



Amsterdam, 22 August 2010

The first of the two statutory General Assemblies of the ICHS that were convened on the occasion of the quinquennial Congress was chaired by Professor José Luis Peset and held in the *Agnietenkapel* of the University of Amsterdam (Oudezijds Voorburgwal 231) on 22 August 2010, at 10:00 a.m., immediately preceding the opening of the 21st International Congress of Historical Sciences.

Present:

* **Members of the Bureau** : José Luis Peset, President; Koichi Kabayama and William C. Jordan Vice-Presidents; Jean-Claude Robert, Secretary General; Laurent Tissot, Treasurer; Shahid Amin, Michael Bibikov, Roger Chartier, Michael Heyd, Marjatta Hietala, Hilda Sabato, Assessor Members; Jürgen Kocka, Counsellor; Hans Blom, President of the Organizing Committee of the 21st International Congress of Historical Sciences; and Pim den Boer, member of the Organizing Committee.

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

Observers

SHARP

Leslie Howsam

NOGWHISTO

Matthias Middell

National Committees

| N° | Country | Delegate | Deputy Delegate |
|----|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | <i>Albania</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 2 | Germany | Simone Lässig | Jürgen Kocka |
| 3 | <i>Argentina</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 4 | <i>Australia</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 5 | <i>Austria</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 6 | <i>Belgium</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 7 | <i>Belarus</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 8 | <i>Brazil</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 9 | <i>Bulgaria</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 10 | Canada | Beverly Lemire | |
| 11 | China | Zhang, Haipeng | Wang, Jianlang |
| 12 | <i>Cyprus</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 13 | Korea (Seoul) | Lim, Jie-Hyun | |
| 14 | <i>Croatia</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |



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| 15 | <i>Denmark</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 16 | Spain | José Luis Peset | |
| 17 | United States | Arnita Jones | |
| 18 | Finland | Hanna Saarinen | |
| 19 | France | Jean-François Sirinelli | Pascal Cauchy |
| 20 | <i>Georgia</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 21 | <i>Great Britain</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 22 | <i>Greece</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 23 | <i>Guinea</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 24 | Hungary | Haraszti György | |
| 25 | <i>India</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 26 | <i>Ireland</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 27 | <i>Iceland</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 28 | Israel | Michael Heyd | |
| 29 | <i>Italy</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 30 | Japan | Yoichi Kibata | |
| 31 | <i>Latvia</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 32 | Lithuania | Rustis Kamuntavicius | |
| 33 | Luxembourg | Paul Dostert | |
| 34 | <i>Morocco</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 35 | Mexico | Veronica Zarate Toscano | |
| 36 | Norway | Dag Hundstadt | Per Kristian Sebrak |
| 37 | Netherlands | A. F. Heerma van Voss | Leonie de Goei |
| 38 | <i>Peru</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 39 | Poland | Janusz Zarnowski | |
| 40 | Portugal | José Marques | |
| 41 | Romania | Dan Berindei | Ioan-Aurel Pop |
| 42 | <i>Russia</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 43 | Slovakia (Rep. of) | Dusan Kovac | |
| 44 | <i>Slovenia</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 45 | <i>South Africa (Rep. of)</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 46 | <i>Sweden</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 47 | <i>Switzerland</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 48 | <i>Czech Republic</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 49 | <i>Tunisia</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 50 | Turkey | Mehmet Öz | Bülent Özdemir |
| 51 | Ukraine | Ostap Sereda | |



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| 52 | Vatican (Holy See) | Cosimo Semeraro | Bernard Ardura |
| 53 | <i>Việt Nam</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |

Affiliated International Organizations

| No. | Name | Delegate | Deputy Delegate |
|-----|---|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Int'l Ass. for the Study of Southeast Europe</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 2 | Int'l Ass. of Contemporary History of Europe | Antoine Fleury | Sylvain Schirman |
| 3 | <i>Int'l Ass. of History of Law and Institution</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 4 | Int'l Ass. of Economic History | Beverly Lemire | |
| 5 | <i>Int'l Ass. for Byzantine Studies</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 6 | <i>Int'l Committee for the History of the Second World War</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 7 | <i>International Social History Association</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 8 | Comm. int. d'Histoire et d'étude du Christianisme | Hugh McLeod | |
| 9 | Int'l Commission on Maritime History | Graydon Henning | Ingo Heidbrink |
| 10 | Int'l Comm. on Comparative Military History | Piet Kamphuis | |
| 11 | Int'l Comm. on the History of International Relations | Robert Frank | Alfredo Canavero |
| 12 | Int'l Comm. on the History of the French Revolution | Matthias Middell | |
| 13 | Int'l Comm. of Historical Demography | Bruce Fetter | Kees Mandemakers A. Fauve- Chamoux |
| 14 | <i>Int'l Comm. of Slavic Studies</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 15 | Int'l Comm. on the History of State Assemblies | John Rogister | Maria Sofia Corciulo |
| 16 | Int'l Comm. on the History of Universities | Lise Roy | H. DeRidder- Symoens |
| 17 | Int'l Comm. on the History of Cities | Michel Pauly | |
| 18 | <i>Int'l Comm. for the History of Travel and Tourism</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 19 | Int'l Comm. for the History and Theory of Historiography | Masayuki Sato | |
| 20 | <i>Int'l Fed. of Societies and Institutes for Renaissance Studies</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |



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|----|---|----------------------|------------|
| 21 | Int'l Fed. for Research on the History of Women | Krassimira Daskalova | |
| 22 | <i>Instituto Panamericano de Geografía y Historia</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 23 | <i>The Int. Ass. of Historical Societies for the Study of Jewish History</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 24 | Int. Standing Conference for the History of Education | Eckhart Fuchs | |
| 25 | <i>Society for the Study of the Crusades and the Latin East</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 26 | Int'l Society for the Didactics of History | Elizabeth Erdmann | Arja Virta |
| 27 | <i>Int. Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 28 | <i>Union of Arab Historians</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 29 | <i>Unione Int. degli Istituti di Archeologia, Storia e Storia dell'Arte in Roma</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |

Internal Commissions

| No. | Name | Delegate | Deputy Delegate |
|-----|--|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | <i>Association against the Manipulation of History (MURS)</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 2 | <i>African Historians Association</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 3 | <i>Int'l Committee on Latin Paleography (CIPL)</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 4 | <i>Int'l Committee for Historical Metrology (CIMH)</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 5 | <i>Int'l Commission on Diplomacy</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 6 | <i>Int'l Comm. on the History of Cold War</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 7 | <i>Int'l Comm. on the History of the Bastic Sea</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 8 | Int'l Comm. on the History of the Russian Revolution | Salavat Iskhakov | |
| 9 | <i>International Association for Media and History (LAMHIST)</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 10 | <i>International Commission for Historical Journals</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 11 | <i>Majestas (Study of Sovereignty)</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |
| 12 | <i>Peace History Society</i> | <i>Absent</i> | |



Agenda

1. Opening statement and President's remarks
2. Secretary General's activity report for 2005-2010
3. Treasurer's financial report
4. Appointment of two auditors
5. Nominating Committee report: proposals for the 2010-2015 Bureau
6. Report of the Congress program sub-committee
7. New members
8. Selection of venue for the 22nd International Congress of Historical Sciences in 2015
9. Miscellaneous

1. President's opening statement and remarks

After welcoming all the members in attendance, President José Luis Peset asked the Secretary General to verify the quorum. With some 38 committees and organizations in attendance, the Secretary General declared the meeting valid, as a quorum requires at least one-third of ICHS members (28). The President read the names of members who had passed away since the last General Assembly: Alain Dubois (1932-2008), ICHS Treasurer from 1980 to 1995; Grigori Bongard-Levin (1933-2008), Bureau member from 2000 to 2005; Ernesto De la Torre Villar (1917-2009), ICHS President from 1985 to 1990; and Iaroslav Isaievych, President of the Ukraine National Committee, who passed away in 2010. The Assembly then observed a moment of silence.

The President then gave the Secretary General the floor.

2. Secretary General's report

The Secretary General reminded the Assembly that they would be voting on the important decisions for the new quinquennium during the second General Assembly. He then presented his 2005-2010 general report, attached in full to these minutes.

