

**Minutes of the IAMS-Executive Meeting,  
9.-12. January 1997 at Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham**

**Present:** Chun Chae Ok (Chair), Paulo Suess, Martin Conway, Andrew Kirk, Jerjes Ruiz, Teresa Okure, Tim Huffman, Graham Kings, Joseph Mattám (as substitute for Joy Thomas), Klaus Schäfer; Doris Stangenberg, Steffka Ritchie (partly); for DAB: John Roxborough.

**Apologies:** Joy Thomas, who was unable to attend the meeting; for him Joseph Mattam was accepted as substitute.

The minutes are recorded in the sequence of the agenda.

**1. Welcome and "warming up"**

The President of IAMS, Prof. Chun Chae Ok, welcomed the members of the Executive Committee to this first meeting after the Buenos Aires Conference. She expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve IAMS and voiced the expectation that the new Committee will work together in a sense of fellowship and cooperation.

Martin Conway warmly welcomes the participants on behalf of Selly Oak Colleges. First arrangements for meals and items outside the business-related agenda (such as a meeting with faculty and students of SOC, exposure to Birmingham, visit to churches) were discussed.

**2. Finalizing the agenda**

The agenda was approved as prepared by the Secretary. Adjustments as to the placement of the items were made during the course of discussions.

**3. Minutes of the Executive meetings at Buenos Aires**

The Minutes of the Executive meetings at Buenos Aires (10.4.96; 18.4.96) were approved and accepted.

From the Minutes there are the following matters arising:

- It was taken note of that Dr. Eugene Stockwell, who was one of the driving forces for inviting the IAMS-Conference to Buenos Aires, died in October 1996 due to cancer. Even though Eugene had very much desired to attend the Buenos Aires Conference, his health did not permit him to do so.
- Martin reports that the translation equipment (worth about US \$ 3.000,-) was taken by him back to Selly Oak Colleges. However, the equipment, because of the specific wavelength of the radios, is totally useless in Europe. It was agreed to keep the equipment with the Treasury in Birmingham. John

Roxborough showed interest to investigate whether the system could be adopted for use in various contexts.

#### 4. Evaluation of the Buenos Aires Conference

The Executive members share their impressions of the Buenos Aires Conferences. Klaus starts with reference to the evaluation sheets which were submitted by participants after the Conference. There are some general reappearing negative comments on the organisational side of the Conference and the inadequate contact to the local community and the realities of Argentina. There were also comments related to the accomodation (lack of single rooms), the distances between the hotels and the meeting place, the general feeling about the inadequacy of an inner-city meeting place for a Conference such as this etc.

Some comments regarding the programmes and content of the Conferences from the evaluation sheets:

- Length of the Conference; six days may be sufficient, perhaps connected with an exposure programme;
- the whole dimension of celebration was lacking (however, there are also appreciative comments on the worship etc.);
- there was often a waste of time (call for more Conference discipline and punctuality);
- there should be responses to the main papers;
- more space for discussion and debate;
- more interdisciplinary dialogue, involvement of economists etc.;
- overloaded programme;
- more time for regional meetings;
- more attention to the concerns of institutional members;
- call for a clearer project policy of IAMS;
- desire to have greater participation from Eastern Europe and China.

Martin drew the attention to three tensions which were "being spoken about, often in tones of some anxiety and regret": First the tension between "mission studies" as a specific, academic discipline, and "mission today" as a more general commitment and passion. Second, the tension between different views of or approaches to theologies of mission, as illustrated between the stress variously laid on "evangelical mapping" and "inter-faith dialogue". And third, the tension between the different "elements" of the programme due to the fact that our days were rather too full and unhurried conversation therefore restricted. - These tensions may not be harmful, but they have to be taken account of in a creative Conference planning strategy. The underlying question, IAMS has to raise again while beginning to plan for the next conference is, what our real aim and priority is in coming together in conference.

Tim shares his impression that the theme of the Conference was somewhat courageous and stimulating. That people got crumpy towards the end of the Conference had not so much to do with the

theme or the length of the Conference, but rather with the inadequate physical arrangements. Therefore he stressed the need for a bigger local committee. - The unique character of IAMS - truly ecumenical, wide perspectives - make people benefit perhaps rather from the informal than the formal part of the Conference. Thus Tim suggests more time for discussion of Forum Papers and meeting of people etc. The formal structure of the Conference is rather the vehicle than an aim in itself.

Joseph comments that the tensions were not really followed up during the Conference. They should have been channeled into some creative process of dealing with them.

Teresa also raises the question of the overriding purpose of an IAMS Conference: Why do we come together to a Conference? This question relates to our self-understanding of IAMS, the reality of IAMS as an Association. IAMS has once again to clarify its own identity. A way to this aim is perhaps to identify the issues and topics which lead to future activities of IAMS.

Paulos Suess stresses the need to expose the Conference to the realities of the host continent. The "spiritus loci" must shape the Conference.

Jerjes felt that the exposure to certain projects was a good learning experience. A problem was, however, that this exposure was not very much linked to the theme and proceedings of the Conference.

