

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MISSION STUDIES

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MINUTES of IAMS Executive Committee Meeting, Ventnor, USA, June 1982

Present: Gerald H. Anderson (President), Joan Chatfield (Vice-President),
Frans Verstraelen (Gen.Secretary), Paul R. Clifford (Treasurer),
Wi Jo Kang, Sebastian Karotemprel, C. René Padilla.

Absent: Hans-Jürgen Becken, A. Ngindu Mushete.

1. *Minutes* of the IAMS Ex.Ctee meetings at Bangalore, January 1982, were accepted.
2. *Correspondence* was deferred to the respective items in the agenda.
3. *Financial matters*:
 - 1. The Treasurer who was prevented by illness from attending the Bangalore meetings was able to provide the new executive ctee with the necessary information about and insight into *the financial state of the IAMS*.
 - a. A Statement of Receipts and Payments for the three years ended 31st December, 1980 was received with appreciation. Members interested in it can get a copy, however, without the list of donations (since funding agencies generally don't want to be mentioned publicly). The Treasurer will write a note explaining that only a small percentage of the working capital is actually provided by membership fees.
 - b. A Statement of financial position ended 31st December, 1981 was received with appreciation; this statement is available on request.
 - c. A Statement covering January 1 - 31st May, 1982 was given for information to the Ex.Ctee.
 - d. The Bangalore Congress Account was discussed and received. A revised version will be made for the next Ex.Ctee meeting and will include also the special expenses made by the IAMS Secretariat on behalf of the Conference. Information about those expenses will be forwarded by the General Secretary to the Treasurer.
 2. *Financial Committee*:

Of those invited to sit on this Committee all accepted except Dr. Kessler. It was stated again that the *core-group* consists of: Clifford (convener), Camps, Gensichen and Verstraelen; *corresponding members* are: Anderson, Aagaard, Onibere and Jenkins. The minutes of the IAMS Ex.Ctee meetings will be sent to the Financial Committee members with the financial reports. Points for advice and deliberation are e.g. financial implications of DAB- and BISAM activities. A meeting of the core-group is deemed necessary only when concrete proposals will be presented to the Ex.Ctee by the respective standing ctees.
 3. *Expenses Secretariat* are now estimated to be approx. f 15,000 a year. These expenses include secretarial assistance (for which f 6,000 yearly is calculated), printing of the IAMS Newsletter, postage and stationary. The Ex.Ctee, on the basis of the work done and activities undertaken, considered this a fair estimate. This amount will be made available twice a year on request.
 4. *Membership*:
 1. All applicants for IAMS membership were duly considered and finally accepted as new members: Asia (9 indiv.; 1 corp.), Africa (2 indiv.; 1 corp.), Latin America (1 indiv.), USA (12 indiv.), Europe (2 indiv.). Because the Pontificia Università Gregoriana, Rome and its Dean Fr. Ary A. Roest Crolius had sent in the required information, they had also become a corporate and individual member respectively.

2. The suggestion made by Hans-Jürgen Becken to invite all members of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Missionswissenschaft (who are not IAMS members as yet) to become members was welcomed by the Ex.Ctee. The General Secretary will take the matter up with Becken.
Other IAMS members, especially IAMS Ex.Ctee members are invited to look for similar opportunities for expanding IAMS membership in their own continents/countries.

5. *Bangalore Conference:*

1. The General Secretary gave a summary of the *evaluation sheets* answered by 48 participants in the Bangalore Conference (21 Europe, 11 USA, 10 Asia, 3 Latin America and 3 Africa). Several points were welltaken (the summary will be written out as soon as the General Secretary finds time for it).
2. The *official Report* of the Bangalore Conference will be published in *Missiology*. There is now a new editor (Ralph Covell) and IAMS is waiting for more details as regards the size of the issue and the real costs involved. There is an amount of £ 500 available (= approx. US\$ 850) while probable US\$ 1,500 will be needed (which includes also sending and postage of copies to all IAMS members).

