

IAMS Governance Manual

The IAMS Manual is a collection of relevant data that documents the history and governance of IAMS. It is an internal working tool for the executive. But all information in the manual is accessible to IAMS members. Members are welcome to critique and give input to the governance of IAMS.

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1. Constitution of the International Association for Mission Studies (IAMS)

1. NAME

The name of the Association shall be „The International Association for Mission Studies“ (hereafter referred to as the Association).

2. OBJECTIVES

The Association is an international, interdenominational and intercultural body committed to the scholarly study of issues related to Christian mission.

The main objectives of the Association shall be:

- (a) to promote the scholarly study of theological, historical and practical questions relating to the mission of the Church;
- (b) to disseminate information concerning mission among all those engaged in such studies and among the general public;
- (c) to relate studies in mission to studies in theological and other disciplines, through the encouragement of interdisciplinary research programmes and other appropriate means;
- (d) to promote fellowship, cooperation and mutual assistance in mission studies, especially among national, regional and denominational mission study associations and equivalents.
- (e) to organize international conferences of missiologists;
- (f) to encourage the creation of centres of research;
- (g) to stimulate publications in the area of the Association's interest, including an international journal and bibliography.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Individuals, institutions and likeminded associations and networks wishing to further the aims of the association may be admitted to the Association by vote of the Executive Committee.

4. FINANCE

The resources of the Association consist of:

- (a) Subscriptions from members,
- (b) Subsidies and donations.

Every member shall pay an annual subscription determined from time to time by a General Meeting of the Association.

5. OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a General Secretary, a Treasurer, and the Editor of the journal of the Association. The President and Vice President shall be elected, and the General Secretary, Treasurer and Editor shall be approved by a General Meeting of the Association for a period of four years or until the General Meeting next after the expiry of that period.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers with five other members elected by a General Meeting of the Association to represent continental regions for a period of four years or until the General Meeting next after the expiry of that period.

The Executive shall normally meet once a year. Officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be eligible for re-election. The elections shall be governed by byelaws.

6. GENERAL MEETING

The Executive Committee shall convene a General Meeting of the Association about every four years.

All individual members, and one representative of each corporate member, shall have the right to attend and vote at General Meetings of the Association.

At each ordinary General Meeting the Executive Committee shall submit for the approval of the Meeting a report of its activities since the last ordinary General Meeting and its proposals for advancing the objects of the Association.

7. HEADQUARTERS

The Executive Committee shall have the power to determine the location of the Headquarters of the Association. Usually, the location of the General Secretariat is regarded as the Headquarters of the Association.

8. FUNDS

The funds of the Association shall be held in the United Kingdom but if at any time the members resolve at a General Meeting that the funds should not be so held the Executive Committee shall inform the Charity Commissioners of the terms of the resolution.

9. BYELAWS

Byelaws may be approved by a majority of members present and voting at any duly constituted General Meeting of the Association.

10. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Additions and alterations to the Constitution shall be made only by resolution of the General Meeting, carried by a majority of not less than two thirds of those voting. No amendment may be made which shall cause the Association to cease to be a charity in law.

Adopted 29 August 1972

Amended 31 July 1974

Amended 24 August 1978

Amended 28 January 2000

Amended by the XIth Quadrennial General Assembly, 3. August 2004

2a. Byelaws: The Executive Committee

§1

"The Executive Committee (of the International Association for Mission Studies) shall consist of the officers with five other members elected by a General Meeting of the Association for a period of four years or until the General Meeting next after the expiry of that period" (Const. § 5).

§2

The duties of the Executive Committee are:

- a. a. To approve the membership applications of individuals and institutions to IAMS (§ 3).
- b. b. To determine the date and convene a General Meeting of the Association about every four years (§ 6).
- c. c. To determine the location of the Headquarters of the Association (§ 7).
- d. d. Between General Meetings to be responsible for furthering the objects of the Association as listed in § 2 of the Constitution of the Association.
- e. e. To obtain financing through subsidies and donations and to set up a permanent system of financing the work of the Association.
- f. f. Between General Meetings to be the Executive group which has the power to determine all things except those expressly reserved to the General Meeting.

§3

The presence of at least four members of the Executive Committee is necessary for a legal meeting. The President or Vice-President must always be among the four.

§4

A simple majority vote of those present and voting will be required for the passage of any act of the Executive Committee while in session.

