

# **Minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the International Forestry Students' Association**

Bulgaria 2008

All times stated within this document are in Bulgarian Daylight Savings Time (GMT +1hrs), and are within the "24-hour clock" format.

## **The 1<sup>st</sup> Plenary Session**

### **1. Agenda of the 1st Plenary Session**

- 1.1. Opening of 19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (GA)
- 1.2. Appointment of the Board of Assembly
  - 1.2.1. Appointment of Keeper of the Minutes
  - 1.2.2. Appointment of Election Committee
- 1.3. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
- 1.4. Explanation of approving process
- 1.5. Approval of Agenda of 19<sup>th</sup> GA
- 1.6. Approval of the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> GA held in South Africa
- 1.7. Reports for the year 2007-2008
  - 1.7.1. Presentation of report from Executive Secretary
  - 1.7.2. Presentation of report from Treasurer
  - 1.7.3. Presentation of the Council's note on the Annual Report and the Financial Report

\*\*\*Break

- 1.7.4. Presentation of reports from Commissions
  - 1.7.4.1. Exchange Program (EP)
  - 1.7.4.2. Fundraising
  - 1.7.4.3. Language
  - 1.7.4.4. Publications and promotions
  - 1.7.4.5. International Processes Commission
  - 1.7.4.6. Web
  - 1.7.4.7. Village Concept Project

\*\*\*Break

- 1.7.5. Presentation of report from Council
  - 1.7.5.1. Adoption of new members approved by Council 2007-2008
  - 1.7.5.2. Information on expelled members in 2007-2008
- 1.7.6. Presentation of report from President
- 1.7.7. Presentation of report from Vice President
- 1.7.8. Approval of IFSA-Annual Report 2007-2008
- 1.7.9. Approval of the financial report from the last IFSA-year
- 1.7.10. Approval of the financial report from the last Calendar year
- 1.8. Explanation of election procedures
- 1.9. Call for candidature for IFSS 2010 and explanation of the procedure
- 1.10. Closure of 1<sup>st</sup> Plenary Session

## **Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Plenary Session**

<b>CHAIR:</b>	Sylvain Dupire (France)
<b>VICE CHAIR:</b>	Kristi Parro (Estonia)
<b>MINUTES:</b>	Michelle Freeman (Australia)
<b>VENUE:</b>	National History Museum, Sofia
<b>TIME:</b>	<i>Opened</i> 14.00pm 4 <sup>th</sup> August 2008
	<i>Closed</i> 17.50pm 4 <sup>th</sup> August 2008

**ELECTION COMMITTEE:** Jarod Dashwood (Australia), John Eggers (South Africa), Branislav Petrovic (Serbia)

### **1.1. Opening of 19th General Assembly (GA)**

The 1<sup>st</sup> plenary session was opened by Sylvain Dupire (IFSA President 2007-2008, France) at 14.00pm.

### **1.2. Appointment of the Board of Assembly**

Sylvain Dupire (IFSA President 2007-2008, France) announced that he would take the position of Chair of the Board of Assembly (hereafter BoA) and Kristi Parro (IFSA Vice President 2007-2008, Estonia) would take the position of Vice Chair in the 19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (hereafter GA), Bulgaria.

#### **1.2.1. Appointment of Keeper of the Minutes**

Sylvain Dupire (IFSA President 2007-2008, France) announced that Michelle Freeman (IFSA Councillor 2007-2008, Australia) would be Keeper of the Minutes for the 19<sup>th</sup> GA.

### **1.3. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote**

30 voting parties were present.

### **1.4. Explanation of approving process**

An example scenario of the approving process to be adhered to during the GA was presented. Sylvain Dupire (France) explained the process briefly again to the assembly and asked for questions.

No questions.

### **1.5. Approval of Agenda of 19<sup>th</sup> GA**

Sylvain Dupire (France) announced a change to the Agenda of the 19<sup>th</sup> GA that was included in the GA 2008 Survival Guide. Item d. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> plenary session would no longer be "Presentation and discussion of the commission ALECIF/IFSA" but instead "Information on the commission ALECIF/IFSA".

Bede Richardson (Australia) proposed that the agenda of the 19<sup>th</sup> GA be approved. Nicholas Firth (Australia) seconded this proposal. There were no objections so the agenda was duly approved.

#### **1.6. Approval of the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> GA held in South Africa**

Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> GA held in South Africa were included in the 2007-2008 annual report and made available to all ordinary members. Sylvain Dupire (France) asked for questions regarding the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> GA.

No questions.

Eveliina Varis (Finland) proposed that the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> GA be approved. Heli Kymäläinen (Finland) seconded this proposal. There were no objections so the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> GA were duly approved.

#### **1.7. Reports for the year 2007-2008**

All reports were included in full in the 2007-2008 annual report and made available to all ordinary members.

##### **1.7.1. Presentation of report from Executive Secretary**

Joseph Schulte (IFSA Executive Secretary 2007-2008, Germany) presented his report to the assembly. He described tasks completed and problems encountered throughout the year and suggested possible solutions to these problems. In particular he highlighted that there are no people to take over the secretariat in Freiburg and this will be a big challenge for IFSA in the future.

##### **1.7.2. Presentation of report from Treasurer**

Kate Lancaster (IFSA Treasurer 2007-2008, Australia) presented her report to the assembly. She directed the assembly to the 2007-2008 IFSA-year Financial Report included in the 2007-2008 Annual Report and explained the income and expenditure for the year 2007-2008.

Kate announced an amendment to the financial report. Under 'Expenses' the bank charges have changed from €304.06 to €317.66 due to extra bank fees that were accumulated after the 2007-2008 Annual Report was printed.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited questions about the 2007-2008 IFSA-year Financial Report.

#### ***Questions***

Sofie Blanchart (France) asked if Kate had included the travel reimbursement expenses to be paid to all 2007-2008 officials to subsidise their travel to IFSS.

Kate explained that the reimbursements would be included in the banking of 2008-2009. She announced a second amendment to the Financial Report stating that the 'year ending' should read 1<sup>st</sup> August 2008 not 31<sup>st</sup> July 2008.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked what 'Projects/Other' refers to under income and Kate informed the assembly that this income was primarily the input from IUFRO to pay for work done by IFSA members in contributing to their Terminology Project.

### 1.7.3. Presentation of the Council's note on the Annual Report and Financial Report

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) and Michelle Freeman (Australia) (IFSA Councillors 2007-2008) presented the required amendments to the 2007-2008 Annual Report.

Michelle Freeman (Australia) presented the first amendment to be made to the Asia Regional Representative Report by Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia). Removals show strike through and additions are in italics.

#### **Problem faced**

- ~~We planned to recruit at least 3 LCs in Asia but, only 1 LC can be fulfilled and there is 1 potential member is still revising~~ *We planned to recruit at least 3 LCs in Asia and this was achieved.* Often, there were no positive reply from the students who ever been in contact with me for applying membership. But some of the contact persons I have contacted with will attend IFSS Bulgaria, so may be we can do approachment;

The reason for this alteration is that more LCs in Asia were approved after this Annual Report was written.

Michelle Freeman (Australia) then explained the amendments to the Latin America Regional Representative Report. Removals show strike through and additions are in italics.

#### Also manage:

- Reactivate IFSA Curitiba (Brazil)
- Reactivate IFSA El Dorado (Argentina)
- ~~Reactivate~~ *Activate* La Plata (Argentina)
- Regularize Santiago del Estero (Argentina)
- Affair to create LC in Universidad Nacional de Ucayali (Perú)
- Regularize DAFOR Universidad Nacional de la Amazonía Peruana (Perú)
- Affair to create LC Universidad de Pinar del Río (Cuba)
- Affair to create LC Universidad de Guantánamo (Cuba)

The reason for this change is that IFSA La Plata is not currently known as members of IFSA.

#### Institutionally:

- Training process ALECIF/IFSA Commission
- Collaboration in the formulation LARM Colombia 2008 (until September 2007)
- Work with the Language Commission for translate new LC Statutes
- Permanent contact with IFSA 7 progress reports ([www.ifsa.net](http://www.ifsa.net))
- Presentation of Latin American opinion on forestry education Interim 2008 (meshes curriculum, income, weaknesses, etc.)
- ~~Look for students space in Worldwide Forestry Congress. Buenos Aires, Argentina. ([www.wfc2009.org](http://www.wfc2009.org))~~

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

The reason for this removal is that the Latin American RR had no part in the organisation of participants for this event.

### ***Problem detected***

- ~~Internal struggles and dispute due to non democratic election systems in the Latin American Forestry Students Association (ALECIF, Spanish acronym) extrapolated to have difficult relations between RRLA and an important partnership in Latin America as it is ALECIF. Example of this, was the development of the LARM 2008 of IFSA in Colombia where a Past President of ALECIF didn't let work/help transparently in some points of interest of IFSA with the RRLA and finally attending only 12 persons in the event and leaving out many forestry students who wanted attend.~~

### ***Solution Suggested***

- ~~As in the Latin American Forestry Students Congress, September, Argentina 2007 we said in name of IFSA when a huge problem occurs in the election process of the board 2007-2008 of ALECIF; "maybe ALECIF should look how IFSA do thinks, specially in the election process concerns where each members have one vote in GA, situation does not occur in ALECIF.~~
- ~~Check seriously the electionary process of ALECIF until create an ALECIF/IFSA Commission in GA. This because many students in Latin America still believe in IFSA systems and don't relate it with non-ransparency procesess.~~

The reason for this removal is that this statement is a political judgement of an association external to IFSA. The Annual Report is no place for such judgements and it is not the business of the Regional Representative to make such judgements. Whether or not ALECIF is democratic and worthy of becoming a partner of IFSA is the decision of the Direction and Council, but it is not for IFSA to accuse ALECIF of being undemocratic or the place for IFSA to tell them to change their election process. The matter is open for closed discussion between the board and other interested parties but should not be raised in the annual report.

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) explained the amendments to the Northern Europe Regional Representative Report. Removals show strike through and additions are in italics.

### ***Things done since IFSS 2007***

- Attended Northern Europe Innerregional Seminar (NEIS) in Joensuu, Finland
- Attended the Northern European Regional Meeting (NERM) in Czech Republic
- Collected (together with Vice President Kristi) a list of active LCs and their contacts
- New LC Members: Lithuania KAUNAS, ~~Czech Republic PRAG~~, *Denmark (DSK-SKL), Poland (Poznan)*
- Russia Petroskoy – new contacts and joining process established

The reason for this addition is that Northern European Regional Representative forgot to add Denmark, which was accepted during the year and Poland (Poznan) which was accepted as an IFSA Ordinary Member after the Annual Report was printed. Mentioned Czech Republic Prag had to be removed as Councils could not ascertain the evaluation nor acceptance of this LC by IFSA in year 2007-2008.

Michelle Freeman (Australia) stated that the Council found the 2007-2008 IFSA-year financial report to be satisfactory

No questions.

#### **1.7.4. Presentation of Reports from Commissions**

Sylvain Dupire (France) asked the Commission report presenters to give a quick overview of each Commission with their report to inform new IFSA members of the purpose of each Commission.

##### **1.7.4.1. Exchange Programme**

Sofie Blanchart (Head of Exchange Programme 2007-2008, France) presented the report of the Exchange Program (hereafter EP) Commission. Sofie stated the main goal of the EP, described the placements offered by the EP during 2007-2008, informed the assembly of new partner and contact possibilities and gave an overview of other work completed by the Commission. She then summarised problems, suggestions for future and topics for further discussion.

Sylvain Dupire (France) informed the assembly that there would be time for discussion of the issues mentioned by Sofie during the working group discussions.

No questions.

Sylvain Dupire (France) announced a change to the agenda. A break would be taken now.

*\*\*\* 15 minute recess at 14.47pm*

Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

30 voting parties were present.

##### **1.7.4.2. Fundraising**

John Eggers (Head of Fundraising Commission 2007-2008, South Africa) presented the report of the Fundraising Commission giving a brief description of the commission and describing the problems faced that hindered the commissions' work during the year. He described the positive response from a letter sent by Geoff Roberts (Australia) to IFSA's consulting members asking for fundraising assistance.

No questions.

##### **1.7.4.3. Language**

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) presented the report for the Language Commission on behalf of Maria Rodriguez-Rabadan (Head of Language Commission, Spain). Olga described that the commission had no goals or information on the work of previous years but that they made new goals after the IFSS 2007.

Sylvain Dupire (France) thanked Olga and the commission for the fantastic work done during the year.

No questions.

#### **1.7.4.4. Publications and Promotions**

Kristi Parro (Estonia) presented the report for the Publications and Promotions (hereafter P&P) Commission on behalf of Ralph von Krimpon (Commission head, Netherlands) and Nicolas Wittman (Commission head, Germany). She advised local committees (hereafter LC's) to check the web page if they did not receive IFSA news or other newsletters and encouraged interested people to attend the workshop on this topic.

No questions.

#### **1.7.4.5. International Processes Commission**

Ramon Perea (Spain) presented the report for the International Processes Commission (hereafter IPC) Commission on behalf of Susan Edda Seehusen (Commission Head, Brazil).

He described the aims of the commission and sub-commissions and the work of Susan as Head of Commission. He made a summary of events attended by IFSA delegates through the work of IPC and described the goals and problems encountered in the Convention on Biological Diversity (hereafter CBD) Sub-commission of which he was head.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) presented the report of the United Nations Forum on Climate Change (hereafter UNFCCC) Sub-commission on behalf of Franz Klinger (Sub-commission Head, Germany) and described the goals, work done and problems encountered in this commission.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) presented the report of the Ministerial Conference for Protection of Forests and Environment (hereafter MCPFE) Sub-commission and described the goals, work done and problems encountered in this commission. She summarised upcoming MCPFE conventions and meetings.

Atilla Eredics (Hungary) asked how IFSA members cover the costs of attending IPC conventions and meetings.

Ramon Perea (Spain) replied that delegates and representatives must cover their own costs.

Sylvain Dupire (France) added that there would be some money available in future due to IFSA having received the EU grant in 2008.

#### **1.7.4.6. Web**

Kristi Parro (Estonia) presented the report for the Web Commission on behalf of Henk Eshuis (Commission Head, Netherlands). She informed the delegation that the commission achieved all its set goals for the year and described the work done and problems encountered in the commission. In particular she promoted the new IFSA forum and encouraged people to join the commission. She commended the commission on their good work and dedication to maintaining excellent contact within the commission

**1.7.4.7. Village Concept Project**

Suvi Niemi (Commission Head, Finland) presented the report for the Village Concept Project (hereafter VCP). She described the aim and purpose of the commission and how IFSA members can work within this commission. She explained that the goals of the commission were very hard to reach and little was achieved in this commission during the year. She described the problems encountered by the commission and suggested some solutions. Suvi expressed her view that the commission may be unrealistic for IFSA.

Bede Richardson (Australia) asked if there are other student associations in medicine, agriculture or other fields involved in VCP activities and whether contact had been made by the commission to collaborate with these groups.

Suvi said she was not sure about other associations and no contact had been made.

Sylvain Dupire (France) added that there have been discussions for collaboration with the medical students association, IFSMA, in the future.

**1.7.5. Presentation of report from Council**

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) and Michelle Freeman (Australia) (IFSA Councillors 2007-2008) presented a report on the activities and challenges faced by the Council during the 2007-2008.

No questions.

**1.7.5.1. Adoption of new members approved by Council 2007-2008**

Michelle Freeman (Australia) presented the members approved by the Council during 2007-2008, included in the table below:

<i>New members*</i>		
Centro de Estudiantes Ingeniería Forestal Universidad de Chile (CEIF)	Chile	Ordinary Member
Danish School of Forestry (DSL-SKI)	Denmark	Ordinary Member
Seoul National University (IFSA-SNU)	Korea	Ordinary Member
Kookmin University (IFSA-KMU)	Korea	Ordinary Member
Kaunas Forestry and Environment Engineering College (KMAIKSA)	Lithuania	Ordinary Member
National Taiwan University (NTUFSA)	Taiwan	Ordinary Member
Kwame Nkrumah University of Sciences & Technology (FFRT)	Ghana	Associate Member
Foresters Students Association of University of Life Sciences in Poznan	Poland	Ordinary Member

**1.7.5.2. Information on expelled members in 2007-2008**

Michelle Freeman (Australia) noted the members expelled during 2007-2008, included in the table below, and explained that the reason for expulsion was unpaid membership fees.

<i>Expelled members</i>		
Asociacion de Estudiantes Forestales	Argentina	Ordinary Member
Forestry Graduate Student Association Toronto	Canada	Ordinary Member
DAAGR	Spain	Ordinary Member

**1.7.6. Presentation of report from President**

Sylvain Dupire (IFSA President 2007-2008, France) gave the Presidential report. The report discussed the activities of the President throughout the year. He explained the work achieved in relation to his goals set at the beginning of the year and outlined some possibilities and suggestions for the future.

Cecil Konijnendijk (IFSA Alumni, Netherlands) made a suggestion that in future a separate budget should be made that includes all the costs that IFSA officials contribute from their own pocket, especially in the case of IFSA President. Sylvain Dupire (France) thanks Cecil for the comment.

**1.7.7. Presentation of report from Vice President**

Kristi Parro (IFSA Vice President 2007-2008, Estonia) gave the Vice-Presidential report. The report discussed the activities of the Vice President throughout the year.

No questions.

**1.7.8. Approval of IFSA Annual Report 2007-2008**

Sylvain Dupire (France) asked for questions or objections to the annual report.

Bede Richardson (Australia) proposed that we accept the 2007-2008 Annual Report with the changes suggested by Council in their note. Suvi Niemi (Finland) seconded the proposal. There were no objections so the report was duly accepted.

**1.7.9. Approval of the financial report from the last IFSA year**

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) proposed that we accept the 2007-2008 IFSA-year Financial Report and Eva Erichson (Denmark) seconded the proposal. There were no objections so the report was duly accepted.

**1.7.10. Approval of the financial report from the last calendar year**

Sylvain Dupire (France) asked Kate Lancaster (Australia) to explain the situation with the 2007 calendar year Financial Report.

Kate explained that the report has not been completed as yet because there is missing information that she is waiting to receive from Paul Arnold (IFSA Treasurer 2006-2007, United Kingdom). She asked to move the presentation and approval of this report to the 3<sup>rd</sup> GA.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) proposed that we move the presentation and approval of the 2007-2008 calendar year Financial Report to the 3<sup>rd</sup> GA, Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) seconded

### **1.8. Explanation of the election process**

Sylvain Dupire (France) described that any people wishing to run for a position could stand up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> GA and say their name and the position they wish to run for. Kristi Parro (Estonia) gave an example of what to say. Sylvain also asked regions to gather during the IFSS and decide who would be their next Regional Representative (hereafter RR).

