

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF THE

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF

MENSA INTERNATIONAL

IN

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2001

Minutes of the twenty-fifth meeting of the International Board of Directors of Mensa International Limited held at the Danubius Grand Hotel, Budapest, Hungary commencing at 9:00 am on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2001.

**A. ATTENDEES AND PROXIES**

Chairman	Dave Reminc
Director of Administration	Annette Kunz
Treasurer	Noel Burger
Australia	Kate Nacard
Belgium	Peter Kravanja
Bulgaria	Rossy Alexieva (proxy for Grigor Palikarov)
Canada	Phyrne Parker
Czech Republic	Miroslav Jindrisek
Denmark	Scott Ramsey
Finland	Hannu H. Kari
France	Jacques Quintallet
Germany	Carl-Christian Dressel
Hungary	Bibiana Balanyi
Italy	Giuseppe Mazza
Malaysia	Danny Hoe (proxy for Lawrence Hie)
Netherlands	Willem Bouwens
New Zealand	Tony Ellis
Poland	Grzegorz Wojcik
Singapore	Marina Tay
South Africa	Tim Knights
Spain	Carlos Sala
Sweden	Erik Aludden
UK-Ireland	Chris Leek
UK-Ireland	Sylvia Herbert
UK-Ireland	Peter Boswell
USA	Jean Becker
USA	Russ Bakke
USA	Dan Burg
USA	Jim Werdell
Yugoslavia	Ranko Rajovic
Honorary President	David Schulman
Past Chairman	Udo Schultz
Executive Director	Ed Vincent
Assistant Director	Rochelle Laurence

ALSO PRESENT:

Present for part or all of the proceedings were: Ariel Griglio (Argentina), Therese Moodie-Bloom (Australia), Joel Teixeira (Brazil), Galija Boganova, Bistra Masseva, Dejan Razsador, Margy Strokova (Bulgaria), Camilo Trujillo Rueda (Colombia), Gordana Novotnicek (Croatia), Vaclav Fortik (Czech Republic), Anne Bourone-Michael, Konrad Hinsén (France), Ingrid Fehrlich, Beate Rother (Germany), Peter Gallo (Hong Kong), Andras Bekes (Hungary), Alessandro Bidoli, Roberto Ugo Perrotta (Italy), Oktay Ahmed (Macedonia), Stig Westerhus (Norway), Spencer Yap (Philippines), Miroslav Haring (Slovenia), Kirsty Black, David Devenish, Mark Griffin, Terry Latter (UK), Cookie Bakke, Ed Becker, Carole Bell, De Freshwater, Donna Jadis, Paul Jensen, Stacey Kirsch, Barbara Lytle, Gerry Riley (USA),

1. **Certification of Voting Rights**

Voting rights certified and accepted as amended:

No. of Votes		No. of Members
4	Ex Comm	4
1	Australia	895
1	Belgium	658
1	Bulgaria	563
2	Canada	1,350
2	Czech Republic	1,245
1	Denmark	524
2	Finland	1,285
1	France	562
2	Germany	2,609
1	Hungary	540
1	Italy	622
1	Malaysia	607
2	Netherlands	2,348
1	New Zealand	341
1	Poland	842
1	Singapore	874
1	South Africa	568
1	Spain	507
1	Sweden	651
7	UK-Ireland	27,396
10	USA	41,782
1	Yugoslavia	560
<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>46</b>	

**2. Membership Statistics (at June 2001, Appendix A.2)**

**Accepted.**

**B. AGENDA APPROVAL**

The Chairman welcomed all delegates and visitors to the meeting. He also said he was very pleased that Honorary President David Schulman and Past Chairman Udo Schultz were present, and invited both gentlemen to speak.

SCHULTZ was pleased to note how much Mensa had grown in the last two years, and said he remained, as always, proud to be a member of Mensa.

SCHULMAN thanked the Chairman for providing him with an opportunity to speak. He noted that this was the first opportunity to meet with the IBD since his appointment. He said that he wanted to bring to the office “the qualities you would expect” and that in following the footsteps of Victor Serebriakoff, he hoped to see Mensa grow exponentially. SCHULMAN then said “Thank you for honoring me with this position.”

SCHULMAN then commented that while Mensa had no official opinions, the society “certainly had a heart” – he requested that all present observe one minute of silence in respect of the tragic events that had occurred in the United States on September 11<sup>th</sup>. This gesture was observed.

The Chairman read a letter from former American Mensa Chairman Mr Gabe Werba, who thanked the IBD for awarding him an International Distinguished Service Award, and conveyed his best wishes to all present at the meeting.

REMINE thanked all the American delegates and visitors who had “over-loaded their luggage” in order to save Mensa some funds, by bringing copies of the latest version of Robert’s Rules to Budapest.

REMINE then asked the IBD to agree to a change in the order of the Agenda. He noted that Motion 29, a motion to remove an MIL Director, was a significant item that would doubtless require extensive discussion. He therefore planned to start discussion of this motion at 11.00am that morning, thus wanted Motion 29 moved to become Motion 10A, and the Board approved this change. REMINE also noted that as Ms CAROLE BELL had been suspended from the position of MIL Director of Development, she would not be sitting at the table or participating in the meeting. She would however be given an opportunity to represent herself when the motion to remove her from office was discussed, as he had notified both the Board and Ms BELL in writing prior to the meeting.