§5

These bylaws may be amended by the ordinary voting procedures explained in § 4 above. Changes take effect immediately. They must be presented to the General Meeting of the Association at its next gathering for subsequent approval according to §9 in the constitution.

Approved at the IAMS General Meeting 24. August 1978.

Amended by the executive committee 28. January 2001 according to the Hammanskraal constitutional changes.

2b

Byelaws: General Meeting of the Association

A. Procedure for the election of President, Vice President, and other members of the Executive Committee

1. Setting up of a Nomination Committee

The election process will be guided by an Nomination Committee comprising the following persons:

- the outgoing President of IAMS together with one representative from each of the regions of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America/Caribbean, North America and Oceania, nominated by Regional Meetings in their first session.

The Nomination Committee will constitute itself after the first regional meeting. It will elect its own chair. It may, if deemed necessary, seek the advice of the previous Executive Committee.

2. Preparation of Slate for the Election of President, Vice President and Executive Committee

The Nomination Committee will from names proposed by the Regional Meetings plus the current Vice-President prepare one slate of candidates for consideration by the General Meeting for the positions of President, Vice-President, and five Executive Committee members.

The current Vice-President will normally be nominated for President. However the General Meeting may request the Nomination Committee to propose an alternative.

The six regional areas are represented by the Vice-President and five Executive Committee members.

2.1. Proposals from Regional Meetings

Regional Meetings are required to nominate three persons to be considered for election to the Executive Committee. These are to be listed and take into account the criteria listed in 2.2.

Regional Meetings must obtain the consent of persons they propose for election.

The Nomination Committee has the right to return to all the Regional Meetings to request an additional person be proposed by each region.

2.2. Criteria

Regional Meetings and the Nominating Committee are required to ensure that those proposed for election and included in the final slate of candidates represent a good mix and balance of persons, taking into account considerations relating to continuity, geographical and denominational representation, gender, skills, regional leadership and availability to participate in the work of IAMS.

3. Voting process

The Nomination Committee will present its nominated slate at a General Meeting of IAMS.

3.1. Right to vote

Only full IAMS members present at the conference are eligible to vote and to stand as candidates for election.

Corporate member of IAMS, represented in the Conference, have one vote.

Each individual person has only one vote, either as individual member of IAMS or as representative of a corporate member.

3.2. Secret ballot

The voting will be conducted by means of a secret ballot.

3.3. Majority

The IAMS General Meeting is entitled, by simple majority vote of members present at the meeting, to accept or reject the slate proposed by the Nomination Committee. The meeting may also make suggestions and require the Nomination Committee to present an amended slate.

Adopted by the XI Quadrennial Assembly, Malaysia, 3. August 2004

3. Brief Historical Sketch of IAMS

by Joachim Wietzke

The idea of IAMS was born at the Egede Institute in Oslo, Norway. As early as 1951 its director, Olav Guttorm Myklebust, published a booklet "An International Institute of Scientific Missionary Research". In this the author proposed to set up an institute with the following three objectives:

- to establish and "international association of missiologists
- to organize international conferences for the discussion of missionary subjects" in a strictly scientific spirit"
- to publish a "scholarly review of high standards." (1)

The argument, hardly to be debated, was: Missionary research by its very nature is global in scope and thus needs an international structure.

The proposal met with a positive response from various outstanding missiologists, both Roman Catholics and Protestants like T. Ohm, J. Beckmann, K. S. Latourette, R. P. Beaver, E. A. Payne, and S. Neill. Others, e.g. Charles W. Ranson and W. Freytag, supported the idea of a flexible instrument like regular conferences, but saw no need for a permanent structure like an institute or an association.

In spite of further attempts by O. G. Myklebust to establish an "International Association for the Scientific Study of the Christian World Mission"(2) nothing actually moved towards the implementation of this idea for more than a decade. Considerable opposition seems to have come from German scholars who showed little interest in dialogue with Anglo-Saxon and with American missiology in particular(3). However the proposal to create some kind of "a worldwide interconfessional missiological society" was taken up by the "European Consultation on Mission Studies" in 1968 at Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham. This led to a conference in Oslo in 1970, where the unanimous decision was taken to establish the International Association for Mission Studies (IAMS) with the objectives "to promote the scholarly study of theological, historical, social and practical questions relating to mission, to promote fellowship, co-operation and mutual assistance in its study, and to relate studies in mission to studies in theological and other fields"(4). The first President elected was H-W. Gensichen with A. Camps OFM being the Vice President and O. G. Myklebust serving as the first Secretary and Treasurer.