The report begins by stating briefly the main characteristics and objectives of ICHS, before reviewing the principal aspects of the action of the International Committee. The report goes on to examine the question of the Information Bulletin, published annually and on the development of the Web site, which rendered the Bulletin redundant and proposes the end of the annual publication. The Report of the Sub-committee of the Program of the Congress is also discussed. The Secretary General concludes his report with two sobering thoughts. Despite its efforts, the ICHS is under-represented in some parts of the world, and the Secretariat's lack of resources is seriously hampering ICHS activities. There are not enough funds to operate a bona fide permanent secretariat, and the Secretary General's actions are further limited by the fact that he works only part time, on a voluntary basis. Finally, he stated that he could not have fulfilled his task without the financial and material support of his department and his institution, the



Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM). He also thanked Renée McNicoll for her faithful service to the secretariat and her work updating the Web site since 2004.

3. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Laurent Tissot presented and commented on the profit and loss accounts and balance sheets for the 2007, 2008 and 2009 fiscal years, and the auditor's report submitted by Compagnie fiduciaire Pointet SA Neuchâtel (Switzerland) on 18 August 2010. The 2005-2009 balance sheets and profit and loss accounts are included in the Appendix. The Treasurer highlighted the following points:

- The Beijing General Assembly was held in fiscal 2007, and accounts for the additional expenses. The profit and loss accounts closed with a negative balance of CHF 1,663.42, resulting in a negative balance sheet that decreased from CHF 126,267.43 on 31 December 2006 to CHF 113,504.05 on 31 December 2007.
- The financial crisis had a major impact on the ICHS's finances in 2008. The year closed with a negative balance of CHF 12,455.58, mainly due to investment losses, which brought the balance sheet down to CHF 101,898.37 on 31 December 2008.
- However, 2009 closed with a positive balance of CHF 3,149.11, bringing the balance sheet to CHF 105,897.78 on 31 December 2009.

The Bureau and the *Bureau restreint* have been careful about reducing expenses as much as possible. In addition, they are concerned about the fact that the Bulletin's sales have plummeted and do not cover production expenses. The ICHS's funds are steadily contracting, which is a cause for concern.

The Treasurer said that the *Bureau restreint* and the Bureau have been implementing the solutions proposed in recent years, especially by asking their institutions to assist them with travel expenses. This has yielded positive results. Ending the print publication of the Bulletin should also lead to considerable savings and allow the organization to overhaul the Web site and increase the organization's visibility in accordance with current resources.

The Treasurer expressed disappointment with the fact that some members are paying their fees irregularly. Efforts are underway to attract more National Committees and to reach out to members who have withdrawn their membership, including some South American committees.

Lastly, the Treasurer thanked the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) and the Université de Neuchâtel, the respective institutions of the Secretary General and the Treasurer, for providing services in kind (office space, telecommunications, electronics and computers) as well as bookkeeping and other services that have saved the organization substantial funds.

4. Appointment of auditors

As there were no further questions arising from the Treasurer's report, the meeting proceeded with the appointment of two auditors. The General Assembly entrusted this assignment to Professor John Rogister (International Commission for the History of



Representative Institutions) and Professor Alexander Heerma van Voss (The Netherlands National Committee).

5. Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee was elected during the General Assembly of September 2007, and is composed of seven members: four members delegated by the General Assembly [Ms. Krassimira Daskalova (International Federation for Research in Women's History), Mr. Robert McCaa (International Commission for Historical Demography), Mr. Yoichi Kibata (Japanese National Committee), Mr. Jean-François Sirinelli (French National Committee)], and three members delegated by the Bureau (Ms. Marjatta Hietala, Mr. José-Luis Peset and Mr. Jean-Claude Robert). After a call for nominees was extended, the Committee met in Tokyo on 15 September 2009 to examine the 19 proposals received.

The members of the Committee first discussed six main criteria that would guide their choices. The first one is the regional geographical equilibrium to ensure that the various regions of the world and Europe be represented adequately, as much as our limited resources allow (12 members on the Bureau). The second principle is a fair representation of the various fields and periods of historical research among the Bureau members. The third is a better gender balance and the fourth is the ability of the candidates to do team work and develop international networks. The fifth principle is to choose future Bureau members from the proposals both from the National Committees and the Affiliated International Organizations. Finally, Bureau members should all be from different countries, so that there is no more than one member from the same country.

Emphasizing that no country could lay claim to a permanent seat on the Bureau, the members felt that the representation achieved was a good balance for the new Bureau. They submitted the names of the eleven members listed below to the General Assembly; of the six Assessor Members, four were nominated by National Committees, and two by Affiliated International Organizations.