Frauke Thorade (Germany) asked if there are documents that describe how to do each position and whether past officials would be available to help new officials.

Sylvain explained that all job descriptions are in the 2007-2008 GA Survival Guide and that there will be an official's change-over. The current officials will be available for advice in first 6 months of the new officials' term.

Kristi Parro (Estonia) advised those thinking about standing for official positions to ask for advice and information from current officials during IFSS.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) implored people to consider the positions carefully and ensure that they can fully commit to the position by considering their other work loads.

Sylvain summarised again what Geoff Roberts (Australia) said and pointed out that some people take on positions without fully understanding the requirements and as such the work does not get done.

### **1.9. Call for candidature for IFSS 2010 and explanation of the procedure**

Sylvain Dupire (France) made a call for candidature for IFSS 2010. The following stood up announcing their intention to run for host of IFSS 2010:

Martina Tekelova (Czech Republic) for the Czech Republic

Go-wun Jung (South Korea) for South Korea

Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) for Chile

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained the procedure for the 2<sup>nd</sup> GA.

### **1.10. Closure of 1st Plenary Session**

The 1<sup>st</sup> plenary session was closed by Sylvain Dupire (France) at 17.50 pm.

## **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Session**

### **2. Agenda of the 2nd Plenary Session**

- 2.1. Opening of 2nd Plenary Session
- 2.2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
- 2.3. Presentation and approval of the IFSA Strategy 2008-2010

\*\*\*Break

- 2.4. Introduction to the commission ALECIF/IFSA
- 2.5. Presentation by the Organising Committee of the IFSS 2009 in Indonesia
- 2.6. Presentation of candidature for host country of the IFSS 2010

\*\*\*Break

- 2.7. Election of the host country of the IFSS 2010
- 2.8. First call for candidature for IFSA officials
- 2.9. Introduction on the appointment of honorary and consulting members
- 2.10. Introduction to the working group discussion
- 2.11. Closure of 2nd Plenary Session

### **Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Session**

<b>CHAIR:</b>	Sylvain Dupire (France)
<b>VICE CHAIR:</b>	Kristi Parro (Estonia)
<b>MINUTES:</b>	Michelle Freeman (Australia)
<b>VENUE:</b>	University of Forestry, Sofia
<b>TIME:</b>	<i>Opened</i> 18.58pm 5 <sup>th</sup> August 2008
	<i>Closed</i> 21.45pm 5 <sup>th</sup> August 2008

#### **ELECTION COMMITTEE:**

##### **2.1 Opening of 2nd plenary session**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> plenary session was opened by Sylvain Dupire (France) at 18.58pm.

Sylvain announced that Greece GFSA/GFEA was approved as an IFSA Ordinary Member by Council during the IFSS and that this LC would now have voting rights in the GA.

##### **2.2 Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote**

32 voting members were present.

##### **2.3 Presentation and approval of the IFSA Strategy 2008-2010**

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained why the board of IFSA 2007-2008 developed a 3 year strategy for IFSA and how it works. He presented the vision, mission and 3 goals developed for IFSA based on the structure of the IUFRO strategy and after discussions by officials and the IFSA 7 during the year. Sylvain then summarised some of the actions

for implementation and directed the assembly to the GA Survival Guide for full details of the strategy.

### *Questions*

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked for some discussion on the time frame of the strategy and suggested that 3 years is too short.

Sylvain explained that submissions for the EU grant require an action plan for 3 years and so this time frame would meet the requirements of the grant.

Cecil Konijnendijk (Netherlands) agreed with Geoff Roberts (Australia) and advised that the strategy could easily be viable up to 2013. A strategic plan should be long-term and the actions for implementation are short-term. He suggested that the IFSA Strategy be split into 2 time frames as the European Forest Institute (hereafter EFI) strategy is.

Frauke Thorade (Germany) said that normal IFSA members can only contact strategy at IFSS so she asked how ordinary members can influence the strategy, make suggestions and add goals, for example for the commissions.

Kristi Parro (Estonia) said specific things such as goals and suggestions for commissions should be directed to the particular commission as the strategy is not the place for such specificities.

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained that goals and work of officials and commissions should be set in line with the statutes.

Sofie Blanchart (France) asked if the strategy would be approved every 3 years and if there would be any controls on the strategy each year, for example appointment of someone to ensure that the actions for implementations are realised.

Sylvain Dupire (France) said that the actions for implementation should be reviewed after each change-over of IFSA officials to determine which actions are ok and which should be changed or altered. Any changes to the strategy can be proposed each year in the GA. He said that the new 2008-2009 IFSA board should discuss the strategy with the 2007-2008 IFSA board to get advice and when wanting to make changes.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked again for the thoughts of the assembly on the suggestion to have a strategic plan with a long time frame and an action plan with a short time frame within the strategy.

Sylvain suggested we maintain the current plan of a 3 year strategy to 2010 and approve the strategy as it is, then propose a new strategy time frame of 2008-2013 in the next GA in 2009.

Frauke Thorade (Germany) proposed to approve the idea of a long-term strategic plan and short-term action plan at the 2009 GA, seconded by Berit Nielsen (Denmark).

Nicholas Firth (Australia) proposed to approve the IFSA Strategy and Eveliina Varis (Finland) seconded. There were no objections so the IFSA Strategy was duly accepted.

Sylvain Dupire (France) thanked the IFSA team for their hard work in developing the IFSA Strategy during the year and expressed his happiness that IFSA now has such a document that will help IFSA become a more professional association.

#### **2.4 Information on the commission ALECIF/IFSA**

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained that although IFSA hoped to forge a relationship with the Latin American forestry students association ALECIF during 2008 that would lead to the creation of a new commission, no cooperation would be possible at the moment as ALECIF is developing new statutes. The new commission would therefore be proposed at the next GA.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) asked for further explanation and why Latin America should have such a commission in IFSA.

Sylvain described who ALECIF are and what the commission would do. In particular the aim would be to develop common projects, send delegations of forestry students to the World Forestry Congress, and unite ALECIF and IFSA in Latin America so that IFSA may collaborate with them in the Latin American Regional Meeting (hereafter LARM) and in aiding the communication of Spanish speaking forestry students with the world. Sylvain explained that Latin America is the only region in IFSA that has such a forestry association, which encompasses the whole region. It is hoped that IFSA can collaborate with a similar association in North America in the future.

Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) asked for clarification on when this commission would be proposed.

Sylvain answered that it would be next year in the 2009 GA.

No further questions.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited Rémy Picavet (France) to present to the assembly an idea he had about IFSA.

#### *The role of communication in IFSA*

Rémy Picavet (France) explained that communication is key to IFSA and that historically foresters have been very poor communicators. He proposed that IFSA establish a working group or commission dealing with communication and wonders if others are interested in this.

Sylvain Dupire (France) said attention could be paid to this in the 4<sup>th</sup> GA and suggested changing the name of the P&P Commission to the Publications and Communication Commission.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) commented that it is the job of the IFSA President to communicate and therefore IFSA should not need a new commission.

Sylvain informed the assembly that a new commission would not be created, but there could just be a name change to the P&P Commission.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) said it would be wise to have workshop on communication during the IFSS.

Sylvain replied that the IFSA board has organised one.

## **2.5 Presentation by the Organising Committee of IFSS 2009 in Indonesia**

Sylvain Dupire (France) invites Indonesia to present their plans for IFSS 2009.

Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia), Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) and Lina Farida (Indonesia) gave a presentation on the plans and progress of the organisation of the 2009 IFSS being run by the Gadjah Mada University LC and Bogor LC. The theme of IFSS 2009 will be "Forest Conservation: Balancing Utilization, Protection, and Preservation" , which exemplifies the Indonesian strategy for forest conservation, and it will be held between 26<sup>th</sup> July – 9<sup>th</sup> August travelling through West Java, Yogyakarta and East Java. An introduction to the organising committee and local coordinators, summary of the program and geography of Indonesia is given. The IFSS will have a participation fee of between 300-400USD with 150 participants expected.

Suvi Niemi (Finland) asked if the IFSS has funding and sponsors.

Annisa said they expect money from partners such as IUFRO and the Ministry of Forestry with whom they have a very good relationship. The rest of the money will be fundraised. The Indonesian LC's have good relations with alumni in the private sector but there is still work to be done. Ika adds that the Ministry of Culture and Tourism will also support the IFSS.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) asked what the temperature would be in Indonesia at that time of year and is there air conditioning.

Annisa said temperatures would usually range between 21-25 degrees and there will be air conditioning.

Valter Ziantroni (Brazil) asked how many languages are spoken in Indonesia.

Annisa replied that almost 300 languages are spoken but there is one national language and some people speak English.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) asked if alcohol is allowed as Indonesia is a Muslim country.

Annisa explained that this has been considered in developing the program and accommodation. Ika added that there is no drinking allowed in public places but specific places will be available for drinking.

Cecil Konijnendijk (Netherlands) suggested that the organising committee should approach CIFOR as a potential partner and sponsor to ask for support.

Natalia Balafa (Greece) thanked the Indonesians and said she is sure they will do a good job in organising IFSS 2009.

## **2.6 Presentation of candidature for host country of the IFSS 2010**

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited candidates for the host country of IFSS 2010.

### *Chile*

Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) introduced the situation with their LC in Chile and promised to include all IFSA members and ALECIF in the IFSS if Chile were to host IFSS 2010. He explained that an institution of support for IFSS with an advisory council would be created.

The bid by Chile outlined a 15-day IFSS in July with 160 participants expected, allowing 2 or more people per LC. The participation fee scheme would be similar to that of IFSS 2007 and IFSS 2008. Ricardo outlined the provisional program and theme if IFSS were to be held in Chile.

Sylvain asked for questions.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) noted that the theme for IFSS Chile 2010 is similar to the theme presented by Indonesia, hosts of IFSS 2009, and wondered if the IFSS would therefore be a repeat of topics covered in Indonesia. He asked if there is another theme Chile could consider adopting.

Ricardo stated that although the forest companies in Chile are similar to those in Indonesia, Non-Governmental Organisations and partnerships with special companies in Chile lead to unique management of the forests.

Valentin Paillette (France) commented that CAIFUC, the other LC from Chile gave their GA voting right to France. He asked if there are misunderstandings between the 2 LCs in Chile and wondered if these issues would be dealt with in organising the IFSS 2010? Ramon Perea (Spain) translates the question into Spanish to clarify the question for Ricardo.

Ricardo suggested that the GA is not the best place to discuss this matter and added that he is not sure why CAIFUC gave their GA vote to France. He said that there is some rivalry that may have caused problems, but that the organisation of the IFSS would be done seriously. Ricardo said he knows people from CAIFUC and expressed the opinion that the LC of CAIFUC is not involved in negative relations between his LC, CEIF, in Chile but rather the tensions are caused by the current heads of CAIFUC.

Sylvain Dupire (France) added that one of his goals as IFSA president was to activate Latin America. He attended the LARM and saw that Ricardo's LC had a bad standing with several people in the whole region. Sylvain wondered how CEIF would collaborate with these people if there are already standing problems and how the OC of IFSS 2010 would encourage Latin Americans to attend the IFSS if it were to be held in Chile. He emphasised that it is the mission of the IFSA president to ensure the well-being of association and therefore there needs to be very good collaboration at national level.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked when Ricardo would finish his study and where would he be in 2 years when the IFSS will be held. He also asked how much funding was expected for the organisation of IFSS.

Ricardo answered that he will finish his studies next year.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) added that he does not want to see a repeat of IFSS 2007 in South Africa where inexperienced people took over the responsibility of organising the IFSS.

Ricardo confirmed that he would be there to help organise the IFSS. In terms of funding, he expects to know the exact income from other grants during the year, but he already has agreements with companies who have offered to pay for the IFSS.

### *Czech Republic*

Jan Hradil (Czech Republic) provided an introduction to the Czech Republic, Mendel University and their experience in organising events. The IFSS would be held around September 2010 and may also include the Slovak Republic. Participation fees would be calculated according to the countries' GDP. Jan showed the assembly a letter from the Dean of Mendel University fully supporting their bid to host the IFSS 2010.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited questions.

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) asked if it would be possible to see helicopter logging as part of the program of the IFSS.

Joseph Svetlik (Czech Republic) answered that it would be up to chance, but this would be possible if there was a storm or windfall.

Yu Tang Tsai (Taiwan) pointed out that if the IFSS were to be held in September, Taiwan could not come.

Jan said that the proposed dates could still be changed to accommodate as many countries as possible.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) asked who would be in the OC for the IFSS and wondered if the LCs of the Czech Republic already have sponsors for the IFSS.

Jan explained that his LC, SPFLD, has an agreement with the Czech State Forest Enterprise and that they would be the main sponsor. He also said there are other potential sponsors. Jan said that he, Pavlina Simkova (Czech Republic) and Joseph Svetlik (Czech Republic) were old-timers and would take care of the organisation of the IFSS. There is also a younger generation of students interested in being involved.

*Republic of Korea*

Go-Wun Jung (South Korea) presented the Republic of South Korea as a potential host of IFSS 2010. She explained that there is good collaboration between many universities in Korea and that Korean forestry students have had experience in other IFSSs and student symposia. She provided a summary of funding already committed and listed other supporters for the IFSS to be held from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> of August to tie in with the IUFRO World Congress.

Ping Lian Wu (Taiwan) noticed that the provisional program presented by Korea has a maximum stay of 2 days in the one place.

Go-Wun explained that all travel would be by bus as the Republic of Korea is very small.

Simone Torrini (Italy) asked how many times the participants would have to move and whether the program would involve travel every day.

Go-Wun replied that travel would not be required every day and that the travel time between places would be 3-4 hours.

Sylvain Dupire (France) noted that the Gas ha already been included in the program and reminded the bidders that the approval of the board is needed before scheduling of the GA's.

Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) asked if there are primates in Korea.

Gang-Hyeok Moon (Korea) answered that there were.

Eveliina Varis (Finland) pointed out that in 2010 many of the current IFSS participants will be graduated and asked if there would be opportunities for alumni to attend the IFSS in Korea and how many people per LC would be admitted.

Moon answered yes alumni would be allowed and that they expect 200 participants.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) asked how much the participation fee would be.

Moon explained that the organisers have not decided yet, but should be similar to Bulgaria

Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) noted that the program has many places included in the schedule in only 2 weeks and wondered if there would be enough time to cover everything.

Moon answered yes, the size of the Republic of Korea is approximately 100000sq km.

Michael Rivoire (France) said that as IUFRO Liaison Officer he has taken part in IUFRO events and has formed a close relationship with them. He mentioned that IUFRO are very enthusiastic about the cooperation with IFSS and the World Congress, therefore IFSA would have great support and opportunities if this collaboration eventuates.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) said that it seemed there is very little forestry in the provisional program but a large focus on wetlands. He asked if it would be possible to include more forestry.

Go-Wun reassured the assembly that it will be possible to alter the program.

Frauke Thorade (Germany) said that a main priority of the IFSS is to discuss the strategy of IFSA and talk about what to achieve in the next years. She is not sure how much IUFRO wants to support this part of the program but suggested that perhaps in Czech there would be more time to react in forestry fields. She wondered if there would be enough time to dedicate to the strategy of IFSA in Korea rather than just traveling.

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) asked if the language skills of the potential hosts will be improved in 2 years.

Go-wun said yes they will work on that.

*\*\*\* 15 minute recess at 2100pm*

Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

32 voting parties were present.

## **2.7 Election of the host country of the IFSS 2010**

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the election process for the host country of IFSS 2010.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) asked if the winner is the country with the most votes and whether it is possible to lodge an abstain vote.

Sylvain said that yes, the winner has the most votes. Each voting party should write a country name or abstain on their voting paper.

The election committee distributes the secret voting papers.

32 voting cards present.

Number of votes for Chile: 9

Number of votes for Czech Republic: 2

Number of votes for Republic of Korea: 19

Number of votes that abstain: 1

Number of invalid votes: 1

Republic of Korea will host IFSS 2010.

## **2.8 First call for candidature for IFSA officials**

Sylvain Dupire (France) made the first call for candidature for official positions. The following people stood up and nominated themselves:

Heli Kymäläinen (Finland) nominates herself for the position of EFI Liaison Officer

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) nominates himself for the position of North Europe and North America Regional Representative

Jarod Dashwood (Australia) nominates himself for the position of Oceania Regional Representative

Michael Rivoire (France) nominates himself for the position of IUFRO Liaison Officer

Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) nominates Ping-Lian Wu (Taiwan) for Council. Sylvain Dupire (France) removes this nomination and explains that it is not possible to nominate another person, only yourself.

Lina Farida (Indonesia) nominates herself for the position of Asia Regional Representative

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) nominates herself for the position of EFI Liaison Officer

Juliana Marquez-Bejarano (Colombia) nominates herself for the position of Latin America Regional Representative

Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey) nominates herself for the position of South Europe Regional Representative

Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) nominates herself for the position of Asia Regional Representative

Sylvain thanked those who stood up and asks people to consider running for IFSA7 positions before the next call for candidature.

## **2.9 Introduction on the appointment of Honourary and Consulting Members**

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained what Honourary and Consulting Members are and directed people to see the website for the current list of IFSA's Honourary and Consulting Members. Consulting members are old IFSA guys who can advise IFSA. The necessary procedures for appointing Honorary Members and Consulting Members during the 4<sup>th</sup> GA were explained.

## **2.10 Introduction to the Working Group Discussion**

Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that the first part of the Working Group Discussions will include a presentation about communication in IFSA by Pille Aasamets (Estonia) and Kristi Parro (Estonia) for the entire assembly. Then the participants would separate and attend one of the working groups described.

Sylvain Dupire (France) and Pille Aasamets (Estonia) would lead a working group for people interested in taking on an official position; Sylvain gave a brief introduction to the topic;

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Eveliina Varis (Finland) and Michelle Freeman (Australia) would lead a working group for new LCs; Sylvain gives a brief introduction to the topic;

Sofie Blanchart (France) and Kristi Parro (Estonia) would lead a working group on the Exchange Program and Publications and Promotions, Sylvain gives a brief introduction to the topic;

Geoff Roberts (Australia) and Kate Lancaster (Australia) would lead a working group discussion on fundraising; Sylvain gives a brief introduction to the topic;

Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia), Joseph Schulte (Germany) and Kristina Buzaroska (Macedonia) would lead a working group discussion on organising IFSA activities and meetings, Sylvain gives a brief introduction to the topic;

Sofie Blanchart (France) said that there are other things to discuss about IFSA in general and asked if it would be possible to have a session for the whole assembly to discuss the IFSS, IFSA Strategy and other matters.

