

2007 Meeting of IFToMM General Assembly

The 40th IFToMM Executive Council Meeting was held in Besançon, France on 20 June 2007 at the Micropolis conference center: site of the 2007 IFToMM World Congress. As usual, the status and problems of IFToMM activity led to a very rich agenda.

Professor Waldron, the President reported on the status of IFToMM. Professor Ceccarelli, the Secretary General reported of the business of IFToMM that he has directed through personal contacts and email communications over the past four years. A new IFToMM Member Organization from Tunisia was accepted after a successful email postal ballot of the Chairs of the IFToMM member organizations (MO's) bringing the number of MO's to its highest level at 48.

Professor Dahan and Doctor Merlet, Chairs of the 12th World Congress Organizing Committee, have reported on the successful World Congress with more than 600 registrants from 52 countries.

The Treasurer, Doctor Rooney, reported on the finances of IFToMM and the budgets over the term 2004-2007 giving a positive picture of the organization's financial status. However, the level of expenses is continuously rising, and we have a continuing problem with a small number of MO's that have continuing records of being in arrears with their annual dues. Consequently, after consultation with the Executive Council, the Treasurer proposed a 20% increase in the dues module. That motion was approved.

As mentioned, a small number of MO's have long standing arrears of their annual dues. The IFToMM Constitution specifies that an MO that is more than three years in arrears shall have its voting privileges suspended, and the General Assembly may withdraw its membership by a two-thirds vote. The treasurer certified that he had issued the warnings specified by the constitution to four delinquent MO's and therefore proposed the withdrawal of membership. After a discussion the general Assembly withdrew the memberships of the Belgium MO, Pakistan MO, and Norway MO. We do hope that these communities will re-apply for membership when they have re-organized and made suitable arrangements to meet their financial obligations.

Prof Angeles, the Chair of the Nominating Committee has presented the slate of nominees for the next Executive Council. The nominees were presented to the General Assembly and, after discussion the following Executive Council for the term 2008-2011 was elected: President Professor Marco Ceccarelli (Italy), Vice President Professor Yoshihiko Nakamura (Japan), Secretary General Professor Carlos Lopez-Cajun (Mexico), Treasurer Doctor Joseph Rooney (UK). Members: Professor Veniamin Goldfarb (Russia), Doctor Theodor Ionescu (Romania), Professor Datong Qin (China Beijing), Professor Bahram Ravani (USA), Professor James Trevelyan (Australia), Professor Miroslav Vaclavik (Czech Republic). Professor Kenneth Waldron (USA) remains a non-voting member of the Executive Council as Past President.

Professor Waldron, as Chair of the Honors and Award Committee reported on the new version of the manual for IFToMM honors, and then presented the nominees for IFToMM awards. After discussion the General Assembly approved the following recipients: The new IFToMM Honorary members are Professor Teru Hayashi from Japan, Professor Emilio Bautista Paz from Spain, and Professor Leonard Maunder from the UK. The recipients for the IFToMM Award of Merit are Professor Toshiro Higuchi from Japan and Professor Justo Nieto Nieto from Spain. The recipients for the IFToMM Dedicated Service Award are Professor Terry E. Shoup from the USA and Professor Neville F. Rieger from the USA.

Prof Angeles, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the nominees for the Constitution Committee serving during the term 2008-2011. After discussion the General Assembly elected the Constitution Committee to be chaired by Professor Krzysztof Kedzior (Poland), Professor I-Ming Chen (Singapore), Professor Erwin-Christina Lovasz (Romania), Professor Harvey Lipkin (USA), and Professor Lotfi Romdhane (Tunisia).

Prof Angeles, the Chair of the Nominating Committee has also presented nominees for the Nominating Committee serving during the term 2008-2011. The General Assembly has elected the following Constitution Committee: Chair (ex-officio) Professor Kenneth Waldron (USA), Professor Gabor Stefan (Hungary), Professor Tina Huang (China-Beijing), and Professor Teun Koetsier (Netherlands).

With regard to the location of the thirteenth World Congress in 2011 proposals from Guanajuato, Mexico and Aachen, Germany were presented. After discussion the General Assembly voted to accept the candidature of Guanajuato, Mexico.

The next meeting of the IFToMM General Assembly is scheduled for 2011 in Guanajuato, Mexico during the thirteenth IFToMM World Congress.

The minutes of the General Assembly, and corresponding appendices are available at the IFToMM webpage www.iftomm.org.

Kenneth J. Waldron
President of IFToMM)

Marco Ceccarelli
IFToMM Secretary General