

# ISOCARP BUREAU MEETING

Dalian/China

Sunday, 21 September 2008, 19.00 - 22.00 hrs

## List of persons present: attached

### 1. Opening of the Meeting

Secretary General *Pablo Vaggione* opens the meeting and welcomes everybody present.

#### 1.1 Minutes of the Bureau Meeting, 21 September 2007 – Antwerp, Belgium

approved and adopted.

### 2. Internal Business

#### 2.1 Results Elections for the Executive Committee 2008

President *Pierre Laconte* reports about the election results. 36 ballot forms were received (out of 260 who were entitled to vote). With a majority of votes the following ISOCARP Officials were elected:

- As President (taking office in October 2009): *Ismael Fernandez Mejia*, Mexico
- As Vice-Presidents (taking office immediately):
- *Dirk Engelke*, Germany
- *Chris Gossop*, United Kingdom
- *Francisco Perez Arellano*, Mexico
- Re-elected were: *Jim Colman*, Australia
- *Zeynep Merey-Enlil*, Turkey

After having served in the EXCO for 3 years *Paolo La Greca*, Italy, left the EXCO. *Pierre Laconte* thanks him for his input and enthusiasm in the past years.

The poor participation at the election worries the EXCO. Discussion on this point, see 2.5.2.

#### 2.2 Secretary General: Annual Report September 2007 – September 2008

*Powerpoint Presentation (as PDF) available on ISOCARP Members' Platform – Bureau Meeting*

##### Membership snapshot

The **strengths** of ISOCARP are its members, their expertise, professionalism, passion and diversity. ISOCARP's membership shows an equal proportion between academics, practicing planners and those in government. This balance should be made evident in all activities of the society, looking to provide value to each of our sectors, especially the latter two. By region, Europe shows the largest concentration of members with Africa in the second position, and the fastest growing region after Europe.

By age, ISOCARP shows that about 44% of its members are 55 or more. This reveals the importance of initiatives dedicated to attract new generations of members to ensure continuity. With regards to gender, the fact that 75% of members are male indicates the need to put in place initiatives that attract female planners.

Perceived **weaknesses** are the scarcity of human resources of a volunteer organization; the inward nature of many activities that the organisation carries, resulting in low visibility and inferior awareness; and a recurrent negative financial balance.

##### Solving the recurrent negative financial balance

ISOCARP's accounts continue to show a negative financial imbalance between fixed income and fixed expenditures. To remain operative, this recurrent negative performance is balanced yearly

with additional variable income such as events and UPATs. This constitutes a risky situation because the financial stability cannot be dependent on variable income; the financial performance of a congress or the number of UPATs per year are not guaranteed entries, and a bad year could mean a very delicate situation for ISOCARP's finances.

Addressing this imbalance would mean either reducing fixed expenditures or increasing fixed income.

A feasible way to increase fixed income is to increase the number of members. To balance the current negative bottom line, and given current expenditures levels, it is estimated that an approximated number of 1000 to 1200 paying members are necessary.

**All ISOACRP members and especially National Delegations are urged to do their best in attracting new members.**

### Society's New Structure

In January 2008 the Executive Committee approved a new structure centred on specific programmes of activities. The aim of the Executive Committee through this structure is to inject dynamism in the society so that is better placed to provide increasing value to members. According to this structure, each Vice-President is responsible and accountable for a special programme. As of 23 September 2008 programme responsibilities are allocated as follows:

- Jim Colman – Technical Assistance
- Dirk Engelke – Awards and Communications
- Chris Gossop – Publications
- Zeynep Merey-Enlil – Young Planning Professionals
- Francisco Perez Arellano – UPATs (Urban Planning Advisory Teams)
- Manfred Schrenk – Events + Treasurer
  
- Ismael Fernandez Mejia – President elect

### Regional presence

In order to be closer to many members that are not based in Europe and for whom attending to congresses is difficult due to both migratory restrictions and financial requirements, the Executive Committee is putting in place policies towards an increased regional presence.

