

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS
BARCELONA, 2002**

JULY 21, 2002

Chair: Manuel Parés I Maicas

Present: Amer, Bardoel, Bernstein, de Beer, de Bruin, Downing, Fazal, Gandy, Ghaffari, Hamelink, Jacobson, Jensen, Jönsson, Kivikuru, Kleinwächter, Paletz, Parés I Maicas, Prehn, Maarek, Méar, Morgan, Murdock, Nordenstreng (for Safar Hasim), Raboy, Rantanen, Richter, Ross, Sarikakis, Servaes, Sinclair, Shrivastava, Screberty, Stein, Teer-Tomaselli, Thusu, Wilke.

Apologies: Cimadevilla, Donsbach, Halloran, Mowlana.

1. Opening.

The president welcomed the council and referred to the extensive agenda for the meeting. Without further ado, he started the meeting.

2. Agenda.

The agenda was approved.

3. Minutes of the Budapest meeting.

The minutes were approved.

4. The president's report

The president referred to his report issued before the conference and took the opportunity to praise the Barcelona conference organising committee for its professional work leading up to one of the most successful conferences in the history of the association. The successful outcome had not been easy to accomplish, and he pointed to the very good programme and the fact that approximately 40% of the participants were women. Finally he stressed that he had not personally been involved in the conference planning.

5. The president elect's report.

The president elect started his report by thanking the present president for his many achievements and for his leadership, and he looked forward to his continued work.

He thanked the Legal Committee for its valuable contribution in the last phase of drafting the statutes and especially the remarks on amendments and transition. In the motion to the General Assembly, the technicalities of the transition would be included.

Maarek pointed out that the preferential voting system needed more explanation, and it was decided to put this into an annex. Maarek also asked why the mentioning of electronic voting has been deleted, and Morgan explained that when deleted, it was optional. Generally it was agreed that much work had to be done yet, before the annexes, regulatory work etc. would be complete and operational.

6. The secretary general's report.

The report was approved, and presentation of the new website was postponed.

7. The treasurer's report.

The treasurer presented the Interim Financial Statements as at June 30, 2002. The statements showed total assets of \$ 109,937 and an accumulated surplus of \$ 97,013. The excess in the previous year of \$ 7,810 was reported to level off during the coming period. The relatively good financial situation notwithstanding, the resources does not allow for more activities, and even more alarming, the Barcelona conference had not increased membership as normal for years with conferences and general assemblies. The report was then approved.

8. Barcelona report.

Miquel de Moragas reported from the preparatory work done prior to the conference and pointed to the fact that many abstracts and section programmes were not received on time. This had created many logistic problems amongst others due to the size of the event.

It was further informed that all abstracts and papers up until July 1st were available on the net. After the conference a cd-rom containing all papers would be distributed to all participants.

The conference seemed to be successful in many ways. At the moment of reporting, more than 700 participants were registered, and even more were expected. Around 230 were non-members of the IAMCR, and 65 nations

were represented. More than 200 participants were young and/or from low-income countries, a number significantly higher than the expected 100. Approximately 15% of the conference papers dealt with the theme of the conference, which had a budget of 400.000 euros. 54% of the budget was covered by registration fees, the rest coming from various other sources. Based on the information reported, the conference was expected to a very successful event in the history of the IAMCR, and the committee was congratulated by all members of the board. Moragas emphasised the following problems that had to be dealt with when planning future conferences: formal links between the local organisers and the IAMCR, the World Bank categories, better coordination between sections, the possibility of presenting papers on-line for people who cannot afford to attend the conferences, and the quality assurance of accepted papers.

9. Vice-president Marjan de Bruin's report.

After presenting her written report, the discussion concentrated on how the newsletter could go beyond merely news to include thematic items such as for instance women's issues, and it was agreed to keep track of the new format but also emphasised that thematic items should reflect the businesses of the association. In relation to the much heavier work producing the newsletter, Ruth Teer-Tomaselli suggested that the responsibility for the thematic items could revolve between members or institutions, and all agreed that it takes responsibility and commitment to enhance the content. Finally it was approved that it should be considered to issue the newsletter electronically, and that hard copies would only be distributed on request. The report was then approved.

