

PROPOSAL

COMMISSION FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (CDC)

Aiming at enhancing and expanding the successful work carried out by the IMU in the developing world through the Commission on Development and Exchanges (CDE) and its Developing Countries Strategy Group (DCSG), we propose to terminate the CDE and the DCSG and to create the Commission for Developing Countries (CDC) with the following mission

- to manage, strengthen, and promote the programs of the IMU in developing and economically disadvantaged countries,
- to search for funding to support the corresponding activities, and
- to establish institutional partnerships with scientific organizations with common goals.

History

The 14th General Assembly in Shanghai, China in 2002 recommended increased attention to the support of mathematicians and mathematics education in the developing world. In response, the IMU established a Developing Countries Strategy Group (DCSG) in 2003, to guide it in its policy and activities in this area.

In particular, the DCSG has coordinated the work of the Commission on Development and Exchanges (CDE), besides adding new IMU initiatives in the developing world.

At the 15th General Assembly in Santiago de Compostela, Spain in 2006, the Executive Committee reported that restructuring of CDE and DCSG was needed and recommended that the two be merged into a new structure, to be named Commission for Developing Countries (CDC). The General Assembly authorized the Executive Committee to set the CDC on an interim basis prior to a formal proposal to be submitted to the member countries for approval.

In 2007 the Executive Committee appointed a Committee for Developing Countries for the interim period 2007-2010, charged with

1. deciding about the division of resources between CDE and DCSG, and
2. working out a formal proposal for the structure of the Commission for Developing Countries.

Based on the work of the Committee for Developing Countries, the Executive Committee makes the following proposal:

PROPOSAL

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The Commission for Developing Countries (CDC) will be formed by
 - (a) six members elected by the General Assembly:
 - President
 - Secretary for Policy
 - Secretary for Grant Selection
 - three members-at-large, in representation of Africa, Asia, and Latin America;
 - (b) two members-at-large appointed by the incoming IMU Executive Committee, following its election at the General Assembly;
 - (c) one member-at-large appointed by the ICMI Executive Committee.
2. Every member will be elected or appointed for a four-year term starting on the first day of the calendar year following that in which the election or appointment has taken place. The President will not be immediately eligible for a second term. The Secretary for Policy, the Secretary for Grant Selection, and the members-at-large can be elected or appointed for at most two consecutive terms in the same position.
3. In the event of death, incapacity, or resignation of one of the members in Clauses 1(a) and 1(b), the IMU Executive Committee shall appoint a successor for the unexpired term. In the event of death, incapacity, or resignation of the members in Clause 1(c), the ICMI Executive Committee shall appoint a successor for the unexpired term.
4. The composition of the CDC should reflect good regional balance consistent with its goals. The members will be established mathematicians chosen for their work on behalf of mathematics in the developing world. The members-at-large mentioned in Clause 1(a) will be mathematicians working permanently in a country of the corresponding region.
5. The CDC will designate a Grant Selection Committee that will be chaired by the Secretary for Grant Selection. The composition of the Grant Selection Committee should reflect good regional representation consistent with its tasks.

At least half of the Grant Selection Committee members should be from outside the CDC.
6. For the election of the members listed in Clause 1(a) the IMU Nominating Committee will form a slate with at least one name for each of the positions of President, Secretary for Policy, and Secretary for Grant Selection and at least two names for each of the three positions for members-at-large.

Alternative names for each of the positions can be proposed at the General Assembly from the floor. The most voted candidate to each of the six positions will be elected.
7. The budget of the CDC will be established by the IMU Executive Committee on a year-by-year basis, based on the budget estimates approved by the General Assembly for the CDC term.
8. The formal constitution of the CDC will be submitted for approval by the member organizations of the IMU by postal ballot, prior to the 16th General Assembly to be held in Bangalore, India in 2010 so that, if approved, election of the new members may take place at the 2010 General Assembly.