Sylvain said everything is possible in IFSA and proposed this session for 09.15-09.35 in the time allocated to working group discussions.

Eva Erichson (Denmark) wondered if it would be realistic to have so many people together in such discussions and suggested it would be better to divide the participants into smaller groups. Sofie Blanchart (France) agreed with this suggestion.

Pille commented that people have been separated already in working groups and it will be possible for participants to make comments about a working group discussion that they do not attend at a later time. She is concerned there will not be enough time to cover Sofie Blanchart (France) and Eva's suggestion.

Sylvain suggested that ideas for IFSS and other topics for discussion should be written down and then systematically read out to the entire participation group.

Rémy Picavet (France) pointed out that the aim of the working groups is to discuss efficiently so that topics can be summarised and presented to the whole group.

Sylvain added that someone in each group should make minutes and present these in the 5<sup>th</sup> GA.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked if it would be possible to extend the working group discussion to take on Sofie Blanchart's (France) proposal. Sylvain agreed that it would be a possibility.

Bede Richardson (Australia) proposed to accept Geoff's suggestion to extend the working group discussions. Suvi Niemi (Finland) seconded.

Sylvain informed the assembly that the Working Group discussions would now end at 10.55 not 10.45. He asked the participants to think about which working group they would like to attend and about what they would like to say.

### **2.11 Closure of 2nd Plenary Session**

The session was closed by Sylvain Dupire (France) at 21.45pm.

## **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session**

### **3. Agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session**

- 3.1. Opening of 3rd Plenary Session
- 3.2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
- 3.3. Presentation and approval of proposed statute changes

\*\*\*Break

- 3.4. Second and last call for candidature for IFSA officials
- 3.5. Vetting for candidates for Direction
  - 3.5.1. President
  - 3.5.2. Vice President
  - 3.5.3. Treasurer
  - 3.5.4. Executive Secretary

\*\*\*Break

- 3.6. Vetting for candidates for Council
- 3.7. Vetting for candidates for Liaison Officer
- 3.8. Closure of 3rd Plenary Session

### **Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session**

<b>CHAIR:</b>	Sylvain Dupire (France)
<b>VICE CHAIR:</b>	Kristi Parro (Estonia)
<b>MINUTES:</b>	Michelle Freeman (Australia)
<b>VENUE:</b>	Yundola
<b>TIME:</b>	<i>Opened</i> 09.48am 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2008
	<i>Closed</i> 15.15pm 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2008

### **ELECTION COMMITTEE:**

#### **3.1 Opening of 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session**

Sylvain Dupire (France) opened the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session at 9.48am.

#### **3.2 Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote**

30 voting parties were present.

#### **3.3 Presentation and approval of proposed statute changes**

Sylvain Dupire (France) presented the proposed statute changes. The first proposed change is with regards to the IFSA logo. Sylvain invited comments and discussion from the GA. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

## **Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association**

### **A. General**

.....

#### *Article 2 Logo*

*The Logo of the association contains a globe with a tree and the letters IFSA as shown in the picture below:*



#### *Discussion*

Geoff Roberts (Australia) suggested adding a sentence that clarifies that the IFSA logo cannot be used without the approval of IFSA. Sylvain Dupire (France) answered that such a statement is in the decrees

Rémy Picavet (France) expressed concern about the quality of the logo. He suggested to improve the resolution because currently it appears blurred and therefore the quality may not be good enough to allow enlarging of the image.

Rémy Picavet (France) proposed to accept the proposed statute change and Berit Nielsen (Denmark). The accepted amended statute was added as it appears above.

Sylvain Dupire (France) presented the second proposed change to the statutes that is with regards to IFSA's Vision and Mission. Sylvain reminded the assembly that these statements had already been approved in the discussion of the IFSA Strategy. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

## **Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association**

### **A. General**

.....

#### *Article 3 Vision and Mission*

*(3.1) IFSA's vision is for global cooperation among students of forest sciences in order to broaden knowledge and understanding to achieve a sustainable future for our forests, and to provide a voice for youth in international forest policy processes.*

*(3.2) IFSA's mission is to provide a platform for students of forest sciences to enrich their formal education, promote cultural understanding by encouraging collaboration with international partner organisations and to gain practical experiences with a wider and more global perspective. Through its network, IFSA encourages student meetings, enables participation in scientific debates, and supports the involvement of youth in decision making processes and international forest and environmental policy.*

No discussion.

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Eveliina Varis (Finland) proposed to add the Vision and Mission to the statutes. Heli Kymäläinen (Finland) seconded. The accepted amendments were added to the statutes as they appear above.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) arrived late to the General Assembly, so the Election Committee was summoned to recount the votes.

31 voting parties present.

Sylvain Dupire (France) presented the third proposed statute change regarding an English mistake. The proposed deletions are shown in strikethrough and the proposed additions are shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **C. Organs; bodies**

.....

##### **Article 14 Direction**

.....

**(14.2)** Members of Direction are annually elected individually by the GA. If a member of Direction retires within ~~his~~ *his/her* term of duty the Direction in consultation with Council elects a substitute for the rest of ~~his~~ *his/her* term.

No discussion.

Rémy Picavet (France) proposed to correct this English mistake and Eva Erichson (Denmark) seconded.

The accepted amended statute was:

### **Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **C. Organs; bodies**

.....

##### **Article 14 Direction**

.....

**(14.2)** Members of Direction are annually elected individually by the GA. If a member of Direction retires within his/her term of duty the Direction in consultation with Council elects a substitute for the rest of his/her term.

Sylvain Dupire (France) presented the fourth proposed change to the statutes regarding the work of the Council. Sylvain explained that the change was being proposed because there has been a history in IFSA of one Councillor not performing his or her duties and this has hindered the work of IFSA. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

*(16.6) If a member of the Council does not fulfil his/her mission for a period exceeding four months, the Direction can begin a call for candidates to replace him/her. This call shall last 15 days and the information must be available to all IFSA members. After this period, the new councillor will be elected by the Direction and Council.*

#### ***Discussion***

Sofie Blanchart (France) asked why a period of 4 months was being suggested and proposed that this is too long and should be shortened to 2 months.

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Frauke Thorade (Germany) asked why such a statement should apply only to members of Council. Sylvain explains that there is a similar statement referring to the direction already in the statutes.

Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed to accept the statute change and Eveliina Varis (Finland) seconded.

The accepted amended statute was:

### **Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **C. Organs; bodies**

.....

##### **Article 16 Council**

.....

**(16.6)** If a member of the Council does not fulfil his/her mission for a period exceeding two months, the Direction can begin a call for candidates to replace him/her. This call shall last 15 days and the information must be available to all IFSA members. After this period, the new councillor will be elected by the Direction and Council.

Sylvain Dupire (France) presented the fifth change to the statutes that is with regards to the Heads of Commission. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **C. Organs; bodies**

...

##### **Article 17 Commissions**

...

**(17.3)** *If a head of commission retires within his/her term of duty the Council approves a substitute for the rest of his/her term.*

#### ***Discussion***

Sofie Blanchart (France) asked for clarification on what it means to retire and wanted to know if it is possible to force a Head of Commission to retire or must the Head of Commission retire themselves. Sylvain suggested a similar sentence as was just accepted for the Council could be added to this section about Heads of Commission. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) also suggested the same sentence could be added as is written in Article 16, point 16.6. Sofie clarified that such a statement would mean it is the ultimately the decision of the direction. Sylvain proposed that we add the statement that Pille suggested.

Rémy Picavet (France) asked if it would still be possible for a Head of Commission to retire themselves and suggest the sentence includes a comment that reads "...does not fulfill their duties or wishes to retire...".

Sylvain corrects a grammatical error and suggests changing "the head" to "a head". He asked the assembly if there are any more changes to be made to the proposed statutory sentence. Rémy suggested adding a statement about wishing to retire to the Council statutes as well. Geoff Roberts (Australia) suggested changing the word "appointed by Council" to "elected by Council".

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) arrived to the GA.

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) commented that in other association GAs substitutes are elected for positions to replace those who do not fulfil their positions during the year. Geoff made a suggestion that, for example, the Council could contact the other people who stood for Council during the GA, but lost on votes, to take over the position of an elected person who is not fulfilling their duties. Darren Brown (Australia) proposed that after the 5<sup>th</sup> GA the Direction could talk privately with the people who were not elected into positions they stood for to ask if they would take over the position if the elected person does not fulfil their duties. Sylvain re-explains this point to the assembly and there is general agreement.

Nicholas Firth (Australia) proposed to accept the statute change and Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) seconded.

The accepted amended statute was:

### **Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **C. Organs; bodies**

.....

##### **Article 17 Commissions**

.....

**(17.3)** If a head of commission does not fulfil his/her mission for a period exceeding two months or wants to retire, the Direction can begin a call for candidates to replace him/her. This call shall last 15 days and the information must be available to all IFSA members. After this period, the new head of commission will be appointed by the Council.

Sylvain Dupire (France) informed the assembly that a recount of votes was needed as Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) arrived late. The Election Committee was summoned.

32 voting parties were present.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the sixth proposed change to the statutes regarding the position of Liaison Officer. He explained that the changes would be discussed point by point.

Sylvain introduced the proposed change to section 18.1. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **C. Organs; bodies**

.....

##### **Article 18 Liaison Officers**

**(18.1)** *The Liaison Officer (LO) is the correspondent between IFSA and a Professional Partner of IFSA. He/She is appointed for one year term by the GA (or by the Council if nobody nominates for the position during the GA and someone is interested during the IFSA year).*

No discussion

Ramon Perea (Spain) proposed to accept the change to section 18.1. Alizée Guilhem (France) seconded. The accepted amendment was added to the statutes as it appears above.

Sylvain introduced the proposed change to section 18.2. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

- (18.2) *The LO's have the following main tasks:*
- (a) *Maintain regular contact with both the IFSA President and the partner organisation*
  - (b) *Work with both parties to find suitable arrangements for collaborative activities*
  - (c) *Raise awareness of one organisation to the other*
  - (d) *Efficient change over*

#### **Discussion**

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) what does it mean to have an efficient change-over to the next LO. Sylvain explained that it is important to have two LOs in the same year to improve the changeover process and to provide a good introduction to the position. Anthony requested that this point be made clearer in the statutes. Sylvain explained that the statutes are not the place for this kind of statement as it is included in the job description and terms of reference for the position. Kate proposed a change in wording to avoid this confusion.

Rémy Picavet (France) suggested to add wording that the LO position works within IFSA too and not just externally. Jaime Coello Gomez (Spain) said that the sentence already suggests this so no addition should be necessary.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) proposed to accept the statute change and Suvi Niemi seconded.

The accepted amended statute was:

- (18.2) *The LO's have the following main tasks:*
- i. *Maintain regular contact with both the IFSA President and the partner organisation*
  - ii. *Work with both parties to find suitable arrangements for collaborative activities*
  - iii. *Raise awareness of one organisation to the other*
  - iv. *Efficient change over to next liaison officer*

Sylvain introduced the proposed change to section 18.3. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

- (18.3) *Under any circumstances the LO cannot make a decision engaging IFSA without consulting the IFSA President.*

#### **Discussion**

Darren Brown (Australia) said that an English change is needed as the sentence doesn't make sense. Jaime Collea Gomez (Spain) instead of doing something it should state approving. Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom), Geoff Roberts (Australia) and Darren propose corrections to the English errors and Darren made a suggestion to the assembly to approve these.

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Nicholas Firth (Australia) proposed to accept the statute change and Eva Erichson (Denmark) seconded.

The accepted amended statute was:

*(18.3) Under no circumstances can the LO make a decision engaging IFSA without the approval of the IFSA President.*

Sylvain introduced the proposed change to section 18.4. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

*(18.4) The LO can be appointed for a second and subsequent term pending appointment at the relevant GA and agreement of the partner organisation.*

### ***Discussion***

Sofie Blanchart (France) asked why the sentence was necessary and wondered if it is not possible for one person to hold the position of LO for a third term. Sylvain said it is possible to hold the LO position for several years. Sofie asked if this is also the case for other positions to which Sylvain answered yes, for example there has been an IFSA President who held the position for two years. Sofie suggested changing the sentence to read "several terms" rather than "second term" and Martin Dallen (Australia) gave an alternate possibility of "subsequent terms pending". Geoff Roberts (Australia) believed this implied that the LO is being appointed for multiple terms so suggested "a subsequent term". Pille Aasamets (Estonia) recommended that this sentence be removed as people are only elected into positions for one term. Geoff said that officials can only hold a position for 2 terms, but asked if this sentence meant it is possible for the LO to hold the position for more terms. Sylvain suggested that if we remove the sentence, section 18.4 would become clearer. Geoff argued that if the LO can hold more terms then this sentence should stay. Sylvain explained that this sentence was only meant to refer to a second term.

Sofie expressed concern that if the sentence were to be removed then it would not be clear that the appropriate partner organisation should approve the LO, so suggested that a sentence should be included that explains this. Pille explained that it is not for the partner organisation to approve LOs as there is no agreement that they should do so. Sylvain added that, despite this, it is possible for the partner to request the LO to stand down if the person is not working properly. Sofie then suggested including a sentence that explains that the partner organisation can ask the LO to retire if they are not working. Sylvain recommended that such a sentence replace the sentence originally proposed.

Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed the removal of the sentence proposed initially and Martin Dallen (Australia) seconded.

Frauke Thorade (Germany) proposed we accept the addition of the sentence recommended by Sofie and Sylvain and Nicolas Firth (Australia) seconded.

The accepted amended statute was:

*(18.4) If a LO does not fulfil his/her mission for a period exceeding two months or wants to retire, the Direction can begin a call for candidates to replace him/her. This call shall last 15 days and the information must be available to all IFSA members. After this period, the new LO will be appointed by the President and Council.*

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained that changes to the decrees must now be approved. Berit Nielsen (Denmark) asked if it was necessary to approve all the additions if they had already been approved in the statute changes. Sylvain explained that each point must be approved.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the first amendment to the decrees regarding the IFSA logo. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **International Forestry Students' Association Decrees**

...

#### **A.General**

...

#### **Article 2            *Logo***

*Any changes in the logo of IFSA should be approved by the GA. IFSA logo can only be used for official IFSA matters.*

#### ***Discussion***

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) requested the decrees read “the IFSA logo” and not just “IFSA logo”.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) proposed the addition to the decrees and Tero Sivonen (Finland) Sivonen (Finland) seconded.

The accepted amended decree was:

### **International Forestry Students' Association Decrees**

.....

#### **A. General**

.....

#### **Article 2 Logo**

Any changes in the logo of IFSA must be approved by the GA. The IFSA logo can only be used for official IFSA matters.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the second amendment to the decrees regarding IFSA's Vision and Mission. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **International Forestry Students' Association Decrees**

.....

#### **A. General**

.....

#### **Article 3 *Vision and Mission***

*(3.1) Any changes in the vision of IFSA should be approved by the GA.*

*(3.2) Any changes in the mission of IFSA should be approved by the GA.*

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

### *Discussion*

Martin Dallen (Australia) suggested changing “should” to “must” and “Any changes” to “any amendment” to the stated mission and vision

Rémy Picavet (France) suggested a capital letter is needed for ‘Vision’ and ‘Mission’ and Bede Richardson (Australia) said ‘amendment’ should be plural.

Levent Burggraef (Germany) recommended that Martins’ suggestion to replace ‘must’ with ‘should’; it should also apply to the statement in the decrees about the IFSA logo. Sylvain Dupire (France) said that “Article 2- The IFSA logo” must be reapproved to include this amendment.

Kate Lancaster (Australia) asked for clarification about whether only IFSA officials may use the logo, or whether the logo may also be used by LCs. Sylvain explained that LCs of IFSA are allowed to use the logo, but it is not allowed to be used for non-IFSA purposes.

Bede Ricardson (Australia) proposed to accept the change to Article 2 and Berit Nielsen (Denmark) seconded.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) proposed to accept Article 3 and Eva Erichson (Denmark) seconded.

The accepted amended decree was:

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

### **Decrees**

.....

#### **A. General**

.....

#### **Article 3 Vision and Mission**

(3.1) Any amendments to the Vision of IFSA must be approved by the GA.

(3.2) Any amendments to the Mission of IFSA must be approved by the GA.

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) announced that any person leaving the GA must inform Kate Lancaster (Australia) and asked the assembly to approve the amendments quicker if nobody has any further questions.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the third amendment to the decrees regarding IFSA's official language. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

### **Decrees**

.....

#### **A. General**

.....

#### **Article 6 Language; IFSA-year and financial year**

(6.1) (a) The English language is to be used for all formal documents and communication such as GA proceedings, *website*, IFSA News, Annual *and Progress* Reports and EP.

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

(b) Applications for IFSA membership may also be made in other languages where resources are available for translation. Promotion of IFSA allows the use of other languages where appropriate to further IFSA's purpose.

(c) IFSA will endeavour to translate its material in other languages.

### **Discussion**

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the change to 6.1a and explained why English is the official language of IFSA and why Spanish is not a second official language. In particular he stressed the difficulty that would be faced by IFSA if Spanish were to be an official language of IFSA, particularly in regards to the impossibility to translate all IFSA's documents.

Martin Dallen (Australia) asked what material is being referred for translation in point 6.1c. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) explained that it is official documents as well as any other documents of interest if there is sufficient time to translate them. She wondered if these other documents should be mentioned in 6.1c. Martin recommended to include Pille's suggested addition to the sentence, but asked if the translation referred to here is from other languages to English or vice versa. Sylvain clarified that it is from English to other languages.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) annual reports, progress reports, EP

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked what is being translated in the EP and asked for clarification that it is Exchange Program being referred to and Sofie Blanchart (France) wondered why it was only the EP Commission included in this sentence and not other commissions. Sylvain explained that this sentence was already included in the decrees and he is not sure why the EP is mentioned. Sofie proposed to delete the EP from the sentence.

Bede Richardson (Australia) proposed to accept section 6.1a.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) suggested changing the sentence to read "the annual report" and not "annual reports". Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) proposed to add the word "some" to 6.1c., but Jaime Collea Gomez (Spain) suggested the original sentence be kept.

Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) asked what languages are being referred to in 6.1b and Rémy Picavet (France) made a suggestion to specify which languages are covered here. Pille said that it is impossible to specify languages as this changes every year and is dependent on who is working in the Language Commission.

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) proposed to accept the changes to section 6.1 and Suvi Niemi (Finland) seconded.