3. *Next meeting:*

Though it looks still far away, the planning (at least the thinking of planning) should start already now. (If DAB would have a meeting in July 1983, and BISAM somewhere in 1984, than the next General Meeting could take place beginning of 1985). Most participants (evaluations) prefer AFRICA for the next meeting. There is a firm and enthusiast invitation from Harare - Dept. of Religious Studies, University of Zimbabwe (by Dr. T.J. Mafico). The Ex.Ctee decided to explore this possibility. After a lengthy discussion the following steps were decided upon:

- a. Paul Clifford writes to Anne Hasting -at the moment in Harare with Adrian H., who is head of the Department - to get a realistic assessment about the feasibility of holding a IAMS Conference in Zimbabwe;
- b. If the answers are positive, a letter should be sent to Dr. Mafico asking him whether a small delegation of Ex.Ctee could visit the place (+ people) in order to come to a more firm conclusion;
- c. It was decided that the following persons would be in the delegation: President, Vice-President, General Secretary and Ngindu Mushete. At the same time H.-J. Becken would be asked to join the delegation if he happened to be in South Africa around that time;
- d. Aim of the delegation would be e.g. to investigate the feasibility of holding a Conference in Harare; to explore with local people a theme (themes) which would be relevant to the local context; to create a local base for moral, organisational and intellectual support for a Conference; to investigate possibilities for exposure-situations, etc.

4. *Criteria for inviting people:*

In answer to a question put forward by Prof. Isac Aço as regards criteria used by Ex.Ctee for inviting people to Conferences (and paying for their expenses), it was stated that the available money is allocated to Continents and that preference was given to persons who were supposed to play an active part in one or more aspects of the Conference (key-lecture; workshops, etc.). Also if people are able/willing to contribute part of the expenses involved, is a credit point in selecting them.

6. *IAMS Activities*

A. *DAB-Committee*

Because a good number of the core-group of the DAB-Committee happened to be in the USA during the IAMS Ex.Ctee meeting (Steve Peterson, Andrew Walls and David Bosch) the Ex.Ctee decided to have a fully-fledged DAB-meeting during its meeting, with

also invited participants: Paul Jenkins (President) and Willie Henkel (Secretary).

The DAB-group met with the Ex.Ctee and on its own. (A report of the DAB-deliberations made by Jenkins and Henkel, will be sent to all concerned as soon as it will be available).

It was decided to investigate the possibility of having a workshop of 8-12 specialists in bibliography, indexing, abstracting, together with the Religion Index Board people, somewhere in July/August 1984 either in Chicago or Princeton/New Haven. The idea is to integrate 'mission studies' into 'theology'. Attendance will be only by invitation. - The presupposition of working with the Religion Index Board is that this Board will either enter a process of working with the Religion Index Board or it will start on itself.

Since Mission/Mission Studies is undergoing a redefinition, the whole system of classification (hierarchy, etc.) must be reconsidered.

As regards the planning of a DAB-Workshop, within six months the feasibility for organizing it in 1984 will be clear. A budget for a US\$ 10,000 DAB-programme in 1984 is acceptable to IAMS Ex.Ctee. Information about the feasibility will be sent by Steve Peterson to the Secretariat before the end of this year (1982). - In this connection (finances, etc.) the Billy Graham Center should be approached. On the report given by Steve Peterson the Financial Ctee will then eventually take action.

Further points regarding DAB:

- The IAMS Newsletter should be better used for DAB-matters
- DAB is basically a network of people, not an agency with staff
- Rome + Bangalore decided to organize: 1. Union List of Periodicals; 2. Bibliographies. (ad 1: the climate in USA is not conducive to it - a priority in Third World churches is: training of people and regional lists of periodicals (INDIA is setting the example in several of these activities, namely as regards List of Archives (IMR), List of Periodicals in India, Training of Personnel (cf. TEF's Handbook for Third World Libraries)).
- Check whether the Rome Report(DAB) has been sent to all non-IAMS members (Henkel-Verstraelen).

B. BISAM-project

The Bangalore Conference decided to follow a realistic line of action: a group of participants in Workshop I (Bible and Mission) expressed their readiness to work on the topic '*common witness*'. Marc Spindler would prepare a paper to which others would react. It was expected that this would spark off a new interest in a broader BISAM-project which would include regional task-forces, preparing e.g. regional bibliographies and working on contextual topics.

At Bangalore, there was also a proposal to start in *Selly Oak* with a *Bisam Task-Force*. In Selly Oak there is a concentration of biblical scholars, who through Furguson (President S.O) could be put on the 'Bible and Mission' track.

