



## Amsterdam, 2 and 3 September 2002

The General Assembly of the ICHS, chaired by Professor Jürgen Kocka, was held in Amsterdam on 2 and 3 September at the Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis.

Present:

\* Members of the Bureau: Jürgen Kocka, President; Eva Österberg, Vice-President; Jean-Claude Robert, Secretary General; Pierre Ducrey, Treasurer; Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch, William C. Jordan, Koichi Kabayama, José Luis Peset, Gregory Bongard-Levin, Member Assessors.

· Representatives of the following National Committees, Affiliated International Organizations and Internal Commissions:

### National Committees

No	Pays	Délégué	Délégué adjoint
1	Albanie	<i>Absent</i>	
2	Allemagne	Horst Gies	
3	Argentine	<i>Absent</i>	
4	Australie	Martyn Lyons	Lucy Taksa
5	Autriche	<i>Absent</i>	
6	Belgique	<i>Absent</i>	
7	Biélorussie	<i>Absent</i>	
8	Brésil	Estevao De Rezende Martins	
9	Bulgarie	<i>Absent</i>	
10	Canada	Greg Kealey	
11	Chili	<i>Absent</i>	
12	Chine	<i>Absent</i>	
13	Chypre	<i>Absent</i>	
14	Corée (République de)	Cha, Ha Soon	
15	Corée (République Populaire de)	<i>Absent</i>	
16	Croatie	Alexander Buczynski	
17	Danemark	<i>Absent</i>	
18	Espagne	Manuel Espadas Burgos	
19	Etats-Unis	Dane Kennedy	Arnita Jones
20	Finlande	Marjatta Hietala	Hannes Saarinen
21	France	Claude Gauvard	Michel Balard
22	Grande-Bretagne	Jinty Nelson	Kenneth Fincham
23	Grèce	V. Papoulia	
24	Guinée	<i>Absent</i>	
25	Hongrie	Attila Pók	
26	Inde	<i>Absent</i>	
27	Irlande	K. Zellery	



28	Islande	<i>Absent</i>	
29	Israël	<i>Absent</i>	
30	Italie	Paolo Prodi	Luigi Lotti
31	Japon	Yoichi Kibata	Hiroaki Ozawa
32	Lettonie	<i>Absent</i>	
33	Lituanie	<i>Absent</i>	
34	Luxembourg	Paul Spang	
35	Maroc	Khalid Ben Srrhir	
36	Mexique	<i>Absent</i>	
37	Mongolie (République Populaire de)	<i>Absent</i>	
38	Norvège	Even Lange	
39	Pays-Bas	Henk Wals	
40	Pérou	<i>Absent</i>	
41	Pologne	Stanislaw Bylina	
42	Portugal	<i>Absent</i>	
43	Roumanie	Dan Berindei	Constantin Buse
44	Russie (Fédération de)	Gregory Bongard-Levine	Alexander O. Tchoubarian
45	Slovaquie (République de)	Dusan Kovac	
46	Slovénie	<i>Absent</i>	
47	République Sud-Africaine	<i>Absent</i>	
48	Suède	Rolf Torstendahl	
49	Suisse	Regina Wecker	
50	République Tchèque	Jaroslav Panek	
51	Tunisie	<i>Absent</i>	
52	Turquie	Mehmet Ipsirli	
53	Ukraine	Iaroslav Isaievych	
54	Uruguay	<i>Absent</i>	
55	Vatican / Saint-Siège	Borromeo Agostino	
56	Vénézuéla	<i>Absent</i>	
57	Viêt Nam	<i>Absent</i>	

#### Affiliated International Organisations

No	Nom	Délégué	Délégué adjoint
1	Asso Int d'Etudes du Sud- Est Européen	V. Papoulia	
2	Asso Int d'hist contemporaine de l'Europe	Jacques Bariéty	
3	Asso Int d'Hist du Droit et des Institutions	<i>Absent</i>	
4	Asso Int d'Hist Economique	J. L. van Zanden	
5	Asso Int des Études Byzantines	E. Chrysos	
6	Comité Int d'Hist de la Deuxième Guerre Mondiale	<i>Absent</i>	
7	Commission Int d'Hist	Marcel van der Linden	