The accepted amended decree was:

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

### **Decrees**

.....

#### **A. General**

.....

**Article 6**            **Language; IFSA-year and financial year**

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

- (6.1) (a) The English language is to be used for all formal documents and communication such as GA proceedings, website, IFSA News, the Annual Report and Progress Reports.
- (b) Applications for IFSA membership may also be made in other languages where resources are available for translation. Promotion of IFSA allows the use of other languages where appropriate to further IFSA's purpose.
- (c) IFSA will endeavour to translate its documents into other languages.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) commented that although many people are probably frustrated with the discussions dealing with corrections that seem trivial but explained that such discussions are important as the amendments are about the laws of IFSA and must be precise.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the fourth change to the decrees that relate to Article 10. Sylvain explained the points added in brackets and said these were added because the implementation of the IFSA strategy needed to be included somewhere. The proposed additions are shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **International Forestry Students' Association Decrees**

.....

#### **C. Organs, bodies**

.....

#### **Article 10      General Assembly**

(10.1) The agenda of a session of the GA must have the following structure:

...

- Election of IFSS-organiser for the (two) following year(s),
- *[Presentation of the IFSA Strategy and approval by the GA]*
- *[Presentation of new commission(s) and approval by the GA]*
- Presentation of candidates for elections,

...

#### **Discussion**

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked why the points are in brackets. Sylvain explained that these were optional points that do not necessarily need to be dealt with each year, for example the IFSA Strategy will not be approved every year. Nevertheless, Sylvain suggested that it may not be necessary to include these points in brackets in the decrees. Geoff pointed out that if there is no definition of what text in brackets refers to then it is pointless to include these. Sylvain showed the assembly that a definition is given already in the decrees.

Sylvain added that he would like to include a point about following up the actions for implementation in the strategy, but clarified that this point should not be in brackets. Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) said he would agree to add such a sentence but he is not sure exactly what the sentence means. Sylvain explained that there is a time frame in the strategy for implementing certain actions and therefore each year there should be an evaluation of what has been done and what still needs to be done.

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

Jaime Collea Gomez (Spain) suggested adding "proposal of changes" to the sentence in the first bracket. Rémy Picavet (France) said that maybe that point should not be in brackets. The "presentation" should be, but not "proposal and approval of changes". Valentin Paillette (France) suggested putting "follow up" as the first point. Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) recommended to change "IFSA strategy" to "the IFSA strategy".

Rémy Picavet (France) proposed to accept the changes to Article 10 and Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) seconded.

The accepted amended decree was:

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

### **Decrees**

.....

#### **C. Organs, bodies**

.....

#### **Article 10      General Assembly**

**(10.1)** The agenda of a session of the GA must have the following structure:

##### **\* First meeting**

1. Opening of the GA and the first meeting by a member of Direction,
2. [If necessary election of a new Chairperson for the GA],
3. Announcement of the number of members present and entitled to vote by the Assistant,
4. Agenda of the GA: distribution of items to meetings,
5. Agenda of meeting,
6. Approval of minutes of the last session of GA,  
... points of agenda (POA's) and
- X. Closure of session.

##### **\*Second, third and following meetings**

1. Opening of the meeting,
2. Announcement of the number of members present and entitled to vote by the Assistant,
3. Agenda of meeting,  
... POA's,
- X. Closure of meeting.

##### **\*Last meeting**

1. Opening of the meeting,
2. Announcement of the number of members present and entitled to vote by the Assistant,
3. Agenda of meeting,  
... POA's and
- X. Closure of last meeting and GA.

(... POA's = annually returning items and topics (points of agenda) that have to be dealt according to the following lists which also include items not annually returning [in brackets]:

The following points should be included:

- Information from Local Committees,  
[- General Proposals]  
[- Proposals for (re)-establishing Commissions]
- Changes to and approval of budget (Treasurer)

The following points should be included and must be completed in chronological order:

- Reports including:
  - Report of the Executive Secretary
  - Report of Treasurer

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

- Presentation of the Council's note on the Annual Report and Financial Report, including a note on possible irregularities in the Treasurer's report,
  - Report of the Secretariat,
  - Reports of the Commissions,
  - Report of the Council,
  - Report of the President,
  - Report of the Vice President,
  - Approval of IFSA-Annual Report,
- 
- Approval of the financial report from the last IFSA-year,
  - Approval of the financial report from the last Calendar year
- 
- Presentation of candidates for IFSS-organiser for the (two) following year(s),
  - Election of IFSS-organiser for the (two) following year(s),
- 
- [Presentation of the IFSA Strategy]
  - Follow up of the implementation of the IFSA Strategy
  - Proposal of changes in the IFSA Strategy and approval by the GA
  - [Presentation of new commission(s) and approval by the GA]
- 
- Presentation of candidates for elections,
  - Discharge of Direction by GA,
  - Discharge of Council by GA,
  - Election of members of Direction and Council,

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained that the addition of a title is needed for Article 18. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **Decrees**

.....

#### **C. Organs, bodies**

.....

*Article 18 Liaison Officers*

No Discussion.

Jarod Dashwood (Australia) proposed the addition of the title and Rémy Picavet (France) seconded. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) asked someone else to propose the change as Jarod is on the Election Committee and so may not be able to make proposals.

Ramon Perea (Spain) proposed the addition of the title and Tero Sivonen (Finland) seconded. The accepted amendment was added to the decrees as it appears above.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the amendment to Article 4.1i in the By-laws. The proposed addition appears in italics in the excerpt below:

### **International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **By-laws**

...

#### **CHAPTER 4: FINANCES**

4.1 Bank Account

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

- i) *Money contributed to the running of any Commission shall be held in the IFSA e.V General bank account, with funds being kept separate through book-keeping.*

### **Discussion**

Martin Dallen (Australia) pointed out that “thought” needed to be changed to “through”.

Valentin Paillette (France) proposed to accept Article 4.1i and Frauke Thorade (Germany) seconded.

The accepted amended by-law was:

## **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

### **CHAPTER 4: FINANCES**

.....

#### **4.1 Bank Account**

- a) Type of Account: The Association will have a current account with a reputable Bank in the Federal Republic of Germany
- b) The Association will name the account “IFSA e.V. General”
- c) The administration of the account can be managed through an online portal of the respective bank.
- d) Members of the Direction will be signatories to the Account and two of them at a time are competent to make cash withdrawal with general agreement by the majority of the Direction. All other business such as transactions or standing orders can be handled by only one out of the competent persons at a time.
- e) Money contributed to the IFSA Development Fund shall also be held in the IFSA e.V. General bank account, with funds being kept separate through book-keeping.
- f) At least one member of the Direction (normally the Executive Secretary) will audit the financial accounting every third of the year, at the same time as the progress reports are made.  
They should produce a short report which gives information about the liquidity of IFSA during the rest of the year.
- g) The GA or Council will decide and approve the allocation of funds from the account.
- h) All expenses made on behalf of IFSA must have prior written approval for a specified amount from the Treasurer in consultation with the Direction.
- i) Money contributed to the running of any Commission shall be held in the IFSA e.V General bank account, with funds being kept separate through book-keeping.

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained that the removal of Chapter 6 is being proposed to move this point to Chapter 7.

No discussion.

Alizée Guilhem (France) proposed the removal of Chapter 6 and Lina Farida seconded. The items under Chapter 6 were moved to Chapter 7 in the By-Laws.

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained that Chapter 6 would now become “IFSA officials” and that this section describes who officials are. Each section under Chapter 6 is taken point by point.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced Article 6.1. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

## **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

### *CHAPTER 6: IFSA OFFICIALS*

#### *6.1 List of IFSA Officials*

*Those occupying the following positions are considered as IFSA Officials:*

*President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Executive Secretary  
Councillor  
Liaison Officer  
Head of Commission  
Head of Sub commission  
Regional Representatives*

#### *Discussion*

Michael Rivoire (France) suggested the removal of the “s” from Regional Representatives.

Eva Erichson (Denmark) proposed the amendment to Article 6.1 and Anthony Pigott (United Kingdom) seconded.

The accepted amended by-law was:

## **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

### **CHAPTER 6: IFSA OFFICIALS**

#### **6.1 List of IFSA officials**

Those occupying the following positions are considered as IFSA Officials:

President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Executive Secretary  
Councillor  
Liaison Officer  
Head of Commission  
Head of Sub commission  
Regional Representative

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced Article 6.2 and explained why the contractual agreement exists. He clarified that there are only two people within IFSA who are legally responsible and this year these people were Sylvain and Joseph Schulte (Germany). Sylvain further explained the contractual agreements for officials and why they exist. He highlighted that if an official wants to see a change to their agreement they must confer with the legally responsible. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

#### *6.2 Contractual agreement for official positions*

- a) At the beginning of each IFSA year, new officials are required to sign a contractual agreement with IFSA.*

Sylvain asked the assembly to consider Section 6.2a.

No discussion.

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) proposed to accept Section 6.2a and Olga Pentelkina (Russia) seconded. The accepted amendment was added to the By-Laws as it appears above.

Sylvain Dupire (France) drew the attention of the assembly to Section 6.2b. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below.

6.2 *Contractual Agreement for official position*

b) *This contractual agreement shall contain:*

i. *A description of the responsibilities of the position in question*

ii) *The following sentence:*

*“I, (first name, name, country), certify I understand the responsibilities of my elected position within IFSA and shall engage myself to fulfil this position during the year 20xx-20xx. I understand as an elected official of IFSA I am answerable for my actions to the German Court. If I am unable to fulfil my position I accept to be replaced during the year, through consultation with the Direction and Council. In exchange of my contribution to IFSA, a certificate of appreciation and proof of work will be delivered at the end of my term.”*

iii) *The signature of the official and the one of the President newly elected for all officials. For the President the other signature shall be the one of the newly elected Council.*

### **Discussion**

Attila Eredics (Hungary) recommended that more x's be added into the year to allow dates such as 2010 to be included.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) suggested changing “in exchange for” to “to show” under Point ii. Frauke Thorade (Germany) made the suggestion of “after having shown”, but Sylvain Dupire (France) said that “to show” is more appropriate. Rémy Picavet (France) asked if officials receive this certificate at end of their term to which Sylvain answered yes. Rémy Picavet (France) therefore suggested that the sentence be written in past tense. Sylvain asked the assembly if “to show” is the better term and Anthony said yes.

Martin Dallen (Australia) recommended changing “the following sentence” to “the following paragraph”

Eva Erichson (Denmark) proposed to accept the changes to Section 6.2b and Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) seconded.

The accepted amended by-law was:

6.2.b) *This contractual agreement shall contain:*

i) *A description of the responsibilities of the position in question*

ii) *The following paragraph:*

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

*"I, (first name, name, country), certify I understand the responsibilities of my elected position within IFSA and shall engage myself to fulfil this position during the year 20xx-20xx. I understand as an elected official of IFSA I am answerable for my actions to the German Court. If I am unable to fulfil my position I accept to be replaced during the year, through consultation with the Direction and Council. To testify my contribution to IFSA, a certificate of appreciation and proof of work will be delivered at the end of my term."*

- iii) *The signature of the official and the one of the President newly elected for all officials. For the President the other signature shall be the one of the newly elected Council.*

Rémy Picavet (France) asked which president signs the certificates for officials and Sylvain explained that the new president signs for the coming years' officials.

Sylvain introduced Article 6.3 and explained that it is mainly referring to the EU grant. The proposed additions are shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### *6.3 Delegation of an official position for statutory meeting*

*If a head of commission (or sub commission) is unable to attend a statutory meetings (Interim meeting and IFSS), he/she should name a commissioners as his/her replacement. The person named will be considered as official.*

#### **Discussion**

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) recommended changing "statutory meetings" to "a statutory meeting" and "commissioners" to "commissioner"

Martin Dallen (Australia) asked if the person representing an official at a statutory meeting would be considered as an official only for that particular meeting or would become a new official in IFSA. Michelle Freeman (Australia) explained that the person would only be considered as official for that particular meeting.

Suvi Niemi (Finland) proposed to accept Article 6.3 and Heli Kymäläinen (Finland) seconded.

The accepted amended by-law was:

### *6.3 Delegation of an official position for the statutory meetings*

*If a head of commission (or sub commission) is unable to attend a statutory meeting (Interim meeting and IFSS), he/she should name a commissioner as his/her replacement. The person named will be considered as an official for this particular meeting.*

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced Section 7.1i and added that this point aims to officialise the rule that at least 2 people per LC should be invited to the IFSS. The proposed addition appears in italics in the excerpt below:

## **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

### **CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS**

#### **7.1 International Forestry Students' Symposium (IFSS)**

- a) **Purpose: The IFSS is the annual symposium of IFSA to provide a platform for interaction and exchange of knowledge in forestry and related issues among forestry students from the world over. It**

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

**additionally serves as a platform for the official bodies of IFSA to meet and plan their activities for the year ahead.**

- b) As far as possible, the IFSS and the GA will be concurrently organised to save financial and other resources.
- c) The IFSS will be organised by an organising committee appointed by an IFSA Ordinary member(s) approved by the GA and has accepted the responsibility to host the programme for a particular year.
- d) The Organising Committee (hereafter referred to as OC) must accept that the symposium is being organised in trust of IFSA and that the Direction may decide on sensitive matters such as sponsorship and invitation.
- e) The final programme shall be submitted to the secretariat before the symposium begins.
- f) The OC will submit a progress report including constraints to the secretariat every four months or more regularly on request by the Direction. The Direction shall endeavour to assist in addressing special constraints.
- g) Any Ordinary member(s) wishing to host an IFSS must make a proposal to GA at least two years in advance.
  - i) Such a member will be required to make a presentation to the next GA including proposed programme and budget, participation fee and number of participants expected.
  - ii) The GA, upon satisfaction, shall then decide accordingly.
- h) The OC will submit a report on the symposium and a copy of the proceedings to the secretariat at most three months after the closure of the IFSS.
- i) ***Two members per LC, excluding IFSA officials, are invited to participate to IFSS. According to the places available, the OC can authorize more than two members per LC in agreement with the IFSA Direction.***

### *Discussion*

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) suggested the addition of a statement that explains that the total number of people invited per LC should be according to the number of places available. He then recommended the “z” be changed to “s” in “authorise” to be in line with traditional English spelling.

Martin Dallen (Australia) proposed to accept the changes to Section 7.1i and Tero Sivonen (Finland) seconded.

The accepted amended by-law was:

## **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

### **CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS**

#### 7.1 International Forestry Students' Symposium (IFSS)

- a) Purpose: The IFSS is the annual symposium of IFSA to provide a platform for interaction and exchange of knowledge in forestry and related issues among forestry students from the world over. It additionally serves as a platform for the official bodies of IFSA to meet and plan their activities for the year ahead.
- b) As far as possible, the IFSS and the GA will be concurrently organised to save financial and other resources.
- c) The IFSS will be organised by an organising committee appointed by an IFSA Ordinary member(s) approved by the GA and has accepted the responsibility to host the programme for a particular year.
- d) The Organising Committee (hereafter referred to as OC) must accept that the symposium is being organised in trust of IFSA and that the Direction may decide on sensitive matters such as sponsorship and invitation.
- e) The final programme shall be submitted to the secretariat before the symposium begins.
- f) The OC will submit a progress report including constraints to the secretariat every four months or more regularly on request by the Direction. The Direction shall endeavour to assist in addressing special constraints.
- g) Any Ordinary member(s) wishing to host an IFSS must make a proposal to GA at least two years in advance.
  - i) Such a member will be required to make a presentation to the next GA including proposed programme and budget, participation fee and number of participants expected.
  - ii) The GA, upon satisfaction, shall then decide accordingly.
- h) The OC will submit a report on the symposium and a copy of the proceedings to the secretariat at most three months after the closure of the IFSS.

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

- i) Two members per LC, excluding IFSA officials, are invited to participate in the IFSS. According to the number of places available, the OC can authorise more than two members per LC in agreement with the IFSA Direction.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the proposed changes to Section 7.2. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

#### **CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS**

....

##### *7.2 Interim Meeting*

- a) *Purpose: The Interim meeting is the midterm meeting of all IFSA officials during which they explain the difficulties met during the first part of their terms, try to find solutions to them and plan the work to the next IFSS.*
- b) *The minutes and results of the Interim meeting should be available on the IFSA website.*
- c) *Non-official members of IFSA can attend the Interim meeting in agreement with the IFSA Direction.*

#### *Discussion*

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) suggested that the purpose of the regional meetings should be written in Section 7.2a.

Jarod Dashwood (Australia) commented that the section specifies "all IFSA officials" and wondered if this means you forfeit your position if you don't attend the meetings. Sylvain Dupire (France) asked Jarod to clarify. Jarod wanted to know if an official can send another person on their behalf. Berit Nielsen (Denmark) informed Jarod that this is explained in Article 6.3.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) suggested the removal of the word "all" and Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) suggested the addition of "the" at the start of the sentence.

Rémy Picavet (France) proposed to accept the changes to Section 7.2a and Berit Nielsen (Denmark) seconded.

The accepted amended by-law was:

### **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

#### **CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS**

.....

##### *7.2 Interim Meeting*

- a) *The Interim meeting is the midterm meeting of IFSA officials during which they explain the difficulties met during the first part of their terms, try to find solutions to them and plan the work to the next IFSS.*
- b) *The minutes and results of the Interim meeting should be available on the IFSA website.*
- c) *Non-official members of IFSA can attend the Interim meeting in agreement with the IFSA Direction.*

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the proposed changes to Section 7.3 and suggested we further make the same changes that were approved in Section 7.2. The proposed addition is shown in italics in the excerpt below:

### **International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **By-laws**

.....

#### **CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS**

....

##### *7.3 IFSA 7 Meeting*

- a) *Purpose: The 7 meeting is the last meeting of the Direction and Council before the IFSS. The aims are to prepare the annual report of IFSA and the General Assembly of the Association. Others important themes can be discussed.*
- b) *Decisions taken during the 7 Meeting should be recorded in the minutes of the event an available on IFSA website.*

#### *Discussion*

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) suggested the addition of “make” and “IFSA7 meeting” and Rémy Picavet (France) highlighted that the “d” on the end of “and” is missing.

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) made the suggestion that the creation and publication of minutes for all meetings should be a must. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) explained that there are some classified topics discussed in the IFSA 7 meeting that should not be broadcast to the wider IFSA world and so the sentence should not say ‘must’.

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) suggested the addition of “made” and “the”.

