

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION
Union Astronomique Internationale

Thirty-second meeting of the Executive Committee
Frascati (Rome)

Sunday 21 to Friday 26 September 1969

P R O C E E D I N G S

The thirty-second meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Astronomical Union took place in Frascati (Rome), Italy, in the rooms of the Laboratorio di Astrofisica. Sessions were held from Sunday 21 to Friday 26 September 1969 with the exception of Wednesday 24 September. The meetings started at 9.00 a.m. and ended, as a rule, at 5.30 p.m., with lunch breaks from 1 to 2 p.m.

Present were:

O. Heckmann, President
M.K. Vainu Bappu, Vice-President
W.N. Christiansen, Vice-President
L. Cratton, Vice-President
J. Sahade, Vice-President
M. Schwarzschild, Vice-President
A.B. Severny, Vice-President

P. Swings, former President
J.-C. Pecker, former General Secretary

L. Perek, General Secretary
C. de Jager, Assistant General Secretary

A. Jappel, Executive Secretary
J. Danková, Recorder

Introductory note: The report has been prepared in the order of the items overleaf in the summary list of the agenda. The documents related to the agenda and distributed before the meetings have not been included in the present report: they will be kept in the archives of the Union for further reference.

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- II. Administrative Matters
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 - b) Archives of the Union - report by the General Secretary
 - c) Special Nominating Committee - progress report by the President
 2. Statutes and By-laws of the Union
 - a) Meeting of the Statutes Committee in Frankfurt - report by the General Secretary
 - b) Discussion of the draft Statutes and By-laws, as prepared by that Committee
 - c) Discussion of the Directives, as prepared by the General Secretary
 - d) Discussion of steps to be taken before submission of the draft Statutes and By-laws to the General Assembly
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 - b) Recognition of the Irish National Committee of Astronomy
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 - d) Commission 5 - Bibliography 1881-1898
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 - f) Creation, abolition and merger of Commissions
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- a) Report of the General Secretary on the financial situation of the IAU
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 - b) The history of the IAU - report by the General Secretary
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- b) ICSU
- c) FAGS (Astronomical and Geophysical Services)
- d) GOSPAR (Committee on Space Research)
- e) IUCSTP (Inter-Union Commission of Solar-Terrestrial Physics)
- f) IAB (ICSU Abstracting Board)
- g) IAP (International Association of Planetology)
- h) EPS (European Physical Society)
- i) EAS (European Astronomical Society)
- j) IUAA (International Union of Amateur Astronomers)
- k) URSI - report on IAU representation at General Assembly
- l) IAP (International Astronautical Federation)
- m) IUGG (Geophysics and Geodesy)
- n) IUCAP (Frequency Allocation)
- o) CODATA (Data on Science and Technology)

IV. Other Business

- 13. New IAU label, as designed by S. Gaposhkin
- 14. Varia
- 15. Next Meeting of the Executive Committee

I. Opening by the President, O. Heckmann

The President opened the meeting with a word of thanks to the Italian hosts, especially to those who organized the meeting. He welcomed the members of the Executive Committee as well as the advisers, and expressed his satisfaction over the full attendance. Then he passed to the agenda.

II. Administrative Matters

1. Internal Matters of Administrative Nature

a) Report of the General Secretary on the Administrative Office

The minutes of the thirty-first meeting of the Executive Committee were approved. At the Secretariat, the volume of work increases with the approaching General Assembly. Mrs Hermanová left the office in October 1968, so that working overtime has become a regular feature. In order to unburden Mrs. Danková a typist will be added to the staff of the Administrative Office, as from 1 October 1969. This will still be within the budget of the Secretariat. The Executive Committee approved this report.

b) Report of the General Secretary on the archives of the Union:

As suggested by the previous meeting of the Executive Committee, the General Secretary inquired at A.G. Velghe of the Uccle Observatory about the possibility of transferring the archives of the Union to this Observatory. The response was negative. It, therefore, was agreed to investigate the possibility of keeping the IAU files at the Ondřejov Observatory or at the Astrophysical Institute in Cointe-Sclessin. The General Secretary was authorized to take the necessary steps. J.-C. Pecker mentioned that the archives may also be stored in Paris, and that the symposium volumes still at the Nice Observatory should be transferred to D. Reidel for sale.

c) Report by the President on the progress made in the Special Nominating Committee:

The votes in favour of the next Assistant General Secretary are now clear. The proposed Assistant General Secretary had been contacted, and he consented to serve in this capacity if elected by the General Assembly. It was agreed that one new Vice-President should be of U.S., the other of Soviet nationality. The third

Vice-Presidency is reserved for a British astronomer.

The Vice-President of Soviet nationality proposed by the majority of votes is a member of the Special Nominating Committee which, in the view of the Executive Committee, is not incompatible with the rules in force.

The President took upon himself to write a personal letter to the future Assistant General Secretary before the end of 1969.

2. Statutes and By-laws of the Union

- a) Report by the General Secretary on the Meeting of the Statutes Committee in Frankfurt: The Statutes Committee consisting of O. Heckmann, M. Schwarzschild, L. Perek, J.-C. Pecker, D. Sadler and A. Jappel met in Frankfurt in December 1968 and prepared a draft of the new Statutes and By-laws of the Union for submission to the Executive Committee. This draft was then amply discussed between D. Sadler, M. Schwarzschild, J.-C. Pecker and the General Secretary. The final redaction was prepared by D. Sadler and A. Jappel in Herstmonceux Castle.
- b) The final draft, as submitted to the Executive Committee, was discussed point by point. The result of this discussion has been embodied into the draft of the Statutes and By-laws of the Union to be submitted to the General Assembly. It forms a separate but integral part to the present report.
- c) Discussion of the Directives: It was agreed to call the rules prepared by the Executive Committee in implementation of the Statutes and By-laws "Working Rules". These working rules were discussed point by point, and a final draft was prepared, as appended to the present report.
- d) Steps to be taken before submission of the draft Statutes and By-laws to the General Assembly: It was agreed that the Secretariat should circulate the new draft Statutes and By-laws among the members of the Executive Committee for comments, to have them translated into French by Mlle Ringiard of the Nice Observatory, and then to distribute them to the Adhering Organizations. One copy should be sent to ICSU.

J.-C. Pecker read to the meeting a personal statement regarding the draft Statutes. This statement is enclosed to the present report.

3. Adhering Countries

- a) Admission of Iran to the Union: The General Secretary read to the Executive Committee the application of Iran for admittance to the IAU, with particular emphasis on the criteria relevant for membership, such as standard of astronomy, representativity, and category of adherence. The Executive Committee agreed unanimously to admit Iran to the International Astronomical Union in category 1, Iran will adhere to the Union through the Tehran University, which will be represented by A. Therian.
- b) Recognition of the Irish National Committee of Astronomy: The General Secretary informed the meeting of the formation of a new Irish National Committee of Astronomy and announced some personal changes in the composition of the National Committees of Astronomy of the U.S.A., Japan and India. This report was approved.
The President informed the meeting of an invitation he received from Uruguay to visit Montevideo and there to popularize the Union. It was agreed that the President should ask for further information in more detail, such as names of astronomers active in Uruguay, astronomical facilities and teaching of astronomy.