10. Vice-president Katharine Sarikakis' report.

The report contained mainly two issues according to the portfolio: the status of women in the IMACR and the status of junior scholars. Regarding the first issue several problems in order to promote women in the association were discussed, but on the positive side of the balance was the establishing of a women-net forum and the planning of the first women-only plenary during the Barcelona conference. As regards the second issue of young scholars the issuing of the journal *Inter/Section* was mentioned as well as the Junior Scholars' Network with a membership of 90. It was finally proposed that a mentoring system should be established to increase juniors' involvement in IAMCR, to fostering relationships with international colleagues and to improving the relations between senior and junior members.

Some issues were raised about the mentoring system, for instance whether it would interfere with internal affairs at universities. Sarikakis pointed out that interference was not intended, but that the system would be an offer to young scholars as life-advice showing that the association cared about them. Méar put the motion that the International Council endorsed the principle of a mentoring system, mandating the vice-president to establish experiments with it in the coming year. Pending the experiences of such experiments, a formalisation of the system should be on the table at the 2003 meetings. The motion and the report were than approved.

11. Vice-president Jan Servaes' report.

The vice-president presented his report, mentioning that it was approved in the board the day before. It was endorsed by the council that Servaes would continue creating and chair a revived publications committee with members committed to work thoroughly and fast. It was the general point of view that publications from the IAMCR was an important promotion factor, and that such publications would be a welcomed opportunity for younger members of the association to present their works. He underlined that the idea was to widen the scope of publications to include for instance Ph.D.-projects, and that the heads of sections would be ex-officio members of the committee to function as stringers regarding potential publications and to propose reviewers.

The question of an official IAMCR journal and the editorial linkage between IAMCR and the journal were discussed. Servaes pointed to the fact that publishers were reluctant to embark on such a project, and that the interest among members to subscribe to the offered journals at a discount was at a level that hardly could justify our own journal. Several suggestions to potential IAMCR journals were raised, among them that the re-launching of the *Gazette* (Sage) would be ideal for the association. No conclusion was reached, though.

Also the question of the history of IAMCR was raised, and in principle it was agreed that Kaarle Nordenstreng should establish an editorial group reflecting the various interests in the association to continue the work already done by former president Jim Halloran.

Finally the prospects of an IAMCR yearbook, issued as one of the three annual volumes on Hampton Press, were discussed and put forward to the Publications Committee, and the report was the approved.

12. Heads of sections' report.

Basically the discussion concentrated on the new election procedures for section heads included in the new statutes, and the membership's involvement in sections and the possibly limitation on section membership. The issues were to be dealt with by the Executive Board.

13. The 2003 Taipei conference.

The proposal was presented by Liangwen Kuo on behalf of the organising committee. Several issues were raised such as the amount of papers to be presented, inclusion of business meetings, which had not been the case in Barcelona, flight costs, whether the registration fee should include meals, gender balance, and poster sessions. It was agreed that poster sessions should be as good and as prestigious as paper presentations, and that the rest of the questions should be dealt with by the organising committee. The proposal was then approved.

14. The 2004 Porto Alegre conference.

The preliminary report was presented and as such approved. Various remarks were made regarding especially room capacity, costs, gender balance, and the theme of the conference. It was agreed that the full registration fee should not exceed \$350, and that the theme of the conference would be decided at the meeting in Taipei, 2003. The Conference Committee (see later) would play an active role in the concrete planning.

15. The Deputy Secretary General's report.

The report dealt with the options for IMACR related to the upcoming World Summits On the Information Society in Geneva 2003 and in Tunis 2005. It was generally agreed that IAMCR have a role to play in the preparations of the world summit meetings to affect the outcome and for promotional reasons.

It was agreed that an ad-hoc committee, chaired by the president, should be established to follow and get involved in the preparatory meetings. The committee should also formulate a formal position on what kind of role IAMCR should be playing with point of departure in the fact that many items in the process are relevant for the association. It was also agreed that the IAMCR/ICA seminar in Loughborough should take such items into consideration.

