

COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES OF DIPTEROLOGY

Minutes¹ of the Midterm Council Meeting held virtually from 10–14 September 2012

Instead of a physical midterm meeting, which as per tradition would have been held at the International Congress of Entomology (this year in Daegu, South Korea), a virtual meeting was held by e-mail on 10–14 September 2012. The Council was informed accordingly in March and the procedure was approved by 11 of the 15 Council members (4 did not respond).

The virtual meeting was opened on Monday, September 10 at 10:00 am Central European Summer Time with an email from the Secretary / Treasurer to all Council members. Discussion proceeded via the "reply to all" function and a formal vote was cast on items 4 and 7.

Minutes

1. **Present:** All Council members attended the virtual meeting with at least one e-mail response.
2. **Approval of minutes**
The minutes of the meetings of 8th and 12th August 2010 prepared by Adrian Pont and posted on the Council's web site (<http://www.nadsdiptera.org/ICD/Icd7min.htm>²) were approved.
3. **Secretary/Treasurer's report**
The report of the Secretary had been circulated together with the agenda of the present meeting. It was approved without questions or comments. The assets of the Council presently stand at 3237.55 €.
4. **Foundation of an International Society of Dipterology**
At the Council meetings at the ICD7 in 2010 it was decided that the project of founding an International Society of Dipterology should go ahead, and that the new Council Chairman and Secretary would now move the proposed society forward.

In a short report, circulated with the agenda, the Secretary summarized information about the possibilities of founding an international society, seated in Munich, Germany. Some concerns were expressed that country affiliation of a proposed society should primarily be chosen on long-term viability rather than present-day conveniences. It was stated that in case of a non-English constitution, there should also be a non-binding English version so it can be read and understood by the international community of dipterists.

Question from the Chairman: "I am herewith asking the Council to endorse that Marion and I continue to look into issues of constitution, bylaws, tax exemption, etc. with a focus on a

¹ These minutes were originally published on the ICD website, and are here reformatted for permanence (see <https://web.archive.org/web/20250423191744/https://www.uoguelph.ca/nadsfly/ICD/Icd2012min.htm>). The associated attached reports are hard copy meeting notes in the files of Council.

² Now archived at <https://web.archive.org/web/20111108092314/http://www.uoguelph.ca/nadsfly/ICD/Icd7min.htm>

German-based (but fully international) Society and bring this up again at the next Congress."
7 replies received, YES: 7

The Chair and Secretary will continue to look into these issues and will bring this up again at the next Congress. Immediate focus will be on a German-based (but fully international) Society, but with due investigations into possible benefits from alternative country affiliations.

5. Report on the preparations for ICD8 in 2014

A written report by Marion Kotrba was circulated with the agenda. It outlined the progress with the organisation of ICD8 in Potsdam, Germany, to be held on 10-15 August 2014. The overall cost presently estimated at € 160,000 will be balanced by a registration fee of € 350-400 from about 300 expected participants, as well as about € 60,000 hopefully to be received from funding agencies. An organisation committee is in place and everything is moving on smoothly and well under control. The report was approved.

Few concerns were expressed about economic uncertainties. Could the expected funding through DFG and IUBS be relied on? Could a Congress be sustained financially if the number of delegates falls far below what is expected? It was suggested to make a special effort to incorporate Eastern European delegates, possibly by obtaining grants for travel [further details will appear in the upcoming *Fly Times*].

Vote: "Do you endorse Potsdam, Germany as the locality for the upcoming congress in 2014?"
14 replies received, YES: 13, 1 declared abstention (Marion Kotrba, also chair of the proposed congress)

Potsdam is herewith the accepted location of the next Congress in 2014.

6. Bids to host ICD9 in 2018

At the ICD8 the Council will consider where the next ICD should be held and will evaluate and vote on any bids that are submitted. Ashley Kirk-Spriggs reported that he is preparing a bid for southern Africa, most likely Victoria Falls in Zambia. This was unanimously considered a very promising option.

Shaun Winterton reported that discussions have started on the possibility of a future Congress in California. Brazil was also mentioned as a future host country due to the high number of dipterists. In this context it was suggested to provide guidelines on the ICD homepages on the minimum information required for a realistic bid.

