

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL INFORMATICS ASSOCIATION

Special Interest Group of the International Federation for Information Processing



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reply to

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Appendix 16.

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Second Report of WG 9 to the IMIA Annual General Meeting in Lisbon 1985

The WG is still trying to organise semi-open working conferences:

- in Cuba
about the use of "Management Aspects of Computers in Health Care",
- in Africa
about "Education in Health Informatics for Developing Countries"
in cooperation with WG 1 of IMIA,
- and in Europe, probably Germany, in 1987.

Besides this the members of the steering committee (Mandil, Peterson, Rienhoff, Shires, Salamon) have been and will be active to represent IMIA and its scientific efforts on local conferences in developing countries to promote the growth of local academic groups.

In 1984 and 1985 the WG was represented in the Brazilian National Conference on Informatics. Because of the close contacts to colleagues in Brazil it is now being discussed whether the WG 9 will try to run the first "educational package" (see report 1984) in 1986 in Brazil or Peru.

Maintaining contacts with other international organisations (e.g. AED) has not always been easy. The WG had to learn that working on health informatics for development has to accept that only patient, long-term planning can bring results in this field. In cooperation with the North Holland Publishing Company 10 packages of 22 books have been offered to 10 academic institutions all over the world. The WG is busy to make sure that these valuable gifts only reach institutions which really offer the books to students and colleagues in developing areas.

The steering group of WG 9 - after gathering experience in its field - will in 1986 ask the national member societies and individuals to recommend members for the working group. Because of the number of interested colleagues the WG is considering to distinguish between 'members' and corresponding members.

The WG is very happy that the American organisers of MEDINFO '86 have found ways to financially support students from Third World countries to go to Washington. During MEDINFO '86 the WG is planning to have its first full-size meeting (probably 26 October 1986).