4. IAU Commissions

- a) Commission 17 - Lunar Nomenclature: The General Secretary reported that the Committee on Lunar Nomenclature had met several times and that there were chances of a satisfactory agreement regarding the new Lunar Nomenclature. At the time of the meeting of the Executive Committee, the Committee was continuing its discussions in Paris.
- b) Commission 38 - UNESCO/ICSU grant: A joint UNESCO/ICSU grant of additional \$ 5,000 was awarded to Commission No. 38 Exchange of Astronomers. An agreement was reached between the President of this Commission, M.J. Minnaert, and the General Secretary to the effect that out of these \$ 5,000, three thousand dollars should be reserved for young astronomers from developing countries desirous to participate in the XIVth General Assembly. The Executive Committee approved this agreement.
- c) Commission 46 - Summer Schools: The General Secretary informed the meeting that the 1969 UNESCO/IAU School of Young Astronomers would be held in Hyderabad, India. The list of students and that of teachers had already been agreed upon. The Executive Committee expressed its congratulations to

J. Kleczek, the Secretary of the School, for organizing the courses in a developing country.

The Summer School 1970 will be held in Argentina (Cordoba) for students from Latin American countries.

W. N. Christiansen suggested that one of the future Summer Schools should be devoted to radio astronomy. It was agreed that Christiansen should prepare a proposal to this effect in writing.

d) Commission 5 - Bibliography 1881-1898: Upon the proposal of J.B. Sykes, President of the Commission, the Executive Committee agreed to the preparation of microfilms and to the temporary transfer of the slips from Brussels to England.

e) Commission 4 - Ephemerides: The Executive Committee discussed the proposal of the President of the Commission, G.A. Wilkins, for the creation of an Information Bureau on Astronomical Ephemerides. The idea was approved in principle, it was felt, however, that a final decision by the Executive Committee requires more information on the complete organization. There were no objections against granting this Bureau, if created, a contribution of \$ 200 per year.

Another proposal, initiated by the Director of the Bureau International des Poids and Mesures, and endorsed by Wilkins, calls for the retention of the astronomical unit and the parsec in the International System of Units (SI). It was agreed that the General Secretary should ask Wilkins to formulate the draft resolution.

f) Creation, abolition and merger of Commissions

After a lengthy discussion, introduced by J.-C. Pecker, it was resolved to work out a proposal to the General Assembly for the creation of two new Commissions:

No. 47 on Cosmology, and No. 48 on High Energy Astrophysics. The scope of these Commissions should include X-ray and γ -ray astronomy, Neutrino astronomy, Cosmic-ray astronomy, Relativity astrophysics, Gravitational waves, Micro-wave background, and the like. The names of the following Members were brought forward as prospective Presidents: for Commission No. 47 Zeldowich or Peebles; for Commission No. 48 Salpeter, Ginzburg or Thorne. The General Secretary was authorized to contact these prospective Presidents.

Moreover it was resolved to merge, or to try again to merge, Commissions Nos. 19 (The Rotation of the Earth) and 31 (Time), and Commissions Nos. 23 (Carte du Ciel) and 24 (Stellar Parallaxes and Proper Motions). The General Secretary will write the necessary letters.

5. General Assemblies

a) Report of the General Secretary on the state of

preparation of the XIVth General Assembly: In this report the General Secretary touched on the main problems connected with the organization of the XIVth General Assembly, such as the financial situation of the Local Organizing Committee, the attendance, the location of the meeting rooms, simultaneous and other translation, selling of IAU Publications, distribution of Transactions XIV A, distribution of formal agenda, representation, and invitations.

The finances of the Local Organizing Committee depend (to 90% or more) on the Registration Fee which has been set at more than \$ 25. The amount of the registration fee may, naturally, affect the attendance, which should be borne in mind.

An error of 100 in the estimate of the attendance may affect the budget of the Local Organizing Committee by \$ 2.000, so that this estimate should be as accurate as possible. In this connection W. Schwarzschild estimated, rather reluctantly, that the financial restrictions imposed by the US authorities may lower the attendance of members from the U.S.A. by about 10 per cent.

The Local Organizing Committee will not be able to provide for simultaneous translation. Thus the question arises whether only English should be used at the Inaugural Ceremony and the General Assemblies, or whether they should be bilingual.

Transactions XIV A will be distributed by the Local Organizing Committee free to IAU Members. To others, they will be sold, together with other IAU publications, by the University Bookshop. Reidel expressed his agreement with this arrangement.

