

# **WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT**

## **Incoming Council Meeting Minutes**

### **November 14-15 1998**

The Council meeting started its agenda with the election of officers. Martin Hagvall of the Credentials, Nominations and Statutes Committee (CNSC) chaired the meeting until the new Council chair was elected.

#### **Election of Officers**

##### *Vice President*

The CNSC received only one nomination and Lois Wilson was elected as Vice-President.

##### *Council Chair*

There were three nominations but two of the nominees withdrew and James Christie was elected.

##### *Vice-Chair of Council*

Three nominations were received but one nominee withdrew. Toshio Kozai was elected First Council Vice-Chair and Lucy Webster was elected as Second Council Vice-Chair.

##### *Treasurer*

The CNSC received only one nomination and Ed Chobanian was elected Treasurer. He proposed Barbara Walker as assistant treasurer which was approved by Council.

##### *Chair of the Executive Committee*

Keith Best was elected as EC Chair.

##### *Chair of Credentials, Statutes and Nominations Committee (CNSC)*

Martin Hagvall was elected as chair of the CNSC.

##### *Members of the CNSC*

The election of members of the CNSC was postponed to the next meeting, up to which time the CNSC will comprise of those persons appointed by the Chair of the CNSC. Nominations for Paul Berendsen, Gautam Dey and Ton Macel will be carried over.

#### **Election of Members of the Executive Committee**

It was noted that two of the EC members from 1995-1998, Bente Nielsen and Tim Barner, could not be at this Congress because of visa problems. As these two could not speak for themselves, it was agreed that they would be spoken for by two participants. Nominated were: Knut Roger Andersen, James Arputharaj, Tim Barner, C.R. Dutta, Dorji Lama, Lucio Levi, and Bente Nielsen. Elected were Bente Nielsen, James Arputharaj and Lucio Levi.

#### **Co-options to Council**

James Christie raised the issue of the number of co-options to Council. James Arputharaj moved that five persons be co-opted, which was seconded. Barbara Walker moved that the motion be amended to three, which was seconded. The amendment was put to a vote: 23 for, 10 opposed, carried. Vote on original motion: carried.

#### **President, Vice President, Honorary Officers and Advisory Board**

John Sutter reported that Joseph Rotblatt was interested in serving on the advisory board but wanted to know what serving on board entails. Bill Pace responded that one of his goals was to formalize how WFM kept in touch with advisors and honorary members. They can occasionally be convened to give advice to the Congress or Council. WFM is committed to rejuvenate the advisory board in the next one to two years. John Sutter

moved that the item be moved to the credentials committee for guidance, which was seconded. Vote was carried with one opposed.

A motion to appoint Thor Heyerdahl as an honorary president was carried unanimously.

A motion to appoint Heinrich Ott as honorary vice-president was carried unanimously.

A motion to appoint Finn Sayersted to the advisory board carried unanimously.

William Pace noted that these appointments do not reverse prior designees to honorary positions.

### **Suggested Bylaws Changes**

Martin Hagvall proposed amendments to the bylaws, all related to the functioning of WFM committees. He hoped it would clarify how committees working, under what basis they conduct their work, and the membership of committees. Keith Best made a motion to refer the item to the EC. Vote: Motion passed with 5 opposed, 1 abstention.

### **Council Committees**

Fergus Watt requested a list of committees and chairpersons. Bill Pace reported on the status of the committees:

- Comprehensive UN Reform Committee is chaired by John Logue
- Credentials Committee, Statutes, and Nominations Committee is chaired by Martin Hagvall
- Environment and Development Committee is chaired by Bente Nielson.
- Federalism and Self-Government Committee is chaired by John Sutter and was going out of existence.
- Finance Committee is chaired by Tim Barner and Robert Stewart.
- Human Rights Committee is chaired by Rene Wadlow.
- International Law Committee had been chaired by Raiz Touzmohammed and was not functioning since his death.
- Outreach and Logo Committee had completed its work.
- Religion and Peace Committee is chaired by James Christie and had submitted several reports.
- Restructuring Committee was chaired by Scott Hoffman and was not in existence anymore.
- UN Parliamentary Assembly Committee is chaired by Lucio Levi.
- UN Security Forces is chaired by Bruce Ritchie.