	sociale		
8	Commission Int d'Hist Ecclésiastique Comparée	Walter Brandmüller	
9	Commission Int d'Hist Maritime	<i>Absent</i>	
10	Commission Int d'Hist Militaire Comparée	P. H. Kamphuis	
11	Com. Int. d'hist. des relations internationales	Brunello Vigezzi	Jost Dülffer
12	Commission Int d'Hist de la Révolution Française	A. M. Rao	
13	Commission Int de Démographie Historique	<i>Absent</i>	
14	Commission Int de Numismatique	Marjan Scharloo	
15	Commission Int des Etudes Historiques Slaves	<i>Absent</i>	
16	Commission Int pour l'Hist des Assemblées d'État	John Rogister	
17	Com. Int pour l'hist des universités	Hilde de Ridder-Symoens	Helga Robinson- Hammerstein
18	Commission Int pour l'Histoire des Villes	Thomas Riis	
19	Commission Int pour l'Hist et Théorie de l'Historiographie	Richard T. Vann	
20	Fédération Int des Sociétés et Instituts pour l'étude de la Renaissance	<i>Absent</i>	
21	Fédération Int pour la Recherche de l'Hist des Femmes	Pirjo Markkola	
22	Instituto Panamericano de Geografia y Historia	<i>Absent</i>	
23	The Int Asso of Historical Societies for the Study of Jewish History	<i>Absent</i>	
24	International Standing Conference for the History of Education	Franck Simon	Craig Campbell
25	Society for the Study of the Crusades and the Latin East	Michel Ballard	
26	Société Internationale pour la Didactique de l'Histoire	<i>Absent</i>	
27	International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport	Thierry Terret	
28	Union des Historiens Arabes	<i>Absent</i>	
29	Union Internazionale degli Istituti di Archeologia, Storia e Storia dell'Arte in Roma	<i>Absent</i>	



## Internal Commissions

No	Nom	Délégué	Délégué adjoint
1	Asso Contre la Manipulation de l'Histoire	<b>Absent</b>	
2	Association des Historiens Africains	<i>Absent</i>	
3	Comité International de Paléographie Latine	<i>Absent</i>	
4	Com. Int. pour la Métrologie Historique	<i>Absent</i>	
5	Commission Internationale de Diplomatie	<i>Absent</i>	
6	Com. Internationale pour l'étude de la Guerre Froide	Alexander O. Tchoubarian	
7	Com. Int. pour l'Histoire de la Révolution Russe	Salavat M. Iskhakov	
8	International Association for Media and History	<i>Absent</i>	
9	International Commission for Historical Journals	<i>Absent</i>	
10	Majestas, Etudes de la Souveraineté	<i>Absent</i>	
11	Peace History Society	<i>Absent</i>	

## Observers (applying for admission)

Nom	Délégué	Délégué adjoint
Com. Inter <sup>le</sup> pour l'hist. du voyage et du tourisme	Claudio Visentin	John Walton

## Agenda:

Monday, September 2, 2002

Morning

1. Opening – President's remarks
2. Secretary General's report on the activities of the ICHS in 2000-2002
3. Treasurer's financial report and appointment of two auditors.
4. Presentation by Martyn Lyons on the preparations for the Sydney Congress

Afternoon

5. Admission of new members to the ICHS
6. The ICHS's relationship with UNESCO
7. Approval of accounts and vote on the Treasurer's report
8. Nominating Committee proposals



Tuesday, September 3, 2002

Morning

9. Elections of the Nominating Committee
10. Structure of the Sydney Congress, and discussion of proposed themes
11. Selection and approval by the General Assembly
12. Miscellaneous
13. Closing of the General Assembly

#### 1. Opening statement

President Jürgen Kocka, after welcoming everyone present, opened the session by asking those assembled to observe a minute of silence in memory of François Bédarida and Theo C. Barker, who both died in 2001. The President then invited Dr. Henk Wals, Assistant Director of the Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis, to address the Assembly. On behalf of the Netherlands National Committee and of the Instituut, which was offering its hospitality by making its premises available, he welcomed the delegates and gave a short background on the Institute.

The President was once again given the floor. He reiterated the primary mission of the ICHS, which is to be a gathering place for historians from across the world. Now that the organization is firmly rooted in Europe and North America, it would seem necessary for it to become a genuine ecumenical organization and expand significantly in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Rather than emphasize world history, it was important to promote exchanges between historians and encourage a comparative approach to history.

He then gave the floor to the Secretary General, who proceeded with a roll call and a reminder on voting rights: one single voice for each National Committee and Affiliated International Organization, and no voting rights for the Internal Commissions. Having achieved and even superseded a quorum, with 30 National Committees and 18 Affiliated International Organizations represented, as well as three Internal Commissions, the General Assembly was deemed authorized to proceed.

#### 2. Secretary General's report on the activities of the ICHS in 2000-2002

##### Report of the General Secretary

The incumbent became Secretary General a little more than two years ago, on 13 August 2000. The present report will review ICHS activities of the last two years, from Oslo to Amsterdam.