In accordance with a suggestion made at the Oslo Congress, the Bureau distributed the list of candidates along with their abbreviated curriculum vitae to give delegates time to study the proposals. The document was sent to all ICHS members on 15 April 2010. The candidates' full curriculum vitae will also be available at the Congress registration office.

Secretary General Jean-Claude Robert read the list and pointed out the new members:

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| President: | Prof. Marjatta Hietala (Finland), <i>currently an Assessor Member</i> |
| First Vice-President: | Prof. Hilda Sabato (Argentina), <i>currently an Assessor Member</i> |
| Second Vice-President: | Prof. W. (Pim) den Boer (The Netherlands) |
| Secretary General: | Prof. Robert Frank (France) |
| Treasurer: | Prof. Laurent Tissot (Switzerland), <i>currently Treasurer</i> |
| Assessor members : | Prof. Dr. Mikhail Bibikov (Russia) Prof. Andrea Giardina (Italy) |



Prof. **LIM**, Jie-Yun (Korea)
Prof. Karen **Offen** (United States)
Prof. John **Register** (United Kingdom)
Prof. **TAO**, Wenzhao (China)
Prof. José-Luis **Peset** (Spain)
ICHS President from 2005 to 2010

Counsellor:

The Secretary General reminded the members of the provisions of article 5 of the constitution, which states that: "...[The] Nominating Committee ... 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 Affiliated International Organizations. The Board shall be elected at the second of the two General Assemblies held at the quinquennial Congress." If a counterproposal is presented, the candidate's curriculum vitae must be made available to the members of the General Assembly.

6. Report of the sub-committee on the Congress Program

The sub-committee was constituted upon the approval of the General Assembly in Sydney (2005), and filed interim reports in 2006 and 2007. It submitted its final report in June, and this document was sent to all members. It held two formal meetings, one in Santiago de Compostela in 2006 and another in Rome in June 2009; all other business was carried out by e-mail. The sub-committee conducted a survey of ICHS members in 2007 and took the survey's findings into account in its final report. The report has four sections: the first examines the structure of the ICHS and contrasts the diversity of the National Committees with the relative uniformity of the Affiliated International Organizations, suggesting that these structural differences may be a factor in the organization's communication problems. The second section discusses the importance of the quinquennial congress for ICHS. The third section reviews the actual procedure to create the program. The last section puts forward eight motions that will be submitted to the General Assembly, after which the Bureau will decide any initiatives. For sub-committee members, it was most important to review the Congress's generalist vocation, which is central to the ICHS's objectives, and discuss the process for organizing the Congress program.

The Secretary General then presented the sub-committee's eight motions, as follows:

1. The ICHS will keep five sections in its program: major themes, specialized themes, joint sessions, round tables and special sessions.
2. To be considered, any proposal for a theme must be justified with a short text (minimum 200 words).
3. There must be at least two members of the ICHS (NC and AIO) to propose a joint session.
4. Each Affiliated International Organization is entitled to one session in the main program. This means that there would be only two half-days reserved for AIOs.
5. National Committees should be encouraged to propose special sessions to take stock of the development of historiography in a regional area.
6. The number of Round tables should be reduced to 10 and incorporate younger



scholars.

7. The list of all proposals will be sent to members of the ICHS, and they will have a short period to send their reaction to the Secretary General before the meeting of the sub-committee of the Bureau.
8. The ICHS Web site should be used in the process. Steps should be taken to simplify the cumbersome procedure to receive all proposals and having to prepare long documents. This would mean putting more money into the Web site.

The Secretary General opened the discussion. The fourth and fifth motions prompted some questions. Delegates from the Affiliated International Organizations opposed the idea of reducing their three half-day sessions. The Secretary General suggested that the final vote on the motions be postponed until the 26 August General Assembly so that delegates can take more time to study the report and submit amendment motions. Amendments should be submitted to the Secretary General before the second General Assembly.

