

Minutes from the UIS Bureau Sessions (1993-1996)

The 1st regular session of the UIS Bureau Postojna (Slovenia) September 23-24, 1993

The 1st regular session of the Bureau of the International Speleological Union was held in Postojna (Slovenia) on September 23 and 24, 1993 on the occasion of the International Symposium Man on Karst organized by the Karst Research Institute of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

Present UIS Bureau Members: Paolo Forti, Pavel Bosák, Urs Widmer

Honorary Members and Past-Presidents: Adolfo Eraso Romero, Vladimír Panoš, Hubert Trimmel

Invited Guests: Jean Nicod, Ugo Sauro, Fabien Hoblea

V. Panoš, J. Nicod, F. Hoblea and U. Sauro were present only on the first meeting on September 23, 1993.

September 23

President Forti presented some items of last agenda and correspondence:

1. UIS Commissions - Cave Diving Commission - the Commission President František Piškula (CZ) resigned for his function, the new president is proposed - Alessio Fabricatore (I). Commission on Physico-Chemistry and Hydrogeology of Karst - new president if Y.Y. Shopov (BG). Commission on Archeological Studies in Caves has been established, its first meeting will be held during the NSS Annual Meeting in 1994.

2. UIS Membership. According to the information of Jane Gurnee, the President of the NSS (USA), Mr. Luckins, UIS member elect, will gain new high position within the NSS, therefore his function in the UIS Bureau can be somewhat endangered. Mrs. Gurnee proposed that she can be present on each UIS Bureau meeting.

Adopted recommendation: in each case of the UIS Bureau meeting, Mr. Luckins have to write powers to its substitute

3. Support for Moravian Caves. As informed by Mr. Panoš, the privatization of caves in the Moravian Karst endangers this unique region proposed to be listed as the World Heritage.

Adopted recommendation: Forti will write the statement of the UIS to Czech representatives

4. Flow of information within the UIS member countries. There is a proposal to send full list of the UIS Bureau Members, UIS representatives, presidents of UIS Commissions to all national delegates and to prepare questionnaire for national delegates.

Adopted recommendation: the problem will be solved and questionnaire prepared on the UIS Bureau meeting in Brno, lists will be mailed by Secretary General to addresses available

5. List of Honours. There is a proposal to complete list of Honours of the UIS. Each member country will be asked by its national representative to prepare list of Honours, i.e. persons who worked hardly for the international speleological society.

Adopted recommendation: the item will be included in the questionnaire, nomination committee will be established under the presidency of Mr. Trimmel

6. Fax of Vice-President Julia James. Mr. Forti obtained long fax of Julia James with several substantial questions and items concerning the voting system during Assembly General, official languages of the UIS Bureau, future meetings of the UIS Bureau, responsibility of each Advisory Secretary of the UIS Bureau. Rich discussion followed this information. Owing the fact of voting system, Mr. Eraso stated that the system have to be identical with the system adopted in UNESCO until the UIS is adjoined to UNESCO, Mr. Widmer proposed number of votes and the height of fees according to number of speleologists of each member country. Owing to the problem of the number of languages (official are French, English, Spanish, Italian, German and Russian), Mr. Eraso supposed to be discriminative to select one of them as the official one for the UIS Bureau, Mr. Trimmel noted that French has unofficially been adopted as main Bureau language since long time ago, Mr. Widmer asked to shorten the number of official languages for next Congress only to 4 languages.

Adopted recommendation: the voting system and the language problem will be included into the questionnaire and after the thorough study of all the UIS materials will be again opened on next meeting

7. System of meetings and sessions. Mr. Forti proposed that the UIS Bureau will meet on regular sessions which are scheduled as follows: 1994 - Brno (Czech Republic), 1995 - Switzerland (National Speleological Congress, ?September) and 1996 - either Argentina (FEALC Congress) or USA (NSS Natl. Convention), and on unofficial meetings during important congresses, symposia or workshops where more UIS Bureau Members will attend

September 24

8. Honorary and Permanent Member of the UIS Bureau. Discussion continuing point 5 of the first day on honorary and permanent memberst of the Bureau.

Adopted recommendation: **honorary member** can attend the General Assembly and invited Bureau sessions, but has no rights to vote, **pernament members** are all past-presidents who can attend all Bureau sessions with all rights

9. Official languages. There are still 6 official languages accordint to the UIS Status. The UIS President will try to unify languages in the UIS.

11. Commissions. Secretary General will write to all Commission Presidents on the results of the General Assembly in China with the ask to send him review of planned activities.

12. National delegates - Secretary General will try to contact member countries with no new name of the national delegate to confirm the name of delegate and his (her) substitute. Secretary General will try to know if national delegates are delegates of the whole country and not of only one federation, society, association or institute. Secretary General will contact all member countries which do not pay annual fees after he will obtain the list from past-President Mr. Trimmel.

13. UIS Bulletin - the UIS Bulletin has been printed in amount of 2.100 copies. It has been send to Bureau Members, National Delegates and Substitutes, Speleological Societies and Clubs, all Commissions, International Persons and Institutions, Administrations of Tourist Caves and International Organisations. Last 2 numbers were not sent to Administrations of Tourist Caves. *Adopted recommendation:* to Administrations of Tourist Caves, questionnaire will be send if they are interested to obtain our Bulletin. The Bulletin (Vol. 39) will be prepared by Mr. Trimmel and delivered to Secretary General for the print.

14. Finances - the UIS Bulletin is open to advertisements. The present price for full page is about 2.000 ATS, it is preliminarily proposed that half page will cost the half of price plus 10%, and a quarter of page will cost the quatre of price plus 10%. Final decisions will be adopted in next session. All UIS Members will prepare ideas of financing for the next session. Payment to the UIS from Speleological Congresses and symposia and other reunions organized under the UIS cover represents 3 USD pre one regular participant

15. Bulletin Bibliographique Speleologique - the distribution system of the BBS will be prepared on the next Bureau session, based on proposal of Urs Widmer. Distribution of the BBS could be helped by the national delegates. Mr. Forti will contact Mrs. J. Gurnee to help with the distribution in the USA by the bookstore of the NSS.

16. UNESCO - the Bureau members should try to contact national diplomatic delegates to support the UIS in the UNESCO and to try to know possibilities of shift to category A. It is necessary to have one delegate person for contacts with UNESCO in Paris. Mr. Forti will contact some French delegate