



Incoming Council Meeting Minutes WFM 25th Congress

- APPROVED 7 NOVEMBER 2008 -

Friday, 31 August 2007

Nominations, Elections and Co-Options

The Incoming Council Meeting began with the Ballot Committee noting that some Officers were nominated without opposition. These were:

Council Chair: Jim Christie
Executive Committee Chair: Keith Best
Treasurer: Ed Chobanian

Other Nominations for Officers were:

Vice Chair of Council: Rev. Mitsuo Miyake
Lucy Webster

CNSC Chair: Tony Fleming
Karen Hamilton

EC Member: James Arputharaj
Lucio Levi
Bente Nielsen
Lucy Webster

It was agreed that as Chair, Jim Christie would work on succession plans and outreach to member organizations.

Councilors were asked to register to receive a voting card and ballot for the election of Officers and another ballot to elect Councilors for Co-option.

Candidates for Co-option were then allowed a moment for a brief introduction. These candidates included:

Peter Davidse
Rufo Guerreschi
Fernando Iglesias
Takahiro Katsumi
Jean-Francis Pougala (presented by Lucio Levi)
Manju Rani Mukherjee (not present)
Mahmood Shariar Sharei (presented by Ed Chobanian)

The Council agreed to co-opt 5 of the 7 candidates. The vote was held and the Ballot Committee confirmed the results that the following are co-opted to serve on the Council.

Peter Davidse
Fernando Iglesias
Takahiro Katsumi
Jean-Francis Pougala
Mahmood Shariar Sharei

Prior to the election of Officers, an agreement was made between the candidates for 1st and 2nd Vice-Chair of Council to have Lucy Webster hold the position of 1st Vice-Chair of Council and Rev. Mitsuo Miyake hold the position of 2nd Vice-Chair of Council.

Lucy Webster withdrew her candidacy for EC membership to allow the remaining 3 candidates to be elected by acclamation rather than by a vote. James Arputharaj, Lucio Levi, and Bente Nielsen were thus welcomed to the EC.

The only remaining election was for CNSC Chair. The candidates Tony Fleming and Karen Hamilton were allowed a moment to present themselves. The Ballot Committee confirmed Tony Fleming was elected CNSC Chair.

Election of Honorary Presidents

Bill Pace noted that the IS received a nomination from WFM Japan for Mr. Ueki to serve as Honorary Vice President. The motion was seconded by James Arputharaj and carried *nem con*.

Budget Report

WFM Financial Officer, Staci Alziebler, noted that the budget for 2008 is a draft for review—a final budget would be approved by the EC in their meeting in early 2008.

Ed Chobanian asked from where does WFM receive its administrative funds? Staci Alziebler shared these are from grants for projects

Peter Luff asked about the Policy on Reserve and Bill Pace noted it is a discretionary decision. Staci Alziebler shared that funding from bequests generally goes into the reserve.

Tony Fleming asked Councilors to encourage their MOs and AOs to pay their dues. Ton Má_el suggested other organizations could help raise money for the dues of delinquent MOs and AOs. Bill Pace disagreed as it would not be beneficial to pay a dysfunctional group's dues. Takahiro Katsumi recommended researching the reasons for delinquency to see if financial assistance is enough for getting a group back on their feet.

Jim Christie had to depart for Ventotene and thus ceded the chair to Lucy Webster as 1st Vice Chair of the Council.

Council Committees

Francisco Plancarte recommended the establishment of an informal committee on Article 109 reform. James Arputharaj noted that there used to be several active committees in the Council and recommended that two committees be established:

- 1) Credentials Committee to elect CNSC members

2) Policy Review Committee

Bill Pace recommended for the continuation of Policy Committee with Fergus Watt as chair, and Lucy Webster seconded a committee to clarify the membership of the CNSC.

Tony Fleming noted he will bring a formal CNSC team for council approval in 2008 as has been the practice to date.

Fergus Watt stated he would be happy to carry on as the Policy Committee Chair but would have to confirm that members are willing to continue to serve on the Committee. Bill Pace clarified that the Policy Committee assists the IS in interpreting the policy set by Congress, if Councilors are interested in participating in Policy Review Committee, they should contact the IS or Fergus Watt so that he might present the Committee members to the Council in 2008 for approval. James Arputharaj suggested the EC could review the names for both the CNSC and Policy Committee at their April meeting to avoid a gap until the next Council.

Dues

Fernando Iglesias asked about considering weighted dues. Bill Pace noted that the dues structure needs revision and this is a good idea to look into and that more research was needed to find other options.

IMO

Ken Kostyo noted that WFBN will incorporate the WFM Individual Member Organization (IMO) in The Netherlands before turning it over to CNSC. Bill Pace asked for further discussion by the Council on this issue. Ton Macel suggested they will research what is necessary to accommodate Dutch and US law and have preliminary consultations with experts. Keith Best noted that an IMO is now in the Statutes but the membership fees of the IMO are to be paid directly to the IS.

Tony Fleming clarified that the Congress provided a mandate to create an IMO and Ton Macel should provide the CNSC proposals for the structure and legality of an IMO as the Montreux document was a symbolic, not legal gesture. Lois Wilson noted Congress voted in favor of an IMO with the clause "an appropriate mechanism would be put in place". Peter Luff motioned that Council move on to the next item of business, Keith Best seconded this and the motion carried.

CNSC Issues

Tony Fleming presented a motion to mandate the CNSC to deal with the "cleaning up" of the bylaws. Peter Luff seconded, and the motion carried.

Kjartan Almenning motioned for the CNSC to take a more prominent role in encouraging people to run for office at next Congress to ensure proper succession and that the CNSC be allowed to nominate persons for elections. Peter Luff seconded, and the motion carried.

Council Meeting 2008

Bill Pace noted that the IS hopes to receive proposals for hosting the next Council meeting in the coming months. The IS will research these proposal and seek the EC's final approval as the hope is to avoid decisions made without the proper information.

Peter Luff asked Council to mandate the EC to ask the IS to invite proposals for hosts, then research costs so that the EC might make an informed recommendation to be circulated to the Council for approval. Ken Kostyo seconded this motion, Ed Rawson opposed the motion but the motion carried.

There was some informal discussion of possibilities for hosting the next Council meeting. Lois Wilson suggested that if be in New York or The Hague so as to minimize costs. There was a general consensus to hold the meetings in the fall of 2008. Ton Macel suggested the Czech Republic, but noted funding concerns. Bente Nielsen noted she is in favor of going to new countries, but to do so with a smaller delegation for the purposes of outreach, not a costly Council meeting. Keith Best also mentioned that the costs involved in IS Staff travel out of New York can be \$8000.00 USD—a cost that should be taken into consideration. Ed Chobanian stressed proposals to host the Council should include estimated costs for meeting rooms, accommodations, and other related costs.

Tony Fleming motioned to adjourn the meeting, Lucy Webster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Keith Best and the Council expressed their gratitude and sincere thanks to the efforts of the IS Staff in preparation for and throughout the Congress meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.