16. IMACR/ICA conferences in Austin (2001) and Loughborough (2003).

John Downing reported from the 2002 Austin, USA conference in the Digital Divide. The conference had been a success with more than 200 people attending. The budget had been on \$25.000 excluding the voluntary work. During the conference a meeting was held in order to plan a sequel conference in Loughborough, UK. It was suggested that the planning group on 2003 conference should consider widening the scope to include themes related to the World Summits on the information society.

17. IAMCR Schiller's Award.

Graham Murdock reported from the committee, which have had a good response, and he announced that the winning paper would be presented in the Political Economy section during the conference. Annie Méar reported that the contributions had dropped and that it therefore would be difficult to give the award every year. It was decided to give the next award in 2004, and that the committee should make up a long term plan to be discussed in Taipei.

18. New members.

All new members were approved.

19. New sections.

With background in an extensive application from the working group on Media and Sport it was approved to elevate it to a section. At the same time the council approved a motion from Kaarle Nordenstreng (seconded by de Beer) to abolish the Information and Documentation section.

20. Election to substitute vice-president Tawana Kupe.

Frank Morgan proposed that the council approved that Ruth Teer-Tomaselli would replace Tawana Kupe in the Executive Board, as he, for personal reasons, had not been active since his election. After clarifying that it was not a South African seat, the council approved.

Before closing the meeting, Philippe Maarek, on behalf of the board, thanked the president for his work and engagement during his four years term.

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21. New standing committees.

After some debate, it was decided to establish the following standing committees, all chaired by the president:

Elections: Cees Hamelink, Alina Berstein, Janet Wasko

Conference Policy: Katharine Sarikakis, Arnold S. de Beer, Miquel de Moragas, Ole Prehn

Publications: Jan Servaes, Brenda Dervin, Cees Hamelink, Oscar Gandy, Charles Okigbo, Manjunath Pendakur, Annabelle Sreberny, Ruth T. Tomaselli, Georgette Wang, Janet Wasko, Bob White, Arnold S. de Beer

Section Review: Kaarle Nordenstreng, Annabelle Sreberny, Slavko Splichal, Audrey Gadzepko, Anna Maria Jönsson, Oscar Gandy, Tom Jacobson

Membership & Participation: Ruth T. Tomaselli, Hopeton Dunn, Daya Thussu, John Downing, Ullamaija Kivikuru, Eddie Kuo

Development: Eddie Kuo

Newsletter: Marjan de Bruin, Annabelle Sreberny

Rules & Procedures: Philippe Maarek, Andrei Richter, Cees Hamelink, Rosa Mikael, David Goldberg

Fundraising: Divina Frau-Meigs

Further to that it was decided to establish a task force on the World Summits and their preparation chaired by the president: Frank Morgan (chair), Marc Raboy, Divina Frau-Meigs, Annabelle Sreberny, Claudia Padovani, Cees Hamelink, Pradip Thomas, Wolfgang Kleinwächter, Katharine Sarikakis

Finally it was approved not to revive the Human Rights Commission.

22. Representation of sections in the International Council.

It was approved that, no matter how each section is organised, for instance with joint heads, deputy heads etc., sections have only one seat and one vote in the council.

23. The website project.

Due to technical problems, Kirsten Larsen, responsible for the website development, gave an oral presentation of the project to develop the web services to the IMACR membership. It was agreed to continue the work. In the first phase, a prototype would be produced, and the council would be informed of the address.

24. Representation and collaboration.

The council reflected on the representation of IAMCR in various international organisations and the importance of representatives to report back to the Executive Board and the International Council. In certain cases a mandate to represent IAMCR would also be a prerequisite. It was agreed that the Secretary General should produce a list of all organisations, where IAMCR is formally represented and by whom.

25. Women's meeting report.

Katharine Sarikakis proposed with background in the meeting that IAMCR should continue to strive for gender balance and in this respect a) monitor submission for book proposals and acceptance, b) monitor submissions and acceptance of conference papers, c) encourage sections to have a joint head system with one man and one woman, and d) that the gender balance issue should be incorporated in the task force on the World Summits. This was approved.