John emphasized that IAMS must be intentional about dialogue and that the opportunity of dialogue has therefore to be built into the programme of a Conference. Perhaps IAMS needs some more professional help in organizing Conferences.

In summing up this first round of sharing it was felt that IAMS must do some ground work in formulating its own identity and purpose. This will then also lead to suggestions towards the structure and content of Conferences. Another issue, one has to work on, is the question of the relationship of IAMS to the Local Organising Committee and the question of ownership of the Conference. It was strongly felt that a person from the local committee should be part of the total planning process and participate in the Executive meetings.

## 5. Conference follow up

### a) Review of election process

Klaus reports on the guidelines for the election process which were formulated by the Executive after the Hawaii Conference (see Appendix 1 to the Minutes). These guidelines were followed in Buenos Aires. However, the Buenos Aires Conference recommended that the Executive may look again into the election process and possibly revise it.

After some discussion it was generally felt by the Executive that the guidelines provide still a sound balance and ensure a democratic process. It was very important that the Regional Meetings had a say in the whole process. Tim shares his observation that in Buenos Aires there was surely frustration about the election process; but in Hawaii there was resentment, and frustration is preferred over against resentment.

It was agreed that perhaps some work may further be done to minimize the frustration. To provide, as suggested in Buenos Aires, slates where one has a choice of people within the category of region alone (three people for each region) does not help; it would not ensure the denominational and gender balance.

In a brainstorming the following criteria and suggestions were worked out:

aims:

process:

- balance
  - gender
  - denominationally, theologically
  - special categories
  - (Orthodox, Pentecostal etc.)
  - geography
- some sense of participatory decision-making
- regional discussion
- avoiding politicking

Slate

responsibility on the Nomination Committee; putting process early enough before the Conference

leads to Nomination Committee

Most suitable process:

- Independent Nomination Committee;
- Confirming Executive Officers (Secretary, Treasurer, Editor) separately from the election process;
- separate slates and election process for President and Vice President;
- slates for Executive Members;

The discussion as to the use of one or three slates has to be continued.

Attention has to be paid also in further discussions to the Pacific and Middle East/Eastern Europe regions. If participants from these areas are supposed to be part of the Asian Regional

Meeting they will not likely be suggested as representative of that region in the Executive Committee.

**b) Constitutional revision**

It was felt that IAMS needs to have some further discussion on the nature and identity of the Association. The outcome of this discussion would then feed into the new formulation of the IAMS Constitution.

It was resolved to set up a Sub-Committee which should work on matters related to the Constitution. It consists of the Secretary, Graham Kings, and John Roxborough. Other members of the Executive Committee can be coopted.

The Sub-Committee should not only work on a new draft of the Constitution, but also look into some guidelines for the Executive Committee, criteria for membership, Conferences etc. Perhaps it should try to formulate something like a "Manual on IAMS"-Proceedings etc. Concrete suggestions and a new draft for the Constitution should be submitted to the next Executive Committee meeting.

In an initial sharing on the re-formulation of the identity IAMS it was stressed that IAMS is

- a genuinely international Association,
- interested in sharing thinking and be in dialogue (geared to publications and conferences),
- a meeting place between institutions of mission and mission practioners and academic missiologists,
- contextual in character.

IAMS has also to struggle with the fact that the pattern of mission have changed (cf. the Korean missionary movement; David Bosch's missiology stand there as "cold war missiology"). There is demand to engage in fresh missiological thinking.

**c) Regional (continental) meetings of missiologists (European initiative)**

Klaus reports about suggestions for holding continental missiological conferences in between the international IAMS-Conferences. Such suggestions were raised in Buenos Aires in the European and also African Regional Meetings. Participants from Africa approached the General Secretary in Buenos Aires and asked for possibilities of helping to organize and finance such conferences.

Meanwhile, there has been some further discussion on the European level, mainly on the initiative of Jan Jongeneel and Timothy Yates. Eventhough it came to some misunderstandings as if there was a proposal for a "IAMS European Group" and request to make use of the office of the Secretariat in Hamburg and also of

MISSION STUDIES for organising and documentation of such conferences, it is clear now that there will not be a continental IAMS network and structure. Neither can the Secretariat be involved in organising such meetings or can MISSION STUDIES be the instrument to publish the papers of such European meetings.

However, it is to be noted that missiologists from Europe feel the need to come together also on the European level to reflect on missiological issues related to the whole region. The invitation to such a Conference will come each time from one particular missiological institution or a national association for missiological studies. A first conference of such kind will probably be held on the invitation of the Norwegian Missiological Institute in August 1998 in Oslo.

After some discussion the IAMS Executive felt that 1. such regional meetings should be encouraged, 2. an institutional and financial contribution of IAMS towards those conferences will not be possible, and 3. that informations about such conferences, their themes etc. and also reports on them may be published in MISSION STUDIES.

#### d) Relationship to corporate members

Klaus reports from a conversation and correspondence with Rev. Andrew Prasad and Mrs. Andrea Adams from the Council for World Mission (CWM). In these conversations CWM raised the question whether IAMS could "develop a closer relationship with corporate members and also seek issues and agenda which they would like included on the table for IAMS executive and conference to consider". More concretely, CWM is interested in encouraging missiologists to think and write imaginatively on new models of missionary enterprise in the 21st century: "Calling a small consultation of a few mission agencies would be a good idea to kick off the debate."