First, the Executive Committee has promoted the inauguration of regional chapters in Africa, Latin America and the Asia-Pacific. These consist of networks of members that share information on activities and the planning profession. They have been led by Mairura Omwenga, Teresa Franchini and Gildo Seisdodos, and Jim Colman respectively.

Second, the Executive Committee has promoted the setting up of offices in regional locations of special interest and significance. Regional offices can be of two types: project offices and liaison offices.

*Pablo Vaggione thanks Milica Bajic Brkovic who has done a lot for ISOCARP as his predecessor. Applause.*

### **2.3 Treasurer: Financial Report**

*For approval by the Bureau and to be submitted to the General Assembly in order to be discharged from liability*

The ISOCARP Annual Accounts are – according to Dutch Law – obligatorily edited/audited by an officially registered Dutch Accountant

*(Financial report available on ISOCARP Members' Platform – Bureau Meeting).*

The year 2007 could be ended with a surplus of 12.203 Euro. On 1 January 2008 ISOCARP had a capital of 156.461 Euro. The previous EXCO's decision to commission a web provider that used a proprietary (unique) programming language, and its posterior bankruptcy, meant an additional cost of € 16,535 to transfer the website to typo3.

*Manfred Schrenk* stresses that ISOCARP has to work on the fact that there is a dependence on variable income to balance financial statements. For example, a UPAT less, or about 35 participants less at the 2007 congress would have meant no surplus at all for 2007.

The Bureau approves the financial report which will be submitted to the General Assembly.

*Manfred Schrenk* thanks *Didier Vancutsem* for his achievements as Treasurer during the years 2001-2007. *Manfred* took over in September 2007 and according to him *Didier* had handed over everything in perfect condition. *Applause*.

## **2.4 Membership Development**

The list of new applicant members (Sept. 2007-Sept. 2008) was distributed for approval. *Mairura Omwenga* (Kenya) recruited 12 new members; this means that after Europe, Africa has the second largest membership base in ISOCARP.

*(For list see ISOCARP Members' Platform and next ISOCARP NET).*

## **2.5. Internal Concerns**

### **2.5.1 Value and Visibility**

*Nupur Prothi* remarks that she has been an ISOCARP member for 10 years now. For her it has been a wonderful journey. However, as member from India, the financial issue has always played a big part. She poses the following questions:

- What are the members getting from ISOCARP?
- How can we recruit members in India?

University people have not heard of ISOCARP. A congress in India would help to close the gap and get members in.

The problems of visibility and value are repeated by several participants. *Pablo Vaggione* answered that if ISOCARP had a fixed income and expenditures balance, variable income could be used for additional activities which would provide value to members and increase visibility.

*Ismael Fernandez* remarks that ISOCARP is in the process of transition with the new structure and its programmes. "The help of all the members is needed to give us ideas on what would be the value of ISOCARP". ISOCARP is working on this. In the new programmes (UPATs, Technical Assistance) members have the opportunity to participate more than before.

*Pierre Laconte*, on the question of visibility." If e.g. a professor somewhere in the world has never heard of us is this not our fault?" ISOCARP has to proactively contact him.

*Nupur Prothi* proposes to send emails to 30-40 addresses, e.g. planning schools, ministries and firms. "It would also make a difference if some EXCO members came to India for a week's tour."

*Ric Stephens* has made available to ISOCARP a list of planning institutions in his country. It is proposed that other Bureau Members should do this as well for their country.

*Paco Perez* states that we have to use the net. "We want to be known by those that are important to us". He also proposes that everybody sends a mail to several persons or institutions.

ISOCARP needs local diffusion on the place. Support of ISOCARP to local societies is necessary, but also vice versa.

*Fernanda Magalhaes* remarks that although she organised a regional seminar some years ago, there are still no new members from Brazil. She proposed that each Bureau Member should make a shortlist of material that should reach people.

#### **ACTION NATIONAL DELEGATIONS**

A stronger involvement of the National Delegations with respect to making ISOCARP more visible and to recruiting more members is urged.

ISOCARP opens the opportunity to suggestions and/or reports about your actions until 30 March 2009.

#### **2.5.2 Elections**

The participation of as little as 16% of voters in the 2008 election is deemed highly unsatisfactory. The question that meeting participants were asked was - what we are doing wrong?