##### 1. Logistics and operations

The Secretariat General has moved from Paris to Montréal, where it is housed in the Department of History of UQAM. Thanks to the generosity of the University, the secretariat has an office, and receives support in services and in kind plus a small budget. The transfer was somewhat eased because most of the documents prior to 2000 were deposited by Professor François Bédarida in the French national archives. Access to documents is at present restricted (until January 1, 2006) except for the Secretary General. As a matter of fact, all the archives of the different Secretaries General since Michel François (1950-1980) will be found in the Archives Nationales de France under the call number 105 AS. In Montréal, the Secretariat has only the current ICHS files.



The Secretariat does not have any full-time assistant. However, a graduate student working part-time is keeping the ICHS files up to date. Thus, when trying to reach me by phone, please do not hesitate to use my voice mail system as I will always try to get back to you as soon as possible, unless otherwise indicated in the greeting message. However, since August 2000, e-mail has become the most effective communication tool for the Secretariat and has certainly helped in speeding up exchanges between the Secretary General and the various Committees and Organisations. Finally, the work of the Secretary General has been greatly facilitated by the cooperation of the members of the Bureau and the various Committees, Organisations and Internal Commissions.

## 2. Objectives and achievements

In his various reports, François Bédarida kept reminding of the three main objectives of ICHS: renewal, rejuvenation and expansion. These objectives remain and I will certainly pursue them.

### a) Renewal of ICHS

The ICHS must keep abreast of the cutting edge of historical research. And this is all the more important since our quinquennial congresses always run the risk of appearing out of touch with current trends. This is the reason why the selection of the themes for the next congress is so crucial. This is what the sub-committee of the Bureau had in mind when preparing the proposals that were presented to you. As this is the most important task of this General Assembly, I will not insist any longer since we will be discussing at length later.

### b) Rejuvenation

It is essential for ICHS to make some room for the newer generation of historians. Since 1992, the Bureau used its regular meetings to organise systematically scientific presentations by younger scholars when possible. Thus at Princeton in 2001, three young historians presented their research to the Bureau and in Amsterdam, a Symposium was held on September 1st on the theme "Presenting National History. Can it be Done?" It seems very important to continue in this direction and every member of ICHS should strive to put up regular scientific venues. Already, of course, a sizeable proportion of our members do hold regular meetings on an annual or biennial basis. This should be encouraged.

### c) Expansion of ICHS

Since Oslo, numerous contacts were made concerning possible candidates to ICHS and some are still in progress. But there remains a lot to be done. However, because of our participation to the Joint UNESCO-CISH Committee, two developments occurred. The Secretary General got in touch with the Association of Caribbean Historians, which is actually considering joining ICHS. On the other hand, the Association of African Historians, after a long period of dormancy, experienced a wonderful restart during its Third Congress in Bamako, Mali, in September 2001. This means that for the first time in years, we received proposals for themes for 2005 from our African colleagues. In a way, but only in a certain way, we can say that one of the weak geographical spots of ICHS has been corrected. There remains however gaping holes in South America and in Asia. ICHS will have to continue its efforts to try to overcome the organisational problems that are directly linked to the lack of revenue of historians in many parts of the world. This is





a complex question which might very well oblige us to modify the structures of ICHS. Our actual structures are adequate for a certain type of organisation of historians and we must find how to reach out to all historians without jeopardising the financial base of ICHS or crippling its means of action.

This year the General Assembly will have to decide on the admission of one new National Committee, that of the Republic of Georgia, the transformation of the Commission Internationale de Démographie Historique into an Affiliated International Organisation and the creation of one Internal Commission, the International Commission on the History of Travel and Tourism. According to our statutes this Commission will be changing its status to Affiliated International Organisation in a few years.

There is a somber aspect of the picture since we must remove three National Committees which did not answer to any of our letters for more than ten years. According to article 7 of the statutes of ICHS, "After five years, that National Committee or International Affiliated Organization shall be deemed to have withdrawn de facto". Thus the committees of the People's Republic of Korea, of Mongolia and of Uruguay will be removed from our roster. Also Venezuela has resigned from ICHS. Together, considering the eventual admission of Georgia, these changes will bring the number of National Committees from 57 to 54.

There remains much work to be done for the expansion of ICHS, but I must add that the possibilities of action on the part of the General Secretary are limited and I would like to ask National Committees and Affiliated International Organisation to be proactive in that field.

#### Achievements

With those three broad objectives in mind the Secretary General has worked on the following dossiers during the last two years.

##### a) ICHS Information Bulletin

The Information Bulletin has a truly new look with the new logo, cover and colors. We also changed the typography a bit to enhance clarity and the table of contents is now fully bilingual. The decision to publish the Bulletin toward the end of the year did permit to include the minutes of the 2001 Bureau meeting. As a matter of fact, since the Bureau always meets in late August, it will be systematically published in Autumn. Unfortunately, Volume 27 (2001) was late coming out of the press and could not be mailed until 2002. We expect that Volume 28 (2002) will be printed in November and mailed in December. This will permit to include the minutes of the General Assembly and the list of themes for the Sydney Congress.