The Executive appreciated the interest of CWM to seek for a closer cooperation of IAMS with mission agencies which constitute - besides national missiological societies and libraries of theological trainings institutes - an important type of its corporate members.

During the discussion of the proposal of CWM it was on the one hand stressed that IAMS does not have the strength to organize consultations and conferences for corporate members and that there may also be an interference with the mandate of the WCC. On the other hand it was emphasized that it is indeed the role of IAMS to stimulate fresh missiological thinking and encourage the contact between missiological reflection and the practice of mission. The issue of "partnership" and the "search for a model of mission for the 21st century" may in this context be of specific interest for the mission agencies.

On the background of the purpose, but also limitations, of IAMS the following suggestions were made:

1. IAMS takes up the initiative of CWM and renders assistance to mission agencies for the reflection on the role of mission agencies and the search for a new missionary paradigm;
2. Since the organisational strength of IAMS is limited, IAMS will request CWM to organize a small consultation on an appropriate topic.
3. IAMS will identify from its membership colleagues - at least three from various backgrounds - who can assist CMW in setting up such a consultation and give some input to discussions relevant to IAMS.
4. CMW is encouraged to contribute articles and papers to be published in MISSION STUDIES. It would be very worthwhile if the missiological community becomes more aware of concerns, strategies, and problems of mission agencies.
5. IAMS writes to other corporate members - that is: mission agencies -, shares the concern of CWM with them, and asks for their responses.

e) **Membership campaign**

The Executive felt the need to reflect further on a membership campaign. The aim would be to broaden IAMS, particularly in regions where IAMS is not yet well represented, and invite appropriate persons to become members of the Association.

In order to pursue this aim, some suggestions were made:

1. Martin stressed that the Executive members, who represent particular regions, should regard it as their responsibility to make IAMS even more known and to encourage persons to become members of IAMS.
2. In such regions where IAMS is not yet known there should be special efforts to establish closer contacts and a IAMS constituency. It was felt that IAMS as well as missiologists and church leaders from such regions would be enriched by their membership in the Association.

Regions which were identified for a more formal and intensive membership campaign are the Middle East/Eastern Europe and representatives of the Orthodox tradition in general, Korea, and Latin America.

In respect to Eastern Europe it was suggested to contact Ioan Saucer, a missiologist from Rumania working with the WCC, and request him to help us to establish contacts with Orthodox representatives. It was also suggested that in the near future an IAMS Executive meeting, combined with a small consultation, could take place either in Greece or in St. Petersburg/Russia. The proposed IAMS project on "Patristics and Mission" could serve

as an avenue for getting friends from the Orthodox tradition involved in IAMS.

With regard to Latin America Paulo and Jerjes are requested to serve as contact persons and help to promote IAMS further.

Chun Chae Ok reported that Korean missiologists are very much interested in deepening their missiological reflection. IAMS is not yet well known in Korea, but the Association could play a vital role as a forum and even catalyst for missiological reflection. Perhaps IAMS could organize its next Conference in Korea, or at least have some smaller consultation of Executive and other IAMS members with Korean missiologists in Seoul.

3. The Executive felt that the IAMS constituency should be made aware of the new category of "Associate Membership". It might be helpful to write a letter to all individual members and missiological institutes with the information on "Associate Membership" and send them the membership forms.
4. On the suggestion of John and Tim it was agreed that the setting up of a homepage on the internet will be an excellent means of communication with people interested in IAMS. This matter was taken up later in the agenda.

#### f) Revision of projects

The Executive discussed first the project activities in general. In the process of the discussion some essential questions and criteria were mentioned:

- the ownership of projects should be with IAMS;
- projects should provide opportunities to disseminate informations and stimulation for further research;
- projects must be enabled to draw on funds;
- MISSION STUDIES as journal of the Association should be our basic means of communication;
- projects must have specific goals and a time frame;
- the level of accountability for the project work must be raised:
  - all projects end with the Conference;
  - projects have to report to the Executive and to the Conference;
  - every member is supposed to write up a one-page summary of his/her interest, and this page should be shared with all the members participating in the project activity;

After some discussion it was suggested that in the future there should be a differenciation between "IAMS-Projects" and "IAMS Interest Groups". The following resolution was passed:

We agree to the category of interest group networks. Their purpose will be more informal than projects, but it is expected

that convenors of interest groups be appointed by the Executive, and report to the Executive and to the Conference, and that the life of the group be between conferences unless renewed. Interest Group Networks may develop into Projects. They may represent an on-going interest in a project that is otherwise completed.

In order to enable the Interest Groups to operate and to formulate projects the following resolution, proposed by Andrew Kirk, was passed:

#### Resolution

The IAMS will make available to an interest group a sum of up to GBP 5.000,- to make possible the drawing up of a project with a defined time-limit to be funded essentially by outside agencies. The purpose of the initial grant is to draw together a small group of four to five key people to propose and write up the project. This consultation will be expected to produce two to three papers for publication in MISSION STUDIES. Prior to the project going to an external funding agency it will be reviewed by the IAMS Executive and approved. If the group does not wish to avail itself of this opportunity, then it will continue as an interest group with a grant of upto GBP 300,- to facilitate networking.

