

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION
UNION ASTRONOMIQUE INTERNATIONALE

Forty-Seventh Meeting of the Executive Committee
Royal Netherlands Academy of Science, Amsterdam
Tuesday, 5 August - Friday, 8 August 1980

P R O C E E D I N G S

The 47th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Astronomical Union took place in the Royal Netherlands Academy of Science in Amsterdam, Netherlands, 5th to 8th August 1980.

Present were :

Professor M.K.V. Bappu	President
Dr. M.W. Feast	Vice-President
Dr. D.S. Heeschen	Vice-President
Academician E.K. Kharadze	Vice-President
Professor S. van den Bergh	Vice-President
Professor R. Wilson	Vice-President
Professor P.A. Wayman	General Secretary
Dr. R.M. West	Assistant General Secretary
Professor E.A. Müller	Adviser, Former General Secretary
Professor A. Blaauw	Adviser, Former President

in attendance :

Mrs B. Manning	Secretary
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Vice-President L. Kresak was prevented by illness from attending.

Introductory note :

The report has been prepared in the order of the items overleaf in the Agenda list. Documents circulated before and at the meeting have been kept separate from the report ; they will be available in the files of the Union for further reference.

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VI CLOSING BY THE PRESIDENT

I OPENING BY THE PRESIDENT

The President, Professor M.K.V. Bappu, opened the meeting on 5 August 1980, at 09.30, with words of welcome to those present and with thanks to Professor Blaauw for the arrangements in Amsterdam. He mentioned the absence of Dr. L. Kresak due to illness and it was agreed to send a message expressing hope for a speedy recovery.

The President summarized outstanding achievements since the 46th meeting, particularly the establishment of the Paris Secretariat, the acceptance of the invitation to convene the next IAU General Assembly in Greece in 1982, and the concluding of the arrangements for membership of mainland China. In respect of this progress, the General Secretary and the staff of the Secretariat were to be congratulated.

II INTERNAL MATTERS (ADMINISTRATION)

1. The minutes of the 45th and 46th meetings of the Executive Committee, as circulated during July 1980 to members and advisers, were approved with the following correction :

EC 46, p. 5, line 3 : delete ", the IAU included"

Arising from the content of the minutes, the General Secretary presented a modified list of IAU Representatives, containing the following changes, recommended for adoption by the IAU Officers at their meeting in December 1979 :

Insert ICSU : P.A. Wayman
COSTED : L.N. Houziaux
For "CDS" *read* "CCDS"
Under BIH : A. Orte, H.M. Smith
" IUCAF : R. Schilizzi, G. Westerhout
" CCIR : B.J. Robinson, L.H. Doherty, H.M. Smith
Delete SBARMO (dissolved from 1980 January)

It was agreed that these changes should be adopted.

2. The Agenda Items were approved without change.

3. The President reported that the Special Nominating Committee was now about to begin its work. Membership, approved at the XVIIth General Assembly, was :

Chairman :	The President
Members :	A.H. Batten A. Boyarchuk B. Westerlund F.G. Smith V. Blanco A. Blaauw (past-President)
Advisers :	the General Secretary the Assistant General Secretary

4. IAU Secretariat

The General Secretary reported that the IAU Secretariat is approved as "Association Etrangère" by the Préfecture de Police and announced as such in the Journal Officiel de la République Française, No. 4529.

The premises, though small, were proving adequate and were well equipped with storage space and other requirements. The arranging of the archives had commenced.

The staff of two, Secretary Mrs B. Manning and Typist Ms P. Smiley, were engaged by a letter of appointment and a formal agreement on employment with a commitment to meet CNRS terms for similar employees was in preparation. A bank account had been opened at Crédit Lyonnais, Ave. Général Leclerc ; all other current and savings accounts had been maintained. A part-time typist (M. Shields) was employed during November-December 1979.

All correspondence of the General Secretary was, as far as possible, being handled in Paris ; a period of continuous residence by the General Secretary, October and November 1979, had been followed by visits to Paris of about 3 days every 3 weeks or so.