Starting with Volume 29 (2003), I intend to bring back some form of historical material in the Bulletin. It is important to disseminate historical information on ICHS as a part of our ongoing reflexions.

##### b) Web Site

After the publication of the Bulletin earlier this year, the information appearing on the Web site was partially updated. However, I feel that up to now, the Web site has not been used to its full capacity and I intend to take responsibility for turning our site into a more efficient communication tool for ICHS. This is all the more important since we are



beginning to prepare actively the 2005 Congress and also because the web site is a powerful tool to break the isolation of many historians, especially those whose countries are not members of ICHS. I wish to thank the Treasurer for his work in setting up and maintaining the web site up to now.

#### c) Relations with UNESCO

Relations with UNESCO monopolised a significant part of my time. It must be reminded that, despite some misgivings expressed by my predecessor about the Joint UNESCO-CISH Committee, the Bureau decided in Oslo to continue this experience. At first, things began auspiciously with an a budget increase. The Joint Committee met in Paris on 28 October 2001. The ICHS was represented by Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch, José Luis Peset and Jean-Claude Robert. UNESCO was represented by Mr. Raj Isar, Chief of the General and Regional Histories Division, and Professor Jerzy Kloczowski, past member of the UNESCO Executive Committee, chaired the meeting. The organisation of four regional meetings was considered: Africa, Central Europe, Latin America and Arab countries. Two projects were accepted immediately for financing, Africa and Central Europe. Two new projects were approved in preliminary form but needed some adjustments before being accepted, the first one on Latin America and the second one on Arab countries. José Luis Peset was to investigate and present the Committee later with a more precise proposal and Jean-Claude Robert was to do the same for the Arab countries. In addition, Mr. Isar presented two requests from his division. The first one was the opportunity to have an analysis of the reception by historians of the UNESCO's series of histories and the second one, an opinion of CISH on the project by the Director General concerning the development of a common textbook on religions and cultures. In both instances, since budgetary constraints were involved, the answer from CISH was to ask Mr. Isar to check first if a distinct budget was forthcoming.

Unfortunately, things began to deteriorate quickly. First, in January 2002 we were told that the budget was reduced and that it was being decentralized to the various regional offices of UNESCO. This meant that any coordination was becoming almost impossible. Then, during the Spring, the early retirement of one administrator and the sickness of another important member almost brought the Committee to a halt. So, in my opinion, the future of this committee seems very uncertain to say the least. On the one hand, unpredictable fluctuations in administrative and budgetary policies render any planification very difficult, and on the other hand, UNESCO is more and more heavy-handed in terms of wanting to influence the Joint Committee uniquely along the line of its own policies. In this context, it will become harder to ensure that ICHS has the complete scientific freedom, which was one of the conditions of our acceptance to participate.

Turning now to the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (ICPHS), the outlook is much more positive. The ICPHS, to which ICHS belongs since 1949, publishes the journal *Diogenes* and its broad objectives are similar to our own. Despite a budget cut of 20% from UNESCO, the Council was able to maintain its activities. The Council plays an essential role since it is a place where the interplay between international organisations is achieved; moreover, the Council maintains a program of subsidies for international congresses and ICHS has been regularly a recipient. It is then an important forum of exchange and dissemination for ideas. On this last matter, I remind Committees and Organisations that the journal *Diogenes* is looking for proposals for thematic issues; in 1994, François Bédarida was the guest editor of an issue devoted to "The Social Responsibility of Historians". Please contact the Secretary General if you have any suggestion.





## Conclusion

The task of the Secretary General is getting heavier, but for the moment, I am still trying to find ways of coping with the various demands. But, thanks to the continuous support of the members of the Bureau, and of the various Committees and Organisations, it is possible to carry along. Of course, time constraints weigh very heavily on the possibilities of action of the Secretary General. Finally, I wish to thank again my university, UQAM, for its continuous support and Sylvie Freney for her good work.

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After the report was presented some observations were made, first on the expansion of the ICHS, which seems to be presenting some communication roadblocks, and also the problem of structure. The possibility of a sliding scale according to country or area of the world was floated, but in the end was not approved because it might mean creating two categories of members. The discussion centered around the possibility of financial aid for the next Congress and on the high cost of attending, but given that the Treasurer's report and the report from the Organizing Committee of the Sydney Congress had yet to be presented, it seemed more appropriate to postpone the conclusion of the debate. The discussion then turned to the Bulletin, which may have become redundant due to the expansion of the Web site. But as it appeared equally vital to ensure the ICHS's visibility on paper, it did not seem necessary to eliminate this type of tool for communicating and disseminating information. Finally, the question of the relationships between National Committees and Affiliated International Organisations was brought up. Efforts should be continued to find a better way of cooperation between the two levels.