Note: The definition of an interest group and of a project is as in the resolution which the IAMS Executive just passed.

Looking at the individual IAMS projects and the proposals for new projects it was resolved first of all that all traditional projects should continue as Interest Groups. On the basis of this major resolution the Executive looked at the position of the specific interest groups and the concrete proposals:

#### DAB:

After John gave a report on DAB activities the following resolutions were made:

1. As to the **data collection project** which seems to have been a costly failure for IAMS: Stan Nussbaum is going to be asked whether the data collection project should continue.
2. John Roxborough is requested to present a **comprehensive report** on DAB activities to the next Executive Committee meeting.
3. It was resolved that DAB will continue as an **Interest Group** within IAMS. John Roxborough is going to continue as the chairperson.
4. It was further resolved that DAB will be entrusted with setting up a **World Wide Web-homepage** on the internet to facilitate communication within the IAMS network. John Roxborough is appointed to make all feasible inquiries

about the necessary hard- and software and the possible set-up and the best operation of the homepage. The homepage should be developed in a multi-lingual way. The relation to the Editor of MISSION STUDIES should be established. Articles etc. should not be published on the homepage at this stage.

Approximate budget: US \$ 1.000,- for the set-up;  
US \$ 50,- per month for the operation.

It was resolved to set aside up to US \$ 3.000,- for the installation and operation of a WWW homepage.

### BISAM:

In regard to BISAM Klaus reported on the suggestion coming from the post-Conference meeting of BISAM in Buenos Aires. It was suggested, mainly on the initiative of Chris Sugden, that the "BISAM Project of IAMS will gather, collect and disseminate examples of the ways in which the Bible is used in mission". A draft proposal was circulated among the members of the Executive Committee.

In the following discussion the Executive was first concerned with the completion of the previous BISAM Project, that is the publication of papers on the study process: "In search of renewed Biblical Hermeneutics for Mission Studies". Teresa reported that the papers had been collected by John Pobee.

In the light of the discussion the Executive Committee passed the following resolutions in respect to BISAM:

1. John Pobee will be requested to send within the next four weeks the manuscripts on the "Towards a new Hermeneutics for Mission" to the new Editor of MISSION STUDIES. The manuscripts should be published in the journal. The Secretary is going to write to John Pobee, with a copy to Teresa.
2. There will be an Interest Group on BISAM. The contact person is Teresa Okure; she is supposed to follow up the proposal made after the Buenos Aires Conference. The list of persons which attended the post-Conference BISAM meeting will be handed over to Teresa by the Secretary.
3. The Treasury will make available to Teresa GBP 500,- so that she will be enabled to communicate with others for future steps and proposals.

### Patristics and Mission

During the Buenos Aires Conference a group of IAMS members under the leadership of Dr. Kwame Bediako proposed a new project on Patristics and Mission. A project outline had been submitted

during the Conference itself. However, after the Conference the group has, in spite of reminders, not concretized their proposal yet.

The Executive considers the proposal as a very vital and interesting field of study and research. To initiate a project on Patristics and Mission would therefore be very encouraged by the Executive Committee.

In the light of this discussion the Executive made the following resolutions:

1. "Patristics and Mission" will be formed as an Interest Group of IAMS.
2. For the time being, Graham Kings, as a member of the Executive Committee is going to be the convenor of the Interest Group.
3. Graham Kings is requested to organize a small consultation this year which may bring together around four persons in order to formulate a specific project on Patristics and Mission according to the guidelines spelled out above.
4. For organizing the small consultation the Patristics and Mission Interest Group may draw from the Treasury up to GBP 5.000,--.
5. The Secretary is requested to inform the three IAMS members who were named in the original project proposal as officers, that is Kwame Bediako, Petra Heldt, Kiran Sebastian.

### Healing

The IAMS members involved in the Healing Project suggested to continue their field of study not as a project, but as a "Consultation". Their further suggestion is to appoint Godelieve Prové as coordinator of the Healing-Consultation.

The Executive Committee felt that the category of a consultation, as described by Robert J. Schreiter in his letter of 26 November 1996 on behalf of the Healing-project, meets the newly introduced category of IAMS Interest Group. It was therefore resolved by the Executive that:

1. There should be an IAMS Interest Group on Healing, functioning according to the guidelines spelled out above,
2. that Sr. Godelieve Prové is appointed coordinator of the Interest Group on Healing.

### Women in Mission

Klaus reported that he has, in spite of letters to Gillian Patterson and Mary Motte, not received a concret project prosal on a project "Women in Mission".

The Executive resolved to request the President in her regular letter, published in MISSION STUDIES, to express that the Executive feels very sorry that this important project on two occasions has not come up yet.