The Ex.Ctee sees this a real asset to the Bisam-project and decided:

- to encourage Selly Oak (Furguson) to start such an operation as part of the whole BISAM operation
- to invite Selly Oak task-force to send a short announcement about its plans to the IAMS Newsletter and to give progress reports.

NB. It would be a good thing if the work of Leslie Newbiggin re. biblical foundation for involvement of Christianity in Society (in the frame of the U.K. Foundation for the Study of Christianity and Society) could be tied in with the Selly Oak Task-Force.

The IAMS Ex.Ctee on the basis of the '*common witness*' project and the Selly Oak Task-Force would like to explore the possibility of holding a *consultation*, preferably in Selly Oak. It looks forward to reports of both projects at its July 1983 meeting in order to come to conclusions regarding the feasibility of such a consultation.

In a later stage the forming of a *BISAM Committee* can be considered.

N.B. Paul Clifford reports that the United Society for Christian Literature (incorp. Lutterworth Press) is interested in any manuscript improving 'Blauw'. Clifford will write to the editor, Alec Gilmore, that IAMS is interested in cooperation as soon as a manuscript will be available.

C. IAMS NEWSLETTER:

Prof. O.G. Myklebust, the founding father of IAMS 'liberavit animam suam' by writing to the newly appointed IAMS President about the launching of a Journal for missiology and its related fields as a IAMS organ. This suggestion had been brought forward by him already in 1972. This old dream of Myklebust occasioned a lively discussion in which idea and possibilities were weighed. At the suggestion of the General Secretary it was considered and accepted to improve upon the *IAMS Newsletter*, which had already developed beyond a 'Newsletter'.

First of all it was decided to change the name of the Newsletter into:

MISSION STUDIES. Journal of the International Association for Mission Studies.

Other aspects included:

- *Format*: some (US-inspired) favoured a change of format, like the one of the Intern. Bulletin of Missionary Research, others were in favour of keeping the actual format.

- *Content*: a clearer division into sections: articles, News items, publications of IAMS members.

Table of Content not on cover (except for indication of main topic?!).

- *Articles* should be solicited by commissioning, for which contact-persons could be used. - If possible, also responses should be given to fundamental/provocative articles. There should be a bias for Third World contributions, though in principle articles from all over the world would be welcomed.

- *Information* about IAMS activities should feature prominently e.g. on DAB, BISAM etc.

- *Suggestions for articles*: survey-articles on a country (e.g. Zimbabwe), independent analyses of e.g. interreligious dialogue (Mary Hall, Selly Oak; John Boer, N. Nigeria). Stanley Samartha: assessing the present state of dialogue efforts as part of Christian witness + recent bibliographies; Emerging missionary agencies in the Third World, their mission philosophy; Key Yuasa - Japanese in Brasil; Filippe Adolf (?), Paul Jenkins); Sociology behind different missiologies (to be sent by R. Padilla); Present State of mission studies in Germany (Gensichen)

- *Subscription fee* for non-members would be US\$ 12.-- (for IAMS members: free of charge).

N.B. In order to promote IAMS membership in the next issue an application form and IAMS Brochure should be included.

7. Other matters:

1. Requests for free subscriptions (of IAMS Newsletter) are generally not accepted.
2. Request to recommend applications for subsidy is not in our (IAMS) policy.
3. Requests for information (surveys, enquêtes, etc.) should generally be answered by sending merely the IAMS brochure.
4. New stationary will be printed containing also the address of the Treasurer and the name of the IAMS in Spanish!
5. The Ex.Ctee considered it of importance that IAMS would be represented at the *WCC-Vancouver meeting*, 24 July - 10 August, 1983. It commissioned the General Secretary to write to WCC-Geneva to get an invitation for attending as a fraternal delegate. The IAMS would pay 50% of the costs involved.

6. NEXT MEETING of the IAMS Ex.Ctee will take place at Selly Oak, 7-10 July, 1983 (starting with dinner on Thursday and ending on Sunday at lunchtime). - Paul Clifford will make arrangements with Selly Oak.
At this occasion the Financial Committee (core-group) will also meet to discuss e.g. the financial implications of DAB- and BISAM activities. (Camps and Gensichen will be informed about this date, while Aagaard and Onibere will be informed that they will receive communication about the issues involved).

Leiden, 9 August, 1982

F.J. Verstraelen
General Secretary