

Meeting 4 - 8 January 1990, Techny/Chicago

Present: J.S. Pobee (chair), M. Amaladoss, G. Cook, M. Hoesl, M.J. Mananzan, H. Rzepkowski, N.E. Thomas, J.S. Upkong, J. Wietzke

1. After an opening prayer by Michael the president welcomes the members of the Ex. Ctee and presents an address (see App.I) commemorating the demise of Gerdien Verstraelen and John Ferguson and outlining crucial issues of the agenda.

Picking up the personal remarks at the end of John's address Marcella suggests to have a "warming up" by sharing our experiences since our last meeting.

Justin gives a brief account of the projects he is involved in at the CIWA in Port Harcourt and of his attempts to promote IAMS in Africa.

Bill is on sabbatical doing a lot of writing. He is going to drop out from CELEP and is joining FTL from September 1990. He is concerned with the growing polarity of fundamentalist missionaries and liberation theologians. He was instrumental in enrolling a good number of new IAMS members. He pleads for more articles in MISSION STUDIES to serve the Spanish speaking constituency.

Norman has a heavy load of teaching. He is deeply involved in drafting a new curriculum on transcultural mission and planning a new doctoral program in missiology. Looking back to San Antonio with a less disciplined study on mission he envisages a growing importance of IAMS.

Mary John reflects on the political situation in the Philippines characterized by a growing instability and insecurity. She has recently been appointed to the Editorial Ctee of CONCILIUM and is trying to establish an Asian branch of CEHILA with the objective of writing church history from the point of view of the people.

Marcella is in her last year as Dean of Mission at Selly Oak Colleges. Her continuing interest is in the ecumenical dimension of mission. In reference to San Antonio she expresses concern not to become elitist in missionary circles.

She reports that the newly established British Association of Mission Studies has met with a good response.

Michael refers to the initiative of Jacob Kavunkal SVD trying to bring into being an Indian Association of Mission Studies. A first national Meeting is planned for June/July 1990. The statutes of IAMS serve as a model and the Indian Association might develop into a national branch of IAMS.

Horst introduces the Phil.-Theol. Hochschule SVD St. Augustin where he teaches missiology. He looks forward to being more closely related to IAMS as Editor of MISSION STUDIES.

The president gives a special welcome to Horst and expresses his gratitude that an early solution has been found in a difficult situation of IAMS:

2. The tentative agenda presented by the Secretary is confirmed with one addition: replacement of Gerdien.
3. The minutes of the last meeting are accepted without alterations or additions.

4. MISSION STUDIES

The Secretary expresses regret that issue No 12 was published without an editorial and without an announcement of the change in editorship. This was due to the breakdown of communication with Aachen after the departure of Thomas Kramm.

Horst presents his ideas in regard to print and format of MS along the model of verbum svd. There is a strong plea from the Executive to develop MS into a trilingual magazine including articles and communications in English, French and Spanish and to have two summaries respectively.

In regard to production costs Horst gives the following tentative figures:

typing and setting per page:	DM	30.-
160 pages :	DM	4.800,-
printing per issue :	DM	2,50
1000 copies :	DM	2.500,-
Total :	DM	7.300,-

(with additional postage)

Horst is asked to present a proposal in regard to format, colour and lay out of the magazine to the Executive. There should be a special reference for each article to be taken up. If possible, an outline of the next issue should be presented to the Executive. The bibliography should give preference to books published by IAMS members. New efforts have to be made to collect news from the IAMS constituency. The next issue should carry a letter from the president and obituaries of Gerdien and John Ferguson.

5. Finances

Marcella presents a provisional statement of payments and receipts of the IAMS Treasury with a bank balance of £ 18.469,18 as per 28.12.1989. However, it is to be noted that this does not include the full expenses for MISSION STUDIES.

Marcella draws the attention to the fact that British banks charge enormously high fees for converting US\$ checks into British pounds. The Executive confirms the need to reopen a IAMS dollar account at the discretion of the Treasury.