A formal agreement concerning the premises with l'Observatoire de Paris had been under consideration. It was decided that such an agreement would be necessary eventually, especially in regard to fixing the duration of the arrangement for occupation of premises by IAU.

5. The General Secretary reported that the revised version of the IAU Statutes and By-laws would appear in French and English in Vol. XVIIIB of IAU Transactions, bringing up-to-date the previous printed version of Vol. XIVB. The texts, as prepared on camera-ready copy, had been circulated to EC members as a final check on accuracy. Working Rules in French and English and the revised Rules for Scientific Meetings in English only would accompany the Statutes and By-laws in Vol. XVIIIB.

6. IAU Membership

(a) The General Secretary reported that the National Institute for Sciences, Tenku Cik Dithiro 43, Jakarta, Indonesia, had been proposed as the adhering organisation for Indonesia, the 49th member country in the present list of countries. This was approved.

It was recommended that adherence of China be now as agreed with authorities in both Nanjing (formerly Nanking) and Taipei as :

Chinese Astronomical Society
Purple Mountain Observatory
Nanjing, China

and :

Chinese Astronomy Union
Taipei Observatory
Taipei, Taiwan
China

In the formal listing of adhering countries "Astronomy Union located at Taipei, China" would be used for China, Taipei.

It is further recommended that Category III (4 units of contribution) be adopted for 1980 onwards as the financial category for China, Nanjing. China, Taipei, adheres in Category I. To distinguish the two adhering organisations the terms China, Nanjing, and China, Taipei, seemed appropriate. For China, Nanjing, the modern form of romanised Chinese spelling of names would be adopted, but for China, Taipei, the spelling customary in western countries would continue to be used.

The General Secretary reported that Dr. Z. Tufekçioğlu, Director of the Department of Astronomy, University of Ankara, would be proposing that Turkey shall adhere through the Space Sciences Unit of the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey from a date in the near future.

Membership of countries as new IAU members was discussed. The ICSU adherence of Sri Lanka, Thailand and Nigeria would enable an approach to be made by the General Secretary. For Algeria, an approach through Professor Ch. Fehrenbach, and for Saudi Arabia an approach through Professor S. van den Bergh, would be appropriate.

(b) It was reported by the General Secretary that the number of individual members at December 1979 was estimated to be 4497, the figure for December 1976 (3783) being increased by 813 new members at the Montreal General Assembly, with 99 resignations or deaths recorded. The computerized list by Reidel should be available during 1980, as reprinted from the Transactions XVIIIB pages, prepared by camera-ready copy.

(c) A list of 47 individual names for China, Nanjing, was presented to the Executive Committee as having been received recently. Full details of age and publication references had been provided. It was noted (i) that the age range 41 to 82 was abnormal but could be corrected to some extent by new proposals in 1982, (ii) that a good geographical distribution in China had been achieved, and (iii) that certain Commission recommendations might be made to assist the Nanjing adhering organisation in consultation with Commission Presidents.

(d) It was agreed that P.G. Laskarides, at the request of Professor R.J. Tayler, be co-opted as a member of Commission 35 and Y.L. Kokurin, at the request of Professor P. Pâquet, be co-opted as a member of Commission 19.

7. Commission Reports and Recommendations

(a) Commission 5

It was reported to the EC by S. Mitton that a draft Style Manual, designed for preparation of camera-ready copy, was almost ready for circulation to members of the Working Group on IAU editorial policy. Progress on this was regarded as satisfactory, although the precise status of S.I. nomenclature and of the ISO recommendations on journal abbreviations was not clear to EC members at present.

(b) A request by the President of Commission 22 for financial support of co-operative work in radar observations of meteor showers was not approved in the form submitted. However, the General Secretary was authorized to provide partial support, if possible, from the present budget, forwarding the suggestion that full support could only be made available for a limited period and a request would have to be submitted separately for the next budgetary period 1983-85. The use of the Strasbourg Data Centre could be considered.

(c) The request by the President of Commission 25 that the General Secretary urge National Committees to make possible the participation at General Assemblies of those holding Commission responsibilities was supported by the Executive Committee.

