

2.2 Meeting and Decisions

During the Fourth International Olympiad in Informatics the sixth meeting of the International Committee was held on the 15th and 17th of July.

The International Committee consisted of

- Pavel Azalov, Bulgaria,
- Alicia Banuelos, Argentina,
- Peter Hanak, Hungary,
- Peter Heyderhoff, Germany (President),
- Steven Bird, United Kingdom,
- Christos Kiliass, Greece,
- Vladimir Kiryukhin, USSR,
- Ries Kock, Netherlands,
- Hakan Stromberg, Sweden,

and:

- Hajine Kimn, Korea,
- Vladimir Kotov, Belorussia,

who were elected by the general assembly.

Topics and decisions:

1. Composition of the Committee

Based on a recommendation of the International Jury it was decided that the IC should be comprised of

- Three immediate past hosts representatives,
- One current host representative, the president,
- Three immediate future hosts representatives,
- Three other persons elected for two years by the general assembly.

In October 1993 the USSR representatives (for Belorussia and Russia) would leave the committee and new members may be elected. There might also be a change in the future hosts at that stage if any of them decided they could not host an IOI. However, hosts should be confirmed three years in advance.

It should be aimed to:

- include countries that represent all geographical regions of the world on the International Committee,
- encourage the maximum number of countries possible to be represented on the International Committee and so limit conscentative terms as much as possible.

The election procedure for the other members would be:

- Call for nominations from interested countries.
- Have a first vote where each country present indicates the countrie they wish to see represented on the committee.
- Have a second vote to chose the countries to fill the vacant position from the three chosen from the first vote.

2. Next Olympiad in 1993

It has been confirmed that the next International Olympiad in Informatics will be held in Argentina on the 13th - 23th October 1993. Some finance has been assigned from the Argentinian government and sponsorship from other sources are currently being sought.

There has been a suggestion that the most economic travel solution for European teams is likely to be a charter flight from Amsterdam or Paris. Details will be posted from Argentina.

3. Olympiads after 1993

There have been several offers to host the Olympiad in the future which at the moment maps out as follows:

1994	Sweden
1995	Netherlands (UK has retracted)
1996	Hungary

Offers have also been received from

Portugal,
Korea,
China,
South Africa,
Australia.

These countries will confirm their offers either in Argentina or at a later date.

4. Regulation Changes

It was decided that the maximum age has been reduced by one year to 19 years of age as of the 1st July of the IOI year. The participant also must have been at school by the beginning of the IOI year. So in Argentina anyone born after 1st July 1974 and who is at school in 1992/93 may participate.

It was decided that a change to the regulations allowing paper materials to be taken into the competition rooms was necessary. This is to take effect after Argentina, ie. starting in 1994 with Sweden, no more paper material will be allowed in the competition rooms.

In order to reduce the time of installing software it was decided that example programs and tours will be excluded. It was also decided that there should be a master list of available programming languages. The list is as follows:

- Borland Turbo Pascal Version 6.0,
- Borland Turbo C++ Version 2.0,
- Microsoft Quick Basic Version 4.5,
- LCN Logo Version 2.0

In addition, teams would be allowed to request in advance other versions of the software for inclusion. Availability would be at the discretion of the host nation. A decision about the inclusion of additional languages, especially Scheme, will be taken by the IC meeting in November.

5. Women Participation

A proposal was presented by Ries Kock of the Netherlands that the Committee should make greater efforts to promote the inclusion of girls in National teams. Mrs. Alicia Banuelos presented an oppositional paper about "Woman participation in future IOI". After some discussion, Kock's suggestion that teams should comprise three members or a single gender team and four members for a mixed gender team, was put to a vote for inclusion in the regulations 1993. The outcome was eight votes in favour and one vote against. But it was pointed out that such a major change in the regulations required at least two years to take effect and that because the vote was not anonymous it should go before the general assembly (the jury) for additional guidance. The jury decided not to change the regulations in this respect.

6. Improving the IOI Communication

It was proposed by the Hungarian and the US delegates to install an electronic discussion list, in the form of a list server, as a means of communication among the

participating countries in the period between two olympiads. The list server is mainly a distribution medium to which every subscriber can submit messages, and these messages are then forwarded to all the other subscribers. It is usually available through several international networks (including internet, EARN/Bitnet, UUCP). The list server would allow the discussion of important proposals, dissemination of information, regulations and opinions, distribution of problem descriptions used at national and other international contests, etc.

For those who do not have access to electronic mail, at least two options are open: (1) they can ask someone in their country or a neighbour country to collect messages and regularly send copies on diskettes to them, (2) the organizing country of the next olympiad is asked to perform this task.

It was decided that this activity should be started by the proposing delegates. You may subscribe yourself to the mailing list by sending a mail to the Internet adress: ioi-request@inf.bme.hu. The body of the message should consist of one line containing either the word HELP or the word SUBSCRIBE. As a reply you will receive an automatic help message or a confirmation of your subscription.

The Iranian delegate proposed that the IC should consider a quarterly newsletter regarding the IOI and distributing it to all countries involved. The proposed newsletter could reflect the following matters:

- Editorial.
- Relevant news solicited from all countries.
- Detail reports on the IOI competition, including the best solutions to the IOI problems, and all the problems provided by different countries to the Scientific Committee.
- Reports on national Informatics Competitions in different countries including the problems and different statistics.
- Reports on secondary-school education of informatics countries.

This was discussed. Some of these suggestions are already covered by the annual final reports (like this one). Others may be covered in future by our email-box.

2.2a Statement on Women participation

A statement by Alicia Banuelos, Argentina

Although almost all agree that every reasonable effort should be made to encourage and increase women's participation in the IOI, some countries have suggested the inclusion of rules that, according to our point of view, may produce a result that contradicts the stated objective and, besides that, produce other negative side effects.

In particular, there has been a proposal to require participating countries to include at least one women in their teams if they were 4 people in the team. This proposal has, at least, the following drawbacks:

1. It requires participating countries to change their selection rules in ways that are difficult to implement, contradict their own views of how to protect woman and minority rights, or work against offering equal opportunities to each citizen.
2. It may lead participating countries to change the selection process to have separate contests. Since there is every reason to think that men and women are comparable in this discipline, this segregation is, in fact, a violation of women rights.
3. Forcing women participation in the IOI may result in a perception that women are, in this discipline, less qualified than men.
4. Other competitions are generally based on either free participation respective of sex or complete separation of the competition. This mixed proposal has side effects that are difficult to anticipate.

Based on the above mentioned problems, we propose the following resolution:

- A. Send a message to each participating country asking their cooperation to further encourage and increase women participation in the IOI.
- B. Prohibit in the IOI any kind of prize that is based on the sex, colour or religion of the participant, like for example, best ranked woman prize.
- C. Ask participating countries to submit to the Jury of the IOI a report stating the measures they have taken to effect the objective stated in A above.