In addition the question is raised whether we need a meeting of the full Executive once a year. This is felt necessary; however the next meeting should be in Europe in order to save money (Bossey £ 3.350 over against Techny £ 8.500 !).

In view of the financial situation no decision is taken in regard to purchasing a computer for the IAMS Treasury. The Treasury is requested to check the possibility of buying computer labour somewhere in Birmingham and to bring back the issue to the next meeting or, if necessary, to present a more detailed application to the Executive by circular letter.

The Treasury is asked to draft a preliminary budget for the next IAMS Conference and to approach potential donors already in 1990.

6. New Membership

The following are accepted as new members of IAMS

1. Corporate members

Association of Professors of Mission c/o Dr. Van Engen, Glendora, CA
Division for Global Mission Evang.Luth.Church of America

2. Individual Members

Dr. Paul Bergsma, San José, Costa Rica
Revd. Patricia Brown, New York, USA
Prof. Dr. Michael von Brück, Regensburg, Germany
Dr. William R. Burrows, Maryknoll, N.Y., USA
Prof. Dr. Benoit Gnambodé, Ouidah, Benin
Revd. David Grainger, Selly Oak, Birmingham, U.K.
Rev. Dr. George R. Hunsburger, Holland, Michigan, USA
Rev. Dr. Tae Yung Hwang, Quezon City, Philippinen
Revd. Lumkile Somon Konzapi, Cape Town, Rep. South Africa
Mrs. Ana Langerak, San José, Costa Rica
Rev. Jacques Edouard Matthey, Geneva, Switzerland
Dr. Lois McKinney, Wheaton, IL, USA
Revd. Dr. George M. Mulrain, Birmingham, U.K.
Revd. Barnabas M. Ngqozela, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Dr. Ismael Noko, LWF, Geneva, Switzerland
Rev. Canon Dr. Robert W. Renouf, London, U.K.
Dr. Jeanette Renouf, London, U.K.
Victor B. Rey Riquelme, Santiago, Chile
Licdo. Jerjes Ruiz, Managua, Nicaragua
Lic. Adolfo Ruiz, Heredia, Costa Rica
Rev. Gert Burkhardt Rüppell, Hauho, Finland
P. Dr. Horst Rzepkowski svd, Sankt Augustin, Fed. Rep. of Germany
Dr. Karel A. Steenbrink, Leiden, Netherlands
Dr. Mark W. Thomsen, Chicago, USA
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Kurian Thottupuram, Chicago, Ill., USA
Prof. Alvaro Vega-Sanchez, San José, Costa Rica

7. Progress Reports on IAMS Projects

There was no time to discuss the progress of the BISAM, DAB and HEALING projects, and the moderators are requested to present their reports in writing. The HEALING report for 1989 arrived at Techny after the closing of our session (see App. II). The moderators are asked to indicate clearly what actions need to be taken. The financial implications have to be shown and to be communicated to the Treasury in advance to the next Executive meeting. The Executive is in favour of having "post Conference" workshops on BISAM, DAB and HEALING for a maximum duration of 24 hours. At the next Executive meeting sufficient time has to be allocated for discussion of the progress reports and of the project workshops in particular. It has to be checked whether different sources can be tapped to finance these workshops.

8. Next Conference

a) Visit to Hawaii

The delegation having visited Hawaii (John, Marcella, Mary John, Joachim) January 2 - 4 present their report.

Thanks to a well planned schedule by Joan Chatfield the visit turned out to be an extremely useful and pleasant experience. There was opportunity to see the possible Conference venue (Hawaii Loa College and St. Stephen's Diocesan Center) and to meet representatives of the Hawaii Council of Churches (Exc. Dir. Ms. Patricia Mumford) and church leaders of various denominations (Roman Catholic, Episcopal, United Methodist, United Church of Christ Disciples and Baptist Convention). Joan had also arranged a special tour of the the Iolani Palace and a cultural evening at the "Paradise Cove".