7. New members

Jean-Claude Robert presented five requests for admission to the ICHS:

1. The Argentinian National Committee has resigned from the ICHS a few years ago, but a group of university historians known as the *Sociedad Argentina de Investigadores en Historia* has asked to become the new Argentinian National Committee.
2. The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) has asked to be recognized as an Affiliated International Organization.
3. Network of Global and World History Organizations (NOGWHISTO) has asked to be recognized as an Affiliated International Organization.
4. A group of historians interested in public history, known as the International Federation for Public History, wishes to be recognized as an Internal Commission for five years.
5. A group of historians and study groups on the Indian Ocean region, known as the International Commission of Indian Ocean Historians, wishes to become an Internal Commission for five years.

The Secretary General reviewed the constitutions of these applicants and found them to be consistent with the ICHS's own constitution, and the ICHS Bureau has formally approved the admission of these new members.

Upon the unanimous approval of the General Assembly, the President acclaimed the applicants as members of the ICHS and invited them to join in the General Assembly's deliberations.

8. Selection of venue for the 22nd International Congress of the Historical Sciences in 2015

The City of Jinan, capital of Shandong province, located about 400 km southeast of Beijing, submitted its candidacy for hosting the 2015 Congress. The Secretary General previously gave the committee a list of specifications for the quinquennial Congress, and



the Chinese National Committee has agreed to its terms. Consistent with ICHS procedures, the candidate will be given twenty minutes to present its candidacy to the General Assembly. A final vote will be held during the General Assembly on 26 August. The Chinese delegation, composed of representatives from the Chinese Historians Association, then proceeded to present the candidacy of the city of Jinan.

The presentations were followed by a question period so that members of the Assembly could seek clarifications. The Chinese delegation then invited the members to a more elaborate audiovisual presentation on Tuesday, 24 August, at noon, followed by a buffet.

9. Miscellaneous

The delegate from the Hungarian National Committee invited the General Assembly to meet in Budapest in 2012.

As there were no further questions, President José Luis Peset concluded the session after thanking the members of the Assembly for their participation.

APPENDIX

I. Report of the Secretary general, 2005-2010

After ten years as Secretary general, I have decided not to seek another term. It is thus the last report that I present to the General Assembly. I would like to take a look at the state of ICHS at the end of the 2005-2010 period. ICHS is an umbrella organization that is 84 years old, but whose three central objectives remain very much pertinent. It is a generalist association, in the sense that it does not identify with a single period of history, or place or methodology; it promotes a comparative approach, and it is independent, relying on its membership for finances and for guidance. It is noteworthy to remind that with ICHS, the international community of historians has a good tool to stimulate the development of history. The action of ICHS has four dimensions: the Bureau, communications, the Congress and the contacts with international organizations.

The Bureau meets every year in order to monitor the activity of the Committee and to take decisions between the general assemblies. Each member brings his or her own expertise and understanding of problems and possible solutions. During the 2005-2010 term, the program of the Congress was an important concern for the Bureau and the Secretary general. The Subcommittee on the Program of the congresses began its work in 2006, and the final report was sent to all members earlier this summer. The General assembly will discuss its conclusions later on. In addition, the Subcommittee's work was an occasion to take a closer look to the structure of the membership. We will come back to it later.

In order to take advantage of the international contacts and to give some voice to younger historians, the Bureau is systematically adding an academic component to its meetings or at the time of the General Assembly. Thus in 2006, a group of young Spanish historians took part in a symposium in Santiago de Compostela; in 2007, our Chinese colleagues presented an interesting session on the recent developments of Chinese historiography, and in 2008, Dutch historians put up a colloquium on historiography in the Netherlands. In 2009, the Japan National Committee organized a two-day symposium around presentations by members of the Bureau, followed by comments from Japanese colleagues.



The Bulletin and the web site constitute ICHS main tools of communications. Since 2005, the Bulletin is published at the end of the year and mailed to all members in December. The Bulletin was the essential means of communications for a long time. A first series of bulletins appeared between the two World Wars. Bulletins were very substantial then; indeed some of them contained the complete proceedings of an International Congress. This first series was published with the financial help of a US foundation. After World War II, the foundation did not continue funding and, on the other hand, historians gained better access to publishing. The Bulletin was revived in 1953, much thinner, first at irregular intervals and since 1986, annually. But the development of the ICHS website since 2000, and its more intensive use after 2004 and 2008, made the Bulletin redundant, since all the information about ICHS is there. In addition, production and shipping costs increased regularly: between 2001 and 2009, costs were up by 75%. In the past, outside subscriptions were sufficiently important to offset a proportion of the costs, but subscriptions dropped seriously after 2007. In the meantime, the circulation of the bulletin was dwindling. Printed in 600 copies, each member organization receives five copies and many of these do not really circulate. By contrast, the website is getting a monthly average of 900 hits. In this context, the Bureau proposes to cease the publication. Volume 35 (2009) would be the last of the annual series.