26. Reflections on the Barcelona conference.

Several issues were raised. There should be a better coordination between IAMCR and the local organisers, it should be considered to submit papers and not abstracts for acceptance, daily conference bulletins should include names and titles of papers, it should be considered to send the conference programme in advance to participants, and finally the safety problems should be taken seriously in all its aspects.

Ole Prehn

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 23rd IAMCR GENERAL ASSEMBLY BARCELONA, JULY 26, 2003

Chair

Manuel Pares i Maicas

1. Opening

The president welcomed all participants to the 23rd IAMCR General Assembly and conveyed apologies from Halloran, Kim, Mowlana, and Sinclair.

2. Agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Minutes from the General Assembly in Singapore, July 20, 2002

The minutes were approved.

4. The president's report

In the report, the President stated that it had not been easy to act as president of an international organisation mirroring various cultural diversities with their distinct values, ethics, ideologies, and interests. It was noted that, despite all the differences, confrontations have been avoided. The report concluded by thanking the governing bodies and the membership as a whole for their constructive co-operation during the years.

The report was approved.

5. The Secretary General's report

The report concentrated on the difficult work done to making the Barcelona conference successful. This had not been easy, though. Due to the heavy interest in participating and presenting papers, it had been necessary to act more rigid than the Secretary General personally liked. Not all phases of the planning had been happy experiences, but the membership was urged to look at the bright side. The report also mentioned the development of the new IAMCR website, and concluded by thanking Manuel Parés I Maicas for conducting the presidency in a friendly, flexible, and informal way.

The report was approved.

6. The treasurer's report

The treasurer presented the Interim Financial Statements as at June 30, 2002. The statements showed total assets of \$ 109,937 and an accumulated surplus of \$ 97,013. The excess in the previous year of \$ 7,810 was reported to level off during the coming period. The relatively good financial situation notwithstanding, the resources does not allow for more activities, and even more alarming, the Barcelona conference had not increased membership as normal for years with conferences and general assemblies. She also addressed the issue of the Schiller's Award, where the optional payment had decreased.

The report was then approved.

7. The Deputy Secretary General's report

The report dealt with the options for IMACR related to the upcoming World Summits On the Information Society in Geneva 2003 and in Tunis 2005. It was generally agreed that IMACR have a role to play in the preparations of the world summit meetings to affect the outcome and for promotional reasons. Divina Frau-Meigs added that it is equally important to strengthen the links with other NGOs and to consider the role of the IMACR in such contexts.

The report was then approved.

8. The Vice-presidents' reports

The president mentioned that there were no reports from Eddie Kuo, who had played an important role in the coming Taipei conference, and from Tawana Kupe.

Vice-president Marjan de Bruin's report

The report was an account of measures taken to improve the newsletter and the tasks involved. In the report it was suggested to divide the tasks as had been the case in the latest issue. As printing costs in Jamaica seemed to be high, it was suggested to find another country where printing and distribution could take place. Finally the format of the newsletter was discussed in the report. It was also mentioned that the editor deliberately has tried to enhance the newsletter policy to include the less heard voices. Finally, Marjan de Bruin informed the General Assembly that it would be considered to publish the newsletter primarily in an electronic format, and that print copies would only be on request. The General Assembly expressed its gratitude for the results hitherto accomplished and approved the report.

Vice-president Katharine Sarikakis' report

The report contained mainly two issues according to the portfolio: the status of women in the IMACR and the status of junior scholars. Regarding the first issue several problems in order to promote women in the association were discussed, but on the positive side of the balance was the establishing of a women-net forum and the planning of the first women-only plenary during the Barcelona conference. As regards the second issue of young scholars the issuing of the journal Inter/Section was mentioned as well as the Junior Scholars' Network with a membership of 90. It was finally proposed that a mentoring system should be established to increase juniors' involvement in IAMCR, to fostering relationships with international colleagues and to improving the relations between senior and junior members. With no further discussion, the report was approved.

Vice-president Jan Servaes' report.

Jan Servaes presented his report, which focused on the offering of discount on journals, the reviving of the publications committee, the publishing policy agreed with Hampton Press (three volumes a year), and the research component in his portfolio. Finally he informed the General Assembly that he had been investigating the issue of an IAMCR yearbook and had come to the conclusion that it would not be feasible at the moment due to both financial and organisational problems. Bob White informed the assembly that IAMCR publications were selling well, and that most had gone into the second printing. The report was then approved.