According to *Julia Lourenco* "the timing in July is not good. Furthermore too many mails are sent concerning the elections".

*Fernanda Magalhaes* remarks that the process is too complex, "it should be made easier."

*Waikoen NG* proposes to close the election date on the first day of the congress.

The question was also raised why not everybody could vote instead of only the Council Members.

*Dirk Engelke* proposes just to make a cross and send the form back. This would mean, however, that the election is no longer confidential.

*Paco Perez Arellano* fears that the directory has to be updated. The Bureau member should help ISOCARP, be the link with the members of the country. *Paco* sent 250 letters inviting members to vote. 20% bounced back. 50 people answered, the rest did not react. He reports that on his second email asking members to vote he got the answer that "I do not know how to do it." His conclusion is that people are just not interested.

Proposals were to send another reminder, to make sure that we have the right address. Another proposal was to send a mail to all members that they can vote and give their advice to ND.

*[pro memori: the Secretariat regularly sends mails to all members and only a few bounce back (not 20%). These members get the information by postal mail and are asked at the same time to send their correct email address].*

*Judy van Hemert* explains that all the proposals had been taken into consideration already. Two months before the congress the first mail is sent and one can vote immediately. Members without email address get the forms by postal mail. The BM should be committed and remind the members of their respective countries. One reminder is sent in the final week. A mail is also sent to all members recommending them to give their advice to the ND.

### **3. Reports by Vice-Presidents**

#### ***Manfred Schrenk - Events***

*Manfred Schrenk* thanks the former Secretary General *Milica Bajic Brkovic* for having done a very good job in preparing the Dalian congress. *Applause*  
Preparations for Porto are running well. The Bid Manual, prepared and edited by *Judy van Hemert*, is a Guideline for future congresses and helps in preparing a congress.

For 2010 several cities are interested. *Manfred* will bring his own CORP Congress to Sitges (22-25 April 2009). The topic will be: 'Strategies, concepts and technologies for planning the urban future'. He stresses that more regional seminars and conferences focused on specific topics should be held.

#### ***Dirk Engelke - Awards and Communication***

*Dirk Engelke* first intended to call the programme he is responsible of 'Member Affairs' to make it clearer that he wants to involve the members in the inputs and the outputs of the society. He will soon work out an ISOCARP communication strategy.

#### ***Ismael Fernandez Mejia and Paco Perez Arellano - UPATs***

*Ismael Fernandez* states that the UPATs have become a very successful programme. In April/May a UPAT will be in Istanbul. For 2009 many UPATs are in the make. Since *Ismael* was elected President elect he hands over the responsibility for the UPATs to *Paco Perez Arellano* who already has been in charge of the UPAT publications.

#### ***Jim Colman (not present) - Technical Assistance:***

This programme provides opportunities to members to participate in projects. For the World Health Organisation for example *Jim Colman* works together with *Didier Vancutsem*. Through the Brussels Liaison Office, *Didier* has pursued contacts with the European Commission. He asks everybody to send him a standardized CV [A call from the Secretariat concerning standardized CVs was sent to all members]. He also suggests producing position papers on several issues, such as green papers coming for the EC. He believes that in this way ISOCARP will be more visible in the field of urban planning.

#### ***Zeynep Meray Enlil - Young Planning Professionals***

*Zeynep Enlil* has a new vision for the YPPs. She wants to widen the scope, taking UPATs as a model. She would like to organise more than one YPP workshop, not necessarily before a congress. Workshops can be organised regionally, institution-based or thematically. *Zeynep* hopes that *Fernando Brandao Alves* (former Vice-President YPPs) keeps on giving her a hand. *Applause*.

She reports that the Chinese local YPPs were very enthusiast. As a result she was invited by the Yangzhou Institute of Urban Planning to give a lecture. This can lead to more visibility for ISOCARP.

*Zeynep Enlil* stresses that the younger generation has to get involved more. New strategies have to be developed. An YPP network should be set up to keep them involved and give them more roles. She wants to make a statistics about how many YPPs have become ISOCARP members.

