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Report of the Membership Fee Taskforce

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Proposal for revised membership dues

Background and present situation

Almost 15 years have passed since IMIA reviewed national membership fees. A number of national members fail to pay annual fees when they are due for a variety of reasons: errors or changes in billing addresses, changes in the political situation, civil war and economical constrains, "new-born" societies with unstable finances or established societies with temporary problems. There are also differences in cultures and routines that have impact on when IMIA gets the annual payments.

The 1999 IMIA General Assembly in Washington decided that membership dues should be reviewed. A task force was set up with the following members: national member from Bosnia Herzegovina, Izet Masic, VP-membership Branko Cesnik, executive director, Steve Huesing, and the treasurer Ulla Gerdin., The GA directed that a report should be presented for consideration by the GA in august 2000 in Hanover, Germany.

National Member's dues are segregated into five categories and members are billed in Swiss Franks. Since 1980 the category of dues that a national member is placed has been based on the "scale of assessment" of the World Health Organisation (WHO). The fee related to the categories is subject to annual review by the GA; the last change to membership fees was made in 1986.

Category	Annual Fee
A	1,417. CHF
B	1,023. CHF
C	630. CHF
D	393. CHF
E	157. CHF

The current number of national members assigned to each category is indicated below.

Year	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E	Total
2000	2	4	15	10	10	40
1980	2	5	13	9	3	32

The current assignment of IMIA national members to the five categories is as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
Japan USA	Canada France Germany UK	Argentina Australia Austria Belgium Brazil China Denmark Finland Georgia Italy The Netherlands Norway Sweden Switzerland Ukraine	Bosnia Croatia Hungary Ireland Israel Korea Mexico Slovenia South Africa Spain	Cuba Czechia Hong Kong New Zealand Poland Romania Singapore Slovakia Uruguay

Proposals

Scale of assessments and categories

WHO website, every Feb.

The objective of the Task Force was to arrive at a more equitable and up to date scale of assessment for the membership dues. The task force found it useful to continue to follow the scale of assessment of WHO, and based its recommendations on the scale for the financial period 2000-2001. The task force proposes to expand the membership fee categories from five to six. The table below shows the six categories, the WHO scale points for each category and the new grouping of national members.

Group A WHO points > 15	Group B WHO points 5-15	Group C WHO points 1-5	Group D WHO points 0,5-1	Group E WHO points 0,1-0,5	Group F WHO points < 0,1
Japan USA	France Germany Italy UK	Argentina Australia Belgium Brazil Canada Spain Sweden Switzerland The Netherlands	Austria China Denmark Finland Mexico Norway	Czech Hong Kong Hungary Ireland Israel New Zealand Poland Singapore South Africa Ukraine	Bosnia Croatia Cuba Georgia Korea Romania Slovakia Slovenia Uruguay

Membership fees

The table below shows the proposed fees for 2001 + *later*.

Category	Annual Fee
A	1,450
B	1,050
C	700
D	500
E	410
F	170

The financial impact of these changes will be minimal, having an impact of an increase in total dues of 150 CHF.

Modification to Standing Operating Procedures (SOP)

To accommodate societies in financial or other temporary difficulties, the Task Force proposes that the SOP be modified to include the following:

A National member that fails to pay its membership fees and is in arrears for two years of fees, shall be provided with two opportunities:

- Take up observer status with IMIA for three years, at the end of this period the member may apply for full membership, or
- Terminate its membership in IMIA.

This opportunity will only be granted once for that member.