The members of the delegation argue in favour of having the next IAMS Conference in Hawaii for the following reasons

- Hawaii is located on the Pacific rim
- Hawaiian society is multiethnic and multireligious
- issues of human rights (land distribution, cultural identity of native Hawaiians etc.) are prominent
- Hawaiian society reflects universal problems (militarization, tourism, prostitution etc.) in a nutshell
- Mission in Hawaii is confronted with its colonial past (an issue necessarily to be tackled with in 1992!)
- churches in Hawaii need the ecumenical challenge (Pat Mumford: "We need to overcome our insular existence")
- Hawaii provides a dedicated and well qualified local Committee

b) Venue

The delegation visited Hawaii Loa College meeting the Coordinator for groups, Dotty Fitzgerald and the Vice President Dr. Randy Furushima. The college is located 8 miles from downtown Honolulu on a 135 acre campus with a beautiful scenery. It is a 4 year college founded in 1969 by the Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal and United Church of Christ. Today there is an enrollment of 500 with 200 students living on campus in six resident halls. The student body is international with more than 100 coming from the Pacific islands and Asia.

For the Conference there is availability of 5 residence halls with a total of approx. 150 beds. All rooms are double or triple with an adjacent bathroom to be shared by two rooms.

In the Academic Center there are good facilities for reception (Gallery) and sufficient rooms for workshops. However, there is no auditorium and no chapel. The only room available for plenary sessions and services is the 2nd Floor Lounge with a capacity of approx. 200 chairs. Dining facilities are available in a separate building.

The 20% discount rates for 1992 are

- \$ 31.00 room and board per person per night
- \$ 200.00 for the use of all rooms, dining commons and audio equipment.

There is the possibility to rent a tent at total costs of approx. \$ 6000 for the full period of the Conference.

At a distance of 3 - 4 miles there is the St. Stephen's Diocesan Center providing facilities for both accomodation and meeting. There are 21 single and 27 double rooms. Shower stalls are in the basement. The rates given - not yet negotiated - for room and board per person per

night are \$ 27.50. At the Diocesan Center there is an auditorium with a capacity of approx. 150 people and a chapel with 200 seats.

Both places, Loa College and St. Stephen's, are free for rent in August 1992. Since the University of Hawaii and the Chaminade University have dropped out there are no alternative places to meet in Hawaii.

c) Decision on Date and Venue of Next Conference.

The Executive discusses the pros and cons of going to Hawaii. Questions are raised in regard to the adequacy of the meeting facilities. They are modest, no doubt, but problems seem to be solvable, if both centers are being used.

A number of good reasons are mentioned in favour of Hawaii. The location at the Pacific rim is crucial and needs to be kept in mind in planning the Conference. One of the greatest assets is the fact that a number of local people wish to see this "ecumenical event" happen in Hawaii. It is to be expected that a Conference in Hawaii will be closer to the local churches and congregations than the previous ones. We look forward to a mutual "give and take".

In view of these positive comments the Executive takes the unanimous decision to hold the VII IAMS Conference in Hawaii from August 4 - 11, 1992.

An official letter should go to the Hawaii Council of Churches communicating this decision and asking to set up a Local Organizing Committee and to name a convener. Reservations have to be done with Loa College and St. Stephen's. No final decision is taken, whether to rent a tent or not. The center of activity is supposed to be a Loa College. Accomodation in double rooms will be at Loa, single rooms accomodation at St. Stephen's (all 48 rooms to be reserved). Meals will be at Loa College (except breakfast for those staying at St. Stephen's?). The Local Ctee is asked to provide a proposal for transport.

d) Conference Theme

On the basis and in addition to the discussion at the last Executive (see "Minutes from Bossey") the following proposals are made

I by Norman

Proposed Theme: Christ's Mission - The World's Hope

Subthemes:

1. Freedom from: Mission in Secular Society
"The Truth will set you free" (John 8:31-36)
(with special focus on Central Europe)
2. Freedom for Wholeness: Healing and Mission
"You are free from your sickness" (John 13:12)
3. Freedom and the Religions: Beyond Witness and Dialogue
"The time will come ..." (John 4:21-24)
4. Freedom amidst Oppression
"Let the oppressed go free" (Js. 58:6)
5. Freedom for Creation: Ecology and Mission
"all creation groans" (Rom 8:21-22)
(With special focus on Pacific Basin issues)
6. Freedom for Unity: New Directions
"one in union with Christ" (Gal 3:28)

II by Bill

Proposed Themes:

1. Doing Mission "from the bottom up"

There is a change of political - ideological alignment from East vs. West or communism vs. capitalism towards North vs. South or the powerful vs. the powerless. What are the implications of this for mission in the '90s?