Rémy Picavet (France) asked if it is possible to have a paragraph discussing the minutes of meetings included in a paragraph in Chapter 6. Sylvain Dupire (France) said no as Regional Meetings and the IFSS don't have minutes so this point would not be relevant to all cases in Chapter 6.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked if “IFSA7 Meeting” is an official name and Sylvain said he thinks so, but it is not a problem anyway as the sentence describes who the IFSA7 are.

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) proposed to accept the changes to Section 7.3 and Fotis Buras (Greece) seconded.

The accepted amended by-law was:

### **International Forestry Students' Association**

#### **By-laws**

.....

#### **CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS**

....

##### *7.3 IFSA 7 Meeting*

## **International Forestry Students' Association**

- a) The IFSA 7 meeting is the last meeting of the Direction and Council before the IFSS. The aims are to prepare the annual report of IFSA and the General Assembly of the Association. Other important themes may be discussed.
- b) Decisions taken during the IFSA 7 Meeting should be recorded in the minutes of the event and made available on the IFSA website.

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced the proposed changes to Section 7.4. The proposed addition is shown in the excerpt below:

## **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

### **CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS**

....

#### **7.4 Regional Meeting**

*Each region is encouraged to organize an annual Regional Meeting. In such a case, at least one member from each LC's of the Region must be invited. Each Regional Meeting shall be organized in collaboration with the Regional Representative of the Region and must be advertised on IFSA website. The aim of such event is to strengthen the link between students from the same geographic area and to promote the development of new project at a regional scale. A traditional IFSA workshop can be organized during the event to improve the work of IFSA in the Region and follow its development each year.*

#### **Discussion**

Rémy Picavet (France) recommended the removal of "s" from "LC's". Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) corrected the American spelling of some words and suggested to change "IFSA website" to "the IFSA website". Jarod Dashwood (Australia) corrected "a event" to read "an event"

Jaime Collea Gomez (Spain) asked what a workshop is and wondered if it is a tradition of IFSA. Sylvain Dupire (France) explained that the purpose of the workshops is to meet and discuss issues faced in the particular region of IFSA. Sofie Blanchart (France) suggested the removal of the word "traditional".

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) recommended the addition of "s" to "projects".

Darren Brown (Australia) proposed to accept the changes to Section 7.4 and Heli Kymäläinen (Finland) seconded.

The accepted amended by-law was:

## **International Forestry Students' Association By-laws**

.....

### **CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS**

.....

#### **7.4 Regional Meeting**

Each region is encouraged to organise an annual Regional Meeting. In such a case, at least one member from each LC of the Region must be invited. Each Regional Meeting shall be organised in collaboration with the Regional Representative of the Region and must be advertised on the IFSA website. The aim of such an event is to strengthen the link between students from the same geographic area and to promote the development of new projects at a

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

regional scale. An IFSA workshop can be organised during the event to improve the work of IFSA in the Region and follow its development each year.

**\*\*\* 15 minute recess at 11.30am**

Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

32 voting parties were present.

Sylvain Dupire (France) requested the assembly to propose a postponement of the appointment of Regional Representatives to the 4<sup>th</sup> GA due to limited time in the 3<sup>rd</sup> GA.

Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed to postpone the appointment of Regional Representatives and Tero Sivonen (Finland) seconded

### **3.4 Second and last call for candidature for IFSA officials**

Sylvain Dupire (France) made the last call for people to stand for official positions and reminded the assembly that Regional Representatives will be selected during the 4<sup>th</sup> GA. The call for candidates was made systematically according to position and the following people nominated themselves:

#### *President*

Frauke Thorade (Germany)

#### *Vice President*

Dan Kuzelicki (Slovenia)

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom), withdrew from his nomination for Regional Representative of North America and Northern Europe

Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia)

#### *Treasurer*

Florian Beig (Germany)

#### *Executive Secretary*

No candidates

#### *Council*

Darren Brown (Australia)

Mikko Nivala (Finland)

Sofie Blanchart (France)

#### *IUFRO Liaison Officer*

Olga Pentelkina (Russia)

#### *EFI Liaison Officer*

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia)

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked Olga Pentelkina (Russia) if she wants to continue to run for the EFI Liaison Officer and also run for the IUFRO Liaison Officer. Olga said she will see.

### *CFA Liaison Officer*

Michelle Freeman (Australia)

### *All other Positions*

Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey) nominated herself for the position of Head of the EP Commission

Juliana Marquez Bejarano (Colombia) withdrew her nomination for Regional Representative of Latin America

Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey) and Jelena Nedeljkovic (Serbia) nominated themselves to share the position of Southern Europe Regional Representative

Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) nominated herself for the position of Asia Regional Representative

Karol Jurcyszyn (Poland) nominated himself for the position of Northern Europe Regional Representative

John Eggers (South Africa) nominated himself for the position of South Africa Regional Representative

Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) stood up on behalf of Maria Isabel Perdomo (Paraguay) to nominate her for the position of Latin America Regional Representative

Lina Farida (Indonesia) nominated herself for the position of Asia Regional Representative

Rémy Picavet (France) nominated himself for the position of Head of the P&P Commission

Tero Sivonen (Finland) nominated himself for the position of Head of the Language Commission

Jan Hradil (Czech Republic) nominated himself for the position of Head of the IPC Commission

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked if Commissioners and Commission Heads are meant to nominate themselves in the 4<sup>th</sup> GA or in this GA. Sylvain Dupire (France) answered that those wanting to take on these positions may nominate themselves now.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) nominated herself to be a commissioner of the Language Commission

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) said commissioners should not nominate themselves now, only those wishing to become commission heads should. Commissioners would be announced in the 4<sup>th</sup> GA.

Sylvain Dupire (France) defined what vetting entails and explained the vetting process. Where there are several nominees standing for the same position, one nominee would be summoned at a time for vetting while the others wait outside.

### **3.5 Vetting for candidates for Direction**

#### **3.9.1 President**

Frauke Thorade (Germany) introduced herself and explained that she studies in Gottingen and is about to finish her bachelor. She does not have much IFSA experience, but has been active at the local scale and she speaks German, English, some French and is trying to learn Spanish. Frauke explained that as she will have finished her bachelor, she would take a gap year so that she may dedicate time to the presidency and will concurrently participate in internships that will allow her to support herself.

#### *Questions*

Fotis Buras (Greece) commented that Frauke has the right voice to be a president.

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) asked Frauke what her main objective or primary goal would be if she were elected President. Frauke answered that she would like to work on improving the IFSA Strategy and develop further actions for implementation, she wants to promote IFSA in other countries, and she hopes to improve IFSA's relationships with its professional partners. She added that she is also open to ideas from IFSA members.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) wondered if Frauke realises the amount of time needed to do the job of President. Frauke answered that as she will not be doing much study next year and has been applying for internships and small jobs in Germany, she believes she can focus her efforts substantially on IFSA.

Kristi Parro (Estonia) asked whether Frauke had thought about how she will fund IFSA-related trips and Frauke responded that she has thought of it and plans to do fundraising as well as pay part of the costs with a part time job to support her.

No further questions for Frauke.

Sofie Blanchart (France) addressed the assembly to inform them that if elected to Council she may not be available to attend the IFSA7 meeting or other meetings due to an internship in Peru. She asked others in the assembly to stand for Council if they believe they would have more time to commit to the position than her. Sylvain Dupire (France) added that, in particular, one of the three nominees for Vice President could consider running for Council. Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) stood up and said he was thinking of running for Council but is concerned about VISA difficulties. He said that if there was a way for IFSA to arrange help for him to obtain the appropriate VISA's for travel then he will nominate himself to be a Councilor.

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) pointed out that according to the statutes, only people who nominated themselves for positions during the call for candidature are allowed to take part in the vetting. She suggested to the assembly that someone should propose a change in the agenda to return to the call for candidature at this point.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) proposed to change the agenda and return to the call for candidature and Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) seconded.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) officially nominated himself for the position of Councilor and withdraws his candidature for EFI Liaison Officer.

There were no further nominations for official positions therefore the agenda returned to the vetting of candidates.

### **3.9.2** Vice-President

Sylvain Dupire (France) requested that Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) and Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) leave the room during the vetting of Dan Kuzelicki (Slovenia).

Dan introduced himself and explained that he recently finished his 2<sup>nd</sup> year of studies. He is the President of his LC and works actively in his university's student association. Dan has experience in organising events and the current IFSS is the 3<sup>rd</sup> IFSA meeting he has attended. He is prepared to spend at least 2 hours a day on IFSA work, or more if it is required.

#### *Questions*

Eveliina Varis (Finland) made the point that the position of Vice President requires some travel and asked Dan if he is prepared for that and how he would fund such travel. Dan confirmed that he would be able to travel and would have the support of his faculty and his parents, as well as his own money to finance him.

Attila Eredics (Hungary) asked Dan what year of study he is in and whether he will be writing his thesis next year. Dan replied that he has three years left to finish his studies so he still has plenty of time and he will not be writing his thesis next year.

Florian Beig (Germany) noted that Dan is the President of his LC and wondered if that would mean there would be limited time to perform this job and the Vice President position. Dan said there would be plenty of time as his LC is not very active and he currently spends just 2 hours per month on the job as LC President.

Frauke Thorade (Germany) commented that the Vice President must be good at motivating people and asked if Dan would be capable of that and as well as being able to handle frustration well. Dan said yes he is a motivating personality.

Eva Erichson (Denmark) asked how many languages Dan speaks and he replied Slovenian, English and some German.

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked Dan why he is running for the position of Vice President. Dan's main reasons were to gain experience in IFSA, obtain new knowledge and meet new people.

Suvi Niemi (Finland) stated that the Vice President needs to email frequently and asked Dan if he has a reliable computer. Dan answered yes, he is on the computer very often, particularly on msn and emailing.

No further questions for Dan.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) into the room.

Annisa introduced herself as a student in her 4<sup>th</sup> year of study. She has had experience in international events, attended IFSS 2007 and was a delegate at the 2007 UNFCCC in Bali. She is the project manager in her LC and is also involved in the student club. Annisa has had organisational experience as the secretary, vice chair and then chair of a special proficiency movement, is able to motivate people and hopes to improve her public speaking skills through this role. She noted that next year the IFSS will be held in Indonesia and as an Asia Regional Representative during 2007-2008 she managed to fulfill all the goals set at the beginning of that term

### *Questions*

Eveliina Varis (Finland) noted that Annisa will already be helping to organise IFSS 2009 and wondered if she will have enough time for the Vice President position. Annisa said she has thought about this in depth and had asked advice from a former IFSA Vice President from Indonesia. Annisa believes it is a good thing to have the Vice President as part of the IFSS Organising Committee as this would help to gather information from LC's. She is sure she will have time for the position.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) commented that she knows Annisa is hard working, but wondered if she would have the possibility to travel given that Indonesia is far away from Europe. Annisa answered that her LC did a lot of fundraising and so she has financial support from companies. She will also look for a job to support her.

Lina Farida (Indonesia) asked Annisa what her motivation is to enable cooperation with other people with differing characteristics and Annisa answered that she thinks it will be good to cooperate with a range of other people.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked Annisa why she is running for the position of Vice President and Annisa responded that she wants to see good communication in IFSA, particularly in the Asia and Africa regions and during the lead up to IFSS 2009.

No further questions for Annisa

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) into the room.

Anthony introduced himself and informed the assembly that he studies in Wales and is the chairman of his LC in Bangor, which is a particularly strong LC. His language skills are limited, but he believes that having a native English speaker in the IFSA Direction is

important. His main objectives as Vice President would be to work well with the Council and Direction and to ensure there is good communication. Anthony pointed out that he may have some problems with time management as he will be in his final year of studies, but this should not get in the way of his Vice Presidential work.

#### *Questions*

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked Anthony why he is running for the position of Vice President and Anthony replied that he wants to be more involved in IFSA, especially as his LC had a previous history of involvement in IFSA but had dropped away in recent years. After attending the NERM in 2008, Anthony was inspired and thought that the Vice President position would suit him best.

Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) said this is first time Anthony has attended an IFSS and asked how much time he will have for IFSA work. Anthony answered that he will spend as much time as he can and make use of his spare time, which would probably equate to a good couple of hours per day.

Andrea Vigh (Hungary) noted that Anthony wanted to be the Regional Representative of Northern Europe and North America and asked who would take on these roles now that he is standing for Vice President. Anthony conceded that this is a problem, but as he is not in America and will not have the possibility to go there for any sufficient lengths of time, he would only have the capacity to send emails, and therefore may not be effective in this role anyway.

Heli Kymäläinen (Finland) asked Anthony if he has money for travel. He responded that he funded himself to attend this IFSS and has been saving over the last few years. Anthony also said there is the possibility to attract support from his University or through the Institute of Chartered Foresters as he has contacts there.

Frauke Thorade (Germany) asked Anthony if he would be able to travel far distances and Anthony replied that this would depend on when the travel would be and on the other commitments he has. There is the possibility that such travel would not be possible however it should not be a problem.

No further questions for Anthony.

Sylvain Dupire (France) informed the assembly that the Vice President does not need to travel very often, as this is the responsibility of the President. He also presented the possibility of appointing a North America Regional Representative during the year if a suitable candidate is not found during the IFSS.

### **3.9.3 Treasurer**

Florian Beig (Germany) introduced himself and stated that his main motivation for nominating himself for the position of Treasurer is that although he has held positions in Non-Governmental Organisations and was President of an organised youth group he has never been a Treasurer before. He wants to learn about handling money and fundraising, and as the IFSA bank is in Germany it is convenient to have a German Treasurer.

*Questions*

Frauke Thorade (Germany) asked Florian how he will go with time management. Florian answered that he finishes his studies next year and so will have half a year without lectures or study commitments.

No further questions for Florian

**3.9.4**    Executive Secretary

Sylvain Dupire (France) reminded the assembly that no-one has nominated themselves for the position of Executive Secretary, but he invites Joseph Schulte (Germany), the Executive Secretary from 2006 to 2008 to speak.

Joseph told the assembly he could take on the Executive Secretary position again, but only for half a year, therefore he will need to work hard to find someone to take over the position. He said he will try his best for IFSA and will do all that he did before, and in particular keep close contact with the Direction and IFSA world. Joseph nominated himself to take on this position unofficially, as he cannot commit to a full year.

No questions.

**3.6**    Vetting for candidates for Council

Sylvain Dupire (France) requested that Sofie Blanchart (France), Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) and Mikko Nivala (Finland) leave the room during the vetting of Darren Brown (Australia).

Darren introduced himself and explained that he is half way through his 3<sup>rd</sup> year of studies. This IFSS is his first IFSA event, and previously he didn't know much about IFSA, but he is excited about the prospect of becoming more involved. He believes he would be good for the Council as he is a native English speaker and can therefore help with official documents. Living in Australia, he will have IFSA Councilors from previous years nearby to get advice from. Darren explained that he has been very active in his LC as an Executive Member, has helped to organise field trips, and has good communication and written skills.

*Questions*

Eva Erichson (Denmark) asked Darren about his possibilities for travel and funding for this. Darren replied that his aim is to at least attend one of the interim or IFSA 7 meetings and is confident of being able to find enough funding as the Australian fundraising model is very good and is even used as the model for fundraising in IFSA as a whole.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked "What is a councilor?". Darren responded that a Councilor is responsible for providing advice to those who need it, and for admitting or refusing members applying to join IFSA.

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) asked Darren what his time schedule is for the year and does he have time to fulfill the position. Darren said he will be busy, but he is busy all the time and because of this has developed good time management skills, so he will have time. In

addition he will not continue to be so involved in his LC and will have the 3 month summer break to dedicate to IFSA.

Ping-Lian Wu (Taiwan) mentioned that there are two IFSS's coming up in Asia and asked Darren if he will be able to attend these. Darren said if he can he will, but of course it will depend on the timing and his financial situation. If he is elected to Council he would like to take responsibility for the Asia and Oceania regions.

Kristi Parro (Estonia) asked Darren to state three words that describe his personality. Darren joked that one word would be handsome, but in seriousness his words were: reliable, dedicated and easy to get along with. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) added that Darren's reliability could be confirmed by Sinan Aydin (Turkey).

No further questions for Darren.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited Mikko Nivala (Finland) to enter the room.

Mikko introduced himself and stated that he finishes his bachelor studies soon and so will have a lot of time for IFSA. He has a lot of motivation and is good and reliable in answering emails and collaborating with others. He learnt many lessons from being in the army for over 300 days.

#### *Questions*

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked "What is a Councilor?" and Mikko replied that they are a member who must know and understand the laws of IFSA and the IFSA strategy. They are also the main contact for Regional Representatives.

Kristi Parro (Estonia) asked Mikko to state three words that describe his personality, to which Mikko answered: hard working, reliable and friendly.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) wanted to know if this was Mikko's first IFSA meeting. Mikko informed the assembly that he had attended the NEIS, Regional Meetings and Scientific Meetings in France. Olga then asked what languages Mikko can speak and he answered Finnish, Swedish, and a little bit of German and Spanish.

Eva Erichson (Denmark) asked Mikko about his ease of contact and Mikko answered that as he lives far away it will be hard to have much face-to-face contact and so most of his contact will be via skype. Eva wondered if Mikko would still be able to attend meetings and Pille Aasamets (Estonia) interrupted to say that it is not a requirement of council to participate in meetings, as there is not usually time for this. Nevertheless, Eva asked if he is prepared to attend the Interim and IFSA7 meetings and Mikko responded that he is unsure.

No further questions for Mikko.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited Sofie Blanchart (France) to enter the room.

Sofie introduced herself and said she has been involved in IFSA for two years as an active member of her LC, has helped to organise meetings and during the IFSS in South Africa she took the position of Head of the EP Commission. She attended the 2008

Interim meeting where she learnt a lot about IFSA and contributed to the development of the IFSA Strategy. Sofie has also learnt a lot from Sylvain as they are close friends and often discuss IFSA matters, however next year she had planned to take the year off and wasn't expecting to take an IFSA position. She will go to Gottingen for an internship and will have plenty of time to work on IFSA then, but the problem is an internship in Peru that will be for five months. Sofie may be able to postpone the internship, attend the Interim and remain very involved in IFSA before January, but she will not be able to attend the IFSA 7 meeting and is unsure how much free time or internet access she will have in South America. She really wants to take on the Council position, but is worried about her availability during the internship in Peru.

#### *Questions*

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked "What is a Councilor?" and Sofie answered that it is someone who is in charge of approving LCs and who has a role in delegated regions to help the Regional Representative. Council must also help the President, know the statutes and give advice on issues, such as the IFSA Strategy.