After the discussion, the Secretary General's activity report was unanimously approved.

### 3. Treasurer's financial report and appointment of two auditors

Pierre Ducrey presented his report and commented on the financial statements previously distributed, which are appended hereto. He presented the profits and losses and the report of the 2000 and 2001 fiscal years, as well as the auditors, TEMKO Lausanne SA. The accounts and the reports were produced by the financial department of the Université de Lausanne. The Assembly looked over all the documents put together by the Treasurer, including the list of members and the status of membership dues paid or due by August 22, 2002. The presentation did not raise any comments or questions from the participants. After noting that the bulk of the monies held by the ICHS came from membership dues, the Treasurer emphasized that some members pay their dues irregularly or not at all.

The ICHS's cash reserves and the cost of travel to attend the Bureau raised some queries. On the subject of late payments, the Treasurer reminded the members of the importance to have a sufficient reserve to compensate for late revenues. As for travel costs, the Treasurer noted that given the ICHS's global nature, some travel and operating expenses were to be expected, especially since the composition of the Bureau was expanded in order to be less centered on the countries of Europe. The President added that expenses are kept to a minimum since the host National Committees assume the cost of accommodations and most meals when the Bureau convenes, as was the case in Princeton and Amsterdam.



As there were no further questions concerning the Treasurer's report, two auditors were appointed: Professor Gregory Kealy (delegate from the Canadian National Committee), and Professor Marjan Scharloo (delegate from the International Numismatic Commission). After the accounts are examined, the commissioners will appear before the Assembly to present their auditor's report.

#### 4. Presentation by Martyn Lyons on the preparations for the Sydney Congress

Mr. Lyons stated that the point of the Congress was to put historians of the world in contact with each other for the purpose of advancing historical knowledge and encouraging the activities of historians in Australia and surrounding regions. The Congress will be held from July 3-9, 2005. Mr. Lyons gave a detailed and well-documented presentation on the structure of the Congress and on the accommodations. The hotel prices are very reasonable, and university residences will be available. He said that much effort had been put into locating funding sources and that negotiations were underway with various organizations. Furthermore, a subsidy of 45,000 Swiss francs that the ICHS would normally earmark for the publication of the proceedings would be funnelled exclusively into supporting young historians and colleagues from developing countries. Young doctoral students would be able to present their work during the Poster Sessions. Beginning in 2003 there will be a web site ([www.cishsydney2005.org](http://www.cishsydney2005.org)) to serve as a tool for communicating and providing information on the 2005 Congress. The Organizing Committee is also planning to offer a simultaneous English-French translation service in the main amphitheatre during the three sessions on the major themes. There will be at least one French-speaking and one Spanish-speaking official on hand to welcome attendees. Travel packages and a program for travel companions will be offered.

The presentation of the report was followed by some questions.

-On the amount determined for registration fees. Martyn Lyons remarked that there was no increase because there were now only two fee categories, and not three as in Oslo. Furthermore, the Organizing Committee did not want to accumulate debt. Registration fees represent 25% of the revenues of the Sydney Congress, and it is not possible to reduce the percentage.

-On the publications emanating from the Congress. Many participants remarked that active participation on the part of the historians would be facilitated by getting abstracts to them within a reasonable timeframe. A. M. Rao suggested that each participant be given a syllabus of the presentations as well as an abstract so that participants could be effective in their discussions of the themes presented. Even Lange pointed out that this proposal required a great deal of coordination and the active and genuine participation of all members of the ICHS. Martyn Lyons remarked that each person would receive a compendium of the abstracts of the various presentations upon arrival, and that all reports would be made available on the web site.

The President concluded the discussion by emphasizing the support of the organization and of the deadlines given.

#### 5. Admission of new members to the ICHS

Jean-Claude Robert addressed the members again to present a request for affiliation as a National Committee, a change of status for an Internal Commission, and the creation of a



new Internal Commission.

The National Committee of Georgian Historians asked to be admitted. In accordance with the ICHS constitution, the Committee submitted its own statutes to the Secretary General, who judged them to be in compliance. The Bureau recommended that the new National Committee be admitted. Their representatives were not able to go to Amsterdam, however, and had advised the Secretary General of that fact.

The International Commission on Historical Demography, in compliance with the decision of the General Assembly in Prague (1992), requested to be changed to an Affiliated International Organization with voting rights at the General Assembly. The Bureau recommended the approval of the change.