No doubt, by now the time was ripe for establishing the association. Within a few months more than 200 individuals and 39 institutions applied for membership. Today [1993] the Association has truly become international with more than 500 individual and 78 institutional members. Already in 1978 J. Aagaard claimed that IAMS had grown into the "broadest ecumenical movement in Christendom". This of course, does not apply to numbers but it might be true in regard to continental representation and the wide range of confessional traditions and theological orientations. Though the initiative of founding the association goes back to Protestant missiologists from Western Europe – with the exception of A. Camps the Franciscan scholar from the Netherlands and S. J. Samartha, the Director of the WCC Programme on Dialogue, from India, today the IAMS has developed into a global fellowship with one third of the membership from the South and covering virtually all traditions from the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Conciliar and Evangelical Protestants to the Pentecostal, Charismatic and Independent churches and movements.

Looking into the history of IAMS and asking how the constitutional purpose of this association is being implemented I wish to emphasize the following:

1. 1. IAMS provides a unique forum for the scholarly exchange of theological and interdisciplinary research relating to the missionary dimension of the Christian message. The main instrument to achieve this has been a series of international conferences with an average of 150 participants. Space does not permit to go into the variety of topics and issues dealt with, but allow me to recall at least the places of these conferences: Driebergen, NL (1972); Frankfurt (1974); San José, Costa Rica (1976); Maryknoll, New York (1978); Bangalore (1982); Harare (1985); Rome (1988); Kaneohe, Hawaii (1992).
2. 2. IAMS promotes the fellowship and cooperation of missiologists of different countries and various Christian traditions and helps to disseminate information concerning mission among all those engaged in such studies and among the general public. The main instrument for this has been the IAMS News Letter (since 1972) and our semi-annual journal *Mission Studies* (since 1984). The present circulation is more than 700 copies.
3. 3. IAMS serves as an agency to stimulate and coordinate certain research projects. Already at Driebergen in 1972 a Working Party on Bibliography and Documentation was set up with the purpose to collect, classify and standardize bibliographical information in the field of missionary research. By now this project has grown into a computerized programme on Documentation, Archives and Bibliography (DAB) providing indispensable tools for data collection and facilitating the flow of information between individual scholars, libraries and research institutes (5).

Another area of research crucial to any missiology is its Biblical foundation. At the Maryknoll Conference in 1978 this concern was strongly voiced and led to the inauguration of the IAMS project called "Biblical Studies and Missiology" (BISAM). The main objective was to study "the importance of recent exegetical research for missiology" (6) and to reclaim the New Testament as a basically missionary document. A first fruit of the project was the valuable publication edited by M. R. Spindler and P. R. Middelkoop on "Bible and Mission: A partially annotated Bibliography 1960 –1980" Leiden – Utrecht 1981 and Spindler's challenging article on "Visa for Witness: a new focus on the theology of mission and ecumenism in *Mission Studies* No.5, pp.51-60.

The third project emerged from the IAMS Conference in Harare and was officially approved by the Executive Committee in April 1986 with the title "The Church as a Healing Community". To widen the scope beyond the church this project was later renamed HEALING and no doubt it has proven a useful instrument for the exchange of relevant studies in the field of healing concepts, both in traditional and western medicine. In terms of missiology the project is geared towards the ambitious goal of developing contextual theologies of healing (7).

These projects show the vitality of IAMS. They prove that IAMS is more than a fund raising agency to organize conferences. After all the project work is not done by the IAMS Executive, but by dedicated and active members. The role of the Association is that of an enabler, facilitator and coordinator. It has the function of a mid-wife. Some might call this a limitation, however it is a role not to be underestimated. At the same time it is a healthy reminder, to be for, namely to stimulate and strengthen each member in his or her missiological study and missionary involvement.

To provide an even better framework and infrastructure for this is the ongoing challenge in front of us. On top of our agenda is the question how to extend the services of our Association to areas where IAMS is little known, to Eastern Europe, the Middle East and the francophone countries of Africa and elsewhere. We realise that there are many scholars particularly in the South who do not regard themselves as missiologists, but deal precisely with the issues we are interested in. How do we relate to them? Should IAMS establish closer links with existing national and regional associations or start its own regional and continental sections? Is there a need to sharpen the profile of IAMS or do we continue to provide a platform for as wide a constituency as possible? Do we concentrate on academic study or should more emphasis be given to common commitment in action?