Bids shall be presented at the Council's first meeting at the Congress. [Remark by the secretary: Please contact the secretary about one month before the congress if you are planning to submit a bid, so it can be included in the agenda of the respective meeting.]

7. New Members of the Council for International Congresses of Dipterology

Seven Council members will be due for retirement or re-election in 2014. Irina Brake, Masaaki Suwa and Brian Wiegmann have indicated that they will not be seeking re-election. The Chairman emphasised that according to the Constitution, any two members of the Council may nominate a new candidate, and nominations should be sent to the Secretary/Treasurer together with the accompanying information as required by the Constitution Article VII(2).

8. **Honorary members of the International Congresses of Dipterology**

At present the Constitution allows for a maximum of seven Honorary Members (Article X). It was proposed by two Council members (Thomas Pape, Marion Kotrba) to raise this number to ten.

9.

Vote: "Shall the number of the Honorary Members of the Council of the International Congresses of Dipterology be raised to 10?"

12 replies received, YES: 10, NO: 1, invalid: 1

An amendment of the Constitution can be proposed by any two members of the Council, and shall be adopted if two-thirds of all Council members vote in favor thereof. The Constitution on the Council website shall therefore be amended accordingly.

It was noted by several councillors that this will be a maximum number that does not necessarily have to be filled.

10. **Any other business**

It was suggested to establish a drop box where dipterists might be able to drop ideas about the Council's operations.

11. **Closing**

The meeting was closed on September 14 at 05:00 pm Central European Summer Time by a concluding e-mail of the Chair in which he thanked the entire Council for an open and positive attitude to this first attempt of a virtual meeting, and the Secretary for doing the necessary preparations making this meeting possible.

Marion Kotrba
9 October 2012

Additional reports tabled at the meeting

Secretary/Treasurer's report

Since taking office in 2010 one of my principal activities as secretary/treasurer was moving forward the foundation of an International Society of Dipterology (TOP 4). Close contact with the ICD8 Organizing Committee was given through my personal union of ICD secretary and ICD8 chair (TOP 5). Another issue was looking into the options for the ICD9 in 2018 (TOP 6). Matters of the Council were discussed with the chair, including the issue of not having a personal meeting in Daegu.

2 882.32 GBP, originating from the Fukuoka congress and formerly held in a British bank account, were rounded up to 3 000 GBP by Adrian Pont and handed over to me in 2011. These were changed into 3 188.10 € and placed in a private German online bank account under Marion Kotrba at Comdirect. The present account is free of costs but also of interest to avoid tax problems.

Income:		
30.06.2011	3 188.10 €	transferred
12.07.2011	50.00 €	premium for opening the bank account
Expenses:		
31.12.2011	0.55 €	postage
Balance:		
04.07.2012	3 237.55 €	

Report on the Foundation of an International Society of Dipterology

At the Council meetings at the ICD7 in 2010 it was decided that the project of founding an International Society of Dipterology should go ahead, and that the new Council chairman and secretary would now move the proposed society forward. For the underlying reasons please refer to the minutes of those meetings.

I have looked into the options of founding an international society and also asked various other societies about their experiences, with the following result:

Any registered society has to have a legal seat (location), which determines what laws apply and which court is responsible. Therefore also an international society has to be registered in a particular country and city. At least one of the officers needs to interact with the responsible court personally, because all changes (e.g. new board after elections) need to be acknowledged by a notary and then submitted to the court. Doing this on international long distance is, I was told, extremely difficult.

It would be possible to found the society in Munich as a German society, but name it “International Society” and allow for international members. Many international societies are like that.

The constitution would have to be submitted to the court in German language and I have started to draft a constitution based on a default constitution suggested by the German authorities. This is more feasible than trying to adapt the ICD constitution. My concept is to have the constitution itself with as little detail as possible, so that it is legally uncomplicated and most likely to be accepted. All details and regulations could then be clarified in the by-laws.

Frame facts are: No dues, but provide the possibility to receive grants and donations. Provide the possibility to introduce dues if later decided. No Journal, newsletter will be Fly Times.

Question: will the ICD Council eventually operate independently of the society, become an organ of the society, or be replaced by the society?

These issues can and should be discussed at any time.

Report on the preparations for ICD8 in 2014

The main purpose of the midterm meeting is to assess the progress of the organisation of the next ICD.

