This bulletin has been edited by FIAV (Fédération Internationale des Associations Vexillologiques), the former secretary-general, Dr. Emil Dreyer, Flurweg 43, CH-3052 Zollikofen. It is distributed freely to all members of the Federation.

XVII. INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEXILLOLOGY, CAPE TOWN, 1997
The 17th FIAV congress, organised by the Southern African Vexillological Association, took place from 10 until 15 August 1997 in the BMW Pavilion at the Victoria and Albert Waterfront in Cape Town, Rep. of South Africa.

63 participants and 18 accompanying persons from 18 countries gathered in flags and friendship during a beautiful and most interesting week in Cape Town. Most of the participants came from South Africa of course (15 persons), followed by the United States with 9 persons, Germany with 8 and Australia with 5 persons. 4 participants came from Spain and each 3 from Switzerland and France. The other 11 nations were represented each by either one or two participants.

29 lectures of about 20 to 30 minutes of duration were presented, simultaneous translation in the French, German and English language was provided. Almost all of the lectures were delivered in English, 3 were in French and 2 in German. The scientific program was complemented by a computer seminar and several very interesting exhibits, like the exhibition of flag designs and prototypes which led to the South African national flag in the National Archives, and the one at the Maritime Museum, where replicas of historical flags of Southern Africa were exhibited. A magnificent day-long tour took the congress to interesting Cape Town Castle, past an ostrich farm, to a wine estate, where a splendid meal was served. The tour continued to the lovely Franschhoek Valley, where a Huguenot memorial was visited.

The excellent closing banquet at the Kelvin Grove Club gave opportunity not only to present the Vexillon and some other awards, but to thank our Southern African friends for the successful congress and for their hospitality and to farewell our colleagues and friends until vexillology meets again in Victoria, British Columbia.

XVIII. INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEXILLOLOGY, VICTORIA, 1999
Mr. and Mrs. Webb, co-owners of The Flag Shop, and the Canadian Flag Society will host the 18th international congress of vexillology in Victoria, Victoria Island, British Columbia, Canada. The congress is scheduled for July 28 to August 2, 1999. You are invited to contact:

Chantal & James Webb, The Flag Shop
904 Gordon Street
Victoria BC, V8W 1Z8, CANADA
Fax: (1) - 604 - 382-4441 e-mail: flagshop@islandnet.com

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RECEIVED
2 June 98
NAVA PRESIDEN

INFO-FIAV Nr. 10
   - 1 -
May 1998
The FIAV General Assembly took place during the 17th International Congress of Vexillology at the Victoria and Albert Waterfront in Cape Town, South Africa, with sessions on 11th, 12th and 14th of August 1997.

A preliminary remark by the record keeping past secretary-general:

This report is based on my tape recordings and personal notes. Where recording is clear and/or notes are explicit, text has been transcript either literally word by word, such passages being put between quotation marks, or in sentences as close to the original as possible. Sometimes however, due to low voices in the background or several voices at the same time, due to noise, to change of tape cassette or batteries, to a marked accent in several cases or to other circumstances, recording is not sufficiently clear or complete to permit an exact transcription. Other times speakers were just faster than my writing down. In those cases the text is only as accurate as recording, notes, my memory and my interpretation in a logical sense allow. Though I tried best to reproduce the whole issue as accurate and complete as possible, minor errors may have occurred. I ask the reader to accept my apologies. I can assure though, that this report contains almost all of what was said during the 3 sessions of the General Assembly (=GA), and of course it certainly contains all the results of votings and of decisions taken during the GA.

Emil Dreyer

SUMMARY

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Flaggenkunde e.V. (DGF), the Société Bretonne de Vexillologie (SBV), the Heraldry and Vexillology Society of Malta (HAVSOM) and the Burgee Data Archive (BDA) were accepted as FIAV full members.

The Mauritius Buch Verlag GmbH (MBV) was accepted as an associate member.

Victoria, in British Columbia, Canada, was chosen as the site of the 18th FIAV Congress, to be organised in late July of 1999 by the Canadian Flag Association and Mr. and Mrs. Webb, co-owners of the Flag Shop.

A new Board of FIAV has been elected: it is composed of Michel Lupant as president, Charles Spain as secretary-general and Bruce Berry as secretary-general for congresses.

The standing orders commission is composed of Ralph Kelly, Roman Klimes and Don Healey. It will study the Canadian standing orders rules and best adapt them to the needs of FIAV.

The membership commission is composed of Ales Brozek, Philippe Rault and Whitney Smith. It will analyse membership requirements of some actual FIAV members, specially that of APCRA.

The Canadian standing orders rules will be applied on a trial basis during the FIAV GA in Victoria for consultation, should it be needed. There is no further commitment.

Article 14, chapter a) of the FIAV constitution was amended to read: "A simple majority in the election of an officer. If more than 2 candidates stand for election of an officer, and if no one reaches the simple majority, then the candidate with least votes will be eliminated from the next ballot, and so on."

Investigations into FIAV membership in UNESCO have been dropped.

The GA agrees to have a flag manufacturer’s prize of US $ 100.- for the best lecture at every congress.

The Vexillon was awarded to Mr. Ales Brozek.
After the mourned death of FIAV president Dr. William Crampton, the Board of FIAV is composed only by Dr. Emil Dreyer as the secretary-general and by Mr. Ralph Bartlett as the secretary-general for congresses (see INFO-FIAV Nr. 9, June 1997). Emil Dreyer acts as a temporary chairman. Dreyer calls to order and explains the unusual procedure decided in accordance with Ralph Bartlett to conduct the general assembly until the point is reached where decision on a new Board will have to be taken. Dreyer officially opens the General Assembly of the 17th congress in Cape Town.

Written credentials of delegates are presented to the chairman, who verifies them:

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<th>FIAV MEMBER</th>
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<td>Mr. José Luis Brugués</td>
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<td>Canadian Flag Association (CFA)</td>
<td>Mr. Kevin Harrington</td>
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<td>Centre Belgo-Européen d'Etudes des Drapeaux (CEBED)</td>
<td>Mr. Michel Lupant</td>
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<td>Centro Italiano Studi Vexillologici (CISV)</td>
<td>Dr. Mario Fabretto</td>
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<td>Mr. Donald Healy</td>
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<td>Mr. John Moody</td>
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<td>Flag Design Center (FDC)</td>
<td>Dr. Whitney Smith</td>
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<td>The Flag Institute (FI)</td>
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<td>Mr. Sten Dahlstrøm</td>
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<td>North American Vexilological Association (NAVA)</td>
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<td>Sociedad Española de Vexilología (SEV)</td>
<td>Mr. Tomás Rodríguez</td>
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<td>Société Française de Vexilologie (SFV)</td>
<td>Mr. Alain Raulet</td>
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<td>Southern African Vexilological Association (SAVA)</td>
<td>Mr. Theo Stylianides</td>
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<td>Tumbling Waters Museum of Flags (TWMF)</td>
<td>Dr. Whitney Smith</td>
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<td>United States Flag Foundation (USFF)</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Orenski</td>
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<td>Västra Sveriges Heraldiska Sällskap (VSHS)</td>
<td>Mr. Lars C. Stolt</td>
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<td>Vexilologický Klub (VK)</td>
<td>Mr. Jaroslav Martykán</td>
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<td>World Vexillological Research Institute (WVRI)</td>
<td>Mr. Roman Klimes</td>
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<td>Zászlókutató Intézet (ZI)</td>
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<td>Burgee Data Archive (BDA)</td>
<td>Mr. Peter Edwards</td>
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<td>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Flaggenkunde (DGF)</td>
<td>Dr. Andreas Herzfeld</td>
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<td>Heraldry and Vexillology Society of Malta (HAVSOM)</td>
<td>Mr. Adrian Strickland</td>
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<td>Mauritius Buch Verlag GmbH (MBV)</td>
<td>Mr. Jiri Tenora</td>
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<td>Société Bretonne de Vexilologie (SBV)</td>
<td>Dr. Philippe Rault</td>
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The statutory quorum is fulfilled with 25 votes of accredited members present. Together with the 2 votes of the Board members a total of 27 votes can be carried, the two-thirds majority is 18 votes.

Two volunteers are appointed by the chairman as vote-counters: Michael Faul and Don Healy.

Emil Dreyer asks, if there are any comments to his report of the GA of 1995. Whitney Smith has a correction to the minutes of Warsaw (INFO-FIAV No.7, p.3, statutory quorum) in as "according to the FIAV constitution the quorum is fulfilled with the votes of only the 22 members present, not including the board."
member votes. It doesn't change anything but for the sake of accuracy*. The thus corrected minutes are accepted by show of hands.

The secretary-general for congresses Ralph Bartlett reports on the activities of the Board (item 6 of Standing Business): he has written to the organisers of the past 3 congresses, of which only the SSV has sent a written answer indicating that redaction work is still going on, but hopefully the report will be printed soon. The organisers of the Warsaw congress seem to have difficulties in gathering the material.

The FSA has withdrawn its tentative application in 1997 to host the 1999 congress. Just recently the CFA has applied to host the next congress in Victoria. The application of NAVA to host the 1999 congress in Chicago has also been withdrawn. No applications for future congresses have been received. The Flag Institute is going on with preparations for the 2001 congress in the London area.

Dreyer continues reporting on the activities of the Board: The Board has had repeated correspondence during the past 2 years, as well as several phone calls and multiple messages by fax, the activities having increased after our president's death. Letters of condolence upon William's death have been sent to the secretary-general by the SEV, SFV, VK, ACV, SSV and PTW.

The secretary-general has had correspondence with the Nordic Flag Society, which was preparing to host a congress in Stockholm for 1999, but this plan has been abandoned. They will nevertheless continue efforts to host may be the 2003 congress. Dreyer has maintained correspondence with UNESCO, with Ales Brozek from the membership committee, with Charles Spain from the standing orders committee, with Anibal Gotelli on the APCRA matter, as well as with several FIAV members on diverse, less important matters (address changes, etc).