Bill Pace reported that the IS will inform the congress of committees with active convenors with the minutes.

John Sutter volunteered to chair a new outreach committee if a membership director is hired. Fergus Watt reported that Mary June Pettyfer has authored an essay entitled "Marketing World Federalism," which is available from the IS.

### **Co-Option of Council Members (cont'd)**

Nominees included: Minati Adikhari, Knut Anderson, Tim Barner, Troy Davis, Gautam Dey, Mohammed Habibuzzaman, Madhura Karki, Ashis Kumar De, Shantalal Mulmi, C.R. Dutta, Dorji Lama, Lucio Levi, Viswanathan Muthukumaran, Vijayam Raghunathan, Karikar Vathianaden, and Lucy Webster. Dorji Lama, Shantalal Mulmi and C.R. Dutta withdrew. The results were: Gautam Dey, Viswanathan Muthukumaran and Vijayam Raghunathan were co-opted to the Council.

### **Budget**

Ed Chobanian reported on the proposed WFM budget. He noted that there was a strong probability that meeting expenses will increase. He expressed concern that core salaries come mostly from program grants. The budget was adopted.

### **Proposal from Montreux on Membership Criteria**

Christie reported on a proposal from the Montreux Council meeting on membership criteria put forward by the Credentials Committee, which was carried. The proposal is reproduced at the end of these minutes.

### **Next Council Meetings**

Keith Best reported that at the last Council meeting it was agreed that the next Council meeting would be held in Ventotene about 2nd to 5th of September 1999. Shunsako Kato has made arrangements for meeting in Japan in 2000 during last week in May or first week in June 2000. James Christie noted that a meeting in the Hague in May would be too close. A Council meeting in Ventotene in September 1999 was agreed.

Peter Davidse raised concerns about the scheduling of WFM meetings, noting that there are regional meetings of the Millenium Peoples Assembly coming up. Lucio Levi suggested a council meeting during the Millenium Peoples Assembly, perhaps meeting in Japan in 2001. Bill Pace argued that 2001 could be problematic for the Japanese federalists, while May/June 2000 is acceptable. The General Assembly has not agreed to any of the Secretary General's millenial proposals in any specific way. Therefore it was not clear the point of meeting in New York. A Council meeting in Japan in May/June 2000 was agreed.

### **Recognition of Lydia Swart**

James Christie noted that as Executive Officer, Lydia Swart has done a great deal for us. And WFM has for four years counted on Lydia. Bill Pace recounted how Lydia Swart became involved with WFM in 1989, organizing with him a parallel meeting with the Non-Aligned Movement. This important meeting with the NAM was instrumental in the Decade of International Law and the Third Hague Peace conference. Lydia has been a deputy, a grants officer, an executive officer, a financial officer, a membership officer, and the organizer of our EC and Council meetings. Next year, she will continue helping us with the Hague conference. A large part of WFM's success was due to having someone to deal with the day to day management, Bill noted.

Lydia Swart told how when she joined WFM she was convinced that she would only last a year. She stayed because our programs and our people, such as Bill Pace, Rik Panganiban, John Sutter, Barbara Walker, other WFM officers, and others have made this work worthwhile.

### **Thanks to Congress Organizers**

James Christie extended thanks to Asian Youth Centre staff for organizing the WFM XXIII Congress. James Arputharaj thanked the Executive Committee for their support and the IS for help running the conference. He expressed gratitude to Lucio Levi for inviting AYC members to Ventotene, and the Dutch and Japanese World Federalists for their support. He concluded that organizing the Congress was a global effort.