt that apart from the quinquennial congress-

ses member groups should be encouraged to organise regional and topical study conferences and colloquia in collaboration with the IAHR Secretariat.

7. Prof. Pye intimated that if his election to the office of Secretary General was confirmed by the International Committee and endorsed by the General Assembly he intended to appoint Prof. Antes (also on the list of members to be elected to the Exec. Board) to serve as his Deputy. Though the latter office is not anchored in our Constitution but was an unofficial ad personam appointment at the discretion of the Secr.-Gen., the Exec. Board had given its assent to this arrangement (and the International Committee had endorsed it) since 1980. The purpose of the present proposal was to make more determined attempts to involve Muslim scholars in the work of the IAHR.
8. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12.45 p.m.

(Minutes prepared by Zwi Werblowsky)

AGENDA

for the Executive Board and International Committee

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Report of the Secretary-General
- 3) Report of the Hon. Treasurer
- 4) Report on the General Assembly of CIPSH
(Bangkok, 1984)
- 5) Report of the Editorial Board
- 6) Elections to Executive Board
- 7) Applications for membership in the Association
- 8) Proposed Study Conferences
- 9) Venue of 1990 (16th) Congress of the IAHR
- 10) Other Business

I.A.H.R. CONGRESS 1985 (SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA)

International Committee Minutes

The statutory meeting of the International Committee of the IAHR was held on Sunday, 18 August 1985, at Wesley College, University of Sydney, at 2.15 p.m. with the President, Prof. Annemarie Schimmel, in the Chair.

Member groups represented were:

Australia (Eric Sharpe, Victor Hayes)
 Canada (D. Wiebe)
 Finland (T. Ahlback, J. Sukala)
 France (Jean Leclant)
 German Fed. Rep. (P. Antes)
 Israel (R. J. Zwi Werblowsky)
 Italy (Ugo Bianchi, Fabio Scialpi)
 Japan (K. Nakamura, N. Tamaru)
 Netherlands (L. Leertouwer)
 Nigeria (J. O. Awolalu)
 Poland (Prof. Szmyd arrived too late to attend)
 Southern Africa (G. C. Oosthuizen, Martin Prozesky)
 United Kingdom (Ursula King, Ninian Smart)
 U.S.A. (Fred Streng, L. Sullivan)
 Switzerland (H. Pernet)

and (ex officio) members of the Exec. Board.

1. The reports of the Secr.-Gen. and the Hon. Treasurer, as presented previously to the Exec. Board were accepted. There was some criticism concerning lack of communication between the IAHR and member groups. The Secr.-Gen. replied that since taking office he had made it his rule to circulate minutes and reports of Bureau meetings plus at least one annual report not only to members of the Exec. Board but also to mail courtesy copies to all Presidents/Secretaries of member groups. He was not responsible either for postal mishaps or for incorrect viz. antiquated mailing lists due to the failure of member groups to notify the Secretariat of changes of officers and addresses.
2. The report of the Editors of the IAHR was accepted.
3. The proposals for election to the Exec. Board (officers and members) submitted by the outgoing Board were accepted (in spite of the slight constitutional irregularity) and the new officers and members duly elected, subject to endorsement by the General Assembly.
4. The application for membership in the IAHR by the Danish Association was examined and approved.
5. The invitations for the 1990 Congress were discussed, and it was decided, in view of certain doubts and lack of clarifications, to ask representatives of the inviting member groups to speak to the subject in the General Assembly and, if necessary, to ask the General Assembly to empower the new Executive Board to take a final decision.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

(Minutes prepared by Zwi Werblowsky)

I.A.H.R. CONGRESS 1985 (SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA)

Minutes of the General Assembly

The General Assembly of the IAHR met at the Great Hall of the University of Sydney on Friday, 23 August 1985, at 10.15 a.m., with the President, Prof. Annemarie Schimmel, in the Chair.