Smith comments, that "we might possibly want to find out, whether there is any FIAV correspondence within William's material, which should be passed on to the next Board". Dreyer answers: "Jos Poels, who happened to be in Chester during the time William passed away, since he was working with him and actually did the work on the last Flagmaster, when William was already in bad health, phoned me several times and then sent the only material concerning FIAV which was in William's office. This was one e-mail from NAVA, in which Charles Spain tells him that Michael Faul has retired from the standing orders committee and another e-mail from SAVA, in which Bruce Berry tells him about preparations for the congress." Faul adds: "I'll go through the Flag Institute files in September and send any FIAV matters to the newly elected FIAV president."

**Announcements** (Item 7 of Standing Business): Bartlett has received a fax of the Flag Shop applying to host the 1999 congress. Kevin Harrington, representing CFA, backs this application and reads a presentation of the Flag Shop in Victoria, British Columbia, including a draft time-table for tours, presentations and FIAV agenda. The congress would be held in late July. Harrington hands out table flags of British Columbia.

Dreyer continues with various announcements: the applicants for membership, DGF, MBV, SBV and HAVSOM, the integration of CIDEAC into APCRA, with a short comment on the structure of APCRA, the retirement from FIAV of the GOH and the retirement of himself and Bartlett from FIAV office at the end of this congress. Dreyer announces the candidature of Michel Lupant for FIAV president and continues "are there any other candidates?" Roman Klimes proposes Charles Spain for president. Spain declines because he is willing to run for another office.

Upon the question of Dreyer for candidates for secretary-general, Klimes answers that we should first vote the president before going on. Bartlett states, that the acting Board is in function until the end of the congress, and that we are only talking about nominations to office, the election taking place at the end of the sessions, as the agenda states.

Dreyer suggests to the GA that the Board may appoint a temporary chairman during the congress to assist the Board during the sessions, until a new Board will be elected at the end of the congress. Smith agrees to it and states that "this is very much in keeping with the constitution, because article 18 says the Board is elected at the end of each general assembly and at the same time article 19 says that the Board issues directives, which it considers necessary to the success of the activities of the Federation, and if the Board considers the appointment of a temporary chairman helpful to the activities of the GA than he may do so." Smith is not sure whether the appointed chairman will have a vote as a Board member.

Dreyer thanks for the statement and underlines, that the Board was aware of the fact that it was entitled to just issue directives, but that it preferred to reach a consensus on the procedure proposed, and that is the reason why the Board is proposing the chairman and not just appointing it. Dreyer proposes Michel Lupant as the temporary chairman of the FIAV assembly, without having a vote, elections for president taking place at the end of the GA and since there is no other candidate for president, this "would allow to introduce Michel Lupant to the office, which hopefully he, if elected, may have to run for the next 2 years."

Michael Faul asks if Michel would stay in the chair, if another candidate for president emerged, so that he would supervise his own election. Bartlett replies, that - as in the past - the president never conducts his own election, another member of the Board does it. Nominating Michel Lupant for the chair does not
exclude anyone else to run for the office of president. The Board asks Michel Lupant if he accepts to be the chairman and he replies affirmatively.

Dreyer: *Any proposals for the office of secretary-general?* Peter Orenski proposes Charles Spain, Spain accepts the nomination. No other candidate shows up.

Dreyer: *Any proposals for the office of secretary-general for congresses?* Frederick Brownell proposes Bruce Berry, Berry accepts the nomination. Jaroslav Martykan proposes Ales Brozek. Since Brozek is not present, the Board will ask for his consent later. John Lowe proposes Ron Strachan, Strachan accepts nomination.

**Selection of the 1999 FIAV venue** (point 1 of Old Business): Bartlett gives some details about the 1999 FIAV venue candidate, according to the fax message, dated 25 June 1997, he had received from Mr. and Mrs. Webb, co-owners of the Flag Shop in Victoria, "the Webb family will do the job, the congress in Victoria is scheduled from 28 of July to 3 of August 1999, a period of 7 days." The draft time-table includes time for more than 30 lectures of 20 minutes duration, for 3 seminars of 1 hour each, for 3 FIAV sessions of 2 hours each, for 3 half-day tours and for the closing dinner. Dreyer asks, as delegate of the SSV, if there is any representative of the organiser present. Bartlett, explains, that they are not represented directly but through the CFA.

Harrington then continues giving further details of the proposed Victoria venue, mainly on the tourist aspect of the city of Victoria and its historic buildings, the tours to the Maritime and Naval Museums, the Duncan Native Cultural Centre, the Ceremony of Flags and other events. Doreen Braverman, best known to NAVA, and he himself will be members of the organising committee.

Dreyer points out that the situation is somewhat delicate, since the only information on the candidate we have at the time is a fax message from the Flag Shop in Victoria, but on the other hand there is no other candidate." Smith comments the following points: "Though some members may find it unusual, that a non FIAV member is going to sponsor a FIAV congress, this has happened in the past, for example with the Heraldry Society sponsoring the very successful Oxford congress. The important thing is FIAV's oversight. Secondly, in terms of confidence, Kevin and I personally know the people who are saying to carry this congress through and I have great confidence in the Braverman family. I don't know the Webb's, but I do know their business. I can trust them and I expect, that they will be co-sponsors, and the Flag Research Center will offer its services." He highly recommends Victoria both for the advantages of the site and for the organisers. Dreyer thanks Smith for his intervention "because FIAV is in need of some moral guarantee, as we are in a very uncomfortable position, because if we reject Vancouver we then don't know where to go".

Ralph Kelly asks, if the congress is going to be sponsored by the CFA and Harrington answers, that though he wasn't aware of the plans of the Flag Shop in detail, the CFA will certainly sponsor the congress.

Bartlett suggests that "NAVA may hold its annual meeting during the Victoria congress to secure a maximum number of attendants to that congress" and asks the NAVA representative about their opinion. Spain answers that NAVA is confident about the CFA being capable of organising the congress, expresses the gratitude to Kevin and the Webb's for doing that and continues "due to some circumstances, which really were no one's fault, the bid came up after NAVA had its annual meeting last year, this being the reason that though I have spoken to the Webb's, to the Braverman's and to Kevin, and though I am the president of NAVA, I am not able to make a commitment on behalf of NAVA. What I can tell you is that I personally and the rest of the board members stand behind this bid 100% and that NAVA will certainly take this very seriously in co-hosting it, if that's amenable to CFA, and it's my full expectation that when we meet in Chicago next October, that's exactly what we will do."

The secretary-general for congresses recommends to the GA to accept the application from CFA and the Webb's for 1999 in Victoria, British Columbia. Smith seconds it.

The application is accepted by show of hands, with NAVA abstaining and no vote against.

**Membership committee report:** Smith reports that in spite of correspondence hence and forth the task had been very difficult and that the committee intended to wrap up its conclusions for presentation to the GA today, but "unfortunately Ales Brozek is ill today and so there was no opportunity to meet." Smith asks the Board to have their report delayed to later in this week. This is accepted.

**Report of the interim committee on the standing orders project:** Faul having retired from the committee, Spain makes a very long and explicit report on the thoughts of the committee, which basically were focussed on 3 questions: Do we need rules, do we want to have our own rules or should we adopt existing rules, which are already in use at other organisations, and, if we adopt rules, which ones should be adopted? As a result of the analysis, the committee definitely recommends to have written rules. Spain continues: "The difficulty to adopt own rules of FIAV as proposed at the Warsaw meeting lies in that nobody
within FIAV is an experienced parliamentarian and so nobody feels competent to write these rules, which is an extremely difficult work. So we recommend to adopt an existing set of parliamentary rules, which are available in many countries. Though it was said in Warsaw, that FIAV members should provide the committee with rules of their respective countries, the only ones available to the committee were a Canadian and a US book. So the committee only had a look at these two books, of which the one by Boernough's seems to be better suited for FIAV, though we do not recommend its plain adoption as that. If the GA wishes that this matter be continued, then the committee suggests that a deeper study of the Boernough's rules or of any others which might come up be made by a commission which then should make a recommendation in 1999. Another suggestion the committee would like to discuss is, that the committee should have a look at the FIAV constitution and the requirement for majorities in voting. If the GA wants to continue this enquiry, then the committee would recommend, that the committee be empowered to make a recommendation about any possible constitutional amendments there would be necessary.*

Dreyer fears that if FIAV should adopt a huge set of new rules, then those delegates being a lawyer by profession would be in great advantage. Don Healy adds to the speech of Spain, that the advantages of Boernough's are its bilingual French and English text and its very simple rules on only 30 pages. Dreyer replies that in his opinion even only 30 pages would be too much for delegates at an organisation like ours. Dreyer tells the GA that William Crampton had the idea about standing orders mainly because he felt the necessity to improve voting procedures, which tended to be long and often embarrassing, and continues that "when William visited me in 1994 we discussed the standing orders matter and I convinced him to drop an important part of the original articles he had prepared, but he would stick to the rest as presented to the GA in Warsaw. The Board feels that FIAV probably would only need to amend voting procedures to render FIAV sessions more effective, leaving the rest of the constitution as it is. Roman Klimes has prepared a motion (see point 2 of New Business), which deals with voting procedures, and the Board proposes to discuss the matter on standing orders focussed on the voting procedures when we reach point 2 of New Business, while the rest of rules could be sent back for study to the committee to report about again in two years.*

Faul states that if new rules should be necessary, then these rules should be adapted to the needs of FIAV, so that those 30 pages could be cut down, and that regarding the change of voting procedures a change of constitution will be required. Dreyer repeats that FIAV will have to consider carefully which rules if any it really needs and that FIAV must adapt existing rules to its needs and not just take them over from a specific Canadian, American or whatever model. Bartlett agrees to what Dreyer states to underline the position of the Board in this matter. Faul continues that this is not a matter of law, but a matter of procedure within a meeting.