(d) A Report by J. Delhaye, President of Commission 38 (Exchange of Astronomers) was approved, although it was considered that in one case rejection of a travel grant appeared to be somewhat severe. Extension of the Commission 38 scheme with UNESCO funding to a different category for scientists from developing countries could be envisaged (i) for the years 1982, 1983 and (ii) as part of the submission for the Medium-Term Plan 1984-89.

(e) In the absence of definite proposals it was decided that no action should be taken on the question of a new Commission for Exobiology, as proposed by L.O. Loden. As a scientific area it was not sufficiently well defined to warrant a special IAU Commission, and there could also be a problem of overlap with other ICSU Unions.

(f) The General Secretary reported on the problem that the IAU Working Group on Nutation had encountered. It was confirmed that existing resolutions could only be revoked at a General Assembly, and further recommendations from the principal parties concerned were to be awaited.

(g) Information on the Total Solar Eclipse of 31 July 1981 in the USSR from V. Krat was noted, with the recommendation that it be passed to the President of Commission 12.

8. General Assemblies

(a) The XVIIIth General Assembly, Patras, August 1982.

The General Secretary reported on the results of his two visits to Athens and Patras in January and June 1980, the second in the company of A.H. Batten. The President had visited Patras immediately before coming to Amsterdam and had been impressed by much that was offered. The strength of the proposal lay in the character of Professor C.L. Goudas, in the suitable accommodation provided by the University, including student rooms, and in the cultural attractions of the ancient city. The weakness concerned uncertainty in the amount of Government financial assistance and in the total hotel accommodation available for the IAU General Assembly at the time required.

The proposed Greek Local Organising Committee Budget was available for comment. It was agreed on this basis that a proposed IAU contribution of up to \$50,000 could be made, but that the General Secretary should specify the division of IAU support between (a) Travel grants, (b) Symposia and Colloquia

budgets, and (c) hotel deposits, in the ratio 2:3:3 approximately. As the hotel deposits would be released by the placing of booking deposits in 1982, money made available for (c) could be re-allocated to (a) and (b) provided such total amounts were used for these purposes.

Further details of building utilisation for the scientific requirements of the General Assembly would be available at the 1981 EC meeting after a further visit by the General Secretary to Patras. The dates proposed for 1982 were 17-25 August, the informal gathering being held on 16 August and the Inaugural Ceremony and First General Assembly on 17 August.

It was emphasized that the financial assistance to the Greek National Committee was only justified by the unusual circumstances of the short notice and was in no way to be regarded as a precedent for future General Assemblies. It was only possible for 1982 because of the favourable financial situation at the end of the period 1977-79.

(b) It was anticipated that the notice by India for an invitation to the Union for the XIXth General Assembly to be held in Bangalore in 1985 would be substantiated by the time of the 1981 Executive Committee.

Dr. Heeschen reported that the U.S. Academy of Science would confirm in due course an invitation for 1988. The flexibility of the US organisations in accomodating the uncertainties facing the Union for 1982 and in other years was fully appreciated by the Executive Committee and it was understood that any plans for 1988, once agreed, would represent a definite commitment.

The President expressed the firm hope that there would soon be a more satisfactory situation for General Assemblies in the years immediately ahead than had pertained during the latter part of 1979 for the period 1982-85.

(c) For future General Assemblies, it was anticipated that there would be a continuing requirement for Joint Commission meetings and for Joint Discussions but that single Commission scientific sessions would tend to be displaced in favour of Commission Colloquia. Presidents should be made aware of their role in organising their General Assembly meetings in the best possible way.

The possibility of a General Assembly in Japan was raised ; it had been considered before, but no proposal had been forthcoming due partly to the absence in that country of university premises of the type required by the IAU.

9. Finances

(a) The Vérification des Comptes 1979, together with explanatory notes circulated by the General Secretary, was approved. It was noted that a substantial surplus arose principally from lower spending on the General Assembly, due to Commission Presidents' travel allowances not being fully taken up, and from under-utilisation of Commission 38 travel funds. Neither circumstance could be expected to recur during the period 1980-82. The Montreal General Assembly has benefitted greatly by the Franklin Mint donation.