1. The President declared the Assembly open.
2. The Secretary-General apologised (in French) for the anglophone character of what was technically an "international congress", but pointed to the constraints of participation and the majority language of participants. He next read the paragraphs of the Statutes of the IAHR relevant to the work of the General Assembly.
3. The Secr.-Gen. presented to the General Assembly for their endorsement the recommendations of the International Committee. The reports of the Secretariat, the Hon. Treasurer and the Editors were accepted. In answer to a question from the floor the Hon. Treasurer confirmed that the assets of the IAHR were kept in an interest-bearing account. The Secr.-Gen. also announced that the IAHR had become a co-sponsoring organisation of CISHAAN (formerly the "International Orientalist Congress") and that new member groups were developing whilst old established ones were disappearing due to the demise of their most active organisers or for other reasons. Meanwhile individual and institutional contacts were increasingly strengthened so as to encourage the formation of new member-groups and the participation of scholars from countries without member groups (cf. the presence at the present congress of scholars from China and Pakistan). The Secr.-Gen., in his function of co-editor of IAHR publications, also publicly thanked the members of the Editorial Advisory Board and the many unnamed scholars who were reading and vetting mss. and advising the Editors. Without their selfless collaboration the publication programme of the IAHR would be an impossibility.
4. The list of candidates elected by the International Committee gave rise to an animated discussion, centering mainly on the alleged one-sidedness of the composition of the Executive Board. The Secr.-Gen. and others pointed out that the IAHR was not a World Forum or a mini-UNO but an umbrella-organisation of constituent member groups. It was the body of duly designated delegates of these member groups (i.e., the International Committee) which elected their Executive Board. No purpose would be served by confusing the International Committee with the Executive Board. An extension of the Board would require a revision of the Constitution. The Assembly nevertheless urged the the incoming Exec. Board to explore ways and means to add personalities to the Board so as to make the latter more representative. The list of elections presented by the International Committee was thereupon endorsed.
5. The application of the Danish Association for membership in the IAHR was approved.
6. The invitations for the 1990 Congress were presented by Professors Bianchi (Rome) and Pentikainen (Helsinki). The Polish invitation was transmitted by the Secr.-Gen. Prof. Pentikainen indicated that there was still some uncertainty whether Finland would prefer a full-fledged Congress or a smaller colloquium. In the circumstances the General Assembly decided that the Exec. Board examine the question and, after obtaining the necessary clarifications and information, take a final decision.
7. The outgoing Secr.-Gen. gave his farewell address.

8. The new Secr.-Gen. made his speech of acceptance.
9. In her closing address, the President expressed the thanks of the IAHR and the Congress participants (and in particular those from abroad) to the hosts and especially to the University of Sydney, the Australian and particularly the Sydney Organising Committee as well as all the institutions, authorities and agencies that helped to make the 15th IAHR Congress such a success. At the conclusion of her address the President declared the Congress closed.

(Minutes prepared by Zwi Werblowsky)

ANNEX 1

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 23 AUGUST, 1985.

EXECUTIVE BOARD 1985 - 1990

Annemarie Schimmel	Harvard University, USA	President
E.M. Pye	Marburg, West Germany	Secretary-General
H.J. van Lier	Utrecht, Netherlands	Hon. Treasurer
Ugo Bianchi	Rome, Italy	Vice-President
R. J. Zwi Werblowsky	Jerusalem, Israel	Vice-President
J. O. Awolalu	Ibadan, Nigeria	
N. Tamaru	Tokyo, Japan	
Wytold Tyloch	Warszawa, Poland	
D. Wiebe	Toronto, Canada	
Peter Antes	Hannover, West Germany	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE IAHR

Meeting held at the University of Sydney on 23.8.1985

The Executive Committee of the IAHR met at the University of Sydney on Friday 23rd August at 2.30 p.m. in the context of the 1985 Congress (shortly after the General Assembly) with the President, Professor Annemarie Schimmel, in the chair. The following further members of the newly elected committee were present: P. Antes, J.O. Awolalu, U. Bianchi, M. Pye, N. Tamaru, H. van Lier, Z. Werblowsky, D. Wiebe. Apologies were received from W. Tyloch.

1. Constitution of the committee. It was decided that as a matter of courtesy towards the wishes expressed at the General Assembly (immediately preceding) an additional woman member of the IAHR would be permitted to attend meetings of the Executive Committee as an observer and to receive all related circulars for the forthcoming five-year period. The suggestion of Prof. Werblowsky that this person, subject to her agreement, should be Prof. Sister Sung-Hae Kim of Sogang University in the Republic of Korea (who holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University, U.S.A.) was accepted unanimously.

2. Congress venue 1990. After further discussion of this question in the light of previous consultations during the Congress it was agreed that a provisional order of priority for the venue of the 1990 Congress should be: Rome, Helsinki; a final decision should be taken some time in 1986 after further details were available about the following aspects of planning: physical, organisational (available personnel), academic, and financial. It was agreed that future proposals for congress venues should be supported by written information relating to these four aspects. It was also agreed that Prof. Schimmel should give a formal invitation to Professor Bianchi in these terms, asking him to proceed with planning, in order to facilitate his negotiations in Rome.