These are some of the questions to be answered by the new Executive. I feel our last conference has given some pointers in which direction to move. I like to mention only two.

First, in Hawaii there was a strong plea to launch a new IAMS Project on "Women in Mission". In the conference women had a significant share, probably a more important one than in any IAMS conference before. It will be wise to build on this and to give women their due place within IAMS.

Secondly, in Hawaii there was a strong feeling that missiology cannot be purely an academic exercise but has to be done from a position of actual involvement in missions. This suggests rethinking our membership criteria and to be more open to groups being actively involved in frontier missionary work. Neither the missiologist nor the missionary activist should reflect and operate in isolation. Both are in need of a creative exchange of theological convictions and missionary experiences, and I know of no better forum than IAMS to do this.

January 1993.

Endnotes:

1. O. G. Myklebust, "On the origin of IAMS" *Mission Studies* III-1, 5, 1986, p.4.
2. Letter from the Egede Institute dated June 5, 1954.
3. W. Urstorf. "Anti-Americanism in German Missiology" *Mission Studies* 11, pp.23-34.
4. Quote from the first IAMS folder.
5. See the various reports of the DAB Working Party in *IAMS News Letter* No. 2, pp.4f; No. 13, pp.8ff; Nos. 16/17, pp.9ff; Nos. 18/19, pp.12ff; in *Mission Studies* Vol. II/1, pp.135ff; Vol. II/2, pp.92ff; No.5, pp100ff, No. 7, pp. 71ff; No. 10, pp.134ff; No. 14, pp.237ff.
6. *News Letter* 13, p.31; apart from various progress reports see in particular D. J. Bosch, "The scope of the 'BISAM' Project", *Mission Studies* No.11, pp.61-69.
7. See the project reports of the Rome Conference by H. -J. Becken, in *Mission Studies* No.10, pp.146-149, and by Chr. Gründmann in *Mission Studies* No.11, pp.70-72.

3a.

Location and Theme of IAMS Conferences

- 1972** I. Conference in Driebergen, Netherlands
- 1974** II. Conference in Frankfurt, Germany
"Mission and Movements of Innovation"
- 1976** III. Conference in San José, Costa Rica
"Tradition and Reconstruction in Mission: Where are We in Mission Today?"
- 1978** IV. Conference at Maryknoll, New York, USA
"Credibility and Spirituality in Mission"
- 1982** V. Conference in Bangalore, India
"Christ's Mission to the Multitudes: Salvation, Suffering and Struggle"
- 1985** VI. Conference in Harare, Zimbabwe
"Christian and Human Transformation"
- 1988** VII. Conference in Rome, Italy
"Christian Mission Towards the Third Millenium: The Gospel of Hope"
- 1992** VIII. Conference in Kaneohe, Hawaii
"New World – New Creation: Mission in Power and Faith".
- 1996** IX. Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina
"God and Mammon: Economies in Conflict"
- 2000** X. *Conference in Hammanskraall, South Africa*
"Reflecting Jesus Christ: Crucified and Living in a Broken World".
- 2004** XI. *Conference in Port Dickson, Malaysia*
"Integrity of Mission in the Light of the Gospel".
- 2008** XII. *Eastern Europe Lake Balaton, Hungary*
"Human Identity and the Gospel of Reconciliation: Agenda for Mission Studies and Praxis in the 21st Century".

3b.