Although a transfer from current accounts to savings accounts had not taken place during 1980, it was noted (a) that all the interests on savings remained in the savings account, and (b) that drawing on funds in arrear as support for the Variable Star Catalogue had depleted current accounts instead of the savings account reserves.

The General Secretary expressed the opinion that, by evaluating the performance of the savings accounts in Swiss francs, the difficulty in assessing the value of artificially high interest rates as against changes in exchange rate had been partially overcome. The assistance of "UAI France" in purchasing furniture for the Secretariat was gratefully acknowledged and it was decided that a letter of thanks be sent on behalf of the Executive Committee to Professor Kovalevsky.

The General Secretary undertook to examine a "cash-flow" plan, possibly with further investment in savings at higher interest rates, to match the pattern of the 3-yearly cycle of IAU income and expenditure.

(b) Commission financial requests

It was agreed that although small sums such as that requested by Professor Taylor (Commission 35) could sometimes be met at the discretion of the General Secretary, Commission expenses were intended for single scientific projects taken up from time to time.

The Commission 22 request for support of radar meteor data was not approved in the form submitted (see item 7 above).

The Commission 46 increase from Sfr 3 000 to SFR 4 400 was approved, it being noted that a UNESCO-ICSU application 1981-83 had been put forward in regard to this item.

The re-instatement of the BIIEA grant was not approved ; its non-renewal had not been overlooked in 1979 - it was then decided not to renew.

(c) Budget 1980-82

Various budgetary alterations expected for the period 1980-82 were noted, but it was decided to postpone to the 1981 Executive Committee meeting all formal alterations except one, namely :

It was approved that the sum allowed for General Assembly costs be increased from Sfr 140,000 to Sfr 220,000 to enable the Greek Local Organising Committee to be supported financially (para. 8(a) above). An excess of expenditure over income in the region of Sfr 75,000 for the 3-year period was anticipated.

The General Secretary was instructed to prepare a modified budget proposal for adoption by EC in 1981 and subsequent recommendation to the 1982 General Assembly.

10. IAU Publications

The General Secretary reported that the manuscript for Highlights of Astronomy, vol. 5, including texts of seven of the eight Joint Discussions held at Montreal, was delivered to Reidel in May 1980 and that the printed volume is due in August 1980. The manuscript for IAU Transactions XVIIIB was completed during July and the printed volume should be available during 1980 or very early 1981.

Two issues of the IAU Information Bulletin had been issued, in January and June 1980 (Nos. 43 and 44 respectively).

The Assistant General Secretary reported on publication of IAU Symposium Volumes. Mean publication time is about 10 months. Most delays occur with editors rather than with Reidel, who generally keep to the schedule laid down in the agreement with IAU. The Assistant General Secretary has been in contact with editors of 1980 Symposia to see whether the editing can be carried out more quickly.

The Assistant General Secretary introduced a draft call for tenders in connection with the choice of the IAU publisher after 1982, when the current agreement with Reidel expires. There is no doubt that the IAU publications are in good hands at present, but it would be useful to investigate whether alternatives exist, perhaps at a generally lower price level.

After some discussion, the Executive Committee agreed to issue the call for tenders, instructing the Assistant General Secretary to see whether it was possible to arrive at a scheme of "personal" subscriptions at greatly reduced price, as is the case with some of the large astronomical journals.

The question of producing a "cheap" version of IAU Transactions, vol. XVIIIIA(1982) was discussed. It was decided to return to this question during the next EC meeting in 1981.

Mrs. N. Pols van der Heijden of D. Reidel Publishing Company attended for an informal discussion with Executive Committee members of the publishing of IAU material.

III SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY

11. Scientific Content of the XVIIIth General Assembly

(a) Invited Discourses

It was proposed that Invited Discourses at the Patras General Assembly be sought as follows :

- (i) Y.B. Zeld'ovich (Moscow) - Cosmological topic
- (ii) M.A. Hoskin (Cambridge, UK) - Greek historical topic

Other possibilities were :

- G. Herbig - Early stages of stellar evolution
- J. Taylor - Gravity waves ; the binary pulsar
- G. Clark - X-ray astronomy
- S. Weinberg - Galaxies
- F. Hoyle - Exobiology (?)

It was decided that the third Invited Discourse be considered at the 1981 Executive Committee meeting.

(b) Joint Discussions

The following proposals were regarded as possible topics for Joint Discussions at the XVIIIth General Assembly :

I A Joint Discussion on the Solar Maximum Year to be incorporated into the proposals collated by the Assistant General Secretary for a number of solar physics meetings for 1982, viz :

(i) COSPAR-SCOSTEP

(ii) proposals by V. Bumba for Joint Discussions

(iii) 1982 Symposia and Colloquia (final list to be formulated in 1981).

II Planetary Rings, proposed by Y. Kozai
(Commissions 7, 15, 16, 20)

III Chemical Evolution of Galaxies (or a related topic), proposed by J. Graham, B. Westerlund and G. Lyngå
(Commissions 25, 28, 40, 45, 47, 48).

IV Extra-Galactic Distance Scale and the Hubble Constant, proposed by B. Westerlund (Commissions 28, 40, 47).

V Physical Properties of Long-Period Variable Stars, Circumstellar Envelopes and Galactic Structure, proposed by A. Slettebak (Commissions 27, 29, 45).

Further possibilities would emerge before EC meeting in August 1981 when the list would be made final.

(c) No details were available to date on proposals for individual Commission meetings.

12. IAU Symposia and Colloquia

The Assistant General Secretary reported briefly about the meetings in 1980.

No less than 17 meetings were formally proposed for 1981 and 1982, together with advance information about another 5. The Assistant General Secretary reminded that of the Sfr. 138,000.- reserved in the 1980-82 budget for Symposia and Colloquia, Sfr. 51,000.- had already been allocated.

The Executive Committee then discussed in detail each of the proposed meetings. As a result, 4 meetings were accepted as Symposia and 8 as Colloquia. Three meetings, connected with the Sun, were referred back to the proposers for re-submission after further consideration ; three meetings were approved in principle, pending further information, and one meeting was rejected.

A list of approved meetings is given below :

Symposia

- 98 Be Stars, Munich, FRG, 6-10 April 1981
- 99 Wolf-Rayet Stars : Observations, Physics and Evolution, Yucatan, Mexico, September 1981
- 100 Internal Kinematics and Dynamics of Galaxies, Besançon, France, August 1982
- 101 Supernova Remnants and their X-Ray Emission, Venice or Padua, Italy, August 1982

Colloquia

- 61 Comets : Gases, Ices, Grains and Plasma, Tucson, USA, 11-14 March 1981
- 62 Current Techniques in Double and Multiple Stars Research, Flagstaff, USA, May 1981
- 63 High-Precision Earth Rotation and Earth-Moon Dynamics : Lunar Distance and Related Observations; Grasse, France, 25-27 May 1981
- 64 Data and Information Retrieval, Strasbourg, France, July or September 1981
- 65 Evolutionary Status of Variable Stars, Budapest, Hungary, 25-28 August 1981 (or later)
- 66 On the Problems of Solar and Stellar Oscillations, Crimea, USSR, 8-11 September 1981 (or earlier)
- 67 Instrumentation for Large Telescopes, Zelenchuk (or elsewhere), USSR, 8-10 September 1981
- 68 Astrophysical Parameters of Globular Clusters, Schenectady, USA, 15-17 October 1981

Provisionally accepted, pending further details

- Activity in Red Dwarf Stars, Catania, Italy, August 1982
- Dynamical Trapping, Patras, Greece, August 1982
- Evolution of the Early Universe and its present Structure, Greece, August 1982

Finally the Assistant General Secretary presented some statistics about the participation in IAU Symposia during the period 1977-1979. It could be seen that certain countries, which are members of the IAU, rarely or never participate and the EC expresses the hope that they could become more active. The EC members were requested to think of ways of achieving this.