The formal agenda, the report of the Executive Committee, and the agenda for Commission meetings will be printed separately and distributed in the same manner.

The Executive Committee then decided on the countries, not adhering to the Union, and other international organizations to be invited to participate in XIVth General Assembly, as follows:

Countries: Algeria, Ceylon, Ecuador, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Thailand and Uruguay

Organizations: i) UNESCO, ICSU

ii) International Unions:

IUGG (Geophysics and Geodesy)
URSI (Radio Science)
IUGS (Geology)
IUG (Geography)

IUPAP (Physics)
IUTAM (Mechanics)
IUPAC (Chemistry)
IUCr (Crystallography)

iii) Committees of ICSU:

COSPAR
IAB (ISCU Abstracting Board)
FAGS (Astronomical and Geophysical Services)

iv) Interunion Commissions:

IUCAF (Frequency Allocation)
IUCSTP (Solar Terrestrial Physics)
CODATA (Data on Science and Technology)
CST (Science Teaching)

Joint Commission on Spectroscopy

v) Other Organizations

CCDS (Definition of the Second)
CCIR (Radio Communications)
BIPM (Weights and Measures)
ITU (Telecommunications)
IUAA (Union of Amateur Astronomers)
ECOSOC (United Nations Economic and Social Organization)

Invitations will be sent by the General Secretary.

Presidential invitations will be sent, among others, to Lady Spencer-Jones and Mrs. Lindblad. The Preliminary Programme, now in preparation, will be distributed in January 1970.

The Time-table of the General Assembly will closely adhere to that of the XIIIth General Assembly. Regrettably is the clash between the organ concert and the informal gathering.

- b) Report of the General Secretary on the XVth General Assembly: The XV GA will be held in Australia if so decided by the next General Assembly. W.N. Christiansen informed the meeting that a Preliminary Local Organizing Committee had already been set up in Sydney. The General Secretary is to address to H.W. Wood a letter asking for a formal statement that all Members of the IAU and other authorized participants in the XVth General Assembly would be allowed to enter the country.

In this connection the Executive Committee discussed in more detail the Symposium to be held in Poland in 1973 in commemoration of the centenary of Copernicus.

- c) Future General Assemblies: Eligible for organizing the 1976 General Assembly are:
France, The Netherlands, Belgium, Poland.

6. Finances

- a) In his report on the financial situation of the Union, the General Secretary presented to the meeting the audited accounts for 1968 and a survey of receipts and payments for the first half-year of 1969. So far, the Union has no financial difficulties. The Statutes permit no raise in the annual contribution of adhering countries to the Union, and thus no such proposal will be made.

Canada and U.S.A. adhere now to the Union in category 7. A letter of thanks will be sent to the US National Committee.

- b) Future expenditure: It is estimated that the present budget will have to provide for additional \$ 5.000 under heading 6 (Printing of Publications by the Union) and \$ 4.000 under heading 7 (Meetings of Executive Committee). This may have an adverse effect on heading 15 (Reimbursement to Savings Accounts).

The budget for 1971-1973 was tentatively outlined as follows:

Receipts (in 1.000 \$	Payments
Contributions from adhering countries 162	Administrative office and officers meetings 70
Publications 10	Contributions to ICSU 2
Interest 4	Special projects 32
UNESCO subsidy 42	General Assembly 1973 50
Total 218	Publications 45
	Meetings of E.C. 14
	Organization of Symposia 25
	Inter-Union Commissions and representation 8
	Projects of E.C. 2
	Total 248

This would leave an imbalance of \$ 30.000. On the other hand it may reasonably be expected that the contribution from adhering countries will rise to \$ 171.000, and that the payments for the General Assembly and Publications will only amount to \$ 40.000 and 30.000 respectively. This would result in an active balance of \$ 4.000.

The Executive Committee approved this tentative budget.