Chun Chae Ok volunteered to explore further, in contacting some women, the possibility of forming an Interest Group on Women in Mission.

g) **Print of new IAMS-Leaflet**

It was resolved to give a new leaflet to the printer. In the leaflet should also be included a paragraph on the relationship between mission theology and mission practice. In regard to projects it should now read that within IAMS there exist some interest groups which might, from time to time, take up specific projects of study and research.

**6. "International Association of Catholic Missiologists"**

Klaus reported on circular letters from the Missiological Faculties of the Gregoriana and Urbaniana Universities in Rome calling for the formation of an International Association of Catholic Missiologists (IACM).

The Executive expressed regret about this initiative for the establishment of a parallel organisation to IAMS. On the other hand there was agreement that IAMS would probably not be in a position to stop this development. We have to take the establishment of a Catholic Association as a reality and try to foster good and collegial cooperation.

It was resolved

1. to request the Secretary to write an official letter to the two Deans of the Missiological Faculties in Rome who are the main signitaries of the circular letter and ask for the opportunity for a first conversation on the common cause and possible cooperation of IAMS and IACM;
2. to send a separate and more personal letter to Sebastian Karotempel who also is a signitary of the circular letter and who served on the IAMS Executive Committee twice;
3. to seek an opportunity of a meeting of two IAMS Executive members with the signitaries of the circular letters in Rome; one of these two members should be Catholic.

## 7. "IAMS-Archives" (What to do with IAMS files and records?)

Klaus reports that there have accumulated over the years an number of files on IAMS Conferences, Executive meetings, correspondence etc. Presently they are all kept in the EMW office, including those files which came from the time when the Secretariat was in the Netherlands. Since the old files are not needed anymore for the day-to-day work of the Secretariat and also take up unnessarily office space the Executive should reflect on setting up an "IAMS Archive".

In considering who would be willing to take, look after, document and provide access to IAMS files there emerge two possibilites:

1. The files could be kept in the EMW Archive in Hamburg where also the archive of much of the German mission history - particularly as far as the national level and the ecumenical level is concerned - is being kept and an archivist is available;
2. the files could be kept in the new library of SOC in Birmingham.

The second proposal has in its favor the presence of an academic community and research students from all over the world; accessibility will be easy, and the files of the Treasury are already with SOC. However, funds would be needed for shifting and documenting the files etc. The use of the EMW archive would not involve costs for IAMS.

For the time being it was resolved that the Secretary should, together with the EMW archivist, provide an assessment of the amount of files etc., so that the Executive can take up this issue again during its next meeting.

Meanwhile the publications committee should formulate a policy for setting up an IAMS Archive.

## 8. Finances

Stefka Ritchie joined the Executive for the session on the financial reports etc. - Martin presents the report on the accounts for the year 1996 and also the accounts for the Buenos Aires Conference in April 1996 (see appendices to the Minutes). It was noted that there is a surplus on the Buenos Aires Conference of GBP 14.260,58.

Teresa moved to accept these accounts with thanks to Martin, Andrew and Steffa. Graham seconded the moved and it was carried. The President gave a special vote of thanks to Martin, Andrew and also to Stefka for her very good and committed job, particularly for her work regarding the purchase of flight tickets for the participants of the Conference, for dealing with visa problems etc.

It was also resolved to ask the donors that the surplus on the Conference budget may be kept with IAMS and used for future Conferences and other expenditures related to the constitutional purpose of IAMS.

Martin then presented the Draft Budget for 1997 which the Executive accepted with thanks. It was noted that the actual costs for MISSION STUDIES will be very high and can not be estimated yet. Two issues of 1996 still have to be paid (approximately DEM 12.000,-), and then at least one issue for 1997 (DEM 6.000). The grant which was received formerly from a person in St. Augustin for MISSION STUDIES will not be available in the future.

It was also noted that IAMS has to contribute around DEM 2.000,- per annum towards secretarial assistance of the Secretariat in Hamburg.

It was noted that some reflection has to be done regarding the financial sustainability for the Association, particularly in the light of higher expenditure for the journal and the Interest Groups etc.

The budget and the report was received with thanks to Martin and Andrew.

## 9. MISSION STUDIES

Klaus reports about the sudden und unexpected death of Ft. Horst Rzepkowski SVD who passed away on 25th November 1995. An Obituary was read out and the Executive shared memories of Horst who had been the Editor of MISSION STUDIES since 1990. While standing a minute of silence and commemoration was observed.

The Secretary was requested to write once again to the brothers of SVD in St. Augustin, particularly to the friends of the Steyler Missiological Institute, and express the appreciation and gratitude for all the services which SVD had provided for IAMS. We should also write to the sister of Horst expressing our sympathy with her.

Klaus reported further that the manuscript for the 1996-double issue of MISSION STUDIES, containing the documentation of the Buenos Aires Conference, had been prepared by Horst for printing. Just before the Executive meeting the Secretary had looked through the material and finalized the issue for publication. After the Executive meeting MISSION STUDIES will go for print.

### Future of MISSION STUDIES:

Klaus reports then on negotiations with various people about the search for a suitable successor of Horst as Editor of the journal. Helpful were preliminary consultations with Jerry Anderson, Norman Thomas, Ana Langerak and other former IAMS Executive members during the WCC/CWME Conference on World Mission

and Evangelisation in November/December in Salvador da Bahia. The search for a new Editor, it was agreed, should be directed towards Catholic members of IAMS.