The website of ICHS is ten years old and was developed significantly. It contains all the information of the Bulletin and is updated regularly as the Secretariat receives notices of changes. Over the years, it was transformed constantly and now there is not much in common with the small website of 2000, save the general style. All the documents produced by ICHS are posted in the different sections: reports, minutes of meetings, editorials and general notices, directory of members. An archives section was added, which contains the inventory of ICHS archives in Paris and in Lausanne, as well as other materials of interest for the history of ICHS. Members will also find in that section the short historical notice about their association that appeared in the Bulletins from the early 1980s to 2000.

The quinquennial Congress is the principal achievement of ICHS and its preparation constitutes a high priority for the Bureau and the Secretary general. Work begins the year following the Congress, when the Bureau conducts a critical assessment of the past congress. Then, after the Bureau meeting, the Secretary general issues a call for themes. When the answers from members are received, they are examined by a Subcommittee of the Bureau which prepares a selection, to be discussed first by the Bureau and then presented at the inter-congress General assembly. Once themes are chosen, the same Subcommittee selects the various organizers and discussants; then the Secretary general contacts each candidate. Once organizers chosen, a call for papers is issued to members and posted on the ICHS website. Organizers are free to choose their communicants provided they respect the Guidelines prepared by the Secretary general, who also supervises the selection process to ensure that all rules are followed. In general, the Program of the Congress gives a good idea of the intellectual and historiographical debates in the profession. For 2010, a new type of session was created, following the first suggestion of the Subcommittee on the Program: two or more of the members can propose a Joint Session; ten sessions were set aside. The Bureau also redefined the Round Tables to respect their initial objectives.

Since 2000, rejuvenation and feminization have been the preoccupation of the Secretary general and have progressed regularly. In Oslo, 20% of communicants were female colleagues, and this proportion was raised to 27% in Sydney (2005) and to 42% in Amsterdam. ICHS did also renew contacts with the International Students of History



Association (ISHA), founded in 1989. Two special sessions are set up for this Congress and the *Bureau restreint* will meet with the ISHA executive to find means of maintaining closer relations in the future.

Contacts with International organizations were first concentrated on the project of renewing the Joint Committee with UNESCO. Between 1999 and 2005, this Joint Committee succeeded in putting up a dozen of international meetings, including five workshops during the 2005 Congress. Meetings were held in areas where ICHS had few members. However, by the end of 2005, the Joint Committee did not figure any more in the budget of UNESCO. While ICHS had some qualifications about the usefulness of such meetings, in respect of its own objectives, the Secretary general pursued the idea. Between 2007 and 2009, he had meetings in Paris with UNESCO personnel and with a few National delegations, in order to try to revive the Joint Committee. After discussions and further correspondence, it became clear that to revive the Joint Committee a full lobbying campaign among National delegations would be necessary in order to get a positive vote during the General Conference of UNESCO. ICHS does not have the means to do this. The *Bureau restreint* of Montreal (2009) decided that this project should be terminated. ICHS should rather explore other ways to reach its specific goals, that are to bring more National Committees and Organizations to participate to international cooperation and especially the International Congress.

The International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (CIPSH-ICPHS) is a non-governmental organization partially funded by UNESCO since its inception in 1949. ICHS is a charter member and was always supportive of its goals. CIPSH-ICPHS is publishing the journal *Diogenes* and holds its biennial meetings in conjunction with a scientific meeting. In the past, CIPSH used to be able to contribute to ICHS congress by grants to support the attendance of colleagues from the South, but since UNESCO reduced funding drastically, contributions have dwindled and the publication of *Diogenes* remains its chief expenditure. In the past years, CIPSH has moved to rejuvenate its membership and reorient its activities with UNESCO, and its own member associations.