Bartlett suggests that "if the standing orders committee favour a particular type of laws, they may play with those laws and evolve them to what they think suits FIAV best and present their result in two year's time" – the results could be published in INFO-FIAV prior to the next congress. Orenski has concerns about the word "playing" and would suggest to the Board to elaborate some guidelines for the committee within which it can act, sort of a mission statement, because he fears that a new Board may not be able to overlook the matter and decide in a wrong direction. Bartlett replies that it is the GA which decides about rules, not the Board. Dreyer reminds the GA, that "some years ago the Board had tried to know the opinion of FIAV members about voting procedures and constitution amendments through questionnaires and that finally nothing resulted from this action. FIAV works only during the session, otherwise it doesn't work."

Smith: "It occurs to me, that the idea of standing orders is so that when there is confusion what to do one has guidelines. And we have had circumstances like that, but for the first part of FIAV's history we worked by consensus. I looked at the records until 1979, we didn't take any votes, we simply said yes, let's do it." Smith recommends one possibility, which is to ask the commission to have the Canadian system brought to the FIAV GA in the next meeting and have it tested there on a provisional basis, "it might possibly give us a practical guide, which unless anyone objects, we can follow without making a commitment.*

The Board agrees to this idea, no comments come from the floor. Dreyer repeats that the proposition of Smith does not imply that the GA uses those rules, it just gives the GA the opportunity to look at the book whenever need is felt to do so. James Croft argues that "the commission has made its recommendation that having studied the matter the existing set of rules better be adopted with as little modifications as possible. I think that Whitney's proposal is a very sound one, first a trial of those rules, should the occasion require that we need a record spot. The commission, if it is willing to continue its work, should study these rules to see if it can be shrunk and made more relevant to an international organisation such as this, so we seem to be making progress. But it is not developed enough for us to make a definitive decision."

Dreyer reminds the floor that if Spain, being a candidate for office, be elected into office, then the GA would need to choose a new member for the standing orders committee at the end of the GA, since as a Board member he wouldn't be able to continue as a committee member. Michael Faul states that two new members will have to be chosen, since he has retired from the committee. Bartlett then asks Don Healy, if he is willing to continue in the standing orders committee and he replies affirmatively. There is no opposition from the floor to Healy remaining in the committee.

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Dreyer finally summarises the conclusions of the standing orders debate:

"The membership commission, in its new composition, will study the situation further focusing on the Canadian rules, to have it at hand during the Victoria congress for consultation if necessary. Further steps will then be decided by the GA." This is accepted by general consensus.

Martykan asks if this statement won't block any other proposal we will deal later on, Bartlett denies.

UNESCO (point 4 of Old Business): Dreyer shortly explains the new regulations regarding the formal relations of UNESCO with NGO's (=Non Governmental Organisations) as published in INFO-FIAV Nr. 8, pointing out that it is getting more and more difficult to be accepted as a NGO. Some of the requirements needed represent an almost impassable obstacle to FIAV. Dreyer reads a couple of those requirements listed in the UNESCO regulations.

Bartlett continues explaining that "the Board sees no advantage in trying to adhere to UNESCO, this would mean an enormous deal of work, which somebody would have to do and unless somebody is volunteering to do the job, the Board will not do it, because there is no direct benefit to FIAV, and it may be even cost involved." Bartlett suggests, that unless something develops, which makes it absolutely essential that FIAV goes through this application process, we let it drop. Dreyer warns against the obligations FIAV would have within UNESCO.

Croft asks if UNESCO has shown any interest in FIAV, Dreyer denies. Martykan asks about how FIAV came to contact UNESCO. Dreyer tells the whole story as can be read in past INFO-FIAV bulletins. Martykan then states, that the matter was discussed within the Czech Vexillological Club committee and that they saw advantages in applying to UNESCO membership, because UNESCO has a big library which would be useful first to our research and second to keep collections of vexillologists as a heritage accessible to all.

Dreyer answers, on a personal point of view, that "libraries and museums generally do not show any interest in acquiring and not even in being presented with flag book collections unless it is a unique, most valuable one, of national interest or so, because they do not have the money to pay for its maintenance, for the rooms, for the librarian to catalogue it and the like. Anyway, the library is not the point about UNESCO." Bartlett adds that collections usually get buried in the archives. Faul says, that he will make a presentation during the congress about exactly the problem Martykan has raised.

The Board motions that any further investigations into UNESCO be dropped, Orenski seconds. Vote:
Yes: 20
No: 3
Abstentions: 4
A majority of 20 votes decides that no further steps regarding UNESCO will be taken.

Consideration of Membership applications (point 1 of New Business): The acting chairman Michel Lupant calls on Andreas Herzfeld, representative of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Flaggenkunde. Herzfeld tells the GA in German that the DGF, founded in 1995, actually counts some 40 members. Of its regular bulletin, the "Flaggenkurier", 3 issues have been distributed so far, as well as several issues of an irregular, smaller info bulletin. Research is devoted mainly to German flags, specially colonial flags, city and district flags, fair flags, as well as to bibliography of German flag items. (Peter Orenski translates into English.)

Martykan remarks that he is deeply impressed by the work of the DGF and recommends to accept it as a full FIAV member. The Board too recommends to accept the DGF as a full member.

The GA votes the DGF into FIAV as a full member by 26 votes in favour. 1 vote of a delegate is missing, since the FANZ delegate had to leave the room shortly before voting started.

Mauritius Buch Verlag GmbH: Dreyer reads a letter of Mr. Volker Bernhardt, owner of Mauritius, appointing Mr. Jiri Tenora and Dr. Peter Orenski as the representatives of the Mauritius Buch Verlag at the GA. Tenora explains that Mauritius is the only publishing house in the world dealing with reprints of flag books. The house is having some difficulties at the moment, because its first book, the reprint of the 1939 German Navy flag book, is selling below expectations. Nevertheless Mauritius would like to continue with reprints. Mauritius has no members, only customers. Bernhardt says that publishing such books means encouraging vexillology and hence he thinks to fulfill the FIAV requirements.

Dreyer asks for questions, and Faul wants to know if Mauritius is going to publish new books also, because "authors are in need of publishers interested in vexillology, not only in profit." Tenora answers that this should be possible. Faul continues asking if Mauritius is going to reprint old flag charts as well, but Tenora has no instructions as to such an issue. Don Healy asks if Mauritius is publishing exclusively on flags, Tenora answers positively. Martykan doesn't know how to vote on Mauritius because he is expecting the recommendation of the membership commission.

Dreyer points out that, as we have heard earlier in this session, the opinion of the membership commission is not ready yet and that we will hear later about it, but "the Board does not recommend to
accept Mauritius into FIAV. Full membership is not possible, because article 6 of the constitution says that full membership is open to associations or institutions having as its principal purpose the scientific study of vexillology. Just printing and selling books does not fulfill this requirement. Taking into consideration a subsidiary interest in flags, which would make possible an associate membership, then we possibly could accept, that selling a flag book means spreading knowledge on flags. But then we set a precedence and have to deal with representatives of Penguin, of Warne, of Larousse or any other publisher. Editors are not vexillologists, they just want to sell books, that's all." Tenora answers, that publishing of reprints enables the study of flags, and Dreyer replies that libraries do this too.

Faul: "If I remember correctly, in Warsaw, when the Ukrainian Association wanted to join, it was the Ukrainian Heraldic Society, and they were originally off with just associate membership on the grant that they were not a primarily vexillological association. The argument was made, that it is not necessarily the primary or secondary concern but the contribution which they are making to vexillology. And the publishers which you mention, along with many others, who publish flag books, are general publishers, and they publish flag books as a small part when they see a profit. And I guess the Mauritius Verlag, they are making a commitment to vexillological publication, which no one else has done. I don't say this is necessarily determining, but it should be considered."

Dreyer: "We have just one book published by Mauritius and I wonder if the GA is going to accept to have Mauritius as a member whatever category, he will use it for his purposes in selling books. I mean, in my opinion as the Swiss delegate, that the aim to adhere to FIAV is a commercial interest, and not really the study of flags, like the German society or any other association represented here."

Orenski asks if an associate membership can be motioned, Dreyer replies that any motion is allowed and that he is just stating the Boards recommendation regarding Mauritius.

Smith: "I would like to suggest that the commitment to vexillology has been expressed we can say exclusively or principally in the publication of one book, which in fact has not, to my knowledge, made a profit and the promise to come with other books we heard as early as 1993. I shouldn't question without knowledge the motivations but I would like to point out that my name was used in promotional literature for the 1939 book without my prior knowledge or permission and that it would not be inconceivable that a publisher with a large stock of unsold books having membership in a stable international organisation might use the public promotion of that membership as a way of selling books. Furthermore, the point of a publisher, and this is not obviously a rebuke, its the nature of business, that the purpose of a publisher is to make money, unless it's a hobby in which case its not really a business. If it is to make money, then the commitment however well intentioned to publish future books really will be conditioned on making money and they haven't made money yet, so they would not be prepared, I'm sure, to promise that they will never publish non-vexillological books and they could end up as one book on vexillology and many books on other subjects. So I think it's a bit early to determine whether they are committed even to publishing and I think you had a good point that publishing is not scientific study in itself, and there might also be we have no clear rules at the present as to how the name of FIAV may be used. I personally would not see it advantageous to accept them as member in either category."

Orenski asks to move the focus a second away from this and to think about the important contribution Mauritius has made to the publication of "Flaggenkurier", and asks "my German colleagues, if it is fair to say, that without the Mauritius Verlag there would be no "Flaggenkurier" today?" Herzfeld asks in German, that Mauritius has sponsored the first 4 issues of the "Flaggenkurier", but because of the constant delays in publishing, the DGF is going to publish the bulletin from now on alone (Orenski translates into English).

Klimes remarks in German, that by publishing the 1939 Flaggenbuch, Mauritius, which is denied membership in FIAV, has probably done more for vexillology than many a FIAV member, of which we have never seen any representative at congresses or which are always represented by the same person, and of which we never have seen any scientific paper whatsoever. Dreyer first translates into English and then answers that "the fact that some of the members may be badly qualified for FIAV, is not a sufficient reason to therefore accept Mauritius, which in the opinion of the Board does not fulfill the FIAV standard". Dreyer proposes to now vote on admission of Mauritius as a full member. Martykan says that "APCRA is a FIAV member but does not at all qualify to that". Dreyer interrupts to state that the issue on APCRA is already on the agenda and will therefore be treated later.