The results of following negotiations with possible persons or institutions were as follows:

1. There is apparently no alternative within Europe. The Missiological Institute of Missio in Aachen, which once was responsible for the Editorship, is not in a position to take it on board again. Other institutions were not interested either, particularly because they already edit missiological journals.
2. Robert Schreiter responded positively to an inquiry whether MISSION STUDIES could be edited by him or Stephen Bevans from Chicago. Their proposal is that Stephen Bevans would become the responsible Editor of the journal and Bob Schreiter be associated with him. Their request is that the printing and mailing would continue from Europe. As Director of the Chicago Center for Global Ministries, a cooperation between various theological training institutions and Universities, Stephen would be able to draw on ecumenical support.
3. Correspondence with William Burrows of Orbis Books/Maryknoll also lead to some encouraging response. However, Bill is looking at MISSION STUDIES rather from the point of view of a publisher and distributor. A suggestion as to who could become the Editor of MISSION STUDIES and a response to the question whether Maryknoll could take up responsibility for the journal has not yet come.

In a preliminary discussion the advantages and disadvantages of Chicago and Maryknoll were listed:

In favour of Maryknoll/Orbis speaks the professional character, the responsibility also for distribution and perhaps that production and editorial responsibility are in one hand. To ensure the IAMS identity one needs perhaps to set up an Editorial Advisory Board or to appoint Associate Editors. A disadvantage may be that Orbis already hosts a missiological journal.

In favour of Chicago:

- maintains links with SVD,
- confidence in the person of Stephen Bevans (and Bob Schreiter),
- ecumenical context,
- continental diversity,
- already existing links with IAMS,
- good university links.

Before taking a decision on the future editorship the Executive engaged in a brainstorming on the role of the journal for IAMS. The question was raised what more could be done to provide a voice for international scholarship in mission studies, reflected

in use of more languages (French, Spanish, German, English, with abstracts in English) and authorship from all continents. The regional, cultural, theological and denominational diversity should be reflected in MISSION STUDIES. The journal must also be interested to identify books and documents from various regions of the world and publish book reviews etc. The journal is also supposed to function as a record of proceedings of IAMS.

Martin suggested that there should be a group of Contributing Editors, one from each region. Or perhaps there should be an Review Editor along with the Chief Editor of the journal.

Martin also drew attention to the financial implications for the publication of MISSION STUDIES. The journal has received every year a substantial donation from a person associated with SVD in St. Augustin. This amount will not be available anymore and has in fact not been provided in the last two years. Next to the Conference is MISSION STUDIES the most expensive item of IAMS. If we have to spend funds from the reserved funds - that is from the surplus of the Hawaii and Buenos Aires Conferences - these resources may be spent very quickly. It is therefore necessary to look for less expensive printing and mailing facilities. Klaus suggested that one should probably approach some donor agencies particularly with the request to support MISSION STUDIES.

The Executive appointed then a small committee (John, Tim, Klaus) to look in all matters related to MISSION STUDIES and come back with concret proposals. The committee met and prepared the following proposals which were resolved by the Executive:

1. That a Publications and Communications Committee (PCC) be appointed to meet during executive meetings to develop and review policy and implementation. That the PCC be given authority to negotiate with the prospective editor and institution. This committee consists (for the time being) of John, Tim and Klaus.
2. That contributing editors (who would not be brought together except should they be at the conference) be appointed to reflect the geographical and theological diversity of IAMS and to assist in ensuring that reviews of books from the whole world are obtained.
3. That Stephen Bevans be approached to be the new editor of MISSION STUDIES until the issue after the next IAMS Conferene with the possibility of renewal.
4. That the PCC negotiate the terms of contract / memorandum of understanding with the editor and with the editor's supporting institution.
5. That the editor be invited to attend meetings of the executive committee.
6. That preliminary suggestions be made in relation to possible members of the list of contributing editors and the review editor.
7. That alternative methods for printing and distribution, especially in India, may be explored and evaluated as quickly as possible. (inquiries by Joe Mattam and Joy Thomas)

8. That an estimate be made of the budget provision available to MISSION STUDIES from advance subscriptions.
9. That the subscription level be set at a level to cover at least the marginal cost of the production and distribution of additional copies.
10. That we offer the journal on a subscription basis apart from membership and that the journal be promoted for subscription on this way.
11. That we explore obtaining a grant from donor agencies towards the expenses of producing the journal for the next one or two years.
12. That we also continue a dialogue with Orbis Books about possibilities of printing and distribution within the Maryknoll set-up.

## **10. Applications for membership**

### **10.1. Question of members who have not renewed their subscription**

Martin raised the question what IAMS should do with members who have not renewed their subscription.

The Executive exchanged some ideas about this issue:

- Write to them and ask if they wish to continue (Executive members volunteer to write personally);
- establish a fund for sponsoring subscriptions (profit from conference funds? Would CWM sponsor some subscriptions?);
- determine whether
  - they can afford
  - they can arrange a sponsor
  - Executive decides to pay out of sponsor fund;
- Simply drop from the membership list if no response;
- if interested, but cannot afford place it before the Executive
- is there a category of inactive/sleeper?