9. Election to substitute vice-president Tawana Kupe

Frank Morgan informed the assembly that due to personal problems, Tawana Kupe had not been able to take on the responsibilities as vice-president since his election. According to the statutes, he proposed that Ruth Teer-Tomaselli was elected in his place. The proposal was supported by the Executive Board and the International Council, and the assembly approved.

10. Section heads' reports and approval of new section heads

During the brief reports from some of the sections, it was mentioned by Graham Murdock that his and other sections had received far more abstracts than it was possible to accommodate, and that poster sessions was a fine way to solve parts of the problem. He pointed out that

poster sessions should not be seen as a secondary activity, but on the other hand that sections should more carefully monitor posters in relation to the theme of the sections. Finally he stated that the bilingual sessions with Latin Americans had been successful and that the Political Economy would continue its collaboration with Spanish speaking colleagues. Others in the assembly suggested, on the contrary, that bilingual sessions had not been working, and that some people had felt alienated. The only solution would be to offer interpretation, which would be too expensive. President Manuel Parés I Maicas noted that English is the lingua franca, and we have to accept this.

The following sections reported the election of new heads:

Communication Technology: Hopeton Dunn and Pascal Verhoerst (joint heads).

Participatory Research: Ullamaija Kivikuru.

Psychology and Public Opinion: Hillel Nossek and Friederich Krotz (joint heads).

Community Communication: Laura Stein.

Audience and Reception Studies: Umi Khattab and Tony Wilson (joint heads).

Political Communication: Philippe Maarek.

Political Economy: Janet Wasko.

International Communication: Arnold de Beer (interim head).

All were approved, but note was taken to secure a better gender balance, when a section chooses to have a joint head system..

11. Approval of new section

On behalf of the working group on Media and Sport, Alina Bernstein proposed that the assembly approved the elevation of the group to becoming a new section. The assembly approved to establish a new section on **Media and Sport**.

12. Approval of new members

The assembly approved the list of new members circulated by the treasurer.

13. Approval of the new statutes

Frank Morgan introduced the new statutes by mentioning that the proposal was the result of three years of thorough work in the Review Committee, the Executive Board, the International Council with due assistance from the legal Committee. He then moved the following motion:

- a. That the General Assembly adopts the revised Statutes, developed by the IAMCR Review Committee and endorsed by the Executive Board and the International Council.
- b. That the new Statutes shall come into force immediately, except that the Heads of Sections, International Council, Executive Board, retiring President and incoming President shall operate under their existing mandates until the 24 General Assembly in 2004, at which time all of these positions will be declared vacant and elections shall be conducted under the new Statutes.

Notes:

1. S3.2(a) is amended to read "...a simple majority of the members present."
2. S5.5 refers to the use of "a system of optional preferential voting". Optional preferential voting is a mechanism for obtaining a simple majority for the election of one candidate from a field of more than two candidates. The system operates by allowing voters to declare not only their first preferences but also their second and subsequent preferences, at the initial poll. After the primary votes have been conducted, the lowest scoring candidate is excluded and his/her votes are redistributed according to their second preference. The process is repeated until such time as one candidate has a clear majority. By making the process optional, voters are left with the choice of keeping their vote alive until the end or voiding it after the first round of counting.
3. S6.14 is amended to read "...shall be minuted for approval by the next meeting of the International Council and reported to the next meeting of the General Assembly."

The motion was approved by 91 votes for, five against, and three abstentions.

14. World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

Divina Frau-Meigs the issue of the World Summit under the auspices of the International Telecommunications Union. She underlined the many potential conflicts and controversies ascribed to the preparation of the first summit to be held in Geneva in 2003, but also stressed that the IAMCR by taking active part in the preparatory meetings around the world would have the chance to promote research findings within the area, and that the result might end up with a world declaration that could function as a point of reference.

Marc Raboy thanked for the introduction and added that, although we do not know what the results might be, it is acutely important that not only members of the IAMCR acting as independent persons, but also the IAMCR as an organisation defines its role in the preparation of the summit and the foreseen declaration to be adopted in the second summit in Tunisia.