IAMS Executive Meetings in Chronological Order

- 1976** November 26-27, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- 1977** March 25-27, Aarhus, Denmark.
- 1978** February 9-11, Maryknoll Fathers, New York, USA.
- 1978** August 20-25, Maryknoll Fathers, New York, USA.
- 1978** November 17-19, San Luchesio, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- 1979** August 17-19, Dunbar Hall, University of Aberdeen, Scotland.
- 1978** January 1-5, United Theological College, Bangalore, India.
- 1980** July 30 – August 1, Casa Pallotti, Rome, Italy (during the DAB Conference in Rome)
- 1981** April 10-12, School of Church Music, Croydon, London, England.
- 1982** During the Vth IAMS Conference, January 1982, Bangalore, India.
- 1982** June (without date), Ventnor, USA.
- 1983** July 7-10, Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham, England.
- 1985** June 13-16, Ventnor, USA.
- 1986** April 20-24, Rome, Italy.
- 1987** November 26-29, Rome, Italy.
- 1988** June - preceding the conference in Rome.
- 1989** January 12-16, Bossey, Switzerland.
- 1990** January 4-8, Techny, Chicago, USA.
- 1991** April 26-30, Hamburg, Germany.
- 1992** March 6-9, Steyler Missionwiss. Inst, Sankt Augustin, Germany.
- 1992** During the VIIIth IAMS Conference, August 3, Kaneohe, Hawaii, USA.
- 1993** January 7-11, Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham, England.
- 1994** January 27-31, Steyler Missionswiss. Inst., Sankt Augustin, Germany.
- 1994** September 24-28, Washington D.C., USA.
- 1995** November 24-26, Hamburg, Germany.
- 1996** During the IXth IAMS Conference, April, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
January 9-12, Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham, England.
- 1998** January 28- February 2, Missionsakademie, Hamburg, Germany.
- 1999** January 27-31, Rome, Italy.
- 2000** During the Xth IAMS Conference, Hammanskraal, Gauteng, South Africa.
January 25-30, Maryknoll House, New York City, USA
- 2001** January 29 – February 4, Int. Baptist Theol. Seminary, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2003** 28 Jan-2 Feb, Paris, France .
- 2004** 29,30 April, New York, USA, 30 July, Port Dickson, Malaysia (old Executive), 6 August, Port Dickson, Malaysia (new Executive) .
- 2005**
- 2006** 9 November and 8 December, teleconference.
- 2007** 26-31 January, Karoli Gaspar University, Budapest, Hungary.
- 2008** 25-29 January, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California, USA and 15-16 August, Balatonfured, Hungary.
- 2009** 9-12 January, Ripon College, Cuddesdon, Oxford, UK.
- 2010** 15 January, 12 July, 8 October, 10 December, Teleconferences.
- 2011** 7 February, 9 May, Teleconferences.

3c.

List of Executive Members

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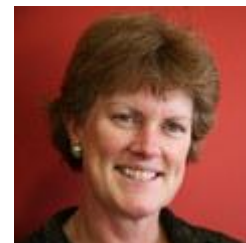
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3d.

IAMS Presidents, General Secretaries, Secretariats

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	SECRETARIAT
1972	H W Gensichen	A Camps	OG Myklebust	Oslo
1974	A Camps		A F Walls	Aberdeen
1976	A Camps	J Aagaard	F J Verstraelen	Leiden
1978	J Aagaard	G H Anderson	F J Verstraelen	Leiden
1982	G H Anderson	J Chatfield	F J Verstraelen	Leiden
1985	J Chatfield		F J Verstraelen	Leiden
1986	J Chatfield	J Pobee	J Wietzke	Hamburg
1988	J Pobee	M Amaladoss	J Wietzke	Hamburg
1992	M Amaladoss		J Wietzke	Hamburg
1995	M Amaladoss	C C Ok	K Schaefer	EMW, Hamburg
1996	C C Ok	P Suess	K Schaefer	EMW, Hamburg
2000	P Suess	D Whiteman	B Nygaard	Areopagos, Copenhagen
2004	D Whiteman	P Mwaura	F Dokman	Nijmegen
2005	P Mwaura	J Bonk	F Dokman	Nijmegen
2007	P Mwaura	J Bonk	J Van Butselaar	Nijmegen
2008	J Bonk	M Vahakangas	C Ross	CMS, Oxford

4.

Guidelines for Appointment of Honorary Life Members

The executive can appoint IAMS Honorary Life Members as a tribute to outstanding accomplishments in missiology and dedicated services to IAMS.

1. Criteria

Honorary Life Members are appointed on the basis of the following criteria:

- 1: Exceptional services to missiology
- 2: Exceptional services to IAMS
- 3: Candidates should be retired from official posts
- 4: Candidates are to be appointed by a unanimous decision of the Executive

2. Entitlements

Honorary Life Members are entitled to free membership of IAMS and free subscription to *Mission Studies*

3. Nomination

Any two members of IAMS can nominate a person for Honorary Life Membership. A nomination shall be submitted in writing to the Executive with a motivation for the nomination.