The International Commission on the History of Travel and Tourism was created following a session at the Oslo Congress and was asking for recognition. In accordance with the ICHS constitution, the Secretary General examined its constitution and the composition of its interim Bureau, and found them to be in compliance. The Bureau recommended the creation of an Internal Commission, to become an Affiliated International Organization as soon as possible. The Commission was represented in Amsterdam by its secretary, Claudio Visentin.

Having won the unanimous approval of the General Assembly, the foregoing applicants were admitted to the ICHS by acclamation.

#### 6. The ICHS's relations with UNESCO

The subject had been dealt with extensively in the Secretary General's report and debated. Mr. Robert wanted only to reaffirm his intention to revive the joint committee provided that it upholds the ICHS's scientific autonomy. Each member was in agreement.

Representatives of the International Commission on Comparative Ecclesiastic History filed an intervention proposal by the ICHS to promote the teaching of classical languages with national education authorities and international organizations. After clarifying the intentions of the originators of the proposal, the motion quickly resulted in a consensus despite reservations expressed by certain delegates. It would be the responsibility of each National Committee to speak to officials in charge of education at the national level in each country. The ICHS would convey the proposal to the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies. Rephrasing the proposal resulted in a few amendments. The Secretary General offered to prepare them for the next day and submit them to the Assembly for approval.

#### 7. Approval of accounts and vote on the Treasurer's report

The auditors read their report.

"Amsterdam, 2 September 2002

We, the undersigned, Marjan Scharloo and Gregory Kealey, elected as internal auditors by the General Assembly of CISH meeting in Amsterdam on 2 September 2002, have examined the financial documents provided to us by the Treasurer. We have reviewed the accounts for the fiscal years 2000 and 2001 calculated by the Financial Services of the University of Lausanne. And we have also received the audited statements of the



auditing company Temko Lausanne SA. All these documents meet our expectations and give us no cause for concern. We propose that the General Assembly approve the CISH accounts and balance sheets of 2000 and 2001, the report of the auditors, and to discharge with honour the Bureau for its financial management for 2000 and 2001.

(Signed) M. Scharloo and G. Kealey" The General Assembly unanimously approved the report.

#### 8. Nominating Committee proposals

After reading article 5 concerning the nomination of a committee for election to the new Bureau in 2005, the following candidates were presented to the Assembly: Cha Ha Soon (Korean National Committee), Anna Maria Rao (International Commission on the History of the French Revolution, Italy), Jinty Nelson (British Historical Association, Great Britain), Marcel Van der Linden (International Commission for Social History, Netherlands). The President emphasized that the Bureau's selection was based on a desire to strike a balance between the sexes, countries, and National Committees and Affiliated International Organizations. The vote would be held on the following day, and other nominations might be received by then.

Tuesday, September 3, 2002

#### 9. Election of the Nominating Committee

The President asked whether the members of the Assembly wanted to amend the proposals submitted by the Bureau. The response being negative, the four candidates proposed were unanimously elected.

The new Nominating Committee will be composed as follows:

\*Three members of the Bureau: Jürgen Kocka, Eva Österberg, Jean-Claude Robert

\*Four outside individuals: Cha Ha Soon, Jinty Nelson, Anna Maria Rao and Marcel Van der Linden.

The new committee will hold its first meeting in 2004, concurrently with the Bureau meeting in Berlin. In Sydney in 2005, in accordance with article 5 of the constitution, it "shall present its proposals at the first of the two General Assemblies which take place at each quinquennial Congress. Counter-proposals may be submitted to the Board between the first and the second Assembly. To be admissible, a counter-proposal has to be signed by the representatives of five National Committees of International Affiliated Organizations. The Board shall be elected at the second of the two General Assemblies held at the quinquennial Congress."

#### 10. Structure of the Sydney congress and discussion of proposed themes

The Secretary General presented the outline of the Congress and its three major themes, 25 specialized themes and 20 round tables. ICHS members have until December 31, 2002 to make proposals for the organizers, rapporteurs, discussion leaders and even communicators. In February 2003 the Bureau will finalize the list to publish on the web site. The President stated that the themes, which are diachronic and represent a cross-section of periods and geographical areas, were very broad on purpose. He asked the Assembly to remain attentive as they vote. A discussion followed on the structure of the Congress. Some members wanted to collapse the number of specialized themes and



round tables, which would not be desirable given the ICHS's wish to be viewed as open to the rest of the world. The Assembly approved the general structure of the 2005 Sydney Congress.