Frauke Thorade (Germany) commented that if an official wants to retire, somebody new can be appointed; therefore it would be possible for Sofie to hold the position until she leaves for Peru, as Sofie has a lot of experience in IFSA and great language skills. Nevertheless, changing a Councilor in the middle of the year may not be the best thing. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) added that it takes at least two months to understand fully the Council position, so whether it would work to have a new Councilor mid-term depends on the strength of the other two Councilors and their ability to support someone new. Sofie informed the assembly that she may have good internet access in Peru but it may be a similar situation to Michelle Freeman (Australia) while she was travelling, whereby she cannot access the internet every day.

Eva Erichson (Denmark) wondered if it could be a strength that Sofie is going to Latin America. Sofie answered that the situation in Latin America is complicated at the moment and although while she is in the field she will be away from the LCs, the main office she will do her internship through is the base of the Peru LC, so she can be in touch with them there. Sofie would like to help the Latin America situation, but is unsure of time

Pille asked if Sofie will have the internet there and Sofie said yes, there is internet in the Peru office, but she is not sure how often she will be there.

No further questions for Sofie.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) to enter the room.

Branislav introduced himself and said he is in his final year of studies and will graduate in April. He speaks Serbian, English, and studies Spanish. In the Balkan countries communication is easy and he is an organised person. Branislav has worked on a few projects, such as one for FAO, and is ready to take on a big responsibility in IFSA.

*Questions*

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked "What is a Councilor?" and Branislav replied that they are the link between the President and the LCs, and is the judge for decisions about other official positions and new members.

Geoff then asked Branislav if he thinks he failed in his position as EFI LO and Branislav answered yes. He explained that initially he had established good contact with the EFI and did not really know the reason for the loss of contact. Geoff pointed out that Branislav also lost contact with the Direction and wondered what would be different if he became a Councilor. Branislav responded that he did not lose contact with the Direction, but the communication was not good and he is not sure why. He added that the EFI LO job description was difficult as there was no previous EFI LO and some of the responsibility of this should have fallen on the President. If Branislav became part of the Board he must be responsible and push himself to stay dedicated, which he believes he can do as he has good organisation skills. He explained that there were misunderstandings with the Direction and because he was accepted into the position after the IFSS, and was not invited to the EFI meeting. He believes that if IFSA officials are a team they must work as team.

Sylvain commented on the EFI position and said that he thinks he was clear enough at the beginning about what Branislav should do, and the first thing was to construct calendar for EFI events, including the meeting in Finland. Sylvain added that he is not sure that Branislav knows the implications of him not fulfilling his role as the EFI LO, as it resulted in a lot of work for the President. Sylvain said that he does not want to see this kind of thing happen in Council and implored Branislav not to do the same again. Branislav responded that he is not hiding from the bad job that he did and is sure it would not happen next time if he were given an official position.

Jaime Coello Gomez (Spain) asked Branislav if he will keep up with drinking and Branislav assured the assembly that he only drinks at the IFSS.

Bede Richardson (Australia) asked what Branislav has done in his LC to contribute to others. Branislav said he has a good, efficient LC and has helped to organise the successful Balkan meeting, which he hopes will continue next year.

Valter Ziantroni (Brazil) wondered how important it would be for the Balkans to have Branislav in the Council position. Branislav answered that the Balkan region is changing from a period of bad politics and so it is important to be a part of something so international, especially to see different cultures because previously the Balkans were closed to these influences.

Kristi Parro (Estonia) expressed concern about Branislav's internet connection, but Branislav assured her that he has perfect internet with DSL and not a dial-up connection.

Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) asked Branislav if he has a strategy to make IFSA stronger in Latin America. Branislav responded that this is one reason why he started learning Spanish because there is the problem that many Spanish people don't know English very well. He believes he will be good in Spanish in a few months and so will be able to have good communication in that region.

No further questions for Branislav.

Eveliina Varis (Finland) stood up and said she would like to volunteer to help Sofie Blanchart (France) during the spring term if she were elected to Council and asked if it would be possible for her to do this. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) said that she will respond to this question later after she consults the statutes.

***\*\*\* 45 minute recess at 13.30pm***

Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

30 voting parties were present. IFSA-FN and CEIF were missing.

Michelle Freeman (Australia) addressed the assembly on behalf of the IFSA Council to address two matters. The first note was in answer to the question asked by Eveliina Varis (Finland) regarding the possibility of her replacing Sofie Blanchart (France) mid-way through the year if she were elected to Council. Michelle explained that it is written in the statutes that the IFSA 7 cannot promise any position to another in anticipation of an official resigning or being stood-down from their position. Any new person needed to fill an official position during the year will be elected by the Direction or Council at the time.

The second note Michelle made was regarding a potential change to the agenda. After the vetting of the Direction the BoA heard that Nadezhda Isakova (Bulgaria) wanted to run for president. Michelle reminded the assembly the vetting was already half-way through and that on page 21 of the GA Survival Guide under point 3.d. "Second and last call for candidature for IFSA officials" it advises that "If you do not stand up now you cannot be considered for Direction or Council". Nevertheless this is not a statutory statement and thus it must become the decision of the GA whether or not to allow a change in the agenda to go back to the last call for candidature and allow Nadezhda to run.

IFSA-FN and CEIF arrive late to the GA and so Sylvain Dupire (France) summons the Election Committee to recount the voting cards.

32 voting parties were present.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) expressed his frustration at having to recount the votes several times during the GA due to parties being late. He suggested that those who do not arrive on time to the GA, or who are late after the breaks, lose their right to vote.

Bede Richardson (Australia) proposed to accept Geoff's suggestion and Suvi Niemi (Finland) seconded. There were no objections so the proposal was duly accepted

Tero Sivonen (Finland) proposed that the BoA inform the assembly of the exact time when the GA would resume after each break. Branislav seconded this proposal. There were no objections so the BoA duly took on board this proposal.

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Alizée Guilhem (France) proposed to change the agenda and return to the call for candidature. Olga Pentelkina (Russia) seconded. There were no objections and so Sylvain Dupire (France) announced again the last call for candidature for IFSA officials. The call for candidates was made systematically according to position and the following people nominated themselves:

### *President*

Nadezhda Isakova (Bulgaria). Nadezhda told the assembly there was a mistake with the change in the IFSS program and she was away organising things for the IFSS, which was why she was not present during the original last call for candidature.

### *Vice President*

No further candidates.

### *Treasurer*

No further candidates.

### *Executive Sec*

No further candidates.

### *Councillor*

No further candidates.

### *LO IUFRO*

No further candidates.

### *LO EFI*

Berit Nielsen (Denmark)

### *LO CFA*

No further candidates.

Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that the agenda would return to the vetting of candidates starting with the new nominee for President.

Nadezhda Isakova (Bulgaria) introduced herself and told the assembly that she had spent the last 6 months helping organise the IFSS and in this role she cooperated with government and state agencies, which promised to help IFSA. She believes it is very important in future for officials to have money for their work and opportunities to come together to do their work better. Nadezhda also thinks Skype meetings are very important. She has the opportunity to travel and work for IFSA next year as she is in the last year of her degree and can take one year off to focus herself on the work of president.

### *Questions*

Yana Gotcheva (Bulgaria) stood up and commented to the assembly that Nadezhda's LC did not know about her wish to run for presidency and did not support her reason for not being on time to the GA. Nadezhda responded that during the IFSS nothing was running on time and she did not know any of the changes that were made because Chavdar

Zhelev (Bulgaria) was organising them. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) interrupted and said that these reasons were regarding the ignorance of the organising committee and not of interest to the GA.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked Nadezhda what her objectives would be as president. Nadezhda answered that she wants to make more LCs in IFSA and enlist the support of different institutions and non-governmental organisations that she knows and works with.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) wanted to know what languages Nadezhda speaks, whether she will have opportunities to travel and how she will handle time management. Nadezhda said she knows it is a big responsibility to be president, but she will have enough time. She speaks Bulgarian, English, is learning German and when she finishes her degree she will start to learn Spanish. Nadezhda believes she will have enough money because of support from state agencies.

No further questions for Nadezhda.

### **3.7 Vetting for candidates for Liaison Officer (LO)**

#### IUFRO

Sylvain Dupire (France) requested that Michael Rivoire (France) leave the room during the vetting of Olga Pentelkina (Russia).

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) introduced herself and informed the assembly that she has been active for two years in IFSA as the MCPFE sub-Commission Head. Olga worked in the IUFRO headquarters for 4 months and so knows the organisation quite well. She believes she will be an asset for IFSA if she is elected and will continue to do the good work done by Michael Rivoire (France) during the previous year.

#### *Questions*

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked Olga what she would do in the position and what she would like to strengthen in the relationship between IUFRO and IFSA. Olga answered that she knows it is already a good relationship and will not do more than Michael did, but rather her main aim will be to maintain communication between the IFSA President and IUFRO and to continue with the current collaborations. She will think of new possibilities with the new IFSA President during the year.

No further questions for Olga.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invites Michael Rivoire (France) to enter the room.

Michael introduced himself and informed the assembly that Wilrieke Uiterweerd (Netherlands) was the official holder of the IUFRO LO position in 2007-2008, but Wilrieke introduced him to the position and he supported her in that role. Michael has just finished his master and will start his PhD next year. He has met all the IUFRO board and has been actively working with IUFRO. He said his work is only just beginning and he believes that continuity is important, so Michael will later find a successor that he can teach the position to and maintain this continuity.

Pille Aasamets (Estonia) read a recommendation letter for Michael written by Wilrieke.

*Questions*

Martin Dallen (Australia) asked Michael if he would share the contacts he has with Olga and help her to forge relationships with IUFRO if he was not elected into the position, to which Michael answered, of course.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked Michael what he would do in the position and what he would like to strengthen in the relationship between IUFRO and IFSA. Michael responded that having the IFSS 2010 in South Korea in conjunction with the IUFRO world congress will be a great opportunity to enhance the cooperation. He also has ideas about possibilities to create internships, help IFSA to learn from the IUFRO structure and to provide news throughout the year. Michael believes it is important to help students attend IUFRO meetings and will work to ensure that happens.

No further questions for Michael.

*EFI*

Sylvain Dupire (France) requested that Olga Pentelkina (Russia) and Berit Nielsen (Denmark) leave the room during the vetting of Heli Kymäläinen (Finland).

Heli introduced herself and said she would like to be the EFI LO as she is studying in the same town as the EFI headquarters, which will be a great opportunity to make face-to-face contact. She has visited this head office and has already made some contacts. Heli said she has time to manage the position as she is starting her masters thesis where it will be possible to set her own schedule. She added that she is hardworking and reliable and would like to be a part of the IFSA network and make it better.

*Questions*

Sylvain Dupire (France) asked Heli who she knows at EFI and Heli informed him that she knows the person in charge of communication and Cecil Konijnendijk (IFSA Alumni, Netherlands), who was present at the IFSS. Sylvain then asked Heli about her ideas for developing the partnership and Heli said she has nothing concrete but she will begin by forging solid relationships and attending meetings.

No further questions for Heli.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited Olga Pentelkina (Russia) to enter the room.

Olga began by saying that she would like to be the EFI LO but will not take two positions (both EFI and IUFRO). She said that she knows EFI very well through research that she did and has stayed in contact with them. Olga wants to be the bridge between EFI and IFSA and develop the relationship after the unsuccessful work of Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) during the last year.

*Questions*

Nicholas Firth (Australia) asked Olga which position she would prefer to be elected into. Olga responded that it would not matter as she knows both organisations very well, nevertheless she would prefer to be the IUFRO LO.

Sylvain Dupire (France) wondered who Olga knows in EFI and whether she has any ideas for EFI in the future. Olga said she knows the director of the EFI, who she met on a conference, but she does not have any close relationships and currently has no clear ideas, although as the EFI is a big research institute, she wants students to attend EFI events so to engage the EFI and IFSA more.

No further questions for Olga.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited Berit Nielsen (Denmark) to enter the room.

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) introduced herself and said she is finishing her masters in December and wants to take on the position to strengthen the relationship between EFI and IFSA, like is currently the case with IUFRO. She speaks Danish, German, French and Swedish. Berit will be able to keep close contact with Cecil Konijnendijk (IFSA Alumni, Netherlands) who lives in Copenhagen, where she studies and she added that if she stands for something she will finish it.

*Questions*

Sylvain Dupire (France) asked Berit if she knows people from the EFI and Berit answered, no, her decision to nominate herself for the position was a last minute decision. Sylvain wondered if Berit has any ideas for the EFI and she responded that she will do what is in the job description. In the position she would maintain communication, help others and herself to attend meetings, and develop internship possibilities.

No further questions for Berit.

Sylvain asked the 3 candidates for the EFI LO position whether they would be able to attend the EFI conference from the 17-20 September in Italy. Berit said she is not sure, Heli said she is available but it will depend on money and Olga said it would depend on her studies and if she can escape classes.

CFA

Michelle Freeman (Australia) introduced herself and said she has been an IFSA Councillor for the year 2007-2008 and first got involved in IFSA in 2005 when she helped to organise the IFSS in Australia. She was the CFA LO for 5 months before the IFSS South Africa and had a part in the development of the partnership. She is aware of the work done by Geoffrey Kay (Australia) who held the position in the previous year and of the MoU that exists between IFSA and the CFA and has been discussing with Celia Nalwadda (CFA Youth Officer, Uganda) about different possibilities for cooperation. Michelle added that with all the talk about IFSA in Africa it may also be possible to work with Celia to activate this region.

*Questions*

Frauke Thorade (Germany) wondered why Michelle stopped her work as the CFA LO after five months and Michelle explained that she was acting as a replacement in this role before IFSS South Africa, and did not continue in the position because she was elected into Council during this IFSS.

Celia Nalwadda (Uganda) stood up and noted that she supports the candidature of Michelle to become the CFA LO

No further questions for Michelle

**3.8 Closure of 3rd Plenary Session**

Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that before the next GA Commission Workshops will be held and, during these, Heads of Commission and Commissioners should be decided. There will also be time for each region to meet and approve who will be their Regional Representative; however the time will be confirmed later after consultation with the IFSS Organising Committee. Sylvain asked if there were any questions from the assembly.

Sofie Blanchart (France) asked how long the workshops would last and wondered if it would be possible to talk about other issues at this time. Sylvain said there is 1.5 hours allocated to present each Commission, gather Commissioners and discuss other issues.

Eva Erichson (Denmark) noted that during the first GA it was decided to approve the 2007 IFSA calendar-year budget during the 3<sup>rd</sup> GA, but this was not done. Sylvain explained that more information is needed from the 2006-2007 Treasurer so the approval of this report will be postponed until the information is received.

Attila Eredics (Hungary) requested that everyone wear their name tags during the IFSS because it is hard to remember everyone's name.

Sylvain Dupire (France) closed the 3<sup>rd</sup> plenary session of the GA at 15.15pm.

## **The 4<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session**

### **4. Agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session**

- 4.1. Opening of the 4<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session
- 4.2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
- 4.3. Discharge of Direction
- 4.4. Discharge of Council
- 4.5. Appointment of Consulting Members
- 4.6. Appointment of Honorary Members

\*\*\*Break

- 4.7. Election of Direction
  - 4.7.1. President
  - 4.7.2. Vice President
  - 4.7.3. Treasurer
  - 4.7.4. Executive Secretary
- 4.8. Election of Liaison Officers
- 4.9. Election of Council

\*\*\*Break

- 4.10. Appointment of Regional Representatives
- 4.11. Appointment of new and continuing Commissions
- 4.12. Appointment of new and continuing Commissioners
- 4.13. Closure of 4<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session

### **Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session**

**CHAIR:** Sylvain Dupire (France)  
**VICE CHAIR:** Kristi Parro (Estonia)

**MINUTES:** Michelle Freeman (Australia)

**VENUE:** Studen kladenetz dam camping area

**TIME:** *Opened* 16.49pm 12<sup>th</sup> August 2008  
*Closed* 18.35pm 12<sup>th</sup> August 2008 check times

**ELECTION COMMITTEE:** Jarod Dashwood (Australia), John Eggers (South Africa), Valentin Paillette (France)

(Note at top that this is an open plenary session outdoors so people leaving and returning were not recorded.)

#### **4.1 Opening of the 4<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session**

The 4<sup>th</sup> plenary session was opened by Sylvain Dupire (France) at 16.49pm.

Michael Rivoire (France) proposed to find a replacement for Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) in the Election Committee as he is running for an official position and therefore cannot be a part of the committee.

Valentin Paillette (France) proposed himself to replace Branislav and Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) seconded. There were no objections so Valentin was duly appointed to the Election Committee in replacement of Branislav.

#### **4.2 Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote**

32 voting parties were present.

Anthony Pigott (Wales) stood up and withdrew his candidature for the Vice Presidency because had reassessed his situation and believes that he will not have time to do the job. He wished goodluck to the other nominees and expressed his apologies.

Sylvain Dupire (France) informed the assembly that the BoA had forgotten to hold a vote needed to accept all the changes made to the statutes during the 3<sup>rd</sup> GA.

Sofie Blanchart (France) asked if it would be possible to vote with voting cards rather than holding a secret vote. Sylvain said that a vote by voting cards would be ok if everyone agreed.

Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed that the vote to accept the changes to the statutes be held by a show of voting cards. Kristina Buzaroska (Macedonia) seconded and there were no objections so the proposal was duly accepted.

Sylvain Dupire (France) announced the voting to accept the changes to the statutes and called on the Election Committee to count the votes.

After open ballot by voting cards the resulting votes of 32 voting parties were;

Yes: 31

No: 1

Abstain: 0

The motion is carried because the necessary majority of 75% is met. The accepted changes agreed on during the 3<sup>rd</sup> GA were added to the statutes.

#### **4.3 Discharge of Direction**

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) proposed that the 2007-2008 Direction be discharged after their year of service. Olga Pentelkina (Russia) seconded this motion. There were no objections and the Direction was duly discharged.

#### **4.4 Discharge of Council**

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) proposed that the 2007-2008 Council be discharged after their year of service. Eveliina Varis (Finland) seconded this motion. There were no objections and the Council was duly discharged.

Rémy Picavet (France) thanked the board for their work during the year, seconded by Olga Pentelkina (Russia).

#### 4.5 Appointment of Consulting Members

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained who Consulting Members are and asked the assembly for their nominations.

Jarod Dashwood (Australia) proposed Joseph Svetlik (Czech Republic) be appointed a Consulting Member. Sylvain explained that Jarod cannot make proposals as he is in the Election Committee so asked someone else in the assembly to propose Joseph. Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed Joseph Svetlik (Czech Republic) be appointed a Consulting Member and Darren Brown (Australia) seconded. Joseph accepted his appointment.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked someone in the assembly to propose Sylvain Dupire (France) as a Consulting Member. Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) proposed Sylvain be appointed a Consulting Member and Eveliina Varis (Finland) seconded. Sylvain accepted his appointment.

Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed Kristi Parro (Estonia) be appointed a Consulting Member and Heli Kymäläinen (Finland) seconded. Kristi accepted her appointment.

Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa) proposed Kate Lancaster (Australia) and Michelle Freeman (Australia) be appointed Consulting Members and Olga Pentelkina (Russia) seconded. Kate and Michelle accepted their appointment.

Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) proposed Karmila Parakasi (Indonesia) be appointed a Consulting Member. Eveliina Varis (Finland) asked who Karmila was and Annisa explained that she was a Vice President of IFSA a couple of years ago. Geoff Roberts (Australia) said he thinks Karmila is already a Consulting Member.

Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa) proposed Pille Aasamets (Estonia) be appointed a Consulting Member and Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) seconded. Pille accepted her appointment.

After checking, Geoff announced that Karmila is not already a Consulting Member. Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) proposed Karmila Parakasi (Indonesia) be appointed a Consulting Member and Frauke Thorade (Germany) seconded. Sylvain explained that the IFSA President would write to Karmila to ask if she accepts this appointment.

Geoff announced that Joseph Svetlik (Czech Republic) is already a Consulting Member, so his previous appointment is nulled.

Joseph Schulte (Germany) proposed Adrian Valerius (Germany) be appointed a Consulting Member. Dan Kuzelicki (Slovenia) asked who Adrian was and Joseph explained that he was the one who developed the IFSA Forum and was active in the Web Commission. Dan seconded the nomination. Sylvain explained that the IFSA President would write to Adrian to ask if he accepts this appointment.

Sylvain thanked the assembly for nominating and accepting the new IFSA Consulting Members.

#### 4.6 Appointment of Honorary Members

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained who IFSA Honorary Members are and asked the assembly if they have any proposals.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) proposed Niels Koch (IUFRO, Denmark) be appointed an Honorary Member, but Sylvain announced that he already is one.

Sylvain proposed Don Lee (IUFRO President, South Korea) be appointed an Honorary Member because he made a big contribution to IFSA during 2007-2008 and Michael Rivoire (France) seconded. Geoff Roberts (Australia) and Pille Aasamets (Estonia) noted that they think proposals for Honorary Members must be made in writing, but they will check.

#### 4.7 Election of Direction

Sylvain Dupire (France) introduced and explained the voting process and the necessary majorities needed for a candidate to be elected into each position. He explained the procedure if the necessary majorities are not met. The election committee distributed polling papers to each voting party and then collected the returns for each election.

##### 4.7.1 President

The two candidates for President were Frauke Thorade (Germany) and Nadezhda Isakova (Bulgaria). After secret ballot vote Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that the resulting votes of 32 voting parties were;

Frauke: 23  
Nadezhda: 5  
Abstain: 4

Frauke Thorade (Germany) was elected as President. She accepted the outcome of this election and is appointed President of IFSA for 2008-2009.

Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that, after checking, Geoff Roberts (Australia) found that it is ok to propose an Honorary Member without a written nomination if the assembly agrees.

Darren Brown (Australia) proposed that it be allowed to accept Honorary Members without a written nomination and Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) seconded. There were no objections and so the appointment of Don Lee (Korea) as an Honorary Member is considered valid.

##### 4.7.2 Vice President

The two candidates for Vice President were Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia) and Dan Kuzelicki (Slovenia) abstain blank paper. After secret ballot vote Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that the resulting votes of 32 voting parties were;

Annisa: 18  
Dan: 10  
Abstain: 4

Annisa was elected as Vice President. She accepted the outcome of this election and is appointed Vice President of IFSA for 2008-2009.

#### **4.7.3 Treasurer**

The sole candidate for Treasurer was Florian Beig (Germany). Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed hold this election by using voting cards and Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) seconded. The resulting votes of 32 voting parties were;

Yes: 32  
No: 0  
Abstain: 0

Florian was elected as Treasurer. He accepted the outcome of this election and is appointed Treasurer of IFSA for 2008-2009.

Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that as Florian is now an official and the only member of his LC present at the GA, his LC loses their voting right.

The Election Committee was summoned to recount the voting cards.

31 voting parties were present.

#### **4.7.4 Executive Secretary**

Sylvain Dupire (France) explained that as no one nominated themselves for the position of Executive Secretary, Joseph Schulte (Germany) would remain in the position unofficially. There would be no voting for this position.

#### **4.8 Election of Liaison Officer**

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) read a letter to the assembly from Nicolas Dolidon (France) explaining that he would like to continue as an unofficial FAO LO. Nicolas would like to be the contact person and develop a solid partnership between the FAO and IFSA by the end of 2008-2009 year.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) proposed to accept Nicolas as the unofficial FAO LO and Kristina Buzaroska (Macedonia) seconded. There were no objections so Nicolas was duly appointed.

Jelena Nedeljkovic (Serbia) announced to the assembly that she had made contact with IUCN and they are interested in collaborating with IFSA. She would like to develop the partnership and therefore be the contact person between IFSA and IUCN.

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) proposed to accept Jelena as the contact person with IUCN and Kristina Buzaroska (Macedonia) seconded. There were no objections so Jelena was duly appointed.

### IUFRO

The two candidates for IUFRO LO were Michael Rivoire (France) and Olga Pentelkina (Russia). After secret ballot vote Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that the resulting votes of 31 voting parties were;

Michael: 22  
Olga Pentelkina (Russia): 9  
Abstain: 0

Michael was elected as IUFRO LO. He accepted the outcome of this election and is appointed FAO LO of IFSA for 2008-2009.

### EFI

The three candidates for EFI LO were Olga Pentelkina (Russia), Berit Nielsen (Denmark) and Heli Kymäläinen (Finland). After secret ballot vote Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that the resulting votes of 31 voting parties were;

Olga: 9  
Berit: 7  
Heli: 10  
Abstain: 5

Sylvain announced that a revote between Olga and Heli is required because the necessary majority of 50% of votes was not met for any one candidate. Berit was removed from the voting as she had the lowest number of votes. After the second secret ballot vote Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that the resulting votes of 31 voting parties were;

Olga: 12  
Heli: 16  
Abstain: 3

Heli was elected as FAO LO. She accepted the outcome of this election and is appointed EFI LO of IFSA for 2008-2009.

### CFA

The sole candidate for CFA LO was Michelle Freeman (Australia). Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) proposed to hold this election using voting cards and Ramon Perea (Spain) seconded. The resulting votes of 31 voting parties were;

Yes: 31  
No: 0

Abstain: 0

Michelle was elected as CFA LO. She accepted the outcome of this election and is appointed CFA LO of IFSA for 2008-2009.

#### 4.9 Election of Council

The four candidates for Council were Branislav Petrovic (Serbia), Sofie Blanchart (France), Mikko Nivala (Finland) and Darren Brown (Australia). After secret ballot vote Sylvain Dupire (France) announced that the resulting votes of 31 voting parties were;

Branislav: 8

Sofie: 25

Mikko: 24

Darren: 23

Abstain: 13

Sofie, Mikko and Darren were elected as Councilors. Sofie, Mikko and Darren all accepted the outcome of this election and were appointed Councilors of IFSA for 2008-2009.

#### 4.9 Appointment of Regional Representatives

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited the Regional Representatives (hereafter RRs) agreed upon during the regional meetings to present themselves to the assembly and be appointed to the position of Regional Representative.

##### *Latin America:*

Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) stood up to read a letter from Maria Isabel Perdomo (Paraguay) who was agreed on to be the RR for Latin America during the 2008 LARM. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) proposed the candidate be accepted, seconded by Ricardo Tolosa (Chile). No objections.

##### *North America:*

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) presented himself as a contact person for the North America region. Geoff Roberts (Australia) suggested he become the official RR and try to find a replacement during his term and Anthony accepted this suggestion. Kristi Parro (Estonia) proposed the candidate be accepted, seconded by Sofie Blanchart (France). No objections.

##### *Northern Europe:*

Karol Jurczyszyn (Poland) stepped forward as RR of Northern Europe. Pille Aasamets (Estonia) proposed the candidate be accepted, seconded by Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa). No objections.

##### *Southern Europe:*

Jelena Nedeljkovic (Serbia) and Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey) stepped forward as co-RRs for Southern Europe. Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed the candidates be accepted, seconded by Kristina Buzaroska (Macedonia). No objections.

*Oceania:*

Jarod Dashwood (Australia) stepped forward as RR for Oceania. Nicholas Firth (Australia) proposed the candidate be accepted, seconded by Kate Lancaster (Australia). No objections.

*Southern Africa:*

John Eggers (South Africa) stepped forward as RR for Southern Africa. Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa) proposed we accept the candidate, seconded by Bede Richardon (Australia). No objections

*Northern Africa:*

Tolulope Daramola (Nigeria) stepped forward as RR for Northern Africa. Eveliina Varis (Finland) proposed the candidate be accepted and Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa) seconded. No objections.

*Subregion Western Africa:*

Michelle Freeman (Australia) read two motivation letters from Julius Adewopo (Nigeria) and Justice Odoi (Ghana) wishing to become sub-RR for West Africa. She explained that one motivation letter had come from Yufenyuy Kevin Ngwayi (Cameroon), but as there is no IFSA LC in Cameroon, Yufenyuy Kevin Ngwayi is not eligible to become an official.

Tolulope Daramola (Nigeria) proposed to accept Julius Adewopo (Nigeria) as the RR for Western Africa) and Martin Dallen (Australia) seconded. No objections

*Subregion Eastern Africa:*

No candidates.

*Subregion Central Africa:*

No candidates.

*Asia:*

Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) and Lina Farida (Indonesia) stepped forward as co-RR's for Asia. Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) proposed the candidates be accepted and Olga Pentelkina (Russia) seconded. No objections.

#### 4.10 Appointment of New and Continuing Commissions

Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed the continuation of the **Exchange Program**, seconded by Eveliina Varis (Finland). No objections.

Eveliina Varis (Finland) proposed the continuation of the **Language Commission**, seconded by Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa). No objections.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) proposed the continuation of the **Web Commission**, seconded by Ramon Perea (Spain). No objections.

Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) proposed the continuation of the **International Processes Commission**, seconded by Ramon Perea (Spain). No objections.

Eva Erichson (Denmark) proposed the continuation of the **Publications & Promotions Commission**, seconded by Rémy Picavet (France). No objections.

Alizée Guilhem (France) proposed the continuation of the Village Concept Project Commission under a different name and Bede Richardson (Australia) suggested the Development Program. Eva Erichson (Denmark) proposed the Village Concept Project Commission continue under the new name **Development Program**, seconded by Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa). No objections.

Suvi Niemi (Finland) proposed the continuation of the **Fundraising Commission**, seconded by Lina Farida (Indonesia). No objections.

#### 4.11 Appointment of New and Continuing Commissioners

Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey) stood up and introduced herself as the Head of the **Exchange Program Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Sofie Blanchart (France) proposed to accept Yasemin as the Head of the Exchange Program Commission and Ricardo Tolosa (Chile) seconded.

The following people were appointed commissioners of the Exchange Program for the year 2008-2009:

Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey) *Head of Commission*

Pa'l Ga'tas (Hungary)

Ping Lian Wu (Taiwan)

Urska Bradesko (Slovenia)

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia)

Juliana Marquez (Colombia)

Tolulope Daramola (Nigeria)

Remy Picavet (France)

Pablo Garcia (Venezuela)

Erico Kutchartt (Chile)

Olga Pentelkina (Russia)

Tero Sivonen (Finland) stood up and introduced himself as the Head of the **Language Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Eveliina Varis (Finland) proposed to accept Tero as the Head of the Language Commission and Olga Pentelkina (Russia) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of the Language Commission for the year 2008-2009:

Tero Sivonen (Finland) *Head of Commission*

Martin Dallen (Australia)

Anthony Pigott (United Kingdom)

Jaime Collea Gomez (Spain)

Olga Pentelkina (Russia)

Levent Burggraef (Germany)

Alizée Guilhem (France)

Michael Rivoire (France)

Remy Picavet (France)

Juliana Marquez Bejarano (Colombia)

Yu-Tang Tsai (Taiwan)

Kate Lancaster (Australia) read a motivation letter from Henk Eshuis (Netherlands) to become Head of the **Web Commission**. Eveliina Varis (Finland) proposed to accept Henk as the Head of the Web Commission and Kate Lancaster (Australia) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of the Web Commission for the year 2008-2009:

Henk Eshuis (Netherlands) *Head of Commission*  
Berit Nielsen (Denmark)  
Martin Dallen (Australia)  
Michael Rivoire (France)  
Pa'l Ga'tas (Hungary)  
Faris Salman (Indonesia)  
Dae Hyung Wie (Korea)

Jan Hradil (Czech Republic) stood up and introduced himself as the Head of the **International Processes Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Olga Pentelkina (Russia) proposed to accept Jan as the Head of the International Processes Commission and Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of the IPC for the year 2008-2009:

Jan Hradil (Czech Republic) *Head of Commission*

Kristina Buzaroska (Macedonia) stood up and introduced herself as the Head of the **CBD sub-Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Olga Pentelkina (Russia) proposed to accept Kristina as the Head of the CBD sub-Commission and Eveliina Varis (Finland) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of the CBD sub-Commission for the year 2008-2009:

Kristina Buzaroska (Macedonia) *Head of Commission*  
Sasa Danon (Croatia)  
Radko Pesnacki (Macedonia)  
Urska Bradesko (Slovenia)  
Ramon Perea (Spain)

Ramon Perea (Spain) stood up on behalf of Fotis Buras (Greece) to introduce him as the Head of the **UNFCCC sub-Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey) proposed to accept Fotis as the Head of the UNFCCC sub-Commission and Eveliina Varis (Finland) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of the UNFCCC sub-Commission for the year 2008-2009:

Fotis Buras (Greece) *Head of Commission*  
Ricardo Tolosa (Chile)  
Martina Tekelova (Czech Republic)  
Baram Hwang (Korea)  
Valentin Paillette (France)  
Igor Kolar (Croatia)  
Jelena Nedeljkovic (Serbia)  
Viko Zach (Indonesia)

Eveliina Varis (Finland) stood up and introduced herself as the Head of the **MCPFE sub-Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Olga Pentelkina (Russia)

proposed to accept Eveliina as the Head of the MCPFE sub-Commission and Ramon Perea (Spain) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of the MCPFE sub-Commission for the year 2008-2009:

Eveliina Varis (Finland) *Head of Commission*

Jelena Nedeljkovic (Serbia)

Olga Pentelkina (Russia)

Ramon Perea (Spain) stood up on behalf of Natalia Balafa (Greece) to introduce her as the Head of the **UNFF sub-Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Ramon Perea (Spain) proposed to accept Fotis as the Head of the UNFF sub-Commission and Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of the UNFF sub-Commission for the year 2008-2009:

Head: Natalia Balafa (Greece) *Head of Commission*

Nicholas Firth (Australia)

Eveliina Varis (Finland)

Olga Pentelkina (Russia)

Rémy Picavet (France) stood up and introduced himself as the Head of the **Publications and Promotions Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Alizée Guilhem (France) proposed to accept Rémy as the Head of the International Processes Commission and Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of P&P Commission for the year 2008-2009:

Rémy Picavet (France) *Head of Commission*

Pille Aasamets (Estonia)

Nicolas Wittman (Germany)

Jarod Dashwood (Australia)

Michael Rivoire (France)

Kristi Parro (Estonia)

Sylvain Dupire (France)

Alizée Guilhem (France) and Bede Richardson (Australia) stood up and introduced themselves as the co-Heads of the **Development Program**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Martin Dallen (Australia) proposed to accept Alizée and Bede as the co-Heads of the Development Program and Nicholas Firth (Australia) seconded.

The following were appointed commissioners of Development Program for the year 2008-2009:

Alizée Guilhem (France) *Head of Commission*

Bede Richardson (Australia) *Head of Commission*

Rok Damijan (Slovenia)

Ika Satyasari (Indonesia)

Afwan Afwandi (Indonesia)

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) stood up and introduced himself as the Head of the **Fundraising Commission**, as decided during the Commission workshops. Nicholas Firth (Australia) proposed to accept Anthony as the Head of the Fundraising Commission and Tero Sivonen (Finland) seconded.

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

The following were appointed commissioners of the Fundraising Commission for the year 2008-2009:

Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom) *Head of Commission*

John Eggers (South Africa)

Kristi Parro (Estonia)

Lina Farida (Indonesia)

Heli Kymäläinen (Finland)

Dan Kuzelicki (Slovenia)

### 4.12 Closure of 4<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session

Sylvain Dupire (France) said he is thankful for the year that was and wishes all the new officials a great year ahead. He then thanked the assembly for their contributions and attention during the 4<sup>th</sup> GA.

Sylvain Dupire (France) closed the 4<sup>th</sup> plenary session at 18.35pm.

## **The 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session**

### **5. Agenda of the 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session**

- 5.1. Opening of 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session
- 5.2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
- 5.3. Presentations and approval of outcomes of the Working Group Discussions
- 5.4. Miscellaneous
- 5.5. Statement by incoming Regional Representatives
  - 5.5.1. Asia
  - 5.5.2. Latin America
  - 5.5.3. Northern Africa
  - 5.5.4. North America
  - 5.5.5. Northern Europe
  - 5.5.6. Oceania
  - 5.5.7. Southern Africa
  - 5.5.8. Southern Europe
- 5.6. Statement by incoming Commissioners
  - 5.6.1. Exchange Programme (EP)
  - 5.6.2. Fundraising
  - 5.6.3. Publications & Promotions
  - 5.6.4. Language
  - 5.6.5. International Processes Commission
  - 5.6.6. Village Concept Project (VCP)
  - 5.6.7. Web
  - 5.6.8. Any new Commissions
- 5.7. Statement by incoming Liaison Officers
- 5.8. Statement by incoming Council
- 5.9. Statement by outgoing Direction
- 5.10. Statement by incoming Direction
- 5.11. Closing of the 18th General Assembly

### **Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session**

**CHAIR:** Sylvain Dupire

**VICE CHAIR:** Kristi Parro

**MINUTES:** Michelle Freeman

**VENUE:** University of Forestry, Sofia

**TIME:** *Opened* 16.50pm 16<sup>th</sup> August 2008  
*Closed* 18.29pm 16<sup>th</sup> August 2008

**ELECTION COMMITTEE:** Jarod Dashwood (Australia), John Eggers (South Africa), Valentin Paillette (France)

#### **5.1 Opening of the 5<sup>th</sup> plenary session**

Sylvain Dupire (France) opened the 5<sup>th</sup> plenary session at 16.50pm.