13. Regional Astronomy Meetings

A brief oral report about the recent 5th European Regional Astronomy Meeting was given by M. Feast.

Preparations for three other meetings, the 2nd Latin-American (January 1981 in Mérida, Venezuela), the 2nd Asian-Pacific (August 1981 in Bandung, Indonesia) and the 6th European (October 1981, Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia) were reported by the Assistant General Secretary. Some problems had been encountered in the organisation of the first of these, in Venezuela, but the new chairman, Dr. M. Peimbert, was actively making up for the lost time.

No new Regional Astronomy Meetings were proposed.

14. Young Astronomers' Schools

(N.B. - The General Secretary omitted to report that the Young Astronomers' School at Tenerife (Spain) had been held satisfactorily in September 1979. The IAU financial contribution had been paid as provided for at EC 44 in 1978 but, due to pressure on registration, the costs planned for the School had been exceeded).

The General Secretary reported that programme proposals for the 1980 September-October School at Hvar, Yugoslavia, had been received from Zagreb. A financial contribution by the IAU of Sfr. 19,000 was approved, a UNESCO-ICSU contribution of \$4,000 = Sfr. 6,250 having been granted. 46 students and 11 lecturers were planned.

A similar financial grant for the proposed 1981 School in Helwan, Egypt, would exhaust the 1980-82 IAU budgetary allocations for Young Astronomers' Schools. However, a current application for UNESCO-ICSU funding of \$15,000 in each of the years 1981-83 would, if successful, permit full implementation of the programme of Schools. No locations for the Schools of 1982 and 1983 had been decided but proposals could arise from Iraq, Indonesia, India, Greece and Venezuela.

15. Co-sponsored meetings

(a) Since the last EC meeting, 5 symposia and 2 workshops, co-sponsored with SCOSTEP and COSPAR (and some other unions), were held. The Assistant General Secretary reported briefly about these.

(b) There were originally ten requests prepared by the Assistant General Secretary for co-sponsorship. However No. 2 of this list had since been approved as an IAU Colloquium (No. 63) at Grasse, France.

A request by B.S. Mathur for IAU co-sponsorship (with URSI) of an Indian International Symposium on Time and Frequency was rejected on the basis that IAU only co-sponsors meetings arranged by ICSU Unions and Scientific Commissions, etc.

The following six Symposia arranged by COSPAR and one by IAMAP were adopted for IAU co-sponsorship, with proposed IAU Representative as shown in parenthesis :

IAMAP : Origin and Evolution of Planetary Atmospheres
August 1981, Hamburg, F.R.G. (G. Hunt)

COSPAR : Observational Cosmology from Space and related topics,
August /September 1981, Poland or Paris, France (B. Paczynski)
Solar Maximum Year Workshop
September 1981, Paris, France, (M. Pick)

Impact Processes of Solid Bodies
1982, Ottawa, Canada (I. Halliday)

Interiors, Atmospheres, Ionospheres and Magnetospheres of Giant
Planets and their Satellites
1982, Ottawa, Canada (J. Veverka)

Gamma-Ray Astronomy in Perspective of Future Space Experiments,
1982, Ottawa, Canada (C.E. Fichtel)

Advanced Space Instrumentation in Astronomy
1982, Ottawa, Canada (T.R. Gull)

The proposed "Symposium on Solar Maximum Year" organised by COSPAR and SCOSTEP in Ottawa in 1982 was also approved for co-sponsorship by IAU and D.M. Rust was suggested as IAU Representative on the Organising Committee, but it was to be arranged by the Assistant General Secretary that this proposal would not overlap or detract from proposals concerning the SMY and SMM to be scheduled in connection with the XVIIIth General Assembly of the IAU in Patras in 1982.

It was agreed that the General Secretary should propose specifically to COSPAR that IAU Representatives be appointed to the Organising Committees and that the expenses of IAU Representatives be met *in toto* by the IAU as its form of financial support for the co-sponsored symposia.