- c) IAU grants towards participation of young astronomers in the XIVth General Assembly:
From the subsidy granted by UNESCO and ICSU to Commission No 38, the Union will be able to award 30 grants of \$ 100 each. The number of grants would be increased if the IAU receives an additional support from the ICSU for 1970.

The Executive Committee agreed to this procedure.

- d) Travel expenses of Presidents of Commissions to General Assemblies:

In the discussion of the IAU finances it was proposed that Presidents of Commissions should only receive a 50 per cent reimbursement of their travel expenses to General Assemblies. This proposal was endorsed by the Executive Committee.

7. Publications

- a) Report by the General Secretary on IAU Publications:
The relations with the publisher of the Union, D. Reidel Publishing Company, are satisfactory. No publications appeared in the first half-year of 1969, but several symposium volumes are under preparation. From the book reviews collected and sent in by Reidel it is seen that IAU publications have a favourable response. Publicity is adequate. In this connection, Prof. Pecker complained that other than IAU publicity material had been included in the latest Information Bulletin.

- b) Receipt from IAU Publications: The income from sales of IAU publications over the first six months of 1969 was as follows:

- Sales of Symposium volumes and Transactions by Academic Press	£ 5.232.81
- Sales by the Secretariat direct	84.05
- Royalties from Academic Press	9.46
- Royalties from Cambridge University Pres	18.35
- Royalties from D. Reidel Publishing Co. for Symposia 32-35, Transactions XIII A, B and Highlights of Astronomy	5.037.65
Total	£ 10.412.32

The royalties from Reidel for sales through the Springer Verlag in the U.S.A. are due in October 1969.

- c) Report of the Assistant General Secretary on the joint action Thomas-Severny for lower publication costs: In his very detailed document the Assistant General Secretary showed that the JILA symposium volume on Wolf-Rayet Stars, given by Thomas as an example of an inexpensive publication, had reached the market in a short delay and at a low price since:

- i) it had been printed in offset
- ii) the manuscript for the printer had been prepared by the institute
- iii) the volume had been printed and distributed by the US Government Printing Office.

These facilities are not at the disposal for all IAU Symposia, and hence the Executive Committee resolved to adhere to the present arrangement with Reidel.

- d) Report of the General Secretary on Transactions XIVA (Draft Reports): The resolution of the earlier meeting of the Executive Committee markedly to reduce reviews of astronomy and to replace them by previews in the Transactions, and to suppress as much as possible bibliographic data, was strongly criticized by some Presidents of Commissions. This prompted the General Secretary to publish a letter in Information Bulletin No. 22 which allowed a more elastic interpretation of the resolution adopted. It appears that the response of the Presidents of Commissions to this letter is more satisfactory.

The volume of Transactions XIVA will be distributed free of charge to IAU members (against cards) in Brighton, and sold to others. Members not present at the General Assembly will receive their copy by mail.

M. Schwarzschild suggested, in this connection, to hold a meeting on the new Astronomy and Astrophysics Abstracts at the Brighton General Assembly (Commission No. 5).

- e) New astronomical journals published by Reidel: It is a well known fact that astronomical journals proliferate beyond control. How can this development be counteracted?

A solution might be found in creating an Association of Editors of Primary Journals. The meeting resolved that this suggestion should be discussed on the occasion of the General Assembly at Brighton.

- f) Transliteration of modern Russian alphabet: This transliteration is now being prepared by ICSE. It was agreed that the Union should adopt this ICSE Transliteration upon its publication.

III. Scientific Activity

- a) Invited Discourses: It was confirmed that two Invited Discourses would be given at the XIVth General Assembly:
- The Pulsars - speakers A. Hewish and V.L. Ginzburg
 - Galactic Spiral Structure - speakers B.J. Bok and C.C. Lin.

The General Secretary informed the meeting that all speakers had accepted to lecture. J.-C. Pecker regretted that no other than English Invited Discourses would be given at the next General Assembly. This, however, was not meant as a reproach, but much rather as a memorandum for the future.