#### 11. Selection and approval by the General Assembly

The Bureau established a list of suggested themes based on the 265 suggestions it received from 25 National Committees, 9 Affiliated International Organizations and 4 Internal Commissions. After harmonizing the list the Bureau came up with a list of 3 major themes, 28 specialized themes and 22 round tables. The list was sent to ICHS members in May of 2002. Besides considering suggested amendments or new ideas from the Assembly, the Assembly would have to reduce the number of specialized themes to 25 and round tables to 20.

After several interesting discussions involving many of those present, the list of proposed themes was amended slightly during the Assembly and some themes were re-formulated. After examining the major themes, specialized themes and round tables in-depth, the Assembly unanimously approved the following list. It contains one additional specialized theme in case it is needed:

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THÈMES MAJEURS (3 séances d'une journée)  
MAJOR THEMES (3 one-day sessions)

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#### 1. Humanité et nature dans l'histoire / Humankind and Nature in History

- a) Écohistoire : théories et approches nouvelles  
Ecohistory : New Theories and Approaches
- b) Les catastrophes naturelles et leurs suites  
Natural Disasters and How They Have Been Dealt With
- c) Les sciences de la nature, l'histoire et l'image de l'homme  
Natural Sciences, History and the Image of Humankind

#### 2. Mythe et histoire Myth and History

- a) Les mythes fondateurs dans l'histoire et la construction des identités  
Foundation Myths in History and the Construction of Identities
- b) Mythes, pouvoir, histoire et la responsabilité de l'historien  
Myths, Power and History, the Historian's Responsibility
- c) Utopie et histoire  
History and Utopia

#### 3. Guerre, paix, société et ordre international dans l'histoire War, Peace, Society and International Order in History



- a) Bellum justum : Guerres justes, paix injustes ? Idées et pratiques discursives  
Bellum justum : Just Wars, Injust Peace ? Ideas and Discourses
- b) Évolution du concept de paix et de ses conditions dans l'histoire  
Changing Concepts and Conditions of Peace in History
- c) Guerre, violence et genre  
War, Violence and Gender

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THÈMES SPÉCIALISÉS  
SPECIALISED THEMES

(26 SÉANCES D'UNE DEMI-JOURNÉE)(26 HALF-DAY SESSIONS)

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- 1. L'histoire de l'Afrique dans une perspective comparative : nouvelles approches  
African History in Comparative Perspective. New Approaches
- 2. La culture politique en Europe centrale dans le contexte européen et mondial  
Political Culture in Central Europe in the European and Global Context
- 3. La Chine et le monde à l'époque moderne et contemporaine  
China and the World in Modern and Contemporary Period
- 4. La christianisation : adaptation et appropriation de l'Antiquité au XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle  
Christianisation : Adaptation and Appropriation from Antiquity to the 21st Century
- 5. Choc des cultures et identités : colons et peuples indigènes  
Collision of Cultures and Identities : Settlers and Indigenous Peoples
- 6. Le colonialisme et le postcolonialisme  
Colonialism and Postcolonialism
- 7. La mondialisation économique : perspectives historiques et historiographiques  
Economic Globalization : Historical Perspectives and State of Research
- 8. Les débats autour de la tradition et de la modernité : perspectives transculturelles et historiques  
Debates on Tradition and Modernity : Transcultural and Historical Perspectives





9. Les empires du Proche-Orient et de la Méditerranée : Étapes vers la mondialisation ?  
Empires in the Near East and the Mediterranean Area : Steps to Globalization ?
10. Les images du Pacifique  
Images of the Pacific
11. Les relations informelles dans l'histoire : parentèle, clientèle, amitié et réseaux sociaux  
Informal Relations in Early Modern and Modern Society : Kinship, Patronage, Friendship, Social Networks
12. Médias de masse et transformation de l'espace public  
Mass Media and the Transformation of the Public Sphere
13. Le rôle de l'expansion de la canne à sucre dans les cinq continents  
The Impact of Sugar Cane Expansion on Five Continents
14. Les manuels d'histoire, du récit de la nation au récit des citoyens  
Textbooks : from the Narrative of the Nation to the Narrative of Citizens
15. L'histoire des sens  
History of the Senses
16. L'Europe des Lumières et communication : expériences régionales et conséquences mondiales  
Enlightenment and Communication : Regional Experiences and Global Consequences
17. Construction et déconstruction de l'État-nation : le cas des Balkans  
Construction and Deconstruction of the National State : The Case of the Balkans
18. Les rapports christianisme-islam dans l'histoire  
Christianity-Islam Relationships in History
19. Les migrations de masse et leurs conséquences économiques, politiques et culturelles  
Mass Migrations : Their Economic, Political and Cultural Implications
20. Le regard de l'Europe médiévale sur l'Orient  
Medieval Europe Gazes Eastward
21. Modèles de formation de l'État-providence dans un contexte mondial  
Models of the Welfare State Formation in the Global Context
22. Religion et espace public  
Religion and the Public Sphere