16. Executive Committee Projects

No specific proposals had been prepared, but the General Secretary reported that he had a request from Professor E. Richardson, President of Commission 9, for financial support of a meeting on Photographic Plates to be held in Nice, 22-24 April 1981.

It was agreed that while this was not a suitable topic as an EC project, an application in terms similar to an IAU Colloquium would be appropriate for the meetings on future occasions. The General Secretary was authorized to make an *ad hoc* contribution, not exceeding Sfr. 3,000, in the present instance.

IV INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

17. ICSU

The IAU Report for 1978-80 to the ICSU General Assembly to be held in Amsterdam in September 1980 had been circulated by the General Secretary.

The General Secretary reported that he would attend the meetings of the General Committee of ICSU and the General Assembly as the IAU Representative. There was a special meeting on 8 September concerning Science and Technology in the Developing Countries. If there were an election for the vacancy of General Secretary of ICSU, he would support the candidate proposed by the Executive Board of ICSU, Professor J. Dooge (Ireland).

18. ICSU-UNESCO funding, contracts, etc.

(a) 1979-80

The General Secretary reported that the total sums available in 1979 and 1980 had been as follows :

	Union Grant	Special Grants, Contracts, etc.	
	\$		\$
1979	12,000	ISYA	4,000
		WARC 79	3,000
1980	8,000	Commission 38	1,800
		Education Materials	600
		Publ. Developing Countries	1,600
		ISYA	4,000
1981	9,600		

The WARC account, which was the subject of a special ICSU grant, showed a residue of Sfr. 1,628 which would be retained in the funds of the Union, unless it was required to be returned to ICSU.

The ICSU 79 Report, including the financial statement for 1979 expressed in dollars, had been circulated to EC members. One alteration was made : p. 1 penultimate line, for "Astronomy", read "Astrometric".

(b) 1981-83 Program

The first notice of application for ICSU-UNESCO Contract funding was made in November 1979 by the General Secretary, requesting support for ISYA in 1981, 1982 and 1983 to a total of \$45,000.

A fresh submission in July 1980 was required

(a) for 1981 in detail

(b) to cover 1981-83 in outline, with particular reference to the appropriate paragraphs in the UNESCO Draft Program and Budget Plan 1981-83.

The documents sent to ICSU on 3 July 1980 were circulated at the EC meeting and were approved on the basis that an addition would be prepared by the General Secretary before mid-September on the basis of the following proposal :

The travel funds administered by Commission 38 of the IAU should be extended to incorporate a special category for which funds are provided by UNESCO Contract. The terms of this funding should be to encourage work in Astronomy by scientists from developing countries ; the restrictions that apply to Exchange of Astronomers (Commission 38) travel grants should not apply to these grants. The President of Commission 38 should be asked to propose guidelines for the administration of Travel Grants for astronomers from Developing Countries and financial support be requested of UNESCO

(i) for 1982 and 1983

and (ii) as a part of the 1984-89 Medium-Term Plan application.

(c) UNESCO Medium-Term Plan 1984-89

The General Secretary reported that it had been possible to assemble documents on the theme of Training and Research in Astronomy for Developing Countries with the help of submissions by :

- (i) J. Delhaye and F.B. Wood
- (ii) G. Swarup, T.R. Odhiambo and S. Okoye
- (iii) S. Ferraz-Mello

An application for a total of \$2.7 m in the period 1984-89, based on an annual cost of \$0.3 m at 1980 levels, had been prepared and circulated at the meeting. An advance copy had also been sent to the Executive Secretary of ICSU, in order to satisfy the deadline of 1 August 1980. The application concerned a selection of three or four developing countries in which a comprehensive scheme of Training Fellowships, Visiting Lecturers, and Schools for Young Astronomers would be organised. This application was approved by the Executive Committee, with the addition of an extension of Commission 38 Travel Grants to scientists from developing countries, as in (b) above.