Tenora says, that Alfred Znamierowski is a good friend of him, but he must say, "that his Flag Design Center is a one man FIAV member with very great commercial interests and so it would be possible to compare the activities of the FDC and the Mauritius Verlag". Dreyer answers, that "you cannot compare them, because Alfred is an artist, he does artwork, he is creative, he designs flags, he generates vexillology, he is an author and he has no more profit thinking than all of us, every association has dues." Tenora: "But then you don't know the German flag book, because it is not just a simple reprint, but also a great research to compile all the additional parts and not only those but also the non-published parts, and that was a very great research work, I want to underline this."
Spain moves to delay the issue of the admission until after the report of the membership commission. Bartlett asks the floor if this motion is accepted and if it is seconded. Paul seconds.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vote on the motion to delay the issue on Mauritus Verlag until the membership committee has stated its opinion on a later session of the GA during this congress:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yes: 23</td>
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<td>No: 1</td>
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<td>Abstention: 2</td>
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The session closes at 21.45 p.m.

**Tuesday, 12th of August 1997**

Michel Lupant opens the session as chairman at 19.40 p.m. As proposed by the Board the day before, Michel Lupant takes over the chair of the GA ad interim until elections for office take place. Before starting business Kevin Harrington is given the opportunity to show a video tape on Victoria.

After the video presentation Lupant officially opens the session. Dreyer counts the delegates, 25 are present (that makes 25 votes of delegates plus 2 votes of the two Board members, totalling 27 votes).

Lupant asks the membership commission to present its report: While Brozek is still absent due to illness, Smith tells the GA that it has been a very difficult task to come up with it not having the written report at hand. As an introduction he reads some of the FIAV constitution articles concerning membership and then continues saying that the distinction between full and associate membership at the time the constitution was revised, about ten years ago, the idea behind it was that as we increased in membership and as more organisations applied for membership we should perhaps make the voting members, those with rights to actually run the organisation, to change the constitution, to decide what would or would not do, we should limit that to those whose principal interest was the scientific study of flags, and that others who had vexillology as a secondary or subsidiary interest would be full members in every way except for it, so they would be associate members in that.

Now, what the commission has come to suggest is the following: either that one, we retain the current constitution, no changes, but if we do that the commission would recommend that we have more explicit details about everything, about what an association is, about what an institution is, what interest in vexillology means and so forth and also in terms of the application for membership..., in addition, that if we retain the constitutional provision, in addition to having this explicit details, also we review all current members to see whether they meet those qualifications. In other words, first we draft the concept of what it is, members should be, can be, and the conditions, and after that's been hammered out, that then we turn around and say, all right, are these current members that do not for some reason meet those qualifications, which should be changed from full to associate, from associate to full or should perhaps be considered as not being an appropriate member at all.

Now, there's another possibility we were suggesting, and that is to adopt a new system. If we take the first course then there would be no constitutional changes, if we take the second course we anticipate there will be constitutional changes if there is either one or the other chosen the commission anticipates that there might very well be changes in current membership, upgrades, downgrades or possibly even appropriate measures towards removing members, so it would be the same there. Now, if you think that possibly the second course is the one that should be taken we have some thoughts about what that might mean to have new constitutional provisions, but it's extremely difficult and that means a much fuller study. However, amongst the considerations, there were five concerns that had been raised, that led to this commission in the first place.

First of all there have been disputes over the question who should be a full member and who should be an associate member, secondly there have been disputes over whether there should be any proxy voting and if so, whether they should be limited in any way, third there have been concerns over possible lack of a future quorum in a GA which would prevent us from doing any business legally at all, fourth there have been questions raised about the suitability of certain member applicants, specifically we have the case of Mauritus Buch Verlag at hand and two years ago we had the case of the Burgee Data Archive, and fifth there have been concerns about the fact that with the increase we are no longer the intimate group that for many years we were, where around one table 10 or 12 people could sit and discuss things and we now haven't got that, and that's just a fact of life and in a sense it's a very positive thing, it means we have grown but it also present problems.

Now what could we do about that, there have been some suggestions, Roman made one about limiting the vote to one vote per state, another suggestion has been made about a candidate membership, that a candidate possibly would be admitted as a candidate member and that possibly at the second congress thereafter we would both know each other and he would then possibly become a full member or an
associate member at that time with no further action, but on the other hand if they never show up again or if the internal structure totally changes that then it might in fact lapse. And there are many thing like that, like for instance having local groups and many, many more suggestions like that. All of those are dependent on the question of whether you want to retain the current constitution but tighten things up or whether you want to look into a new system.

And then, to conclude, we had the specific question of Mauritius Buch Verlag and its application, and this is very difficult, because we're dealing both with the macrocosmic issue that was raised and with the microcosmic of this candidate, and our feeling was, the principle in this is not here, and there have been some delegates which have expressed some reservations. Those two points plus the fact that we don't know what we're doing about membership in general suggests to us that it might be appropriate to wait until the next congress to deal with this, when hopefully we will resolve some of the macrocosmic bunch of question and possibly some of the questions regarding the specific candidate. I don't know if Bruce wants to add anything to this, Bruce? No? Then this is our report.*

The Board proposes to vote on the recommendation of the membership committee to postpone the issue of Mauritius Buch Verlag to the next GA in Victoria. Dreyer summarises very shortly in German the speech of Smith and the proposal of the Board, so that Tenora may understand. Tenora replies that Mauritius fulfils all the points of the constitution regarding membership and that he'd prefer to vote now on associate membership instead of postponing it to Victoria. Bartlett says that "we went through the arguments last night and we won't do this discussion again. The motion at the moment is, do we transfer it to the next congress yes or not. If we don't, do we then have another motion if you like, do we accept them now as an associate member."

Spain wants to know, whether we're going to vote on Mauritius or whether we first should deal with the main recommendations made by the membership committee regarding the change or keeping of the constitution. Dreyer replies that Smith was quite explicit about that and that the issue on the agenda is consideration of membership and that we're dealing with this exact issue at the moment. Spain repeats his question about voting on the commission's report, "not because I want to be contentious, but because I think that this has a direct impact on this particular member, because we were talking about changing the membership requirements potentially."

Dreyer answers that "as a matter of fact this has not directly to do with Mauritius, we do not reconsider Mauritius because he's not a member yet, so that is another issue". Spain is not satisfied with the answer and repeats again his question. Bartlett interrupts, explaining again what the commission report said, "that we need another two years to make a recommendation". Dreyer continues "I think the mess is, that you can interpret two issues from Whitney's speech, the one you say and at the end he said specifically on Mauritius what Ralph just said. I think you have to separate them, or to decide now which one we do first - that's your question - but the Board has recommended and moved to vote on Mauritius."

Smith: "And I think in this particular case it's appropriate because the report was called upon because we had the question of the Mauritius membership, so although the bigger issue is the more important one, we didn't say we submit this as a recommendation, we were really asking you which you may want, so the Mauritius issue raised the request for the report. We didn't make a recommendation, you proposed to move ahead on that, that's all right. I think the Board's motion is correct."

Orensky moves to vote on associate membership for Mauritius. Dreyer: "But then we have first to vote on the proposal of the Board." Lupant asks the floor to now vote on the Board's proposal to postpone the Mauritius issue to Victoria. Roman protests in German, because only Americans and Board members have spoken about the issue and he proposes to have a vote on acceptance of Mauritius as a full member, and if this is not accepted then he proposes a second vote on the associate membership. Dreyer translates and tells the floor, that "first we're going to vote on the motion of the Board, so let's proceed". Dreyer asks if a majority would like secret ballots, this is not the case.

| Vote on the motion of the Board to postpone the Mauritius issue to the next congress: |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Yes | 16 | No | 9 | Abstentions | 2 |

The motion is not accepted, as there's not the \(\frac{2}{3}\) majority of votes needed for ordinary resolutions.

Kilmes moves to vote on the admission of Mauritius as a full member. Nobody seconds. Don Healy asks if motions have to be seconded. After looking at the constitution Lupant replies, that this is written nowhere, but it has been a habit ever since.

Healy thinks that by putting the Mauritius issue on the agenda, the GA necessarily has to vote on it. Bartlett and Dreyer both explain, that the point of the agenda is just a consideration of membership application, not implying any determined procedure, the Board may propose a procedure but it is the GA which finally decides about it...
Kimes moves to vote on acceptance of Mauritius as an associate member. Bruce Berry seconds.

Yes: 19
No: 6
Abstentions: 2

The Mauritius Buch Verlag GmbH is accepted into FIAV as an associate member.

The chairman asks the delegate of the Société Bretonne de Vexillologie (SBV) to present its candidature. Philippe Rault explains to the floor how Alain Rault and he himself had the idea of founding a Breton Vexillological Society during the Warsaw congress and what their aim was. The SBV is intended to be a complement to the work of the French Vexilliological Society, not a concurrence, since research will deal only with Bretonny. At the present the SBV counts 37 members, has regular reunions 3 to 4 times a year and already gathered for its first congress in Dinan last November. The SBV publishes a bulletin 3 times a year. Rault shows some flag designs by Bernard le Brun, such as the city flag of Dinan.

The Board supports the admission of the SBV into FIAV as a full member and proposes to vote on the admission:

Yes: 25
No: 0
Abstentions: 2

The SBV is accepted into FIAV as a full member.

Lupant asks the delegate of the Heraldry and Vexillology Society of Malta (HAVSOM) to present its candidature. No accredited delegate of HAVSOM is present. General discussion ensues about what to do, because time is running out and there is almost no possibility to postpone this matter to a next session.

Martykan asks if those new members admitted already have a right to vote, Dreyer answers, that "unless all applicants have been dealt with, no new member will have a right to vote, because if a member had the right to vote from the moment he's voted in, I could manipulate voting procedures just by placing the candidates order in the agenda." Spain asks, "if there's any reason that candidate delegates have to be present physically". Smith reads from the constitution, article 6d) and further on chapter j), where the presence of a delegate may be considered by the Board and GA in making their decision, its presence though not being compulsory.

