

**DRAFT Minutes of the IMIA Annual General Meeting,
September 5, 1992, Geneva, Switzerland**

1. Welcome

- J Willems opened the AGM at 9.35 A.M.
- On behalf of the local hosts S Mandil wished welcome to Geneva and MEDINFO 92

2. Apologies and proxies

- John Flint sends apologies
- Chris Wagner with proxy from Patrick Nugawela
- Jean Roberts with proxy from Barry Barber
- Yuan Xiaofei with proxy from Yu-de Chen and Zhi-neng Ouyang
- Jos L. Willems with proxy from Chang-Soon Koh
-

3. Approval of Agenda

- Approved

4. Minutes

4.1 AGM November 1992, Washington, D.C.

- Approved unanimously

5. Reports

5.1 Report from the Secretariat

- B Solheim discussed IMIA Flyer. Will update flyer later this year. Asked for suggestions from AGM.
- Keeps a complete IMIA address file. Will forward during MEDINFO list of WG members and addresses to WG Chairs for updating.

5.2 MEDINFO 89 Financial Final Balance

- KC Lun reported.
- Surplus for IMIA of 95,000 US\$. 60,000 US\$ transferred, the rest pending due to taxation questions.

5.3 Report from MEDINFO 92 Geneva, Organising Cee

- S Mandil reported for J-R Scherrer.
- 1350 registered by now, additional registrations expected.

5.4 Report from MEDINFO 92 Geneva, Programme Cee

- S Mandil described the scientific sessions, and a new format for MEDINFO, where a plenary lecture is followed by semi-plenary sessions. Plenary/semi-plenary sessions were decided by SPC for high interest papers or subjects. All plenary subjects were invited. For the semi-plenary sessions, 12 submitted papers had high quality and

importance, 4 additional papers were invited as PC felt that submitted papers did not adequately cover these important topics.

- All together the programme was planned with 489 presentations and 33 workshops.
- Of over 70 requested workshops, only 33 could be scheduled.
- The selected 310 papers were comprised of
 - 126 research papers
 - 128 descriptive papers
 - 56 opinion papers

In addition came

- 107 posters
- 39 demos

5.5 Report from MEDINFO 92 Geneva, Editorial Cee

KC Lun reported

- Camera ready copies were delivered to the publisher May 22.
- The final proceedings look good and are in total less than 1750 pages. They are to be delivered at Palexpo Sept. 3.
- Style and format specifications helped immensely but 30% still did not submit papers within specifications, and scanning had to be applied.
- Novel approach for MEDINFO 92. Proceedings set up more like a textbook, papers move from general to specific within topic groupings.
- It was recommended that MEDINFO 95 EC consider meeting with outgoing EC.
- J Willems congratulated KC Lun and EC for outstanding proceedings.

5.6 MEDINFO 95 Preparation

D Sigulem discussed preparations, which are going smoothly, and gave following information:

- 2000 posters and 10000 first announcements have been printed.
- Stationary for SPC and EC has been prepared.
- Support for the 27,000 1st announcement to be released March 93 is recruited.
- First sponsors are contacted.
- Invitation for papers under preparation.
- EC and SPC have been constituted.

S Kaihara informed about the preparatory work with the SPC

- SPC will have its first meeting Sept. 6.
- S Mandil suggested that contact is secured with the 92 SPC.

6. Regional Members

6.1 EFMI

RO Moore gave a brief report

- MIE 93 is to take place in Jerusalem April 18 - 22

6.2 IMIA-LAC

V Yacubsohn discussed IMIA-LAC activities including results of meeting held in La Habana, Cuba.

- IMIA-LAC report scheduled for the Board meeting in Vancouver was handed out.
- V Yacubsohn read his letter as outgoing president of IMIA-LAC. Three goals have been achieved:
 - Organisation of 1st IMIA-LAC congress.
 - MEDINFO in 1995 in Latin America.
 - PAHO - IMIA-LAC collaboration.
 - Relationship with PAHO, however, to be settled.
 - S Mandil offered help to solve the legal issues.
- Change of authority of IMIA-LAC by Sept. 10; new president: A Rosales, new secretary: A Espinoza.
- Membership
 - Chile, no application yet
 - Mexico, change of organisation as the AMIM is now a separate organisation, and not any more a group under AMI
 - Uruguay, a new group under establishment
 - Argentine, probable change of organisation as in Mexico
- A Espinoza informed that a Mexican meeting on medical informatics is planned in 1993.

