

International Mathematical Union

Resolutions made at the eighth General Assembly in Otaniemi, Finland
1978

RESOLUTION 1

The General Assembly wishes to thank the Government of Finland and the Organizing Committee for the great help they provided for the attendance to the Congress of 47 young mathematicians (selected and partially supported by the International Mathematical Union) from developing countries or from countries with severe currency regulations, by waiving fees and by providing free accommodation. The General Assembly hopes that similar actions will be taken by the authorities of the country where the next ICM will take place.

RESOLUTION 2

The General Assembly recommends the Executive Committee to draw the attention of ICSU and COSTED to the exceptional large attendance attracted by ICM and to the very great efforts made by IMU and the Organizing Committee of the ICM to help young mathematicians from developing countries to attend ICM and to emphasize that under such circumstances much more significant contribution from ICSU to the next ICM (than the one made for Helsinki) would be justified.

RESOLUTION 3

The General Assembly endorses the view that the ICSU recommendation to consider the introduction of a tax of US \$ 5 on scientific participants at Union congresses and conferences at which a registration fee is charged is against the policy of IMU.

RESOLUTION 4

The General Assembly does not propose an increase in IMU dues, but proposes a special appeal for contribution to finance development activities, beginning with the allocation of not less than US \$20,000 for the quadrennium 1979–1982.

RESOLUTION 5

The General Assembly resolves that the next General Assembly be called at about the same time and place as the next International Congress of Mathematicians.

RESOLUTION 6

The General Assembly resolves to establish a “Commission on Development and Exchange” with the following terms of reference:

1. The Commission shall consist of a Chairman, and nine other members (including the Secretary of IMU, ex-officio), elected by the General Assembly of the Union (G.A.) on the nomination of the President of the Union.
2. The Commission shall elect, from among its members, a Secretary who shall act also as its Treasurer, unless the Commission appoints another member for that purpose. The Chairman, the Secretary (if any) and the Treasurer (if any) shall be designated as Officers of the Commission. The Commission may, in exceptional circumstances, elect the Chairman as Secretary or Treasurer, as the case may be, provided that the Commission has at least two different (elected) officers. The Commission shall make its own financial arrangements, subject to By-law 10 of the IMU.
3. Acting in accordance with the Statutes and By-laws of the Union, and the administrative policies of the Union, as determined by the Executive Committee, the Commission shall:
 - (a) support and encourage the growth of Mathematics in developing countries and cooperate with appropriate bodies to that end;
 - (b) support the exchange of visits with member countries of the Union in which, for one reason or another (e.g. non-convertible currencies), such exchanges are not easy to arrange;
 - (c) advise and assist existing agencies working towards the same objective with due regard to the non-governmental and non-political nature of IMU and to its administrative policies, and without duplicating or prejudicing the work of other Commissions and Committees of IMU at points of common interest.
4. The Commission may accept gifts, legacies and subventions, subject to the Statutes of IMU, Section 16. The Commission shall make its own arrangements for the utilization of such funds for the activities mentioned in (3).
5. The Commission shall report annually to the Executive Committee on its activities and provide a financial statement.
6. The Commission shall file a quadriennial report at each regular meeting of the General Assembly.

The Commission shall come into existence on January 1, 1979, and the "Commission on Exchange" shall be dissolved from that date.

RESOLUTION 7

The General Assembly urges the Executive Committee of the Union to take positive steps towards the adhesion of the People's Republic of China to our Union.

RESOLUTION 8

The General Assembly approves the financial reports for the years 1974–1977 as printed in the IMU Bulletins.

RESOLUTION 9

The General Assembly expresses its thanks to Professor B.H. Neumann and to the Australian National University for their help in the production and circulation of the Canberra circulars.

RESOLUTION 10

The Eighth General Assembly of IMU endorses the resolution of the 15th General Assembly of ICSU on free circulation of scientists, and requests the Executive Committee, elected at this Assembly, to do their best to implement the spirit and the letter of this Resolution, paying special attention to the attendance of invited speakers and other participants at the ICM and other scientific gatherings sponsored by IMU.

The President-elect of IMU is respectfully requested to report to the next General Assembly on this matter.

RESOLUTION 11

The General Assembly resolves that the Scientific Programme of the 1982 International Congress of Mathematicians (i.e. the invited addresses and the general arrangements of the programme) be decided by a Consultative Committee consisting of nine members. The Executive Committee shall determine the number of members to be appointed by the Organizing Committee of the Congress; this number shall be at least two and at most four. The remaining members of the Consultative Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, except that its Chairman shall be appointed by the President of the Union.

RESOLUTION 12

The General Assembly of the International Mathematical Union authorizes the next Executive Committee to study effective ways to further improve the system of selection of invited speakers to the ICM. To this end, the National Committees are invited to send in writing detailed proposals, remarks and comments to the Secretary of the Union, within the next year.

Any recommendations by the Executive Committee resulting from this study shall be submitted for approval to the member countries of the Union.

RESOLUTION 13

The General Assembly resolves that the recommendation for the location of the 1986 Congress be made by a Committee appointed by the Union and having on it at least two representatives of the Organizing Committee of the 1982 Congress.