Martin read then out a list of names of persons who have last paid in 1994. It was decided that Executive members should write to them personal letters. A list with responsibilities, prepared by the Treasury, is going to be sent to the respective Executive Committee members.

### **10.2. Criteria for individual membership**

Within the context of applications for membership the Executive discussed the criteria for individual membership and listed the following criteria respectively questions which have still to be clarified:

- The Application Form refers to

- academic degrees (Masters or above preferable)
  - institution awarding degrees (reputable)
  - appointment/position (involves the criterion: reflection on mission)
  - publications/evidence of mission reflection (criterion: research-active)
  - reasons for applying
  - two sponsors (key issue: the sponsor must understand the criteria).
- If someone is invited/comes to a conference: Does that make a difference as to the criteria for membership?
- Should we only invite people to a conference who may also qualify for membership? (If we invite people, it may need to be made clear that this does not imply it as qualifying for membership)
- What about the category of "Subscriber"?

It was resolved to look into the criteria for membership again in the context of the constitutional revision and further reflection on the identity of IAMS.

### 10.3. New members:

#### a) Individual members:

1. Rev. Francis Kumbuno Ambuk, Lae, Papua New Guinea,
2. Rev. Dr. Phillip Baker, Columbia, South Carolina, USA,
3. Dr. Lothar Bauerochse, Frankfurt, Germany,
4. Prof. Dr. Hermann Brandt, Erlangen, Germany,
5. Dr. Christiaan de Jong, Oegstgeest, Netherlands,
6. Prof. Vladimir Fedorov, St. Petersburg, Russia,
7. Dr. Jehu Johannes Hanciles, Mutare, Zimbabwe,
8. Rev. Albrecht Hauser, Herrenburg/Stuttgart, Germany,
9. Mr. Michael Jaffarian, Richmond, USA,
10. Fr. Dr. Antony Kalliath, Bangalore, India,
11. Dr. Madge Karecki, Jeppestown, South Africa,
12. Dr. Anne Reissner, Maryknoll, USA,
13. Rev. Soo-Kee Soon, Singapore,
14. Dr. Marc Thiel, Milwaukee, USA,
15. Kwang Soon Lee, Seoul, Korea,
16. Dr. Young Dong Kim, Seoul, Korea,
17. Prof. Marlin L. Nelson, Seattle/Seoul, USA/Korea.

#### b) Application remains pending:

1. Mrs. Sara Abraham, Dehradun, India (inquiries by J. Mattam),
2. Mr. Carlos Eudardo Athayde Boucinha, Fortalera, Brasil,
3. Mr. Charles A. Warner, Odessa, Ukraine,
4. Mr. Hernan Modesto Zapata Lopez, Santiago, Chile.

**c) Application not approved:**

1. Sr. Celestine Maitri, Gollahali, India.

**d) Corporate member:**

Missiologisch Instituut, Heerlen, Netherlands.

**e) Associate member:**

Dr. Gisela Pauli, U.K. (under condition of second sponsoring letter).

**11. Venue and date of next Conference**

The Secretary reported on the status of the three invitations to host the next IAMS conference from Israel/Palestine, Edinburgh and South Africa. The President, Chun Chae Ok, reported the interest of the Korean Society of Missiology to invite the next IAMS Conference to Korea. IAMS, she said, is not widely known in Korea yet; but the interest in Korea for deeper missiological reflection is increasing. In fact, presently there are two missiological associations in Korea which try to come closer to each other. IAMS, Chun Chae Ok said, could play a tremendous role as a catalyst and bridgebuilder.

In the course of the discussion there was first some reflection on the **criteria for deciding on the next IAMS Conference:**

Location - place - How much it will cost  
 - country  
 - continent/region

effect on mix of participants

Access/Security/Transport/Fares

Social/religious context - Exposure

Local commitment/interest/support - personal IAMS members  
 - institutional membership

Ability for IAMS to make a useful contribution locally

Timing - what other Conferences are being held  
 - year  
 - time of the year  
 - season of the year

The Executive looked then individually at the various invitations:

**Seoul:**

## positive factors:

- North East Asia has not had a Mission Studies Conference
- great interest for mission in Korea
- strong possibility of good invitation
- organisation/facilities/infrastructure
- helpful for Korean mission training institutes and church leaders

## negative factors:

- tension between enthusiasm and experience?
- more time needed locally to establish full support
- local expectations towards an IAMS Conference are not quite clear
- one should honor the invitations which were voiced in Buenos Aires.

Result:

- some more time is needed for bridge-building exercises between Korean institutions and IAMS
- dialogue with Korean churches and mission agencies should be encouraged
- Korea would be a good Conference location for the future
- meanwhile it would be helpful to have some other kind of encounter or consultation between IAMS and the Korean missionary movement, perhaps an extended IAMS Executive meeting in Seoul or a team visit of Executive members
- the specific role of IAMS over against WCC and CCA who also seek such dialogue with the Korean missionary movement has to be clarified.