2. The Martyr Witness of the Church

There is a rise in martyr-witness in many parts of the world. What are the implications of this for mission in a time when all attention is attracted by the new religious freedom in the East.

3. The Missiological Symbolism of the '90s.

The 1590s as the beginning of Iberian colonialism and of Catholic missions in the "New World".

The 1790s as the beginning of Protestant mission advances into Asia and the South Pacific under the umbrella of British colonialism:
1792 founding of BMS (1793 arrival of W. Carey in Bengal)
1795 founding of LMS (1776 arrival of 18 missionaries in Tahiti)
1799 founding of CMS.

In the following brainstorming session there is consensus that both, the significance of the year 1992 and the revolutionary movements in Eastern Europe have to be captured in the phrasing of the theme. The title should have a clear Biblical reference and should carry the vision of wholeness and newness. (Michael: "We have to highlight what the official church ignores.") After a long discussion the Executive finally agrees on the following phrasing of the theme:

NEW WORLD - NEW CREATION:

MISSION IN POWER AND FAITH:

e) Subthemes

The president suggests to split into groups to work on the workshop themes. They come up with the following proposals:

Group A

I New World and Mission

1. "The 500 years"
2. The crisis of contemporary utopias
3. The Pacific reality

II New Creation and Mission

1. A biblical study
2. The role of the Church in the New Creation
3. Mission and the New Creation
4. New language in Mission for the New Creation

III Power and Faith (The power of God and the Faith of the powerless vs. the power of the powerful)

1. The ideological question
2. Naming the idols/demons of our time
(sexism, nationalism, racism, me-ism, destruction of the earth)
3. Martyr Witness
4. Wholeness and Healing

Group B

1. Urbanisation and Mission: cities in crisis and creation
2. Popular religiosity and the faith of the people

3. Mission beyond ideologies
4. The challenge of New Religious Movements
5. Rape of the land, rape of peoples
6. Transforming culture: Mission in Christ's Way
7. Faith in a Consumer Society
8. Martyrdom as Mission
9. Christ and the Plurality of Religions
10. Methods and Models in Mission: What is new?
11. The urgency of evangelism

Group C

1. Urbanization and Mission: City and Kingdom
2. Mission and Ecology: Striving for wholeness
3. Christ and the Plurality of Religions
4. Mission in the context of cultural diversity
5. Trafficking of women: A new agenda for Church Ministry
6. Mission and colonialism: past and present
7. Swords into Plowshares: Church and Militarization
8. Church and Peoples' Movements in Eastern Europe

The shortlisting process results in the following 11 workshop themes:

1. Biblical Insights on New Creation in Power and Faith
2. Evangelism: Repentance, Conversion, New Creation
3. Mission and Ideologies: Confronting the Idols
4. Empowerment of Women: An Urgent Agenda for Mission
5. City and Kingdom: Mission and the Challenge of Urbanization
6. Christ and the Pluralism of Religions
7. The Challenge of New Religious Movements
8. Mission beyond Colonialism: New Methods, Models and Language
9. Rape of the Land, Rape of Peoples
10. The Church and the Power of the People: Martyrdom and Mission
11. Popular Religiosity and the Faith of the People

Each workshop should have two co-moderators and if necessary one or two resource persons. A first outline on each of the workshop themes is done by the Executive to guide the moderators. Marcella, Michael and Joachim are asked to finalize the drafts. (see App. III)

f) Conference Schedule

In view of experiences made at previous Conferences the following aspects have to be kept in mind in drafting the agenda and timetable of the next Conference

- to keep lectures and position papers to a minimum
- to give sufficient room for forum papers and sharing of study projects
- to integrate the exposure to local culture and to local issues into the Conference
- to foster small-group interaction in order to help voice grass root missionary experiences
- to plan regional meetings to stimulate national or regional networks of scholars.