Cees Hamelink (who is member of a small working group set up the UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan) mentioned that the discussion had been going on for several decades without any results, but that this time policy guidelines could be expected to be set up. Although researchers would be looked at with scepticism it is important to take part in order to demystify the area and to function as a warning voice. Marc Raboy then moved: "That the General Assembly mandates the International Council to set up a task force to coordinate IAMCR's involvement in the WSIS process." The motion was approved with the remark that the task force should comprise the various geographical and cultural areas represented in the IAMCR.

15. Barcelona 2002 conference report.

In his oral report, Miquel de Moragas considered the conference to be successful regarding participation (more than 800 people) and its gender and geographic distribution. He also stated that the conference based on freedom of expression and with the aim to stress IAMCR's importance in the era of globalisation and cultural diversity. He also mentioned the huge difficulties in organising a conference as big as this with all the logistic and infra-structural requirements it implied.

The report was met with a big applause from the assembly, and the President in his conclusion thanked the whole organising team for its work and for keeping such a high standard in all respects.

16. The 2002 Taipei conference

Liangwen Kuo reported from the organising committee, and concluded that the conference planning was now entering the phase of details, and that the President and the Secretary General was expected to visit Taiwan in the autumn of 2002. The report was then approved.

17. The 2003 Porto Alegre conference

Vaniza Schule and professor Hohlfeldt presented the preliminary planning for the 2004 conference and General Assembly, and it was mentioned that the theme of the conference was still under discussion. Members of the assembly raised questions regarding the registration fee, gender balance in the plenaries, contact to UNESCO, the possible amount of scholarships, and translation. All the questions were promised to be taken into consideration, and the report was then approved.

18. IAMCR/ICA Conference in Austin, November 18-20, 2001

and the next conference in Loughborough, November 2003

John Downing reported from the Austin conference, which had been a success beyond expectations with more than 200 participants from 20 countries. Due to the success it was agreed to organise a sequel conference in Loughborough in 2003. The theme was preliminary planned to be "Digital Participation and Exclusion" in order to emphasise the participatory aspect and call for papers would soon be published. Katharine Sarikakis asked about the gender balance in the planning committee, and John Downing replied that women were welcome in the committee. The report was then approved.

19. IAMCR Schiller's Prize

Graham Murdock, chair of the prize panel, reiterated that the award was agreed on in Singapore, and that it was open for submission from all IAMCR scholars below the age of 35, and that it was also thematically open. After a short description of the winning paper, the President handed over the award to Sasha Costanza-Chock, University of Pennsylvania (USA) for his paper "Mapping the Repertoire of Electronic Contention."

20. Handing over of presidency

President Manuel Parés I Maicas stressed in his last speech as president that IAMCR for better and for worse is a world association with all the potential conflicts it implies. The only productive way for IAMCR is to emphasise plurality based on the principles of human rights and freedom of expression. He noted with satisfaction that during his presidency participation of women and members from the developing countries had increased, and that the rejuvenation project was now safely in harbour. He thanked all for their cooperation during the years and finally emphasised that his code of conduct had been to always being available to all members and never to impose his own opinions and ideas. He then wished to best to his successor.

Before taking the floor, the new President, Frank Morgan thanked the former President for his tremendous work for the association, and he gave him a present by potter Greg Daly as an expression of gratitude on behalf of IMACR.

In his first address to the association as President, Frank Morgan reminded that the need for research continues, and that we must strive to create ideas that will describe, explain, justify and put into perspective the pervading processes called media and communication. He warned that academics quite often lack humility and forget that they depend on other people's ideas. Being an international association, he was pleased to see many of IAMCR's international partners present at the conference and stressed that we most rely on each other, and that in general terms humanity is essentially about co-operation and not competition. On the internal affairs of the association, he reflected on the fact that after approving the new statutes, we have a commitment to work in the new and neglected areas within the field of media and communication research, and to do so in new and imaginative ways, for instance by remapping the structure and content of sections and working groups. He concluded by quoting Aristotle that the wisdom of the group is greater than that of any member of it.