3. Proceedings. After discussion it was agreed that Dr. Victor Hayes, for the Australian Association for the Study of Religion, should be asked to proceed with arrangements for the publication of selected proceedings of the 1985 Congress. In view of the haphazard policy for the publication of proceedings over previous years, guidelines for the publication of IAHR Congress proceedings were discussed and agreed in the form attached to these minutes as an appendix.

4. Liaison. It was agreed that in the forthcoming period particular attention should be paid to matters of liaison, that minutes of the Executive Committee should be sent to the presidents and secretaries of national associations, and that these should be asked to name their two national representatives (if different from themselves) on the International Committee for the five-year period.

5. Any other business. Publications. The committee confirmed the continuation in office of Profs. H. van Voss and Z. Werblowsky as the editorial executive of Numen (the official organ of the IAHR). It was pointed out that this was a non-eternal mandate. Prof. Werblowsky requested a record of thanks to scholars to scholars not listed as members of the Advisory Board who had been of assistance to the editors.

(Minutes prepared by Michael Pye)

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE POUR L'HISTOIRE DES RELIGIONS

Executive committee: President: Prof. A. Schimmel (Cambridge, Mass.); Secretary-General: Prof. M. Pye (Marburg); Hon. Treasurer: Dr. H. J. van Lier (Utrecht); Vice-Presidents: Prof. U. Bianchi (Rome) and Prof. R. J. Z. Werblowsky (Jerusalem); Deputy Secretary-General: Prof. P. Antes (Hannover); Prof. J. O. Awolalu (Ibadan); Prof. N. Tamaru (Tokyo); Prof. W. Tyloch (Warsaw); Prof. D. Wiebe (Toronto); co-opted observer: Prof. S.-H. Kim (Seoul).

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE IAHR

Appendix to minutes of the meeting held at the University of Sydney on 23.8.1985

GUIDELINES FOR THE PUBLICATION OF IAHR CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS

1. The title "Proceedings of the (XVth) Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions" should be prominently visible, even if accompanied by a thematic title for the particular Congress.
2. The volume should contain a list of participants with addresses.
3. The volume should contain a brief record of formal events, speeches of welcome, etc.
4. The volume should contain a record of the academic programme, naming sections and titles of papers, special lectures, linked symposia, etc.
5. The selection of papers for inclusion should take place on the basis of (a) merit and (b) thematic coherence, and some indication should be given of their relation to other work completed or in progress. Copyright should normally be retained by authors.
6. Room should be made for a contextualising report on the relation of the Congress to the venue selected and on cultural events which accompanied it.
7. Essential information or documentation of IAHR matters should be included as appropriate: e.g. statutes or changes in statutes, current officers, accession of new national associations. (It is recognised that such information should also be carried in Numen.)

In connection with these guidelines c.f. point 3 in the above-mentioned minutes. It is assumed that in general the arrangements for the publication of IAHR Congress Proceedings require the approval of the Executive Committee and that the invitation to arrange publication would normally be addressed in the first instance to the national association of the country in which the Congress is held.

(M.P.)

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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE IAHR

Record of an informal meeting held at the University of Sydney on 23.8.1985

Following the meeting of the Executive Committee of the IAHR at the University of Sydney on Friday 23rd August at 2.30 p.m. an informal meeting of the International Committee was held with the President, Professor Anne-marie Schimmel, in the chair. At this meeting most of the members of the Executive Committee were present and they were joined by about fifteen representatives of national organisations.

At this meeting the topics discussed at the immediately preceding meeting of the Executive Committee (see minutes) were reported on, and in a freely ranging exchange of ideas the following points were emphasised by various members.

1. Care should be taken over constitutional procedures, and plenty of time allowed for the preparation of elections, etc.
2. Liaison should be improved where possible, e.g. by circulation of a small bulletin to the officers of member associations containing material not suitable for publication in NUMEN, such as selected details of national associations.
3. Doubt was expressed as to whether the connection between NUMEN and E.J.Brill should necessarily continue. It became clear in discussion that this connection was not essential in itself. However no proposals were made for alternative arrangements.

(Record prepared by Michael Pye)

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THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1985-1990

addresses of members other than those printed above

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