**Palestine / Israel / Middle East:**

## positive factors:

- symbolic
- support for local Christians
- missiological issues:
  - dialogue
  - reconciliation
  - mission to Jews?
  - Palestinians/Jews/Arabs
  - Ecumenism - micro & macro

## negative factors:

- security
- an IAMS Conference might be used and instrumentalized
- local support largely personal - and of very different profile (commitment for dialogue with Judaism on the one side, commitment to the Palestinian cause on the other side)
- no institutional support
- the Conference would be imposed on the context

- year 2000 would not be a good time (other conferences in the region, symbolic meaning)

**Result:** We would face huge problems, and we have not the resources to solve them. IAMS should rather explore possibilities for some intermediate level of meeting for the Middle East.

**Edinburgh:**

positive factors:

- Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World
  - infrastructure
  - David Kerr
  - Andrew Walls
  - non-western Students
- Edinburgh 1910 - Edinburgh 2000
- European Summer for the time of the Conference

negative factors:

- Edinburgh 1910 calls rather for Edinburgh 2010
- sequence of Conferences (last European Conference was 1988 in Rome; since then there was no Conference in Africa)

**Result:**

- Edinburgh would be a very good choice for the future
- Asking Edinburgh whether they would be willing to be back stop, second choice after South Africa.

**Pretoria:**

positive factors, in favour of Pretoria:

- Invitation by a national missiological association
- South Africa is good for exposure programmes
- there is a lot of local interest in the Conference
- there will be a very interested and committed local committee
- there is capacity to organize the Conference locally
- there is a good infrastructure
- UNISA is an excellent meeting place
- most students in UNISA are black
- perhaps one can involve Nelson Mandela

time/date of the Conference:

- suggestion from SA: January 2000
- problem: it might conflict with other Conferences
- however, 1999 is too soon for IAMS; it is also the year of election in SA
- the year 2001 is too late in terms of continuity
- result: January 2000, that is early in the year, might still be a good or the best choice.

Question of theme:

"Peace, Truth and Reconciliation", as suggested by the invitees, - or rather a christological orientation of the Conference: Towards a Christology for Mission?

It was resolved to give Pretoria the first priority. However, there are some questions which should be raised with the people in South Africa:

- is there capacity to host about 150-200 people?
- can they assure us of the logistics?
- how culturally representative is the local committee?
- how about visa restrictions for people from the Third World?
- how about flight connections for people from the South?

The decision on the theme is responsibility of IAMS, but the local committee is supposed to be involved in the whole process of preparation for the Conference.

As a major question remains whether the Conference is concentrating on the country of South Africa or the continent of Africa at large.

If the assurances of the local committee from South Africa are satisfying we should invite a person from South Africa to attend the next IAMS Executive Committee meeting. Later in 1998 a small team of IAMS officers should visit Pretoria or we should arrange a full Executive Committee meeting there.

## 12. Dates and place of next Executive Meeting

The Executive did some brainstorming about the possibility to connect an Executive Meeting with a small consultation of missiologists and interested people from the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Suitable meeting places would perhaps be either Athens (or somewhere else in Greece) or St. Petersburg.

However, since the next Executive Meeting would have to go ahead with planning of the next Conference and clarifying the identity of IAMS it was felt to have the meeting rather in Hamburg (South Africa was ruled out for financial reasons). It was resolved to meet from

### 28. January 1998 - 2. February 1998 in Hamburg.

The first item will be the evening meal on 28.1.; the meeting ends with breakfast on 2.2.96.

## 13. IAMS Treasury

Martin Conway is retiring next summer from the Presidentship of Selly Oak Colleges; he will then also retire from the IAMS Treasury.

Since this meeting was the last one for Martin the President expressed her deep gratitude towards the services of Martin Conway for the Association. She also thanked Selly Oak Colleges for their continuous support for IAMS over the years. That SOC hosted the Treasury made IAMS at all function!

The Executive carried a resolution to thank SOC and Martin Conway also formally for their services towards IAMS.

In the following discussion the question was raised whether the Treasury in the future should only comprise one person.

Martin suggested that the decision about the way in which the Treasury is organized and which person(s) is/are deputed for this task from SOC should be left to SOC themselves. Even though Andrew and Martin have both served as Joint Treasurers the Treasury had only one vote in the Executive Meeting, and only one person usually would attend Executive Meetings outside Birmingham. The future arrangements for the Treasury should be decided at the next Executive Meeting.

Others argued that the decision about the question which person from within the SOC should serve as the Treasurer should indeed be left to SOC. However, it was resolved that in the future there should not be a Joint Treasury but only one person serving as Treasurer. The understanding is that this person should be, for the time being, Andrew Kirk. It was pointed out further that for the purposes of presenting the annual reports to the Charity Commission etc., as well as for the signing of cheques, IAMS needs two persons of Selly Oak Colleges appointed. It was therefore resolved that the Rev. Dr. Andrew Kirk and the Rev. David Granger, together with, for the purposes of signing cheques, Mrs. Stefka Ritchie be appointed as Treasurers of IAMS.

Hamburg, den 7. March 1997

Klaus Schaefer