23. La gouvernance des villes dans l'histoire  
The Governance of Cities in History
24. Les révolutions au XX<sup>e</sup> siècle, du général au particulier  
Revolutions in the 20th Century : The General and the Particular
25. Sport, politique et affaires  
Sport, Politics and Business
26. L'instruction publique comme mécanisme d'inclusion et d'exclusion  
Education : Mechanism of Inclusion or Exclusion

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TABLES RONDES  
ROUND TABLES

(20 séances d'une demi-journée)(20 half-day sessions)

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1. Enfance et guerre  
Children and War
2. La société civile : citoyenneté, genre et espace public  
Civil Society : Citizenship, Gender and the Public Sphere
3. Injustice, mémoire et politique : les demandes de réparation  
Injustice, Memory and Politics : Cases of Restitutions
4. Les droits de l'homme : universalité des aspirations et diversité des pratiques dans l'histoire  
Human Rights : Universal Claim and Conflicting Practice from a Historical Perspective
5. Vieillesse et mort  
Old Age and Death
6. Les historiens et leurs publics  
Historians and Their Audiences
7. L'analyse du discours et la culture populaire revisitée  
Discourse Analysis and Popular Culture Revisited
8. Entre les sciences sociales et la littérature : Quelle place pour l'histoire ?  
Between Social Science and Literature : the Changing Place of History



9. Au-delà du «virage culturel» : l'avenir de l'histoire sociale  
Beyond the Cultural Turn : The Future of Social History
10. Le corps politique : la politique du corps  
Body Politics : The Politics of the Body
11. Histoire, anthropologie et archéologie  
History, Anthropology and Archaeology
12. Les dictionnaires et encyclopédies historiques  
Historical Dictionaries and Encyclopedias
13. Peuples et sociétés des montagnes : nature et culture  
Mountain Peoples and Societies: Nature and Culture
14. La question nationale dans l'intégration et la désintégration  
de l'URSS. Le rôle de l'historiographie  
The National Question in the Integration and Disintegration  
of the Soviet Union. The Role of Historiography
15. L'histoire et les musées : nouveaux discours ?  
History and Museum : New Narratives ?
16. La persistance des institutions : les interprétations historiques  
Persistence of Institutions in a changing World : Historical  
Interpretations
17. Le terrorisme comme phénomène historique ; concepts,  
approches et résultats  
Terrorism as a Historical Problem : Concept, Approaches,  
Findings
18. Vies ouvrières : histoire du travail et autobiographies  
Working Lives : Labour History and Autobiography
19. L'évolution des réactions devant les inégalités : assentiment  
et protestation au XIX<sup>e</sup> et au XX<sup>e</sup> siècles  
Inequality, Acquiescence, Protest. Changing Patterns in  
the 19th and 20th Centuries
20. Le souvenir de la «Grande Guerre» à l'approche de son centenaire  
Remembering the «Great War». Toward the Centennial of WW I

## 12. Miscellaneous

-The Secretary General distributed and read the re-formulated proposal on classical languages:

"Le Comité International des Sciences Historiques (CISH) veut attirer l'attention sur l'urgente nécessité de promouvoir, dans tous les pays, les études classiques, entendues au sens de l'étude des langues anciennes et des autres éléments historiques à la base du développement des cultures. Le CISH souhaite que l'importance de cette dimension de la



formation intellectuelle et culturelle des générations futures soit reconnue par les pouvoirs publics et par les instances internationales, en particulier l'UNESCO.

The International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS) wishes to stress the urgent necessity of promoting, in all countries, the field of classical studies, understood as the study of ancient languages and other central historical elements constitutive of culture. The ICHS urges that governmental and international bodies, especially UNESCO, recognize the importance of this dimension of the intellectual and cultural education of future generations".

The proposal was unanimously approved.

-The Secretary General discussed the worrisome situation in India, citing cases of censorship of historians' work, which led him to write a letter to the Indian National Committee in accordance with Article 1 of the ICHS's constitution. The letter asked for the Committee's position with respect to those events. So far, no reply has been received at the ICHS's offices. The situation is serious because if the Indian National Committee has taken part in the censorship it has breached the ICHS's constitution.

-Even Lange confirmed that some difficulties were encountered in the distribution of the Oslo CD-ROM to certain countries. It will soon be sent to individuals that have paid for it. He appealed to the National Committees for help in verifying some addresses.

#### 14. Closing of the General Assembly

Before everyone dispersed, the President thanked all the participants for being there and contributing to the discussions. He expressed his satisfaction with the favourable prospects for the Sydney Congress.