Resolutions of the International Mathematical Union General Assembly 2002

Resolution 1

The General Assembly resolves that the next meeting of the General Assembly will be held at a time and place conveniently linked to the International Congress of Mathematicians in Madrid, Spain, in 2006.

Resolution 2

The General Assembly expresses its gratitude to the Organizing Committee of ICM 2002, chaired by Ma, Zhi-Ming.

The General Assembly also expresses its gratitude to Li Ta-tsien for his hospitality reception and excellent arrangements at General Assembly meeting in Shanghai.

Resolution 3

The 14th General Assembly gives warm thanks to the Executive Committee and to the President of IMU for their work during the period 1999-2002.

Resolution 4

The General Assembly gives especial thanks to Phillip Griffiths for his excellent work as Secretary to the IMU over the last four years assisted by Arlen Hasting and Linda Geraci. It also thanks the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) for its generous support of the IMU secretariat over this period.

Resolution 5

The General Assembly recommends continuing the tradition of the 1994, 1998, 2002 ICMs, by holding an Emmy Noether lecture at the next two ICMs (2006 and 2010), with selection of the speakers to be made by an IMU appointed committee.

Resolution 6

The General Assembly of the IMU endorses the "Best Practices" document of its Committee on Electronic Information and Communication (CEIC), also endorsed by the IMU Executive Committee at its April 13, 2002, meeting. In particular the Assembly endorses the provisions designed to ensure access by mathematicians of the developing world to current mathematical literature: the posting of the articles on personal homepages and servers and the practice now beginning with several publishers of making journal articles in electronic form freely accessible five years after they have been published, or even sooner. An important part of making mathematical literature available is coming to agreement on common standards for digitization. The Assembly commends the CEIC for its work on this matter and urges further efforts in this direction.

Resolution 7

Notwithstanding these times of heightened tension and security concerns, we urge a continuation of scientific exchange and publication. The IMU opposes efforts either by governments, organizations, or individuals to restrict contacts and interactions in the world mathematical community. Specifically we oppose holding individual mathematicians liable for the actions of their governments. The IMU endorses the principles expressed in the International Council for Science (ICSU) ARTICLE 5 of STATUTES.

Article 5 of the Statutes of ICSU, as adopted at the 1998 General Assembly, reads as follows:

In pursing its objections in respect of the rights and responsibilities of scientists, ICSU, as an international non-governmental body, shall observe and actively uphold the principle of the universality of science. This principle entails freedom of association and expression, access to data and information, and freedom of communication and movement in connection with international scientific activities, without any discrimination on the basis of such factors as citizenship, religion, creed, political stance, ethnic origin, race, colour, language, age or sex. ICSU shall recognize and respect independence of the internal science policies of its National Scientific Members. ICSU shall not permit any of its activities to be disturbed by statements or actions of a political nature.

Resolution 8

The General Assembly of IMU expects the Executive Committee to develop a proposed mechanism to involve members from the National Committees for Mathematics, not on the Executive Committee, to assist in the selection of slates. This proposal should be put forth to the 2006 General Assembly.

Resolution 9

The General Assembly recommends the guidelines for receiving Colloquia support from IMU be further developed and available on the IMU website.

These scarce funds should go primarily to supporting mathematicians from developing countries and high quality international conferences that take place in developing countries.