6.3 AMIA Report of International Affairs Committee

M Ball reported

- AMIA Newsletter distributed.
- M Ball described the "Eastern Block" meeting which is being held in conjunction with MEDINFO. AMIA, NLM provided funding. She extended an invitation to the board during SCAMC in Nov.
- SCAMC participation from Europe welcome, availability of registration documents for foreigners will be settled.

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Membership Committee

- RO Moore reported and presented the recommendations from the board.
- Croatia and Slovakia were accepted as new members of IMIA by unanimous vote.
- AGM also voted the The Israel Medical Informatics Society takes over the Israel membership, pending resolution of past dues.
- Rumanian application to be presented at next AGM; category of membership fee will be E.
- Egypt and Chile, applications pending.
- Application from the Pan-Helennic association was handed over, and will be presented for the next AGM.
- Prof. Sagaci from the Georgian Society for Medical Informatics addressed the AGM, and announced an official application for IMIA membership. The IMIA president expressed the deep felt thanks for the successful 1990 Board meeting in Tbilisi.

7.2 Nomination Committee

- H. Peterson reported and proposed: re-election of AB Bakker as treasurer. AB Bakker was re-elected unanimously.

7.3 Bylaws Committee

H. Peterson reported.

- No suggestion for amendments of the bylaws was put forward.
- J Willems stated that, if strategic planning requires new operations, suggestions for amendments will be prepared.

7.4 Newsletter Committee

O. Rienhoff reported.

- Apologies for a gap in the Newsletter publication since the rest of last year, due do unforeseen illness.
- Major problem to get contents from recent IMIA conferences, etc.. Please observe the importance of submitting a two page report from Workshops and Conferences.
- Advertising of coming events important.

7.5 Publication Committee

- J vBemmel discussed publications Cee report on the Yearbook 92. He pointed out that finances were a

significant problem. 35% of the costs for 1990 have been underwritten by Schattauer.

- Contents: compilation of the best papers published in 1991 and background material on IMIA.
- J Willems congratulated J vBemmel on the excellent job done by his organisation. The AGM gave its applause to the major effort done by J vBemmel for the Yearbook 92.
- Yearbook 93
 - J vBemmel recommended that editor be appointed.
 - Compilation of best papers, certain invited reviews on fields not represented in refereed journals
 - Background material on IMIA
 - "Yellow pages" section for Yearbook would provide more potential for income to support publication costs.
 - Budget, the price to the national member societies has to be doubled to approximately CHF 13, in addition to an increase in the IMIA support to CHF 20,000 for 1993. For the years after, the contribution should be reduced to CHF 16,000. The contributions by industry are expected to increase and this could lead to reductions in the demand of support from IMIA and possibly also the price to the national member societies.
 - J Willems and J vBemmel urged members to order at least the same number of the next Yearbook before end of year.
- AGM approved plan for 93 Yearbook with J vBemmel as chief editor, and decided to increase price to approximately CHF 13.

7.6 Strategic Planning Committee

M Ball introduced.

- Strategic Planning activities(SP) on-going for past 18 months, initiated by J Willems. The board will present SP to AGM next year.
- Publication, J vBemmel

Changing landscape in publications:

 - many more Medical Informatics (MI) articles appear in non-MI journals.
 - publishing houses decline to be involved in the publication of proceedings and books for working conferences.
 - do we need an IMIA journal, and what kind of journal? like MD Computing, like a professional journal?

