



Paris, March 3, 2007

At the invitation of Professor José Luis Peset, President of the ICHS, the *Bureau restreint* met in Paris on March 3, 2007, at the *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales* and at the *Colegio de España* of the *Cité Universitaire*. The purpose of the meeting was to review ICHS operations between the regular meetings in Santiago de Compostela (October 2006) and Beijing (September 2007).

Present: José Luis Peset, President, Pierre Ducrey, Treasurer, Jean-Claude Robert, Secretary General, and Laurent Tissot, Invited Guest.

Agenda

1. Opening statement
2. ICHS operations
3. Bureau vacancies
4. Treasurer's financial report
5. ICHS-UNESCO relations
6. 2007 General Assembly
7. 2010 Congress
8. Miscellaneous

1. Opening statement

The President opened the meeting by welcoming participants to Paris.

2. ICHS operations

a) *Bulletin, Vol. 32*

The *Bulletin* has gone to press and should be mailed out to all members by mid-March. Six hundred copies are being printed.

b) *National Committees / International Affiliated Organizations / Internal Commissions*

National Committees

The Association of Kazakhstan Historians has formally requested membership in the ICHS as a National Committee. As the request conforms to the constitution of the ICHS, the Secretary General motioned that the Association of Kazakhstan Historians be admitted to the ICHS as a National Committee.

Motion carried.

Internal Commissions

The International Commission on the History of the Russian Revolution has been unable to elect a new board of directors since the Oslo Congress. The international membership of this Commission is in doubt because the theme appears to no longer be of any interest. After numerous talks and several attempts to broaden the theme, it was



motioned that this Commission be withdrawn from the list of ICHS international commissions.

Motion carried.

- c) *Follow-up to the work of the two sub-committees (Expansion of ICHS and Preparation of the Program of the Congress)*

The two sub-committees made progress in their work in Santiago. The Treasurer and the Secretary General will be preparing a short report, which will be sent to ICHS members before discussion and approval at the General Assembly.

3. Bureau vacancies

Two members of the Bureau will be replaced in 2007. ICHS Treasurer Pierre Ducrey had agreed to extend his term, which was to end in Sydney. The Treasurer nominated Laurent Tissot, Professor at the University of Neuchâtel. The Bureau *restreint* motioned that Laurent Tissot be appointed as Treasurer and serve in this capacity from January 1, 2008, until the 2010 Congress. This motion will be submitted to the General Assembly in Beijing.

Motion carried.

Further to Sorin Antohi's resignation, the *Bureau restreint* has to complete its ranks. The Secretary General nominated Professor Roger Chartier (ÉHESS and Collège de France) for the position of Member Assessor until the 2010 Congress. This motion will be submitted to the General Assembly in Beijing.

Motion carried.

4. Treasurer's financial report

The Treasurer presented the profit and loss accounts for the 2006 fiscal period and the balance sheet ending December 31, 2006. The accounts show revenues of CHF 58,381.69 and outflows of CHF 43,069.88, resulting in a positive balance of CHF 15,311.81. However, it should be noted that the cost of the 2006 *Bulletin* is not included in the total since it is being published in March 2007. The balance sheet shows assets (reserves) of CHF 126,267.43. The Treasurer distributed copies of the accounts and the balance sheet to the members, as established by the Financial Department of the Université de Lausanne, along with a bank statement for December 31, 2006.

He then presented his analysis of the membership dues. A reminder will be sent out in June 2007 to help late-paying members to correct their situation before the September 2007 General Assembly in Beijing.

The usual payments for the administrative costs of the Secretary General and the Treasurer were determined.



5. ICHS – UNESCO relations

a) *International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies*

The ICPHS held its General Assembly in Alexandria in November 2006. The significant financial problems stemming from UNESCO's steady reduction of the budget are being resolved, but the situation remains uncertain. The publication of *Diogène* magazine is secure for now, but other ICPHS activities, particularly subsidies granted to organizations like the ICHS for their Congresses, are being scaled down.

b) *UNESCO*

The activities of the Joint UNESCO/ICHS Committee have not been funded since 2006 because UNESCO did not renew the budget. The Secretary General has held discussions with various persons attached to UNESCO in order to obtain one-time financing for the 2010 Congress.

6. Beijing General Assembly (2007)

- a) The President and the Secretary General travelled to Beijing in December 2006 and had a very productive visit. Their first meeting was held on December 18 with the Association of Chinese Historians and a representative of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. During the meeting, the symposium program was refined and we provided more details on our logistical needs (rooms, hotels, excursions, etc.). We held a second meeting on December 20, at the headquarters of the Chinese Historians Association, and had a very interesting exchange on the structure of the ICHS and the development of closer ties with Chinese historians. Our Chinese colleagues would like to take the opportunity, when many of their foreign counterparts will be in Beijing, to invite them to speak at the universities after the Assembly. The ICHS does not have the manpower to organize these types of meetings but will relay the invitation to all representatives of the Committees and Organizations, which can then decide to contact the Association of Chinese Historians.
- b) The logistical organization of the General Assembly will be a heavier load for the ICHS Secretariat, particularly because information must be gathered on the passports for delegates and accompanying persons in order to obtain an official invitation from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. This document is a requirement for obtaining a visa to travel to China. In addition, each delegate and accompanying person must personally request a visa in their respective countries from the Chinese diplomatic authorities. The ICHS will be responsible for obtaining the dates for hotel reservations once the information is received from our Chinese colleagues. The ICHS has asked to plan for a wide range of room prices. Delegates will have the option of buying a buffet meal for the General Assembly. Our Chinese colleagues are planning an excursion to the Great Wall on the afternoon of Tuesday, September 18.

The first circular with the note of convocation was sent out in December 2006. The next circulars will be sent in April, May, and, lastly, in July.



7. 2010 Congress

The organization of the Amsterdam Congress is progressing well. The Secretary General was invited to meet the Amsterdam Organizing Committee on February 28 in Amsterdam, and while there, he toured the rooms for the Congress. Registration logistics were given over to the International Institute of Social History / *Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis*, which has expertise in organizing international meetings. The on-line registration system is ready. On-line registration will also be available for communicators so that the Congress program can be completed quicker. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss the problems of the previous Congress, financing, and most particularly, assistance for colleagues from emerging countries. The rooms at the University of Amsterdam are perfectly suitable and are conveniently located in the downtown area, near many hotels.

8. Miscellaneous

The President announced that he will ask the support of the Spanish National Committee to prepare a Spanish edition of the English version of Karl Dietrich Erdmann's book.

As there was no further business, the President thanked the members of the *Bureau restreint* and closed the meeting.