- b) Joint Discussions: The General Secretary introduced the subject reporting on the outcome of his correspondence with Presidents of Commissions. The various suggestions were discussed in detail and it was agreed to hold the following Joint Discussions at the Brighton meeting:

- Origin of the Earth and Planets
- Helium Abundance in the Universe
- Interstellar Molecules
- Determination of Fundamental Atomic Data Relevant to Space Astronomy
- Photoelectric Observations of Stellar Occultations (preliminary title)
- Pulsars and Cosmic Rays

- c) Commission meetings: The Executive Committee emphasized again that the scientific content of Commission meetings is the responsibility of Presidents of Commissions. They have, therefore, the authority to refuse uninvited papers or papers of no scientific value. Administrative matters should be discussed at Commission meetings, only in cases of necessary administrative coordination. Hence it will be important that the Presidents select and prepare topics of the discussion in advance.
- d) IAU Symposia and Colloquia: The subject was introduced by the Assistant General Secretary

who gave a short report on the past Symposia and Colloquia and opened the discussion as to those to be held in the future. After a lengthy discussion, and with frequent reference to the minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive Committee, the following list of Symposia and Colloquia was set up:

Symposia

No.	Subject	\$ allocated	Date	Place
40	Planetary Atmospheres	1,000	27-31 Oct. 1969	Marfa, Texas
41	New Techniques in Space Astronomy	1,000	10-14 Aug. 1970	München, GFR
42	White Dwarfs	1,000	10-14 Aug. 1970	St. Andrews, U.S.A.
43	Solar Magnetic Fields	1500	31 Aug.-4 Sept. 1970	Paris, France
44	External Galaxies and Quasi-Stellar Objects (URSI to cosponsor)	1500	10-14 Aug. 1970	Uppsala, Sweden
45	The Motion, evolution of the Orbits and the Origin of Comets	up to 2000	3-10 Aug. 1970	Leningrad, USSR
46	The Crab Nebula (URSI to cosponsor)	1,000	6-7 Aug. 1970	Jodrell Bank, U.S.A.
-	The Moon (COSPAR, IUGG, IUGS, URSI to cosponsors)	no decision	1971	?
-	Wolf-Rayet Stars	no decision	March/Apr. 1971	La Plata, Argentina
-	UV and X-ray Spectroscopy. Astrophysical and Laboratory Plasmas (IUPAP and COSPAR to cosponsor)	no decision	1971	Utrecht, Holland
-	The Sun's Outer Layers (agreed in principle)	no decision	in conjunction with the XVth GA 1973	Sydney, Australia
-	Problems connected with Cosmology	no decision	1973	Poland
-	Extended Atmospheres in Spectroscopic Atmospheres	no decision	1972	Victoria, Canada

Colloquia

No.	Subject	% allocated	Date	Place
6	Mass-loss and Evolution in Binaries	475	15-19 Sept.1969	Copenhagen, Denmark
7	Proper Motions	500	21-23 April 1970	Minneapolis, USA
8	Techniques for the Determination of Fundamental Spectroscopic Data	500	1-3 Sept.1970	London, U.K.
9	The IAU-system of Astronomical Constants	500	12-14 Aug.1970	Heidelberg
10	Gravitational n-Body Problem (2nd Coll.)	500	11-14 Aug.1970	Cambridge, U.K.
11	Automation in Optical Astrophysics	500	12-14 Aug.1970	Edinburgh, U.K.
-	Vth Colloquium on Variable Stars (Title to be narrowed down)	500	August 1971	Bamberg, GFR
-	Spectral Classification and Multicolour Photometry	500	October 1971	Cordoba, Argentina
-	Supernovae, Novae and Related Objects	no decision	September 1971	Padua, Italy

More details, especially as to the Organizing Committees, will be published in the Information Bulletin.