*Judy van Hemert* points out that the score at this Bureau Meeting is quite a good one - 25% of the Bureau Members present at the meeting used to be YPPs.

*Nupur Prothi* states that the YPP presentation was very good. However, YPPs should have the opportunity to present during the congress and not in a pre-congress event.

#### ***Paolo La Greca and Chris Gossop - Publications***

*Paolo La Greca* will hand over to *Chris Gossop*; however, he will stay available for help. *Applause*. He thanks *Gaby* and *Cinthya* from the secretariat. He says that ISOCARP is at a transition point concerning publications. The printing on demand option should be further investigated.

The Review is the flagship. The more it is spread, the more it is known, the more contributions you get. He again thanks the Belgian members present at the meeting for the wonderful Antwerp Review. The Review should be considered as a resource.

For the Gerd Albers Award ISOCARP received 4-5 contributions in the beginning, last year 12 entries were submitted and this year ISOCARP has received 21 entries (articles and books). How can our books reach the public? Which media are the most important?

*Chris Gossop* will have a dual role next year: being the VP Publications and the General Rapporteur for the Porto Congress. He considers it to be a good synergy.

*Garry Smith* congratulates *Chris* on his research on the low carbon city.

#### **4. Regional Reports**

*Mairura Omwenga* announces that on 8 November 2008 the ISOCARP Nairobi Liaison Office will be launched. Habitat has a home in Nairobi, outside the developed world Nairobi is an international centre. The Nairobi Liaison office will act as a link to the United Nations agencies in Nairobi particularly UNCHS (Habitat). The office will be hosted by the Architectural Association of Kenya. The presence of this office in Nairobi affirms the position of Nairobi as an international hub. He welcomes everybody to Nairobi. He expresses a bid to host an ISOCARP Congress in Africa and will try to soon organise a UPAT.

*Pierre Laconte* and *Pablo Vaggione* express their thanks to *Mairura Omwenga*.

*Eduardo Ortiz Jasso* announces the opening of an ISOCARP Project Office in Cancún, Mexico. Thanks to *Eduardo* are expressed. The project office has a similar financial agreement as the Sitges Project Office. It will for 6 years and ISOCARP will receive Euro 30,000,- per year.

#### **5. Other Business**

*Zoran Vuksanovic* remarks that it would be better to have this meeting at the beginning of the congress to get to know the EXCO members.

Compliments are made to *Shi Nan* for the local organisation as well as for the excellent Special Bulletin and the congress documentation. The relationship with China should be further elaborated. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Urban Planning Society of China last year. The Joint Meeting at the Dalian World EXPO centre was a first step of deeper collaboration. The collaboration with China will sure extend this congress, many openings are there.

*Shi Nan* will try to involve more Chinese planners in ISOCARP.

#### **6. Approval of Agenda General Assembly 23 September 2008**

The agenda was approved.

#### **7. Closing of the Meeting**

The meeting is closed at 22.00.

08-BM Minutes/gk, Oct.08  
approved PV/Jan.09

# Bureau Meeting

## Sunday, 21 September 2008

### 19.00 – 22.00 hrs

Name	Country	Bureau Member Yes or No
25 CHRIS BOSIOT VP	UK	NO
26 Pierre Louonte P	B	NO
27 Ismael Fernandez	MEX	YES
28 AWAIS PIRACHA	PAKISTAN	NO
29 WAI KEEN NG	S'PORE	YES
30 FERNANDA MAGALHAES	BRAZIL	YES
31 PACO PEREZ	MEXICO	NO (VP)
32 Federico MALUSARDI	ITALY	YES
33 PAOLO LA GRECA	ITALY	NO
34 DIDIER VANWUTTEN	GERMANY	YES
35 Dirk Engelke	Germany	- VP -
36 NUPUR PROTHI KHAMMA	INDIA	YES
37 RIC STEPHENS	USA	YES
38 MAURED SCHRENK	AUSTRIA	YES
39 PETER ROBINSON	SOUTH AFRICA	YES
40 Arthur AW	Singapore	YES
41 MAIRURA OMWENGA	KENYA	YES
42 Martin Dubbeling	Netherlands	Yes
43 Piotr Lorens	Poland	NO
44 EPONAZO ORTIZ JASSO	MEXICO	YES
45 Koos van Zanen	Netherlands	NO
46 Pablo Vaggwe	Spain	NO
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**Bureau Meeting**  
**Sunday, 21 September 2008**  
**19.00 – 22.00 hrs**