4. General guidelines

- 1: Appointment of Honorary Life Members will take place according to a restrictive policy in order to limit the number of such members.
- 2: The Executive shall seek to provide a proper continental balance in its appointments. Pursuit of such balance is, however secondary to the stated criteria (see 1. above)
- 3: Newly appointed Honorary Life Members will be presented in *Mission Studies*.
- 4: On the IAMS Website each Honorary Life Members will be portrayed.

These guidelines shall be made known to IAMS members via the IAMS website. Any two members can at any time send nominations to the executive for consideration.

The following persons hold status as Honorary Life Members:

Arnulf Camps, Holland
Gerald Anderson, USA
Joan Chatfield, USA
Rene Padilla, Latin America
Willem Saayman, South Africa
John Pobee, Ghana
Andrew F. Walls, Scotland
Frans J. Verstraelen, The Netherlands/Zimbabwe

Deceased Honorary Life Members:

Stanley Samartha, India (deceased, July 22, 2001)
O. G. Myklebust, Norway (deceased Autumn 2001)
Paul Rowntree Clifford, England (deceased January 19, 2003)

5a. Criteria for Membership

General

The basic criteria for all types of membership of IAMS is acceptance of the objectives of the association:

- to promote the scholarly study of theological, historical and practical questions relating to mission;
- to disseminate information concerning mission among all those engaged in such studies and among the general public;
- to relate studies in mission to studies in theological and other disciplines;
- to promote fellowship, cooperation and mutual assistance in mission studies;
- to organize international conferences of missiologists;
- to encourage the creation of centres of research;
- and to stimulate publications in missiology

Further to that all members, except Honorary Life Members, are expected to pay the annual fee to the association.

Individual Members

Criteria for *Individual Membership* are

- Acceptance of the objectives of the the associations
- Academic qualifications, normally doctorate or equivalent
- Research active (publications within the last 5 years)
- Recognition by peers (recommendations by two sponsors required)

Individual members pay an annual fee determined by the General Meeting (Constitution §4). For the period 2001-2004, the annual fee for individual members is \$30 or £18 per year – or \$100 or £60 for four years.

Associate Members

Criteria for *Associate Membership* are

- Acceptance of the objectives of the the associations
- Enrolment in a doctoral level research program
- Recommendation by doctoral supervisor and a IAMS member

For the period 2001-2004, the annual fee for associate members is \$15 or £9 per year – or \$50 or £30 for four years.

An Associate Member cannot maintain the associate status for more than 5 years (Constitution §3)

Corporate Members

Corporate Members are institutions *engaged in or who wish to support the development of mission studies*.

Included in this category are libraries, schools, national associations for mission studies, mission councils, mission agencies, etc.

For the period 2001-2004, the annual fee for corporate members is \$120 or £75 per year – or \$440 or £270 for four years.

6. Projects and Interest Groups

The following guidelines has been established for IAMS *Interest Groups* and *Projects* (adapted from 1997 Executive Minutes 5f):

Projects

IAMS Projects has the following features and guidelines:

- the ownership of projects should be with IAMS
- projects should provide opportunities to disseminate information and stimulation for further research
- projects must be enabled to draw on funds
- *Mission Studies* as journal of the Association should be the basic means of communication
- Projects must have specific goals and a time frame
- all projects end with the Conference
- projects may end with a book or other publications
- projects have to report to the Executive and to the Conference
- every member is supposed to write up a one-page summary of his/her interest and this page should be shared with all the members participating in the project activity.

IAMS will make available to an interest group a sum of up to GBP 5000 to make possible the drawing up of a project with a defined time-limit to be funded essentially by outside agencies. The purpose of the initial grant is to draw together a small group of four to five key people to propose and write up the project. This consultation will be expected to produce two to three papers for publication in *Mission Studies*. Prior to the project going to an external funding agency, it is to be reviewed and approved by the IAMS Executive.

Interest Groups

The difference between *IAMS Projects* and *IAMS Interest Groups* should be observed. The *IAMS Interest Group* is more informal and belongs to the category of networking. Interest groups have the following features and guidelines:

- have a convenor
- should be appointed by the Executive Committee
- report to the Executive Committee and the Conference
- the life of the group be between conferences unless renewed

As the *Interest Group* develops it might develop into a *Project*.