After a period of group discussion a first draft of the Conference Schedule is agreed upon. (see App. IV)

- Note:
1. The first day is fully reserved for Exposures.
 2. In addition to the Presidential Address there is only one keynote speech and the Sunday night lecture on the Pacific. There is no agreement whether it is the best choice to have the Presidential Address before or at the Banquet. The President is asked to ponder on this question, to reflect on the contents of his address in relation towards the keynote and to come up with a proposal (if possible, before approaching the keynoter!).
 3. It is consensus to have a joint worship every morning. At the next Executive meeting the Biblical passages have to be chosen and those presenting the reflections. It has to be checked whether there is room for small Bible study groups.
 4. The regional meetings should aim at officially naming regional representatives of IAMS.
 5. We do not aim at having a Conference Statement to be owned by the full Conference but rather an Aide Memoire pointing to the main issues and concerns of the Conference.

g) Selection of Keynote Speakers, Moderators etc.

Criteria to be applied:

- IAMS membership
- denominational representation
- regional representation
- gender balance
- scholarship and practical missionary experience.

The Executive selects the Workshop Moderators (see App. III) and suggests the following to be approached for the keynote address:

1. Kosuke Koyama
2. Choan-Seng Song
3. Gustavo Gutiérrez
4. Christopher Duraisingh

h) Preparatory Process

MISSION STUDIES is to be used to prepare the ground for the Conference:

- No. 13 (May '90) - Announcement of the Conference and invitation to write on the theme
- No. 14 (Nov. '90) - On the Theme
- No. 15 (May '91) - Mission in the Pacific
- No. 16 (Nov. '91) - Workshop Papers by the Moderators
- No. 17 (May '92) - On Hawaii
- No. 18 (Nov. '92) - Conference Report

The workshop papers by the moderators are meant to set the stage for the discussion on the II subthemes. They should be more of a survey stating the issues and reflecting on the workshop goals rather than being position papers. We expect 10 page double spaced papers by April 1991.

In regard to finances it is made clear that all Executive members are expected to look for potential donors and to support the Treasury in fund raising. In view of the rising costs the Executive decides to raise the membership and subscription fees by January 1, 1991:

membership individual:	12 £ / 20 US\$
membership corporate:	50 £ / 75 US\$
subscription MISSION STUDIES:	20 US\$/ 35 DM*

*(Note: Inquiries after the meeting have shown that German banks charge similar high fees for converting foreign checks as British banks do. Since the subscription fees go to Hamburg, it is advisable to have the alternative currency in DM rather than in Pound Sterling.)

9. Conference on Syriac and Oriental Studies

The Secretary passes on the invitation by St.Ephrem Ecumenical Institut to attend a Conference on Syriac and Oriental Studies at Kottayam.

John is following it up within BISAM.

10. Replacement of Gerdien in the Executive Committee

Anna Marie Aagaard is suggested to replace Gerdien, but no decision is taken to this effect.

11. Next Executive Meeting

The Ex. Ctee is going to meet again

Friday, 26 April 1991, 6 pm
to Tuesday, 30 April 1991, 12 am
in Hamburg

12. Miscellaneous

Thanks to Norman there was a well attended dinner with members of IAMS and missiologists in the Chicago area on Sunday, January 7th. The topic for discussion was "Global Mission in the '90s". On behalf of the guests Jim Scherer responded to the welcome of the IAMS President.

April, 1990

Joachim Wietzke

App. I: Welcome by the President to the IAMS Ex.Ctee Meeting at Techny
App. II: HEALING, Activities Report for the Year 1989
App. III: Conference Workshops
App. IV: Tentative Agenda of the Conference