10. Other Scientific Meetings: In his short report, the Assistant General Secretary brought the following meetings to the attention of the Executive Committee:

- a) International Symposium of Solar-Terrestrial Physics (cosponsored by the IAU), Leningrad, USSR, 12-20 May 1970. IAU representatives: C. de Jager and Z. Švestka
- b) URSI Colloquium on Planetary Atmospheres and Surfaces (cosponsored by the IAU), Woods Hole, U.S.A., 11-15 August 1969.

- c) Symposium on Application of Transport Theory, Oxford, U.K. 1-4 September 1970. Contact address: Anne B. Underhill
- d) International Astronautical Congress, Mar del Plata, Argentina, 9-12 October 1969
- e) URSI Proposals on Topics for Symposia in 1971
 - i) March 1970 Eclipse
 - ii) Lunar Surface
 - iii) Planetary Atmosphere
 - iv) Coupling of the Magnetosphere and Thermosphere

As to the Symposium on the March 1970 Eclipse it was suggested that the Union should cosponsor it. In that on the Lunar Surface the IAU should take lead and try to combine it with the IAU proposal "The Moon".

11. Specific Projects

- a) IAU action on the problem of information in Astrophysics:
The General Secretary reported to the meeting. C. Jashek's paper published in PASP 80, 354, 1968 dealing with astrophysical data. He showed that the collection, processing and dissemination of scientific data are of world-wide concern, as borne out by the creation of UNISIT, CODATA, etc. Astronomical information is scattered over a large number of papers and journals and is, therefore, not readily accessible to individual scientists. An effort should be made to concentrate such information. In conclusion of his report, the General Secretary suggested to put this point on the agenda for the General Assembly in Brighton.
It was agreed to set up a Working Group consisting of Moore-Sitterly, Blaauw, Fricke, C.W. Allen and perhaps others to investigate the problem in more detail. The first letter should be addressed to Ch. Moore-Sitterly.
- b) The history of the IAU: The General Secretary suggested that the 50 years of the Union's duration is a sufficient basis for writing its history.
He was authorized to take up the matter with P.Th. Vosterhoff as prospective co-ordinator.

12. Relations with other Organizations

a) UNESCO

The General Secretary informed the Executive Committee of the contract entered into between UNESCO and the IAU regarding the Summer School 1969 in India. The list of lecturers and students had been approved by UNESCO, and the first installment of \$ 6.000 has been transferred to the IAU account. Negotiations for a similar contract for 1970 are in progress.

b) ICSU

The General Secretary will attend the meeting of the Executive Committee of ICSU to be held in Erevan in October 1969. He was authorized by the Executive Committee not to support the idea of a Federation of Unions.

In this connection the meeting discussed the desirability of the creation of an Inter-Union Commission on the Moon in which the union should be ready to re-establish its responsibility. It was decided that the General Secretary should write a letter to the President of Commission No.17 on the Moon, A. Dollfus.

c) FAGS (Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Services)

The General Secretary announced that D.H. Sadler had been elected President of FAGS for the present term of office. The finances of this organization are being held on the present level. The report submitted by Guinot and Sadler was read and approved.

d) COSPAR (Committee on Space Research)

The Assistant General Secretary presented to the Executive Committee his report to the Plenary Meeting of COSPAR in Prague. This report, stressing the close cooperation of COSPAR and IAU, was approved. It is an encouraging feature that the relations between these two organisms have improved. P. Swings suggested that comets should be included in one of the working groups of COSPAR. This suggestion was endorsed by the meeting. The General Secretary then presented a short account of the Prague Plenary Meeting of COSPAR and announced that M. Roy had been re-elected as President. This report was approved.

- e) IUCSTP (Inter-Union Commission of Solar-Terrestrial Physics)

There were no new developments worthy to report, except that the Commission is very active.

- f) IAB (ICSU Abstracting Board)

The General Secretary read to the meeting J.B. Sykes' report.

It was agreed that the Union would pay to IAB a contribution of \$ 100 per year. Moreover, the IAU would pay the expenses of its delegates to the meetings of the Board. The Executive Committee highly appreciated the active role assumed by Sykes in the IAB.