- Who pays - since IMIA does not have regular members.
- Options:
 - new journal (lot of work, lot of money).
 - using an existing journal with two sections - one for scientific work, the second for IMIA info on 'yellow pages'. In addition selected papers from the working conferences could be published as supplements in special issues with guest editors.
- The discussion underlined the necessity to secure the platform for scientific contributions, but at the same time strengthen the ties to both EDP professionals and Health care professionals. IMIA has the challenge to serve all three communities. In addition account should also be taken to industrial interests.
- Finance
 - A review was presented by AB Bakker showing that there is a clear need for increased income due to uncertainties to MEDINFO proceeds and the planned Yearbooks. Institutional membership is therefore to be pushed, and as interim arrangement for this negotiations are proceeding with CHIM.
 - K Hannah questioned if "new" IMIA will underwrite travel for participants from underdeveloped countries.
- Issues committee

H Peterson reported.

 - Suggestions discussed at the last Board meeting, comments will be returned to the committee by 6 weeks. A complete suggestion will then be presented to the next Board meeting, and thereafter submitted to the national member societies for discussion. Final decision to be reached at the next AGM.
 - Board, executive committee (president, past or elect president, treasurer and secretary) and vice presidents (VP) responsible for defined activities. Tentatively five VP (MEDINFO, Services, Members, SIG's and Special Activities).

7.7 Audit Committee

Report by J. Flint / R. Salamon read by B Solheim. The conclusion, that finances were well handled/managed, was:

- Accepted by the AGM.

- The President expressed thanks to the treasurer.

8. International Organisations

8.1 WHO

- IMIA has been given status as a non-governmental organisation.
- Cooperation with the South African Medical Informatics Association now officially accepted.

8.2 IFIP

- IFIP meeting in Tokyo Sept. 6-10, 93. IMIA board meeting in Tokyo Sept. 10 and AGM in Kyoto Sept. 12, 93. S. Kaihara to take action for coordination of IFIP/IMIA activities.
- IFIP sponsorship of MEDINFO 95, can we use their logo?

8.3 WMA - World Medical Association

- No special issues.

8.4 IFMBE - International Federation for Medical and Biomedical Engineering

- Joint meeting in Aalborg, August 26-28, 93.
- No other new common activities at present.

9. Finances and Funding

9.1 Report of the Treasurer was presented by A.R. Bakker:

- Cash forecast and budget, the possibility of no or low surplus from MEDINFO 92 strains the situation.
- The AGM approved the budget.

10. Strategic Planning

- See 7.6

11. Setting up of a Permanent Scientific and Business Secretariat

11.1 For the time being the board does not see any capability to establish a permanent secretariat. On a provisional basis, however, the board is negotiating with CHIM to promote and serve institutional memberships. These suggestions by the board were accepted by the AGM.

12. News on Working Groups - Special Interest Groups

12.1 WG1: Information Science and Medical Education

- Brief report presented by the secretary and treasurer. Loan to the Victoria Conference to be repaid. D. Protti gave a short review of the extensive activities of the group and

the forthcoming 3. Working conference to be held in Heidelberg after MEDINFO.

12.2 void

12.3 void

12.4 WG4: Data protection in health information systems

- Proposal for W.C. Nov. 14-16, 1993 presented and approved by the AGM; a loan of CHF 4,000 granted.

12.5 WG5: Primary Health Care

- Report presented by GM Hayes and a request was made for the appointment of participants from LAC and Asia.

12.6 WG6: Coding and classification of health data

- R. Coté has suggested Dr. Mark Musen to be appointed as WG chairman. The Board however recommended that J-R Scherrer be appointed to the chair for purposes of continuity, with role for MM.
- The AGM unanimously accepted J.R. Scherrer as new chairman of WG 6.
- Next WC to be organised in Geneva by J-R Scherrer.

12.7 WG7: Biomedical pattern recognition

- WC in Aalborg in collaboration with IFMBE August 26-28, 1993. Leaflet on joint meeting to be distributed during MEDINFO.

12.8 WG8: Nursing informatics

- Report presented by E. Pluyter-Wenting, demonstrated the high activity and vitality of the WG 8.
- Preparing for 5th International Symposium in San Antonio in 1994. Elsevier to publish proceedings.
- New members from Greece and Brazil.

12.9 WG9: Health informatics for development

- Report presented by D Sigulem.
- The 47 members have been asked for suggestions for further actions, only two have by now answered. The AGM suggested that both emerging and re-emerging nations should be considered by the group.