19. COSPAR

The General Secretary presented a Report on the XXIIIrd COSPAR Plenary Meeting, Budapest, in June 1980, which he attended as IAU Representative. The difficulty of avoiding duplication in scientific meetings had been discussed under item 15(b) above. The procedure for establishing Commission membership required further clarification, to be sought from COSPAR in due course. The opinion was expressed that the IAU had no reason to fear competition in the matter of organising attractive scientific meetings ; nevertheless the existence of two independent organisations planning meetings of a similar nature must inevitably lead to some conflict. The Executive Committee proposed no action for the present other than constant vigilance.

20. (a) SCOSTEP

Reports by M.R. Kundu had been circulated. A similar situation on Solar-Terrestrial matters with respect to IAU existed for SCOSTEP as on space science for COSPAR. A major Symposium by SCOSTEP in Ottawa in June 1982 could detract from IAU proposals for August 1982 ; the Assistant General Secretary would make a special review of all proposals in this area.

The General Secretary reported that a new SCOSTEP Constitution gave new specific functions to National representatives, but the scientific activities remained the concern of the Bureau, composed only of Union representatives. He did not propose to question adoption at ICSU of the new Constitution.

(b) FAGS

A report by H. Enslin had been circulated at the meeting. As well as giving full details of the various functions carried out within FAGS, a request was made to increase the IAU financial contribution to a level similar

to that provided by URSI and by IUGG, as IAU interest in FAGS activities was as great as that of the other two Unions. Also it was reported that the WMO grant was unlikely to be renewed. Unfortunately, it was the case that substantial injection into FAGS from the 1980-82 IAU Budget was out of the question. The General Secretary drew attention to the "forward-look" budget for FAGS services for the years 1982-86, in which IPMS requires a considerable increase from 1982 onwards.

The Executive Committee regretted that no increase could be made in the FAGS subvention at this time ; it would remain at Sfr. 2,000 for 1981.

Outline reports were given on the FAGS services BIH, QBSA, IPMS and Project MERIT, documents being circulated on the first and last of these organisations.

21. Other International Organisations

It was noted that the subvention to "IAUPPC" would terminate in 1982, that the Pic-du-Midi Organisation had been concluded during 1978 ; also that the usefulness of the Coordinating Committee for Moon and Planets within ICSU had been seriously questioned.

The Reports by F. Horner and G. Westerhout on IUCAF and the results of WARC 79 had been circulated. It was noted that as well as IUCAF and URSI representatives, two astronomers from Nigeria and Argentina had taken part in the meetings of WARC in Geneva in October and November at the suggestion of IAU, with ICSU funding, and the results for radio astronomy were regarded as satisfactory.

Reports on CCIR by H.M. Smith and B.J. Robinson and on CODATA by B. Hauck were distributed ; a request through L. Houziaux for augmentation of the CTS subscription from \$300 to \$ 400 was approved for 1981.

Arrangements for choice of a new Chairman for IUCS were noted. The agreement of the IAU representative at CCDM to accede to the disappearance of the parsec and the astronomical unit from the table of special units in the explanatory tables of the Système International des Unités was also noted.

A request for the IAU to be officially represented at the XXXIst Congress of the International Astronautical Federation in Tokyo, September 1980, was declined on the basis that the IAU sends representatives only to ICSU Union Assemblies.

22. IAU Structure

There was no discussion on this item.

23. Next Meeting of the IAU Executive Committee

Academician E.K. Kharadze invited the President to convene the 48th Meeting of the IAU Executive Committee at the Abastumani Astrophysical Observatory at Mt. Kanobili, Georgia, USSR, during July-August 1981.

The invitation would include hospitality at the Observatory and attendance of EC members' spouses would be welcomed. The travel to Tbilisi and from Tbilisi to Mt. Kanobili would require special consideration and careful timing, but no difficulty of principle existed.

The President was pleased to be able to respond positively to this invitation and he looked forward to holding an Executive Committee meeting in the quiet surroundings of Abastumani in twelve months' time.

24. There being no other business, the President closed the 47th meeting of the Executive Committee at 13.00 on 8th August 1980 with a word of thanks to Professor Blaauw and the staff of the Netherlands Academy for their assistance and the President of the Netherlands Academy for hospitality at the reception on 6th August.