Name	Country	Bureau Member Yes or No
1 H. D. KAMMETER	THAILAND	YES
2 G. J. SMITH	AUSTRALIA	No - Delegate
3 Shi Nam	China	Yes
4 Mohamed Chabbi	TUNISIE	yes
5 Ravello, Olga	Argentina	yes
6 Rolf H. Jensen	NORWAY	YES
7 Opueneho B. Ouei	Nigeria	YES
8 WILLEMS DEIES (Jef v/d Bosch)	Belgium	No (Jef voo)
9 Zoran Vukosavljevic	Seychelles	Yes
10 Feder Kubryandsev	RUSSIA	No-delegate
11 SONJA MITROVIC	CANADA	No-delegate
12 ISABEL VIANA	URUGUAY	YES -
13 Alicia Listowski	FRANCE	
14 AKGINDIZ ERONAK	U.A.E	YES.
15 ZEYNEP ENLIL	TURKEY	VP
16 Arthur Mwanza	KENYA	YES
17 Pauline McHorsely	JAMAICA	YES
18 Semadeni Cla	Switzerland	Yes
19 JÚLIA LOURENÇO	PORTUGAL	Yes
20 Rusong Wang	China	Scientific Committee
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Name	Country	Bureau Member Yes or No
25 CHRIS BOSIOT VP	UK	NO
26 Pierre Louonte P	B	NO
27 Ismael Fernandez	MEX	YES
28 AWAIS PIRACHA	PAKISTAN	NO
29 WAIKEEN NG	S'PORE	YES
30 FERNANDA MAGALHAES	BRAZIL	YES
31 PACO PEREZ	MEXICO	NO (VP)
32 Federico MALUSARDI	ITALY	YES
33 PAOLO LA GRECA	ITALY	NO
34 DIDIER VANWITSEN	GERMANY	YES
35 Dirk Engelke	Germany	- VP -
36 NUPUR PROTHI KHAMMA	INDIA	YES
37 RIC STEPHENS	USA	YES
38 MAURED SCHRENK	AUSTRIA	YES
39 PETER ROBINSON	SOUTH AFRICA	YES
40 Arthur AW	Singapore	YES
41 MAIRURA OMWENGA	KENYA	YES
42 Martin Dubbeling	Netherlands	Yes
43 Piotr Lorens	Poland	NO
44 EPONAZO ORTIZ JASSO	MEXICO	YES
45 Koos van Zanen	Netherlands	NO
46 Pablo Vaggwe	Spain	NO
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Name	Country	Bureau Member Yes or No
1 H. D. KAMMETER	THAILAND	YES
2 G. J. SMITH	AUSTRALIA	No - Delegate
3 Shi Nam	China	Yes
4 Mohamed Chabbi	TUNISIE	yes
5 Ravello, Olga	Argentina	yes
6 Rolf H. Jensen	NORWAY	YES
7 Opueneho B. Ouei	Nigeria	YES
8 WILLEMS DEIES (Jef v/d Bosch)	Belgium	No (Jef voo)
9 Zoran Vukosavljevic	Seychelles	Yes
10 Feder Kuebyardsev	RUSSIA	No-delegate
11 SONJA MITROVIC	CANADA	No-delegate
12 ISABEL VIANA	URUGUAY	YES -
13 Alicia Listowski	FRANCE	
14 AKGINDIZ ERONAK	U.A.E	YES.
15 ZEYNEP ENLIL	TURKEY	VP
16 Arthur Mwanza	KENYA	YES
17 Pauline McHorsely	JAMAICA	YES
18 Semadeni Cla	Switzerland	Yes
19 JÚLIA LOURENÇO	PORTUGAL	Yes
20 Rusong Wang	China	Scientific Committee
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