Faul proposes to vote on the issue all the same, everybody having seen the Malta delegates at this congress, because not dealing with HAVSOM now will impair the right of vote of the other new members. Dreyer: "The Board basically agrees with that and the Board does not want to give the impression, that we do not support HAVSOM's candidature, in the contrary, we'd like to have them in, but on the other hand they're not here and it's a matter of procedure. But as always in FIAV, we're open to a compromise." Faul moves to vote on admission of HAVSOM as a full member in the absence of its delegates, Martykan seconds. Faul wants to step back as a teller for this one voting, Berry will take over counting.

Lupant proposes to now proceed to vote on admission of HAVSOM as a FIAY full member. Smith asks to hear about the application. Dreyer answers, that the application had been published in INFO-FIAV.

Vote on admission of HAVSOM as a FIAY full member:

Yes: 21
No: 0
Abstentions: 6

The Heraldry and Vexillology Society of Malta is voted into FIAV as a full member.

Lupant announces, that DGF, SBV and HAVSOM have the right to vote from now on.

Motion number 1 of the WVRI (point 2 of New Business): Klimes explains the reason for his motion number 1 in German (Dreyer translates into English), he's fed up with interminable voting sessions and proposes a new system for elections with more than 2 candidates to eliminate at each round the candidate with less votes until only two candidates are left. Then a simple majority decides. Basically it's the preferential system.

Smith asks for an explanation of the system, the Board explains it in more detail. Lupant slightly corrects the written text of the motion, which should read "if more than two candidates stand for election and if no one reaches the required majority, then the candidate with less votes will be eliminated from the next ballot, and so forth." Herzfeld explains, that this is the same system as is used for election of the Olympic Games. Martykan wants to know what happens if all candidates get the equal amount of votes. The Board replies that then the ballot has to be repeated.

The Board recommends to accept the motion of the WVRI on voting procedure, which means an amendment of the constitution. A majority of three-quarters is needed. Smith argues, that a simple majority will do, "because the motion does not deal with a change of constitution but with the election of an officer and we are simply making a reduction of the number of candidates when we take that vote". Dreyer: "But don't you think we should write it down somehow in the constitution?" Faul complains that at Zurich the election of president went to 7 ballots, "believe me, I counted them"(laughter). Smith: "I'm not opposing the motion, I'm just saying that it's not a change, it's an amplification to the constitution."
Bartlett proposes to amend article 14, chapter a), to read: if more than 2 candidates stand for election of an officer, and if no one reaches the simple majority, then the candidate with least votes will be eliminated from the next ballot, and so on.

| The Board proposes to proceed with the vote on motion 1 of the WVRI, with text as has been stated above: |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Yes : 27          No : 0           Abstentions : 2 |

The motion is accepted by 27 yes against 0 no and 2 abstentions (The Malta delegate is not present).

Dreyer announces, that article 14, chapter a) of the constitution will be amended accordingly (see underlined text above).

Motion number 2 of the WVRI (point 3 of New Business): Lupant asks Klimes to explain his motion number 2 on the translation of the constitution into German. Dreyer explains that a raw form of the German text is in the possession of the secretary-general, but that somebody has to correct it, to write it again in good German, have it controlled by a lawyer, and then type it, “does anybody volunteer to do it?”

Lupant proposes to have the constitution translated into Spanish as well. Klimes (in German) finds it necessary to have a German text, since German is an important official language of several FIAV members, and since there is a French text, consequently a German text, and a Spanish text too, should be added, to have all official FIAV languages represented. Dreyer translates into English and then says, that basically the Board agrees with Klimes, but that there must be somebody doing the work. The French text had been done in 1992 by Hugh Boudin, former president of FIAV.

Healy wants to know, who is going to certify the correct translation, and Orenski wants to know, who is going to pay for that certificate. Martykan states, that “the normal procedure when you have many languages as rules, it must be stated which is the dominant language, so in this case we should say it is the English language.” Berry agrees with Martykan, in that in case of dispute it should be clearly stated that the original English text has to be applied.

Lupant proposes to Klimes to present at Victoria a good German text, translated from the English original. Klimes agrees and retires his motion.

Tomas Rodriguez volunteers to elaborate a Spanish translation of the constitution, to be presented at the Victoria congress. The Board states, that the English version will always be the relevant point of reference.

Motion number 3 of the WVRI (point 4 of New Business): Lupant asks Klimes to explain his motion number 3 on the requirements for a FIAV member representative and for proxy voting (Dreyer translates): the person having a proxy vote has to be a member of the organisation represented, the delegate must have an authorised paper of credit, which is signed by the member represented and which is bearing the seal of the organisation, the delegate is a subject of the country where the organisation has its legal seat or is a permanent resident of that country, and the delegate has the right to represent only one FIAV member at a time.

Smith criticises the motion in as “several points do not apply to the current FIAV constitution, for instance the fact that a delegate should be a member of the represented organisation, whilst many a FIAV member is an institution having no members, this is defective, second, that the requirement to be a citizen or permanent resident of the member’s country potentially raises the question of our looking into something that we have no adequate facilities for determining. But the fundamental problem here is that the sovereign right of every member of FIAV to pick that individual, that member, institute or association feels best represents the interests of the member at FIAV, is denied arbitrarily.”

Smith cautions the delegates to think about the dangers of this motion if they should ever come into a situation where they needed a proxy delegate, and this could already be the case for Victoria, if they wanted their rights to be limited. “And then a final consideration, if this is the case, we also run the risk without proxy votes, and I went over this time the last time this question came up, there have been 3 GA’s, where without proxy votes we would have failed to have the quorum, we would not have been able to conduct the business of the association.”

Ralph Kelly agrees “with Whitney, in the principle that each member organisation should be free to stipulate their proxy. For a country like Australia we have been fortunate that we have always been represented since we have been a member, but Australia is a long way away from everywhere and we are sympathetic to the situation that travel is a tyranny of distance. So I also agree with Whitney that the resolution is defective in terms of credentials and in the case of a number of members who don’t have a membership structure.”

The Board recommends to reject the motion number 3 of the WVRI and proposes to vote on it now. Roman argues in German (Dreyer translates), that he wanted to avoid that all the time the same person
represents the same organisation, of which no one has ever seen anybody at a congress nor read a single line of vexillological publication.

Martykan says that "2 years ago we proposed to change the conditions for proxy voting like that: a FIAV member not present at the GA can authorise only such a participant of an international congress of vexillology which is not empowered by any other FIAV member organisation, so I think that proxy voting should remain, but not by the person who is authorised already by his own organisation. There are a lot of people sitting here and watching us, but they cannot vote, so I do not think there are not enough people in the congress to take a vote." Dreyer: "But you are not saying, that we should accept the motion as it is."

Healy wants to know, if it is allowed to the GA to vote on each item of the motion separately. Bartlett denies that.

Lupant proposes now to vote on motion 3 of the WVRI, the Board recommends to reject the motion.
Yes: 2
No: 24
Abstentions: 3
The motion is rejected by 24 No against 2 Yes and 3 Abstentions (29 votes = 25 delegates, plus DGF and SBV and two Board members).

The chairman closes the session at 20.40 p.m.

Thursday, 14th of August

Lupant opens the session at 19.30 p.m., Dreyer counts the delegates, 27 are present. Lupant calls on the delegate of the Heraldry and Vexillology Society of Malta (HAVSOM) to present his society.

Adrian Strickland thanks the GA "for the kindness of permitting HAVSOM to join FIAV and to consider the application under the rather unusual circumstances, so I understand, and I'd like to tell you as I have been requested a little bit about our society. We started on 23 of January 1995 with about 30 members and we've kept that number more or less constant as people dropped out who thought that we didn't fulfill their expectations and more people who joined when they heard about what we do. The society is basically, as the title indicates, a heraldry and a vexillology society, the population of Malta is only 350,000, so we have about 0.001% of the population among our membership, I don't know if anybody else has that sort of statistic. We are quite lucky that we have a number of overseas members and I can foresee that sooner or later in future we might have to split into 2 societies, one dealing with vexillology and the other one dealing with heraldry."

Strickland continues with more details about the society's activities. "To renew my apology for not having been present yesterday I have made an arrangement, which I hope will not disrupt these proceedings too much. There's a glass of sparkling wine here for everybody who would like to taste it." (Applause from the floor.) Dreyer: "This is a Maltese tactic to undermine FIAV's activities" (laughter).

While the GA is drinking the offered wine, John Lowe joins in, now there are 28 delegates (together with 2 votes of the Board this totals 30 votes).

Motion number 4 of the WVRI (point 5 of New Business): After glasses have been put away, Lupant proceeds with the session on motion number 4 of the WVRI and asks Klimes to explain his motion.

Klimes corrects in English the title of his motion on the agenda, which should read one vote per state and not one vote per nation, then continues in German (Dreyer translates): it is very difficult to find a consensus among so many delegates, we have 3 members from Germany, 7 or 8 from the USA and 2 from Belgium, therefore my motion is to have one vote only per "country" [note of the secretary-general: Klimes uses the German term "Staat"], like in the United Nations, thus the quantity of votes could be reduced considerably. By this means the votes could be reduced from one third up to 42% and making decisions will become more easy. The actual members keep their individual membership, but the members from one "country" (= German "Staat") will have to coordinate their voting decision before every voting procedure at a GA.

Dreyer remarks "Roman, you are telling us far too much now from what you originally had submitted as a motion in written form. The original German text of the motion has but 3 lines, you will find its translation in INFO-FIAV. And I must tell you, that the German word Staat translates into English both as country or nation, and as state in the American sense."

Klimes answers, that he had sent all the explanations to Dreyer and Dreyer answers that this is correct, but that the motion in itself had but those 3 lines mentioned. Lupant asks the floor, if there are any questions.