- g) IAP (International Association of Planetology)

The General Secretary informed the meeting that this newly established association is affiliated to IUGS. The IAU has no relations with the IAP, so far.

- h) EPS (European Physical Society)

This organization held its inaugural meeting in Florence from 8 to 12 April 1969. The IAU was represented by L. Woltjer. The work of the Society will be directed by a Conference Committee on which the IAU will be represented. It should be the policy of the Union to be present at the scientific meetings of the EPS, but not to cosponsor them.

- i) EAS (European Astronomical Society)

The General Secretary informed the Executive Committee of the intended creation of this society. It was felt that a co-operation between the IAU and EAS would be desirable.

- j) IUAA (International Union of Amateur Astronomers)

This organization was created in April 1969. The General Secretary read to the meeting the Statutes of the IUAA, and pointed out that the object of this association is identical with that of the Union. After a discussion it was decided not to oppose this fact. It will be useful to have the IUAA affiliated to the IAU with the possibility, however, to terminate this affiliation, if necessary.

- k) URSI (International Union of Radio Science)

W.N. Christiansen was the representative of the IAU on the URSI General Assembly. The General Secretary informed the meeting that the constitution of URSI would be revised.

1) IAF (International Astronautical Federation)

The General Secretary read to the Executive Committee the report of Henize, who represented the IAU at the 19th Congress of this Federation which was held in New York City from 13 to 18 October 1968. One of the main topics discussed at this Congress was the definition of the boundaries of "outer space". It was felt that this problem is of interest to the Union. The 1969 Congress of the IAF will be held in La Plata. The Union will be represented by G.N. Duboshin. His report will be circulated among the members of the Executive Committee.

m) IUGS (International Union of Geological Sciences)

The General Secretary informed the meeting that the IAU had been represented by Z. Ceplecha on the International Geological Congress held in Prague in 1968. At the session of the International Association of Geochemistry and Cosmochemistry it was agreed not to form a special Inter-Union Commission, as originally proposed by Cameron, but to create, instead, a monothematic Working Group on Extraterrestrial Chemistry.

n) IUCAF (Inter-Union Commission of Frequency Allocations for Radio Astronomy and Space Science)

The General Secretary read R.L. Smith-Rose's report of 11 July 1969. The bands reserved for radio astronomy range between 2.3 MHz and 40 Gz. IUCAF is preparing reserved bands up to 300 Gz.

o) CODATA (Commission for Data on Science and Technology)

The General Secretary read the report by Ch. Moore-Sitterly on the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Commission held in Rome in June 1969. This report was approved by the Executive Committee.

IV. Other Business

13. New IAU label, as designed by S. Gaposchkin

The General Secretary circulated among the members of the Executive Committee Gaposchkin's design of a new label of the International Astronomical Union. The Executive Committee expressed its appreciation of the design, felt, however, that it would be unwise to replace the old label, now well in use and known the world over, by a new one.

14. Varia

a) The General Secretary read M.G.J. Minnaert's letter

which proposes the introduction of a project of visiting professors: the IAU would send professors to developing countries to give there up-to-date lectures on different chapters of astronomy. The Executive Committee felt that such an IAU programme might interfere with some other such action sponsored by UNESCO or ICSU. The problem should be investigated by Commission No. 46 on Teaching of Astronomy.

- b) J. Hardorp proposes in his letter of 30 July to drop French as an official IAU language. This proposal was not accepted by the Executive Committee, since the Union has no official language. The approach of the Union to the language problem should always be liberal.
- c) The question arose of the revival of the Observatory at Caracas Venezuela. It was decided to take no action for the time being, as the IAU has not sufficient knowledge of the state of astronomy in that country.

15. Next Meeting of the Executive Committee

The next meeting of the Executive Committee of the Union will be held in Brighton, Sussex, U.K. 16 and 17 August 1970, on the occasion of the XIVth General Assembly.