12.10 WG10: Hospital information systems

- Report presented by A.B. Bakker. It showed considerable activity in WG 10, and a most successful WC in Göttingen 1992. Next WC planned in Atlanta 1994. The AGM approved the report and suggested WC.

12.11 WG11: Dental informatics

- Report presented by J Salley. WG meeting in conjunction with SCAMC 92. International meeting (WC) planned in November 1993 in conjunction with the annual session of

the American Dental Association, but other options are also investigated.

- Dr. Eric Spohn was suggested as new chairman.
- The AGM approved the report and the transition of chairmanship.

12.12 WG12: Informatics for pharmacists and pharmacologists

- Not yet formally established, but a group is definitely under development.

12.13 Proposals for new working groups

- 12.13.1 Technology assessment and quality development in health informatics
 - A proposal was presented by E.M.S.J. van Gennip
 - AGM accepted that a workshop is organised and that the possibility for the establishment of a WG is further exploited.

13. Report on Future Working Conferences

13.1 Medical Informatics and Medical Education -- Heidelberg, Sept. 11-12, 1992 -- D. Protti

13.2 Pharmacodynamic Modelling -- Lyon, Sept. 21-23, 1992 -- R. Jelliffe

13.3 Organisational Issues of Medical Informatics -- Cincinnati, March 28 - April 1, 1993 -- N. Lorenzi

- N. Lorenzi presented additional information

13.4 Health Informatics in Africa -- Ile-Ife, Nigeria, April 19-23, 1993 -- N. Kopela

- On schedule

13.5 Health Care Professional Workstations -- Bethesda, June 14-17, 1993 -- J. Silva

- J. Silva presented a hand out and gave further information

13.6 Data Protection & Security in Health Information Networks, The Netherlands, November 14-16, 1993 -- B. Barber and AB Bakker

13.7 Advances in Biosignal Interpretation -- Aalborg, DK, August 26-28, 1993, Joint IMIA & IFMBE Working Conference -- J.H. van J vBemmel

13.8 Dental Informatics -- DENTINFO 93 -- San Francisco, Nov. 6-11, 1993 -- J. Salley

13.9 void

13.10 Case-Mix and Resource Management -- Brussels, Spring 1994 -- F.H. Roger France

- 13.11 Advances in Hospital Information Systems -- Atlanta, March 27-31, 1994 -- M. Ball
 13.12 History on Medical Informatics -- Place? Date?
 13.13 Knowledge Acquisition and Knowledge Representation -- Place? Date? J.R. Scherrer takes action, probable date 1994.

14. Future Meetings of the Board and the AGM

- Board meeting in Jerusalem April 17, 1993
- Fall Board meeting in Tokyo September 10, and AGM in Kyoto September 12, 1993. IFIP meeting in Tokyo September 6-10.
- Board meeting in Durban, South Africa, Spring 94
- Fall AGM in Lisbon with EFMI, or Germany September 94
- Board meeting in Stockholm April 95
- Fall AGM in San Paulo with MEDINFO 95

15. Other Matters

- IMIA Diploma and Honorary membership approved to be awarded to Morris F. Collen.
- The necessity of sending all conference/WC flyers, invitations, programmes and proceedings to the IMIA secretariat was underlined.

16. Closure

- The President closed the AGM at 4.25 P.M. by thanking the participants for their pleasant and excellent collaboration.

Attendance

JL Willems	A Rosales	R Salamon
MJ Ball	C Wagner	A Espinoza
AB Bakker	JJ Salley	D Protti
BG Solheim	E Pluyter-Wenting	T Takahashi
KC Lun	G Dezelic	S Adamic
J-R Scherrer	Prof. Sagaci	GI Mihalas
SH Mandil	J Zvarova	A Naszlady
D Sigulem	KM Al-Salama	IH Symmonds
J Silva	J Roberts	G Gell
S Kaihara	K Bernstein	AFP de Talens
H Peterson	CP Wang	Yuan Xiaofei
RO Moore	JD Tresling	E Karjalainen
O Rienhoff	GM Hayes	MP Ramos
J vBemmel		