The ICD8 Organizing Committee includes Marion Kotrba (chair), Netta Dorchin and Frank Menzel. We have hired a professional Congress organizing company, PCMA in Berlin. My personal motto for the congress could be summarized as “Diptera go public” referring to the aspect that we plan to combine the congress with public outreach activities, most importantly a fly exhibition to be shown at the Natural History Museum in Berlin at the time of the congress.

The congress logo is derived from the design of the fly exhibition originally designed at Neuchatel. We have designed stationary, business cards, sponsor flyers and the webpage accordingly. The webpage went online in July at www.icd8.org. Announcements have been

published in various journals such as Fly Times, Studia Dipterologica, Dipterists Bulletin, African Invertebrates, and others.

The chosen venue (Kongresshotel Potsdam) combines the comfort of a modern international congress center on a scenic lake-shore setting with the beauties of the historic and picturesque town of Potsdam, while the bustling capital city of Berlin and two of the largest German Diptera collections (Museum für Naturkunde, Senckenberg Deutsches Entomologisches Institut) are within easy reach. Distances are some 30 minutes from Berlin Tegel airport, 50 minutes from Berlin Schönefeld airport, and only a short distance from the railway station. The main Congress hall seats 500. We reserved another room with 80 seats and a smaller room with 45-50 seats. Additional rooms are available, if needed. There are ample areas for exhibitions, posters, and relaxation as well as two restaurants, a bar and several smaller sites for beverages.

The hotel rooms adjoin the congress center and can accommodate all congress delegates. The present quotation including breakfast is 85 € for single rooms and 100 € for double rooms.

The Congress program will follow the usual pattern with registration and welcome reception on Sunday, followed by 5 days of talks, including plenary talks and otherwise 3 parallel sessions. We plan to drop the separation between symposia and workshops and refer to all of them as symposia. The scientific committee has been established. It is headed by Netta Dorchin and includes Daniel Bickel, Martin Hauser, Ashley Kirk-Spriggs and Rudolf Meier. Four plenary speakers Maureen Coetzee, Steve Marshall, Rudolf Meier, and Thomas Pape have accepted our invitation. Proposed social functions include the icebreaker/reception (probably in the congress hotel), the congress banquet (in another location in or near Potsdam yet to be chosen), and possibly a reception at the fly exhibition in the Museum of Natural History in Berlin. The 250th anniversary of the birth of J.W. Meigen will probably be celebrated in the context of the Congress Banquet. An accompanying persons program will be provided.

Our Congress Budget presently runs at about 160 000 €. Main components are

	Per person:	Fixed costs:	(assuming 300 delegates)
Organization pcma		24 000	24 000
Congress rooms		18 000	18 000
Equipment etc.		4550	4550

Cleaning Service		750	750
Program and abstract volume		5 000	5 000
Student helpers		5 000	5 000
Per diem incl. lunches, 2 coffee breaks, snacks and beverages	5x 55.50		83 250
Welcome reception	38		11 400
Delegate packages	20		6 000
Total			158 050

This does not yet include possible costs for travel awards and inflationary adjustment.

On the income side we were already granted 30 000 € from the Senckenberg Gesellschaft, which adopted our congress as the 25th International Senckenberg Conference (acknowledged in the shadow in our logo). Moreover we anticipate a grant from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft of 28 000 € and possibly up to 5 000 € from International Union of Biological Sciences.

	Per person*:	Fixed:	(assuming 300 delegates)
Senckenberg		30 000	30 000
DFG		28 000	28 000
TUBS		5 000	5 000
Early registration	350 (90x)		31 500
Early reg. student	200 (30x)		3 000
Full registration	400 (135x)		54 000
Full reg. student	200 (45x)		9 000
Total			160 500

*calculation assumes 300 delegates, allotted to 4 different registration fees based on the percentages at the ICD7.

Single-day tickets will be available at about 100 €. We designed an extensive program for exhibitors and sponsors (please refer to our webpage for further information) and will try to further reduce the registration fee and/or offer travel grants for students, depending on our success.

All financial considerations are preliminary as the contracts allow for inflationary adjustment, and because many costs (e.g. delegate packages) can only be estimated at this point. Moreover, nobody knows how the financial crisis in Europe and the World will develop in the coming years.

For further information and images please refer to the webpage at www.icd8.org.