Rault wants to know if with this proposal Bretonny and the Catalan Society will be denied the right of vote. Klimes says no, because Brittany lies within the French Republic. Dreyer remarks to Klimes that his answer is not clear at all and that he may explain more precisely the case of the French and Breton Societies.
Klimes says in German that the delegates of the French and of the Breton societies have to agree on one common vote and that how they do it is their internal affair (Dreyer translates into French and English).

Faul: "Where would this leave North America in particular, because NAVA, which is a member of FIAV, embraces both the United States and Canada. We also have the Flag Research Center, which is a specific private body, which publishes a magazine to which people subscribe and we have the Chesapeake Bay Association and the Great waters which are member associations like the Flag Institute. There are 3 completely different categories, where would they end in this proposal?"

Theo Stylianides remarks, that the same applies to SAVA and also Sven Dahlström remarks, that the same applies to the Nordisk Flagelskab. Bartlett speaks in the name of the FRCSL and asks Klimes, "which two of the German members we now have are willing to give up their voice. Are you willing to give up your voice here at the congress? Under your rules only one German organisation can be permitted to speak."

Klimes: "Yes, for only one vote for Germany." Orenski starts explaining what Roman means, Dreyer interrupts: "The Board has thought about the motion unrealistic and not practicable, and recommends not to accept the motion".

Smith: "Fictitiously I would like to suggest that I am very much in favour of this, because we have 50 states in the United States, so...(laughter), but very seriously, Roman has actually hit upon a very important point, which we should not overlook and which the membership commission looked into, and that is with the increasing numbers it is no longer possible to run the GA the way we once did, where for example we would have a small table and a dozen of people would sit around it. That does change the nature, it requires more time, its difficult for people to hear and may be it makes for a less intimate. One of the points the commission had is an alternative, which is not one vote per country, but a regional corpus that would represent 3 broad regions of the world. I don't think this particular solution is a good one but it does address an important question. One further comment, the modality as proposed by Roman is not clear, does this mean that for example all the German associations would have to sit together and on each vote come to a conclusion before the vote was made or are they simply going to delegate and say to one person you vote however you decide. I think both of those are kind of nightmare scenarios in terms of our efficiency."

Healy: "One thing that is not explained in the motion, is whether those that are deprived of the vote, will still have the right to speak at the meeting, and if they do have the right to speak, you'll still have the same number of bodies engaged in the debate. The actual vote takes 15 seconds, to raise your hand and to count, but it's the debate that matters I don't think anyone really wants their association left out of the debate, specially in countries where the number of members, like with Spain and Catalonia, if they disagree in something they have no vote."

Klimes remarks in German (Dreyer translates), that the idea was to avoid the splitting away of societies from one mother society, so that in a few years we would have several societies instead of one.

Lupant reminds the floor, that "FIAV is a federation of vexiological associations, we are not the United Nations and our delegates are not representatives of a country government." Klimes wishes a translation of Lupant's words into German, Dreyer does.

Strickland asks, if proposals should not normally be seconded before they are debated. Lupant answers by questioning if anybody wishes to second the motion of the WVRI, nobody raises hand. Lupant continues. "In that case no vote."

Martykan remarks that the previous motions where not seconded either and Dreyer answers, after looking at his notes, that indeed the motions were not seconded and obviously nobody from the floor reminds having done so, "it's the fault of the Board, we didn't ask for." Smith seconds the motion, "for the sake of moving the meeting along."

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<th>The Board proposes to vote on the motion number 4 of the WVRI regarding one vote per &quot;Staat&quot;:</th>
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<td>Abstentions : 1</td>
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"Proposal of APCRA (point 6 of New Business): Lupant asks the secretary-general to explain about the proposal of APCRA on establishment of an international commission on protocol and state symbols.

Dreyer reminds the floor, that the facts had been published already in INFO-FIAV and that all he got was a fax message from Anibal Gotelli announcing his proposal, which basically is the same as Gotelli had presented during the Warsaw congress. After having written back asking for more details, also regarding the aims and structure of APCRA, the secretary-general got no more answers.

The Board then proposes to report the whole issue to the membership commission and to have it discussed at the next congress in Victoria. Spain asks if it is to discuss the membership of CIDEC in its new form or the recommendation for the creation of this commission. Dreyer answers that there is already a membership commission and that it should study the whole matter, report to the Board at the next congress and then it will be put on the agenda for the next GA to start all over again.

Ralph Kelly. "It seems to me there are two issues here, one is the credentials of APCRA, which you
are wishing to refer to the membership committee, and the second is a proposal called the international commission of protocol, of which there is nobody here to talk about."

Dreyer agrees with Kelly and expresses the idea of the Board to have the whole issue reported to the membership commission, which basically should deal with the membership status of APCRA, since this is no longer the old CIDEIC, it is a completely different organisation with new goals, new statutes, and which is very close to the Argentina government. CIDEIC having disappeared, FIAV should, at a minimum, reconsider the membership status of APCRA, and in this package we could at the next congress further discuss or not discuss the proposal of APCRA on the international protocol commission, depending on the recommendations of the membership commission."

Strickland wonders, "if with postponing the matter we're not just delaying something which nobody has really put too much into it. I mean there's plenty of time between now and the meeting of British Columbia for it to be resurrected and I propose that we delete the whole thing. Why should we carry it over, when the promoters are not really interested in doing anything about in the interim."

Smith: "Ralph's question was a good one, are we dealing with the protocol, with the commission that's been recommended or with the membership of CIDEIC, and as you answered, the Board is proposing that the membership of CIDEIC be under consideration by the membership commission, because it has so radically transformed itself that it may not any longer be qualified as a member. Therefore the whole question of protocol commission is secondary and should only be dealt with once that's been dealt up." Smith then would like to know about some guidance for the membership commission, as to the constitution should be maintained, or as to some complementary rules."

Dreyer answers that this matter on the work of the membership commission will be dealt with at the end of the GA under the point "any other business", because first elections have to take place, which probably will change the personal composition of the commissions.

The Board motions to report the whole APCRA and protocol commission issue to the membership commission and to have it report about its recommendations at the congress in Victoria, Dreyer seconds (as delegate of the SSV).

| Yes   | 28 |
| No    | 1  |
| Abstentions | 1 |

The membership commission will report to the GA in Victoria about their considerations on the FIAV membership requirements of APCRA and on APCRA's proposal of an international protocol commission.

Alain Raullet asks "to reconsider the membership application of the Burgee Data Archive. As you know the BDA had applied for membership at the Warsaw congress in 1995 and was not admitted because the BDA was not present. As we have got the chance, that Peter is here, cold we reconsider the admission?" Dreyer asks Raullet if he is presenting a motion, he replies affirmatively. Orenski seconds.

Dreyer reminds the floor of article 6a) of the constitution, where it is said, "that a membership application has to be received by the Board no later than 6 months before the opening of the next GA, and the Board hasn't got any. Somebody reminds the Board of the one Peter Edwards had sent in 1995 and Dreyer asks the floor if this is still valid, "because if this is still valid, then all the applications of the last 30 years are still valid." (Embarrassment at the Board and at the floor.) Dreyer says to Edwards, "Peter, it's not against you, but it is not the correct way." (General rumour on the floor).

Edwards answers, that "the reason you didn't get a second application from me was that when I asked you for a formal statement, I knew the result of the vote in Warsaw, and I knew from a confidential letter from William Crampton two years ago that this was the result of an engineered change in the voting procedure, which was engineered for some other purpose, he also apologised that he had implied that burgees was not a legitimate study and in this particular letter which I have at home and obviously didn't bring with me, because I didn't know what would occur this week, which I am frankly delighted about, but may be I shouldn't be, so that was I didn't reapply. Maybe be over the last 2 years some of the contributions I or my associates have made may be will become a bit more legitimate and not exactly at the bottom of the vexillogical foot (laughter), which we seem to be, have I said too much? (laughter) Then I said enough, perhaps."

Dreyer: "We're not talking about the quality of the work you're doing, we're talking about the motion of the Breton Society, which has not gone through the usual procedure - actually nothing is usual at this congress (laughter) - but it's not way it should be. What bothers me a bit about FIAV is that we do different things at every congress, what was decided that way at a congress will be decided the other way round at the next congress, and this sets precedences which you cannot turn up with whenever you like, because there is a precedence for every situation."

Bartlett: "Speaking on the FRCSL, taking into consideration that the BDA failed by one vote at the last congress to become a member, and we all know what Peter and the Burgee Data do, I have no problem in revalidating his application of two years ago, if he's willing to let us do that." Edwards: "Yes, he does." Bartlett: "And considering now he's come here, we know what he does, he failed on a technicality, because it was a clear vote, and everyone here knows, just for one vote he failed, so that's what the Sri Lankan
society thinks."

Dreyer asks Edwards: "Why didn't you try again?" Edwards answers: "I didn't try again because of the rather, what should I say, unpleasant letter I received from you. It seemed to me, that whatever happened in Warsaw would reoccur here, if I applied and may be I'm right in terms of what you're saying now." Dreyer: "You just got a letter telling you the result of the voting and as Ralph said, it was very close."

Bartlett: "The past is the past. We know what the intention of the meeting two years ago was, so let's try to find a point where everybody believes it was an error on behalf of the GA, that somebody who we know about, because of just one vote failed to get in." Dreyer: "As a matter of fact, we are free to do what we want, because there is no compulsory rule, there is only this point 6a) of the constitution." Bartlett: "If the GA decides to do something, the Board has to follow the GA."

Orenski: "The motion has been seconded." Bartlett: "The motion they have put has been seconded, so we vote on the motion, and if the motion goes through and Peter is willing to join us, we can do it here and now." Klimes wishes to have the words of Bartlett translated into German, Dreyer summarises the whole discussion in German.

Martykán: "We do not know how many delegates were present in Warsaw, for example I was not, so, I have nothing against this application, I cannot vote in favour of the motion without getting any information, what you are usually expecting. There are some other new associations accepted in this week and I don't know if they are able to vote in favour without it, with only a simple motion seconded and now voting, so I think such information should be done before."