Sylvain Dupire (France) asked the assembly to provide constructive feedback on the GAs. Each LC, observer and alumni should complete an evaluation form to hand back to Sylvain at the end of this GA.

## 5.2 Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

30 voting parties were present.

Sylvain Dupire (France) presented the agenda for the day.

## 5.3 Presentation and approval of outcomes of the Working Group Discussions

Geoff Roberts (Australia) Roberts presented the outcomes of the Fundraising Working Group Discussion. The items discussed and outcomes of this Working Group Discussion are included in the Annexe of these minutes.

Olga Pentelkina (Russia) proposed to accept the outcomes of the Fundraising Working Group Discussion, seconded by Tero Sivonen (Finland).

Sofie Blanchart (France) and Rémy Picavet (France) presented the outcomes of the Exchange Program and Publications and Promotions Working Group Discussion. The items discussed and outcomes of this Working Group Discussion are included in the Annexe of these minutes.

Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa) proposed to accept the outcomes of the Exchange Program and Publications and Promotions Working Group Discussion, seconded by Tero Sivonen (Finland).

Sylvain Dupire (France) reminded all new officials that they must present their goals during this GA and requested that they write them down on paper so they can be copied into the minutes.

Joseph Schulte (Germany) presented the outcomes of the How to Organise Activities Working Group Discussion. The items discussed and outcomes of this Working Group Discussion are included in the Annexe of these minutes.

Frauke Thorade (Germany) asked if the outcomes of this Working Group Discussion could lead to the development of a 'Guidelines for Organising Meetings' document. Sylvain Dupire (France) answered that those involved in the Working Group Discussion should support the creation of this document.

Bernhardt Herbst (South Africa) proposed to accept the outcomes of the How to Organise Activities Working Group Discussion, seconded by Rémy Picavet (France).

Sylvain Dupire (France) gave a summary of the New LC and Officials Working Group Discussions and explained that they were informative sessions that aimed to answer the questions of new members in IFSA or those who were interested in taking on official positions. Martin Dallen (Australia) expanded on the New LC Working Group Discussion. Rémy Picavet (France) proposed to accept the outcomes of the New LC and Officials Working Group Discussions, seconded by Heli Kymäläinen (Finland).

At the end of each Working Group Discussion there was allocated time to discuss ideas on how to improve IFSA and the IFSS. Geoff Roberts (Australia) presented the ideas

raised by the participants in the Fundraising Working Group Discussion. The outcomes of this discussion are included in the Annexe of these minutes.

Rémy Picavet (France) asked if the outcomes of the Working Group Discussions would be recorded and made accessible to all. Sylvain Dupire (France) replied that the outcomes will be available for viewing in the GA minutes.

Rémy then asked if there would be opportunities to discuss further the organisation of the IFSS and Sylvain invited this discussion now. Rémy said that he would suggest that all the LCs are introduced to the assembly at the first GA during the handing out of voting cards. This would allow everyone to know which LCs are present and create a feeling of solidarity.

Sylvain Dupire (France) thanked the participants for their contribution to the Working Group Discussions.

#### 5.4 Miscellaneous

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited comments and points for discussion from the assembly.

Geoff Roberts (Australia) asked to raise two points;

The first was that he believes it would be beneficial to IFSA to have an official Alumni Officer, who is someone that is not currently an IFSA Alumni. Currently Moriz Vorher (Germany) and Mathias Baldus (Germany) are heading the Alumni, but there is a need for a solid connection back to current IFSA people. Geoff suggested having this as an unofficial position for the year 2008-2009 and making the Alumni Officer an official position next year. Geoff explained that he does not want to do this job as he is an Alumni and he would like to see a current IFSA member in this role.

The second point Geoff raised was that he thinks it could be a good idea for IFSA to start releasing media statements about the concerns of young people under the P&P Commission. The aim of these would be to raise awareness of IFSA in the forestry and environmental media arena and show that youth have a credible voice.

Sylvain Dupire (France) invited anyone interested to step forward and take on the unofficial position of Alumni Officer. Their job would be to update alumni contact details and maintain the link between old and new IFSA members.

Branislav Petrovic (Serbia) said he would like to work in this position.

Sofie Blanchart (France) asked if it would be possible to create a guideline for meetings that would be available on the website. This would be a specific tool for explaining, for example, how to get LCs involved, presentations about IFSA that should be made at the beginning of meetings, and points in IFSA to stress during the meetings, such as commissions. The document should also be sent to all LCs about to organise an event. Sofie expressed her surprise that people attending IFSA meetings still don't know about the EP Commission and have not seen the IFSA news. Even on gatherings like hiking, these IFSA presentations should be made to increase awareness. Sylvain answered that it would be up to the new officials to develop this initiative.

Kristi Parro (Estonia) requested that people stop leaving the room and stop downloading photos during the GA.

Back on Sofie's point, Rémy Picavet (France) informed the assembly that the P&P Commission were thinking of developing some tutorials, however information would be needed to be contributed by other IFSA members, which the P&P Commission could then advertise. IFSA is primarily about its LCs, so the P&P Commissioners were thinking of ways to activate LCs through competitions and submissions of reports of LC activities. Frauke Thorade (Germany) added that there could be a 'Getting to Know IFSA' package for people who do not know much about IFSA. This would contain an overview of officials, the IFSA news and other information, and be developed by the P&P Commission.

Sylvain Dupire (France) thanked the assembly for their discussion and ideas. He added that he would like to help develop the guidelines suggested by Sofie, Remy and Frauke.

## 5.7 Statements by incoming Regional Representatives

Kristi Parro (Estonia) asked all new officials to sign their IFSA contract and then give their contact details to Pille Aasamets (Estonia) after presenting their report.

### 5.7.1 Asia

The following goals were stated by Ika Satyasari (Indonesia) and Lina Farida (Indonesia), the incoming RRs for Asia:

- To continue the work of the former Asia RRs in keeping contact with those who want to establish new LCs and in promoting IFSA in the region
- To keep abreast of the activities of LCs in Asia every month and collecting reports from these
- To build a network with the Asian Foresters Union and other NGOs, and
- To keeping in touch with the IFSA Direction and Council.

### 5.7.2 Latin America

The Latin America RR, Maria Isabel Perdomo (Paraguay) was absent from the GA and so her goals will be collected after the IFSS and added to the Annexe of the minutes.

### 5.7.3 Northern Africa

The Northern Africa RR, Tolulope Daramola (Nigeria) was absent from the GA and so his goals will be collected after the IFSS and added to the Annexe of the minutes.

### 5.7.4 North America

The following goals were stated by Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom), the incoming RR for North America:

- To find a replacement RR in North America
- To increase interest and membership in IFSA of North America via email and skype contact
- To maintain good contact with existing LCs
- To manage the website for North America, and

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

- To try to visit North America when appropriate

### 5.7.6 Oceania

The following goals were stated by Jarod Dashwood (Australia), the incoming RR for Oceania:

- To continue strong relations with the Australian professional foresters body, the Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA)
- To continue to encourage Christchurch, Lismore, University of Tasmania and University of Queensland forestry student bodies to join IFSA
- To make contact with student bodies in the Pacific regarding IFSA, and
- To have better utilisation of the IFSA webpage in order to show other regions the happenings in Oceania LCs

### 5.7.5 Northern Europe

The following goals were stated by Karol Jurczyszyn (Poland), the incoming RR for Northern Europe:

- To activate existing LCs and encourage them to use the IFSA forum as well as to write articles for IFSA News
- To try to find new universities to become LCs of IFSA, particularly in Russia and Poland
- To provide good information to LCs in the region about events, meetings etc.
- To update the Northern Europe page of the IFSA website, and
- To attend IFSA events in the region.

### 5.7.7 Southern Africa

The following goals were stated by John Eggers (South Africa), the incoming RR for Southern Africa:

- To find and contact possible new LCs
- To improve communication with existing LCs
- To create a skype account, and
- To promote IFSA within Southern Africa

### 5.7.8 Southern Europe

The following goals were stated by Jelena Nedeljkovic (Serbia) and Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey), the incoming RRs for Southern Europe:

- To promote IFSA in the region
- To find new LCs, for example in Spain, and reactivate the old LCs that have become inactive, such as Portugal and Croatia
- To update the Southern Europe section on the IFSA website
- To inform LCs about IFSA events and encourage and help them to organise new events, and
- To get students in the region familiar with the Erasmus-Mundus program

## 5.8 Statements by incoming commissioners

### 5.8.1 Exchange Programme

The following goals were stated by Yasemin Öztürk (Turkey), the incoming Head of the Exchange Program Commission:

- Include the promotion of university exchange and advertisement of PhD position to the role EP commission
- Find more international professional partners for long term partnerships
- Find a new arrangement about volunteer fees for students participating in an internship
- Involve LC's in the creation of database compiling local contact persons of university, professional for possible exchanges.
- Improve the advertisement of the EP

### 5.8.2 Fundraising.

The following goals were stated by Anthony Piggot (United Kingdom), the incoming Head of the Fundraising Commission:

- To raise €10,000 in 6 months
- To develop a contact list of potential sponsors and have it approved by the IFSA7
- To improve the sponsorship package, and
- To develop a skype account

### 5.8.3 Publications & Promotions.

The following goals were stated by Rémy Picavet (France), the incoming Head of the Publications and Promotions Commission:

- IFSA News
  - To produce a PDF version every 2 months
  - To produce a hard copy every 4 months
  - To review its publishing to save money but improve on quality
  - To make it an efficient tool for communication inside IFSA and promotion externally to IFSA to partners and sponsors
- To produce leaflets, flyers, posters, calendars etc. in different languages
- To create tutorials by compiling information from people with useful knowledge
- To help IFSA members to utilise IFSA presentations when they have the opportunity and motivate them to do so
- To think of ways of educating the public with IFSA knowledge
- To keep in touch with the Fundraising, Web and other commissions through mailing lists and contact with Heads of Commission, and
- To keep up to date with LC activities and ways of promoting IFSA

### 5.8.4 Language.

The following goals were stated by Tero Sivonen (Finland), the incoming Head of the Language Commission:

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- To build an efficient network for the translation work
- To provide correct translations and proof-reading in time
- To focus on English, French, Spanish and German, while also welcoming all enthusiastic people with skills in other languages
- To be a motivator, keeping the commissioners and other translators motivated for the whole year
- To organise the Language Commission so that it won't exhaust commissioners by encouraging more commissioners so there is less work per individual, and
- To encourage friendship within the commission and in IFSA

### 5.8.5 International Processes Commission

The following goals were stated by Jan Hradil (Czech Republic), the incoming Head of the International Processes Commission:

- To continue the work started by Susan Edda Seehusen (Brazil)
- To ensure sub-heads are informed about events and news in international forest policy processes
- To try and solve the problems that arose since IFSS 2007;
  - To motivate commissioners and all IFSA members to be interested in forestry political processes and inform all IFSA members about events and news
  - To ensure there is a selection process in which only really interested people would participate in meetings and events to eliminate the problem of people confirming their participation but not showing up
  - To get reports and send information to IFSA in time
- To try and seal a cooperation between IFSA and the Forestry Commission for Latin America and Caribbean of FAO (FCLAC of FAO)
  - Try to send a delegate from a Latin American LC to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> FCLAC of FAO meeting in Latin America, and
  - If good cooperation is established, propose establishing a new sub-commission for this political process during IFSS 2009.
- CBD goal:
  - To ensure better communication between the CBD secretariat and the sub-commission
- MCPFE goal:
  - To remedy the lack of interest from students
  - To continue cooperation with the Forest Policy Education Network
- UNFCCC & UNFF : no information from sub-heads, will come later.

The following goals were stated by Kristina Buzaroska (Macedonia), the incoming Head of the CBD Commission:

- To continue the work of Ramon Perea (Spain) and improve on this
- To prepare a calendar with the most important CBD events of the next year
- To inform people and spread the idea of the CBD
- To try to organise some events, and
- To stay in contact and inform IFSA members about the meetings of Biological Diversity and to find delegates to attend those meetings, events etc.

The goals of the UNFCCC and UNFF sub-Commissions will be collected later and included in the annexe of these minutes.

#### 5.8.6 Development Program.

The following goals were stated by Alizée Guilhem (France) and Bede Richardson (Australia), the incoming Heads of the Development Program:

- To develop a network between the Development Program and LCs to better access information and IFSA member recruitment
- To develop long-term relationships and commitments between the Development Program and Development Organisations, and
- To improve the knowledge, skills and awareness of IFSA members and meet the needs of people at the same time

#### 5.8.7. Web

Berit Nielsen (Denmark) requested to present the Web Commission goals developed by the commissioners present at the IFSS in the absence of Henk Eshuis (Netherlands), the Head of Commission. These goals were:

- To update and develop the IFSA webpage and the IFSA forum
- To improve the structure and communication within the commission
- To promote the IFSA forum, and
- To have a progressive attitude within the commission with active external communication to the rest of IFSA.

Ga'tas Pa'l (Hungary) implores the new Direction and Council to use the IFSA forum, making the point that if they don't use it, then the forum would have no meaning. Sylvain Dupire (France) added that all people should go onto forum not just officials and the Direction. He reminded the assembly of the address of the forum and said no one should hesitate to join.

The goals stated by Berit will be sent to Henk for approval as soon as possible.

### 5.9 Statements by incoming liaison officers

#### 5.9.1 CFA Liaison Officer

The following goals were stated by Michelle Freeman (Australia), the incoming CFA Liaison Officer:

- To increase awareness of the CFA and their activities in IFSA, especially by encouraging IFSA students to apply for the Queens Award, Young Scientist award and Young Forester Award offered by the CFA
- To advertise job possibilities for recent graduates through the CFA and help to encourage more graduates to involve themselves in the CFA
- To arrange a CFA representative to be present at IFSS 2009
- To make the CFA newsletter available to all IFSA members and encourage students to write articles for the CFA newsletter, and
- To participate as an observer in the CFA Governing Council and AGM.

### 5.9.2 EFI LO

The following goals were stated by Heli Kymäläinen (Finland), the incoming EFI Liaison Officer:

- To participate in the EFI conference in Italy
- To visit the EFI headquarters in Joensuu as soon as possible and during the year
- To make personal contacts with EFI people
- To seek opportunities for internships
- To spread information about the IFSA-EFI cooperation to forestry students, for example giving presentations at events like NERM and NEIS, and
- To use email as an important tool to implement these goals.

### 5.9.3 IUFRO Liaison Officer

The following goals were stated by Michael Rivoire (France), the incoming IUFRO Liaison Officer:

- To help students to attend IUFRO events (corresponding Strategy goal 2.1)
- To promote IUFRO within IFSA (events, structure) (corresponding Strategy goal 2.2)
- To inform IUFRO about IFSA activity (corresponding Strategy goal 1.1), and
- To strengthen IFSA-IUFRO cooperation for IFSS 2010 (corresponding strategy goals 1.1 and 3.1)

### 5.10 Statement by incoming Council

The following goals were stated by Darren Brown (Australia), on behalf of the incoming Council:

- To update the LC contact information and maintain contact with LCs through RRs
- To maintain contact with and assist wherever possible the Direction, Commissioners and RRs
- To contribute to obtaining the EU grant
- To communicate effectively with and assist new membership applicants during the application process, and
- To work well as a team maintaining frequent contact with emails and monthly skype meetings.

The regional responsibilities would be divided amongst the Councilors as follows:

Sofie Blanchart (France)

- Southern Europe
- Latin America
- Northern Africa

Mikko Nivala (Finland)

- Northern Europe
- North America

Darren Brown (Australia)

- Oceania
- Asia
- Southern Africa

The Commission responsibilities would be divided among the Councilors as follows:

- Sofie Blanchart (France)
  - Exchange Program
  - Fundraising
- Mikko Nivala (Finland)
  - Language
  - Web
- Darren Brown (Australia)
  - Publications and Promotions
  - Development Program

#### 5.12 Statement by incoming Direction

The following goals were stated by Frauke Thorade (Germany), the incoming President:

- 1) To enlarge IFSA
- 2) To improve IFSA
- 3) To focus on IFSA's mission, vision and strategy

In detail:

- 1) To spread knowledge about IFSA among forestry students, other students and professional partners
- 2) To maintain and improve efficiency through communication and motivation
- 3) To ensure IFSA is what it wanted to be

How:

- 1) To attend conferences, meetings and events
- 2) To be available, help the Publications and Promotions and Web Commissions and to motivate and encourage people to get things done
- 3) To stay close to and check the fulfilling of the mission and vision of IFSA, listen to feedback and work as a team

The following goals were stated by Choiriatun Nur Annisa (Indonesia), the incoming Vice President:

- To provide continuous communication and information in IFSA
- To motivate the IFSA officials and help them whenever they need
- To have good communication with the IFSA 7
- To spread IFSA information and knowledge, and
- To keep updating the next IFSS progress with the IFSA 7

The following goals were stated by Florian Beig (Germany), the incoming Treasurer:

- To fulfill the Treasurers work as it is mentioned in the IFSA Statutes
- To change the account from the German Postbank into another account with an International bank where the fees are not as expensive and that allows everyone to easily handle the Treasurers work, and
- To ensure that nobody gets money unless they have asked the Treasurer beforehand

The following statement was made by Joseph Schulte (Germany), the incoming Executive Secretary:

After two years in the position he will continue with the same goals as he had in previous years, working on them in an unofficial capacity. Joseph will deal with all the things that are needed for IFSA legally and with regards to the other institutions institutions. He will

## ***International Forestry Students' Association***

also work to get the tax free status for IFSA, continue sending IFSA news and emailing. As he will only be available for half a year Josephs main aim is to find someone else to take on the position, someone who is very interested and motivated. In the mean time Jseph will do the job as he is used to and hopes there are no hard feelings that he has not taken the position on officially.

Sylvain Dupire (France) asked the assembly to applause the new Direction and said it is time for the old board to say goodbye. Kristi Parro (Estonia) reminded all officials and commissioners to give their contact details to Pille Aasamets (Estonia). Geoff Roberts (Australia) will be available to take photos of all officials, and each LC can keep their voting cards as a souvenir

### 5.13 Closure of the 18th General Assembly

Sylvain Dupire (France) thanked the assembly for their contribution to the GA and IFSA. He reminded everyone that the Tombola and Auction would be tonight.

Sylvain Dupire (France) closed the 5<sup>th</sup> plenary session at 18.29pm.

These minutes are signed by:

Michelle Freeman  
*Keeper of the Minutes*

Sylvain Dupire  
*Chairperson of the 19<sup>th</sup> G.A.*