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WORLD CONGRESS OF HERPETOLOGY

also serving as Section of Herpetology of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS)

31 October 1989

MEMORANDUM TO THE OFFICERS OF ALL AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Our First Congress, held in Canterbury, United Kingdom, 11-19 September, is now history. The week was an intense and, we believe, stimulating one for all concerned. At final count, 1368 persons attended—including 900 delegates—from 61 countries (see the list at bottom of next page).

Since your organization is an official affiliate of the World Congress, I wish to provide you with this report on several important matters. Please share this information with your fellow officers.

1. Congress Constitution.

The Constitution, written by Harold Cogger's committee and as published in the Congress Newsletter no. 5, August 1988, was reviewed and endorsed by the Executive Committee. Only one substantive change was made to the published version (ARTICLE 4(ii)). The Executive and International Herpetological Committees will be elected for two, rather than three, intercongress terms).

The revised Constitution was discussed at the Business Meeting on 17 September, which was open to all delegates, and passed.

2. Elections to Executive and International Herpetological Committees.

In accordance with the provisions of our new Constitution, an election was held at the Business Meeting to replace half of each committee. Ballots were marked, tallied by Richard Longmore's committee, and the results reported during the Closing Ceremonies. Several nominees proposed by Affiliated Organizations were elected.

The following persons were elected to the EC: Roger Avery (UK), Wolfgang Böhme (FRG), William E. Duellman (USA), Tim Halliday (UK), Konrad Klemmer (FRG), Jean Lescure (France), Jay M. Savage (USA), Marvalee Wake (USA), Yehudah Werner (Israel), and Romulus Whitaker (India). The continuing members of the EC are Donald Broadley, Robert Carroll, Gustavo Casas-Andreu, Harold G. Cogger, J. C. Daniel, Ilya S. Darevsky, Marinus S. Hoogmoed, Michael R. K. Lambert, P. E. Vanzolini, and Zhao Ermi.

These persons were elected to the IHC: Pere Alberch (Spain), Natalia B. Ananjeva (USSR), Claes Andrén (Sweden), Ana Maria Baez (Argentina), Leo Borkin (USSR), S. D. Bradshaw (Australia), Jacques Castanet (France), Alain Dubois (France), Darrel Frost (USA), David Green (Canada), Ulrich Joger (FRG), Raymond F. Laurent (Argentina), Murray Littlejohn (Australia), Linda R. Maxson (USA), Roy W. McDiarmid (USA), Göran Nilson (Sweden), Eric Pianka (USA), Jens Rasmussen (Denmark), Olivier Rieppel (Switzerland), Zbyněk Roček (Czechoslovakia), Borja Sanchíz (Spain), Richard Shine (Australia), Malumo P. Simbotwe (Zambia), Ian Swingland (UK), Richard Tinsley (UK), Linda Trueb (USA), and Richard Wassersug (Canada). [NOTE: Several of these persons were re-elected to the IHC after being dropped off through a public lottery.]

3. Election of New Secretary-General and Treasurer.

The newly-constituted EC, as required by our Constitution, met on the final day of the congress and elected our new officers from among the EC membership. Marinus Hoogmoed was elected as Secretary-General and Robert Carroll as Treasurer.


4. Second Congress.

At the Business Meeting, it was announced that proposals for the next congress had been submitted from three venues: Adelaide, Australia (Michael Tyler), San José, Costa Rica (Douglas Robinson), and Singapore (P. Gopalakrishnakone). The EC hopes to make a decision by early next year, but in the meantime other nominations are solicited. Correspondence should be addressed to Rinus Hoogmoed as soon as possible. According to our Constitution, the next congress must be held in 3-5 years.

Finally, we take this opportunity to thank your association for its support. Eventually, 30 organizations became official affiliates of the World Congress, including all of the leading national and international herpetological societies. This endorsement was extremely helpful in publicizing and legitimizing our efforts, and we were pleased to acknowledge this support in our several publications including the Congress Program itself.

We are grateful for your confidence in the World Congress of Herpetology and in its first meeting. We believe that the First Congress has set a high standard for the future, and will provide an important stimulus for our discipline.

Sincerely yours,


Kraig Adler
Secretary-General, First World Congress
and
Professor of Biology, Cornell University

Final tally of delegates, by country:

Argentina	8	France	45	Pakistan	1
Australia	32	German Democratic Republic	5	Panama	1
Austria	17	Germany, Federal Republic of	47	Papua New Guinea	1
Bangladesh	1	Greece	4	Peru	3
Barbados	1	Hungary	7	Poland	1
Belgium	10	India	10	Portugal	4
Belize	1	Indonesia	1	Saudi Arabia	1
Botswana	1	Israel	11	South Africa	10
Brazil	11	Ireland	5	Spain	39
Bulgaria	1	Italy	31	Sri Lanka	1
Canada	15	Japan	12	Suriname	1
Cayman Islands	1	Kenya	1	Swaziland	1
Chile	1	Luxembourg	1	Sweden	10
China-Beijing	10	Mauritius	1	Switzerland	25
China-Taipei	2	Mexico	10	Tanzania	1
Costa Rica	5	Netherlands	18	U.K.	154
Czechoslovakia	7	New Zealand	7	U.S.A.	269
Denmark	4	Nigeria	1	U.S.S.R.	24
Dominican Republic	1	Norway	1	Venezuela	1
Egypt	1	Oman	1	Zimbabwe	2
Finland	1				