Orenski proposes to have the BDA make a presentation, Martykán agrees. Bartlett: "Let's do the motion first." Harrington remarks that the main reason why the BDA failed to be voted in at the Warsaw congress, was that Edwards was not present. Now that he is, Harrington would like Mr. Edwards tell the GA some details about the BDA to give the delegates some idea on how they should consider the BDA application.

Klimes reminds the GA (in German), that in Zurich the Vexillogiky Klub failed to send its membership application in time and that endless discussion ensued because of the intended twisting of the constitution, and that he pledges to strictly apply the constitution (Dreyer translates).

Kelly says, that "according to the constitution any applicant has the right to reapply for membership at any later GA. This is a GA, so let us have the resolution, reconsider the proposal, if that is passed, then we can hear from the Burgee Data and then vote on that." Dreyer: "The motion is already on the floor and seconded, so let's vote."

Klimes asks in German, why the BDA didn't apply again, Dreyer answers him in German that the question was raised and answered already. Dreyer then translates the conversation into English and Edwards gets a bit upset, "that's the third time now I've been asked this question, William Crampton said to me in a confidential letter after Warsaw, he apologised both for the voting and for the situation and he said, don't bother applying again, they will only screw you. Sorry, Mr. Chairman."

Dreyer: "Well, thanks it wasn't me who wrote that (laughter), and you will have to forgive me, but as the secretary-general of FIAV I have the beautiful task to congratulate those members coming in, but I have the task to inform those which did not get in as well, this has nothing of a personal note." Edwards: "You did write me a letter, where you asked 7 points of clarification. I was able to clarify them by referring you to my application, which presumably you haven't read." Dreyer: "If there is somebody in here who reads FIAV stuff, then it's me. OK, we won't get personal now, so think we're going to vote now."

Lupant announces the voting on reconsideration of the membership application of the Burgee Data Archive, upon motion of the SBV, seconded by the USFF. Dreyer asks Raulet to which membership category he intended his motion to be, associate or full (Lupant translates into French). Raulet answers: "Full member."

| Yes       | 25     | No     | 1       | Abstentions: 3 |
---|---|---|---|---|
There are 28 votes counted, 1 missing. The voting procedure is repeated, because Healy, a teller, forgot to count himself.  
Yes: 26 | No: 1 | Abstentions: 3 |

The membership application of the BDA will now be reconsidered.

Klimes proposes to report the BDA issue to Victoria, general discussion ensues. Dreyer: "We will revert to Roman's motion later, first we have to deal with the BDA membership application, because it's on the floor first. So please, Peter, present your application."

Edwards: "This occurred this week, I had no intention of reapplying, as I have said, but some very nice people spoke to me this week". Edwards continues to explain his vexillological specialty and to defend the legitimate status of his work, which is very difficult because there is so little documentation about burgees, seemingly the more documentation about a certain field of flag interest there is, the more legitimate the speciality becomes, for instance with national or provincial flags, "but when you get at the bottom, the burgees, there is almost no documentation. Although there are 88 registered yacht clubs in"
South Africa, I have found records of 177 clubs, and only 6 of them have a burgee registered at the Heraldry Office. It seems to me very important, that those clubs should be recorded, and I and my associates seem the only ones to be doing that. No only am I at the bottom of the boot chain in terms of vexillological area, but in terms of historians. I found that the national historians kind of look down on the naval historians, and if you speak to the naval historians about the maritime historians, well, you know, you're in trouble, and at the bottom of that are the yachting historians. So if you're dealing with burgees and your friends are yachting historians, you get nowhere. But I feel that it is a legitimate speciality, and so do my associates.

I think Don told in Warsaw that we were 11 or 12, we are now 37 people who are associated with me, mainly through my membership in the maritime information association in the U.K., most of these people are connected with maritime museums.* Peters Edwards continues telling the GA about the various associates of his BDA in detail as well about the work done so far and his past and planned contributions for various magazines and finally asks to accept his application as a legitimate contribution to the social science of vexillology. [Applause].

Faul remarks, that Peter is underestimating himself and "from what he has said and from what I believe, I would say the study of yacht club burgees is as valid a subdivision of vexillology as the study of religious colours, police flags or city flags of whatever has been dealt with in papers at this congress." [Applause]. Harrington explains how helpful Peter had been to him looking for an unknown Hong Kong burgee.

Smith defends the scientific aspect of vexillology, where we should not judge by more or less important topics, since every aspect of this social science is important or may become important in future and therefore we have to respect them all.

John Lowe: "This is my first vexillological meeting I have been to as a delegate and I feel there are few enough vexillologists in the world and I am somewhat disappointed to see that FIAV is spending a lot of time trying to keep vexillologists out, and I think FIAV should make it very easy for vexillologists to come in. There's no question that Peter Edwards is a true vexillologist and I think we oughta just vote and say yes and have done this." [Applause].

The Board asks Lowe if this is a motion and Lowe denies, he was just giving his opinion. Healy moves to award full membership in FIAV to the Burgee Data Archives, Orenske seconds.

Lupant announces that we first have to deal with the motion of Klimes and continues: "Any person seconds Mr. Klimes? I remember that the motion is to discuss the admission of the BDA at Victoria". Lowe seconds for the sake of getting on.

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<th>Motion of the WVRI (Klimes) to report the candidature of the BDA to the Victoria congress:</th>
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<td>No : 26</td>
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<td>Abstentions : 3</td>
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The motion is rejected.

Klimes states in German, that the BDA did not send in an application 6 months prior to the congress and hence this voting is not valid, Dreyer answers in German explaining to him that the GA did decide about the validation of the application of 1995 a while before and that the FIAV constitution does not mention that an application is no longer valid once rejected, so the step taken by the GA is legal. Dreyer then summarises in English.

The chairman announces the motion of the CBFA (Healy) to accept the BDA into FIAV as a full member:

| Yes : 26                                      |
| No : 1                                       |
| Abstentions : 3                              |

The Burgee Data Archives is accepted as a full member of FIAV.

Peter Edwards thanks the GA for the election, apologises to Dreyer for the dispute and asks Klimes to have a chat with him.

Andreas Herzelf, speaking in German in his own name and not in the name of the DGF, being the first time at a FIAV meeting, expresses his deep disappointment, because the whole thing is very unprofessional, he misses tolerance and reminds that most of us are here for holidays on their own expense and many of us have families with them and therefore he proposes to have but one session in future with a tight time schedule, for example presentation of members need no more than 5 minutes, because most candidate associations are best known already, or regarding a change of constitution perhaps 20 or 30 minutes of debate and then always a decision, no postponements into other session, except where there are real objective reasons. This year we have an extraordinary situation, and I'd wish, if such a case, which nobody really hopes, happens again, we first choose a new president, this is done in every country (Orenske translates simultaneously).
Lupant continues with the session: "Now we must close our New Business agenda by the election of officers of the Board for the next two years. I remember to the delegates that to be elected it is the simple majority, article 14 of the constitution, and I remember also, that on the second session of this assembly we have adopted the following motion: if more than two candidates for election, and if no one reaches simple majority, then the candidate with least votes will be eliminated from the next ballot. First, the election of the FIAV president.*

Dreyer: "I will take over now, because the only candidate we have at the present has been talking to you just now. Is there any other candidate?" Lowe proposes to accept Monsieur Lupant by acclamation, Bartlett seconds, Dreyer: "OK, then acclaim." (Applause).

**Michel Lupant is elected president of FIAV by acclamation.**

The new FIAV president then answers "it is a big honour for me, but I am afraid." (Laughter).

Lupant announces the second election, this time for secretary-general of FIAV. Dreyer: "As you know, I will no longer run for office, we have candidates..." Bartlett: "We have currently Bruce Berry, (the floor disagrees) ehm, no, sorry, we have just one candidate, Charles Spain. Do we have any other candidates?"

Smith moves to elect by acclamation. (Applause).

**Charles Spain is elected secretary-general of FIAV by acclamation.**

Dreyer asks Spain to perhaps do a short statement, and Spain replies "I already did" (Laughter).

Bartlett: "For the third position of secretary-general for congresses, as people know I am retiring, we currently have 3 candidates for this position, they are Bruce Berry, Ales Brozek and Ron Strachan. Do we have any other candidates?"

The Board distributes secret ballot papers to the delegates. Lupant reminds the floor that "for an officer we need the simple majority, we are 31 votes, so 16 votes will be needed". After counting the ballots, Lupant announces the result:

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<th>Bruce Berry</th>
<th>Ales Brozek</th>
<th>Ron Strachan</th>
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Bruce Berry is elected as secretary-general for congresses. (Applause).

Lupant asks if there is any other Business.

Kelly, representing the FSA, adresses the Board asking for permission to have Ron Strachan present a proposal coming from the flag manufacturers.

Strachen: "There are 7 flag manufacturers here at this conference and we would like to think that you'll accept the proposal of the 7 manufacturers concerned, because we ain't vexilllogists and you ain't manufacturers. The proposal is, that a plaque with appropriate wording comes from the list of manufacturers, the first one being Victoria 1999, for the best paper in the manufacturer's opinion, the plaque being a professional appropriate wording, respectful towards FIAV, plus an award, in this case 700 Rand. We think it is for the better, that it might encourage other people to come forward with papers, and furthermore that award will continue every two years. Hopefully we'll also bring forward more attendees of flag manufacturers from all over the world to at least see how good a work that FIAV does.*

Kelly would like to present a motion to FIAV to consent a prize for the best paper sponsored by the manufacturers.

Smith: "It has been the tradition at FIAV to have a prize, and I think it was the Vexillon, to have it administered by the choice made by the Board, which I think would be the appropriate and I don't know if that was your intention. I think it is an extremely generous and appropriate motion and I applaud it, but, I would suggest that, ehm, NAVA has the same thing, the NFF has given an award, but it is NAVA which does the choice rather than the outside body.*

Faul: "Just on clarification, would the Board of FIAV make the decision as to which was the best paper and would there be some kind of assurance that there would be as many flagmakers as is necessary to present this award at the next congress? There are 7 flagmakers here now, at the next congress there might only be two, and only one of them might be willing to contribute one hundred dollars or something or not to present the award at all. If it is got to be continuous there has to be some sort of structure behind it."