Members of ICHS have received, in the past weeks, the final report of the Subcommittee on the Program of Congresses. In the process of its work, a lot of information was gathered concerning the structure of Affiliated International Associations and National Committees, and this led to some interesting views on ICHS. As most of you are aware, ICHS does not have any individual membership. The heterogeneous nature of the structure of many National Committees creates some problems, especially when it comes to communications. If information coming from the Secretariat does not circulate properly and relatively quickly, all the work of the International committee is slowed down and made much more difficult. On the other hand, some of the various types of National Committees have serious drawbacks. For instance, the absence of a general assembly of its members makes it difficult to act in a dynamic way and with proper communications. National Committees entirely dependent upon a government subsidy can find themselves in a very bad situation when funding is interrupted. Affiliated International Organizations are more dynamic. However, there seems to be a tendency to concentrate on the subject matter of the Association, instead of looking forward to a more open global approach. Narrow specialization can become a hindrance in some instances. The new Bureau might want to examine more closely this variety of structures and find it useful to modify the statutes of ICHS.

The membership remains quite stable. In 2005, ICHS had 53 National Committees, 29 Affiliated International Associations, and 12 Internal Commissions. In 2010, there are 54



National Committees, 29 Affiliated International Organizations and 12 Internal Commissions. This General Assembly will have to decide on a change of National Committee, the admission of two Affiliated International Organizations and two Internal Commissions. In the wake of the 2007 questionnaire, the Secretary general decided on a follow-up operation to revive some sleepy members. He got in touch with many colleagues and some responses are encouraging; in particular historians from Denmark and Bulgaria are actively working on the revival of their National committees. On the other hand, the Bureau is also working on Latin America, and situation is improving in that area. Still, there are about ten members who do not respond anymore. After this Congress, they should be withdrawn from ICHS membership.

Some of ICHS problems are recurrent. The International Committee is largely absent from the Muslim world as well as in Africa. An attempt to put up a session in Amsterdam on the Muslim world was unsuccessful. However, for Africa, the Association of African Historians, affiliated to ICHS as an Internal Commission is very helpful to bridge the absence of National Committees. Latin America is in the process of increasing its presence. In the area of Asia and Oceania the situation is better; but only large countries like China, Japan, India and Australia are members of ICHS. Except South Korea and Vietnam, the other countries of the region are not represented. The creation of the Internal Commission for the historians of the Indian Ocean represents a step in the right direction.

At the end of this second term, I feel that ICHS is in good shape, but I must sound an alarm bell. ICHS is lacking sufficient resources. If we are to fully develop the website in order to handle the selection of themes and organizers for the next Congress, we need to find somebody to handle the daily and weekly management of the site. The Secretary general simply cannot do that in addition to the rest. I must say that over the years, the task of the Secretary general has increased greatly. The move from snail mail to email meant that there was an explosion of the number of messages to be read, answered, followed-up and filed. The Secretariat is in contact with all members and the mail is always answered rapidly. In addition to this, across the world, big cities have all developed an aggressive marketing for International Congresses, which means that I get a deluge of requests for information to bid for the next congress. Since World War II, the Secretary general functions on the basis of voluntary work. In this context, he has to balance his teaching obligations as well as his own research, with the growing demands of ICHS. The decision to drop the annual publication of the Bulletin will free some time, but I think the limit has been reached and ICHS must find new solutions, be them institutional, financial or other, in order to support the task of the Secretary general.

To conclude, I would like to thank my colleagues of the bureau for their support and their stimulating remarks; they always responded to my requests and I had pleasure to work with them during this period. I ought also to mention the collaboration of numerous National Committees and Affiliated International Organizations. The Congress of Amsterdam would not have been possible without the good works of the Dutch Organizing Committee presided by Professor Hans Blom and of the small team working under Mrs. Els Hiemstra. Both were always ready to fix any problem that came in the way. Finally, the Secretary general could not have fulfilled his duties without the help and financial support of his Department and of the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM). Last but not least, I wish to thank my secretarial assistant, Ms. Renée McNicoll who took care of the day-to-day work of the Secretariat since 2004.