Strachan replies that the 100 dollars would be raised every 2 years and that he criteria of the papers delivered would be those of the manufacturers present and that they make the decision. General discussion on the floor follows.

Dreyer appreciates the idea and thinks it is a good one, but fears the lack of influence of FIAV on the award and a concurrence to the Vexillon.
Finally, the motion, not being seconded, is not voted upon as such, but the GA agrees on a consensus decision to have the flag manufacturers present a prize of US $100.- to the best lecture at every congress.

Lupant conducts the session further to the election of members of the membership and standing orders committees. Bruce Berry and Charles Spain having been elected as secretaries, their places are vacant, also did Michael Faul resign from the standing orders committee. Smith suggests that the constitution enables the Board to appoint those members and Dreyer replies that it does, but that the Board would like to hear some nominations from the floor.

Faul wants to know, if the members of those commissions have to be delegates from member organisations, or if they can be just people who are present at the congress. Lupant answers that anybody can be nominated.

Dreyer announces, that two persons are needed replacing each Bruce Berry in the membership committee and Charles Spain in the standing orders committee and that we have got but Philippe Rault as a candidate, but don't know for which post.

Rault answers, that he’d like to candidate for the membership committee. Harrington proposes Klimes for the membership committee. Smith reminds the Board that it is the Board to appoint the members of the committees, but Dreyer doesn't like to decide, because he fears to be the bad boy afterwards.

Lupant announces that the two secretaries still in function and the two elected secretaries will go outside with the chairman to decide. After they come back, the chairman announces that a majority has chosen Philippe Rault for the membership committee.

The membership commission is composed of Ales Brozek, Philippe Rault and Whitney Smith.

Now the president conducts the choice of the members of the standing orders committee, he proposes Roman Klimes for the post. Smith proposes Frederick Brownell. Faul reminds the Board, that two members must be chosen for the committee, since he did step back from the post. Healy proposes Ralph Kelly.

The chairman asks the candidates, if they accept the nomination. Klimes and Kelly do, Brownell declines. Smith asks, if we didn't already decide to apply the Canadian rules for a standing order. Dreyer answers, that we only decided to have them analysed by the standing orders committee and prepare them for Victoria so that we can make an informal try with those Canadian rules at the Victoria sessions to see if they work and if they might suit the needs of FIAV. Faul agrees on that, and repeats that the Canadian rules will be brought to the 1999 congress and will then be tried for the practical application, and only after that they might perhaps be adopted.

Dreyer announces, that since we have got two candidates and we need no more, the Board accepts them as members of the standing orders committee.

The standing orders commission is composed of Don Healey, Roman Klimes and Ralph Kelly.

Lupant asks the floor if there is any other business.

Bartlett: “The Sri Lankan Association would like to find out about some information on these binational or multinational meetings, which have been going on predominantly in Europe. How do they see themselves as to their accommodating them into the current statutes of FIAV, which only recognises the international congresses every two years? Because we have nothing against member associations meeting on a regional or local basis, but we fear that it may possibly develop into something that may become a rival to the international congresses, particularly if a congress is outside, say Europe, where the majority of our membership is, and they have a meeting within Europe, that may detract our colleagues from Europe from going to the non-European international meetings. So, I'd just like the GA to discuss that and ask our European colleagues what these meetings about and how do they see them themselves.”

(Silence on the floor; just a few words here and there.) Smith: “Given the lateness of the hour, given the fact that we have no further session scheduled, I think it's probably a good idea to postpone this, but also to think about it, because our German colleagues have specifically called some binational meetings with neighbouring countries, like the Netherlands and Czechoslovakia, and it struck me, it's just one little thought, that possibly in expanding upon what our constitution says, which very explicitly says that no member of FIAV shall hold international meetings, that this might be interpreted to mean or interpreted not to mean that one association could not hold a meeting with one other association, so it would be a binational meeting, such as the German proposes, but that nothing beyond that could be done where invitations were sent out, potentially you could have a real competition with the international congress. And I also would think possibly that might be appropriate only in years when the international congress is not held. But may be others will have other ideas.”
Tenora has concerns about the congress reports and asks the Board if it does something to accelerate the publication of these congress reports, because I think that 6 years, that is a little too much and because we have paid a hundred dollars for every issue and we need an explanation form the Catalans, from the Swiss - and Warsaw, well they are in the norm.

Bartlett answers that I have sent out, as the secretary for congresses, letters to the previous congress organisers asking about how the congress reports were going. I have failed at all to receive a response from the Catalan Association, and from the Swiss Society I have been assured that it will be published, that they basically have everything together and that they are going as soon as possible to the printers and they have assured me that it will be done, the money is there and people who have paid for will get those reports. Now, I cannot say that about the Catalan Association, where I had no response back, I spoke privately with our Spanish colleagues here at the congress and they don't seem to know what's going on in Barcelona at the moment, they didn't have any communication yet with them, Sebastian is no longer the president of the Spanish Society, so they don't have any contact with him anymore and they are as much in the dark as we are.

Getting correspondence from the Catalan Society is very hard, virtually impossible. I feel confident about the Swiss Society that they will have their report out by the next congress, and, well, having done a report myself and a lot of us here have already done reports, it is a great deal of work and the biggest problem with all the reports is that quite often the people who present the lectures do not hand it out the report and it takes years to track them down. The host has the dilemma to publish it now and leave out some lectures or summarise them from hand written notes, or to wait until all the material has come together.

After a short discussion on how to manage the delivery of papers and slides, Orens'ki says: "I hate to simplify, but in my experience a very good way of getting around that, is that you have at a certain moment before the presentation to ask the person for his paper and if they don't have them in, they don't get to speak. Serious, it is very efficient."

Bartlett: "Well, I have noticed actually, which I am very pleased, that the host of this congress has been very meticulous in grabbing the papers off the people. They at least got something, if the presenter fails to give back the properly typed version.

Tenora: "Only an example, but in May 1996 we had in the Czech Republic the first national vexillological congress and one year later, in May 1997, all the documents were ready for the copying and I think we have the congress report in September or October, and I think this is a very good tempo and we follow it.

Healey: "If the problem is predominantly the delaying in publishing works of individuals, then those individuals certainly do not care enough for their own work to be published and should not delay the whole report to be published. Perhaps FIAV would issue an instruction to the organising committees that all material not delivered for a period of, say, 12 months, is then no longer acceptable, so the whole isn't held up." Dreyer: "I think Peter Orens'ki suggestion is the best one."

Lupant asks for any other business. Theo Stylianides asks the Board to permit to Mr. Brownell on behalf of SAVA to present a proposal. Frederick Brownell explains how flag manufacturers could with no more cost use two differently coloured clips for hoisting the flag. one for top and one for bottom:

"Our suggestion from a practical point of view in the question of hoisting flags, is whether the manufacturers could probably be asked if they would make one of those clips, probably the top one, simply of a different colour in the case of a flag which could be hoisted upside down, it would cost nothing more and I think it would help certain people in as South Africa, where at the hoist the flag looks the same, it's only when you open it that you find it's upside down. I think it's important for FIAV to guide the international community, this is a practical consideration where I think guidance could be worthwhile in the case of specifically identical plastic clips. I don't know if you like to discuss this first before I raise the second question.

The second suggestion, if I may, is whether FIAV would be prepared, as a matter of general policy to recommend that those countries, which have not already done so, introduce a flag day, we have learned that Australia has done so, and a simple flag code to encourage the correct use of flags. Once again, guidance from above.

Smith: "All my regards for my colleague and Fred and I have known each other for a long time, we have worked on many similar things, but I would be very much opposed to either one of these for FIAV, not in principle. The idea of having marking the top and bottom of the flag, in the United States we have many people who don't know what is the top and the bottom and the same thing you have here, and in terms of flag day and flag code, but I think it's important for us to remember that the concept - if we want to adhere to it, and the constitution says we do - of science is to be objective, scholars, standing outside. Standing outside what is done in the field of flags, whether it is flag design or flag manufacturing or flag promotion, flag honour and so forth, studying everything that takes place, certainly commenting on it and certainly as private individual writing and saying for God's sake have some common sense and mark the top clip as one colour, but for FIAV to do it - take the case of the flag code - puts us, in a totalitarian country which might use it to coerce people or a country like the United States, where the flag code is a religious document for
the worship of the flag, it puts us in the position either of promoting religion or politics or of opposing them. So I think we need these separate from FIAV and do it at a personal level." Orenski motions to sojourn the meeting, Healy seconds.

Klimes comments in German, that both in Warsaw and in Cape Town, the host had asked the foreign attendants for a payment of the congress fees in US dollars and that he has heard, that in Warsaw Polish attendants did pay much less than foreign attendants and that he wishes an explanation, and if this is not a form of discrimination (Dreyer translates).

Bartlett answers that the Board of FIAV has no control over international banking modalities and that "attendants to a congress do it on their own, voluntarily, and that we have to accept the method of payment depending on where the congress is. FIAV has no money, so we can't subsidise people to come to congresses."

John Moody expresses the thanks of the Flag Association of New Zealand for the hospitality and generosity of the South African host and proposes a toast of SAVA (Applause).

Bruce proposes a toast of Victoria (Applause).

Smith: "And I'd like to say a word of thanks to Emil Dreyer and Ralph Bartlett who have done a fantastic job for a long time (Applause)."

Michel Lupant officially closes the GA of the 17th congress of Cape Town at 21.50 p.m.

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The Vexillum

The Board of FIAV has decided to award the Vexillum for outstanding individual vexillological achievements to:

Mr. Ales Brozek

Ales Brozek, member of the board of the Czech Vexilologického Klub, since many years a known author of vexillological articles in various magazines and compiler of a vexillological bibliography, received the Vexillum, which is sponsored every two years by the Flag Society of Australia, during the closing gala banquet at the Kelvin Grove Club in Cape Town on 15th of August 1998.

Zollikofen, May 1998

Dr. Emil Dreyer
past secretary-general of FIAV
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The flag of FIAV: Y/B

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