Jean-Claude Robert



II. Financial Documents

Comité international des sciences historiques / International committee of historical sciences

BILANS 2005 - 2009 / BALANCE SHEETS 2005 - 2009

| | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| UBS 255.190.01X c/c | 12 147,16 | 32 589,39 | 17 682,78 | 31 777,11 | 26 352,48 |
| UBS 255.190.M1N Épargne | 95,10 | 95,50 | 96,00 | 96,90 | 97,85 |
| UBS 255.190.60F Euro | 54,27 | 1 294,75 | 221,06 | 120,90 | 1 298,75 |
| Impôt anticipé à récupérer/Income tax (to be reimbursed) | 310,58 | 276,79 | 275,81 | 273,16 | 517,20 |
| Titres/Bonds | 93 166,00 | 91 211,00 | 94 260,00 | 68 662,20 | 76 663,10 |
| Actifs transitoires/ Actives adjustments | 968,40 | 800,00 | 968,40 | 968,40 | 968,40 |
| TOTAL ACTIF | 106 741,51 | 126 267,43 | 113 504,05 | 101 898,67 | 105 897,78 |
| Passifs transitoires/ Passives adjustments | 8 685,85 | 12 899,96 | 1 800,00 | 2 650,00 | 3 500,00 |
| Capital et réserves/ Capital and reserves | 133 137,62 | 98 055,66 | 113 367,47 | 111 704,05 | 99 248,67 |
| Excédent de charges(-) ou de produits(+)/ Excess of expenses(-) or income(+) | -35 081,96 | 15 311,81 | -1 663,42 | -12 455,38 | 3 149,11 |
| TOTAL PASSIF | 106 741,51 | 126 267,43 | 113 504,05 | 101 898,67 | 105 897,78 |

Comité international des sciences historiques / International committee of historical sciences

COMPTES DE PERTES ET PROFITS 2005 - 2009 / PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS 2005 - 2009

| | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cotisations/ Membership fees | 36 126,56 | 47 576,50 | 36 779,69 | 35 052,99 | 29 600,00 |
| Publications | 3 648,40 | 4 518,86 | 5 818,11 | 1 140,00 | 456,00 |
| Produits divers/ Other products | 0,00 | 299,95 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| Intérêts et prod. des titres/ Inves. income | 13 092,54 | 4 980,36 | 3 398,30 | 781,36 | 8 276,54 |
| Gain de change/ Profit | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 17,58 | 1,70 |



| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| of exchange | | | | | |
| Gains s/vente/ Profit on equities | 0,00 | 1 006,02 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| Subsides/ Grants | 98 233,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| Produits extraordinaires/ Extraordinary products | 0,00 | 0,00 | 1 923,85 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| TOTAL PRODUITS | 151 100,50 | 58 381,69 | 47 919,95 | 36 991,93 | 38 334,24 |
| Assemblée générale | 132 839,25 | 0,00 | 8 540,49 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| Réunion bureau restreint/ Presidency meeting | 2 936,66 | 2 351,70 | 4 041,45 | 2 054,14 | 3 203,91 |
| Réunion bureau/ Bureau meeting | 18 188,60 | 12 768,67 | 7 025,98 | 0,00 | 6 667,92 |
| Frais admin. Secrétariat général/ Admin. Expenses (secr. gen.) | 7 306,60 | 10 074,60 | 12 314,29 | 7 003,46 | 11 980,03 |
| Frais admin. Trésorier/ Admin. Expenses (treasurer) | 3 000,00 | 3 000,00 | 3 079,90 | 0,00 | 1 699,95 |
| Cotisation Cipsh/ Fee Cipsh | 1 230,80 | 1 163,86 | 1 219,83 | 816,62 | 769,74 |
| Publications | 13 326,12 | 10,396,50 | 10 007,20 | 10 990,44 | 9 010,40 |
| Pertes s/titres/ Loss on equities | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 26 017,90 | 0,00 |
| Frais bancaires/ Bank charges | 1 504,00 | 846,27 | 592,91 | 403,09 | 486,25 |
| Perte de change/ Loss of exchange | 199,83 | 81,53 | 133,32 | 20,46 | 116,93 |
| Frais de révision/ Auditors fee | 905,20 | 1 000,00 | 936,80 | 850,00 | 850,00 |
| Frais généraux/ Miscellaneous | 0,00 | 95,55 | 400,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| Frais informatiques/ Expenses over data processing | 4 745,40 | 1 291,20 | 1 291,20 | 1 291,20 | 400,00 |
| TOTAL CHARGES | 186 182,46 | 43 069,88 | 49 583,37 | 49 447,31 | 35 185,13 |
| RÉSULTAT | -35 081,96 | 15 311,81 | -1 663,42 | -12 455,38 | 3 149,11 |