**Moved Burg, Seconded Werdell**

**THAT the Agenda be accepted as modified.**

**Passed unanimously.**

**(01-01)**

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

(Singapore, 14-15<sup>th</sup> October 2000)

**Moved BOSWELL, Seconded DRESSEL**

**THAT the 2000 Minutes be approved.**

**Passed (Burg and Burger abstaining).**

**(01-02)**

**D. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY POSTAL BALLOT**

- 1. THAT Sulynn Choong (Malaysia) be appointed Editor of Mensa World, with immediate effect, for a term ending the last day of the 2002 IBD meeting.**

(Moved MOODIE-BLOOM, Seconded REMINE)

**Approved**

**(01-03)**

- 2. THAT Patrick Khoo (Singapore) be appointed International Webmaster with immediate effect, for a term ending the last day of the 2002 IBD meeting.**

(Moved MOODIE-BLOOM, Seconded REMINE)

**Approved**

**(01-04)**

- 3. THAT Mensa Switzerland be recognised as a Provisional National Mensa.**

(Moved KUNZ, Seconded REMINE)

**Approved**

**(01-05)**

- 4. THAT Mensa International Ltd (MIL) establish a Lance Ware Mensa Award Trust, to honor the work and life of Mensa Founder Dr LL Ware.**

(Moved REMINE, Seconded BECKER, KUNZ, LEEK, MOODIE-BLOOM,  
ZWANENBURG)

**Approved (PARKER abstained)**

**(01-06)**

5. **THAT Mensa Norway be recognised as a Provisional National Mensa.**

(Moved KUNZ, Seconded REMINE)

**Approved**

**(01-07)**

6. **THAT the IBD suspend Ms Carole BELL from the office of International Director of Development, effective immediately. A fair and impartial hearing will be held at the upcoming IBD meeting in Budapest, in conjunction with an agenda motion to remove her from that office.**

(Moved DRESSEL, Seconded BAKKE, BOUWENS, KNIGHTS, NACARD,  
PARKER, RAMSEY)

**Approved ( BALAYNI opposed, KRAVANJA, TAY, RAJOVIC abstained)**

**(01-08)**

## **E. REPORTS**

### **1. Officers**

a.	Chairman	Appendix E.1.a
b.	Director of Administration	Appendix E.1.b
c.	Director of Development	Appendix E.1.c
d.	Treasurer	Appendix E.1.d

### **2. National Mensas (see IGC Agenda)**

a.	Australia	Appendix E.2.a
b.	Belgium	Appendix E.2.b
c.	Bulgaria	Appendix E.2.c
d.	Canada	Appendix E.2.d
e.	Czech Republic	Appendix E.2.e
f.	Denmark	Appendix E.2.f
g.	Finland	Appendix E.2.g
h.	France	Appendix E.2.h
i.	Germany	Appendix E.2.i
j.	Hungary	Appendix E.2.j
k.	Italy	Appendix E.2.k
l.	Malaysia	Appendix E.2.l
m.	Netherlands	Appendix E.2.m
n.	New Zealand	Appendix E.2.n
o.	Poland	Appendix E.2.o
p.	Singapore	Appendix E.2.p
q.	Slovakia	Appendix E.2.q
r.	South Africa	Appendix E.2.r
s.	Spain	Appendix E.2.s
t.	Sweden	Appendix E.2.t
u.	UK-Ireland	Appendix E.2.u

- v. USA Appendix E.2.v
- w. Yugoslavia Appendix E.2.w

3. Provisional National Mensas (see IGC Agenda)

- a. Austria Appendix E.3.a
- b. Colombia Appendix E.3.b
- c. Hong Kong Appendix E.3.c
- d. Korea *No report*
- e. Norway Appendix E.3.e
- f. Switzerland Appendix E.3.f

4. Emerging Mensas (see IGC Agenda)

- a. Brazil Appendix E.4.a
- b. Croatia Appendix E.4.b
- c. Greece Appendix E.4.c
- d. India Appendix E.4.d
- e. Indonesia *No report*
- f. Kyrgyzstan *No report*
- g. Macedonia Appendix E.4.g
- h. Pakistan *No report*
- i. Philippines Appendix E.4.i

5. Sub-Committees

- a. Awards Committee *No report*
- b. Cyberspace Committee Appendix E.5.b
- c. Constitution Revision Committee Appendix E.5.c
- d. Executive Committee Appendix E.5.e
- e. Licensing Committee  
*GRIFFIN distributed a report, apologising for lateness, and asked delegates to please read it and comment later.*
- f. Name & Logo Committee Appendix E.5.f
- g. Small Nations Committee *No report*
- h. International Election Committee *No report*

The Chairman said that in his opinion the conduct of the recent international election was inappropriate. The IEC Chairman had exceeded his authority, in dropping members of the IEC Committee. He had also changed some of the rules during the election, which was unfair to candidates. Further, he did not appear to follow the recommendation of the IBD when it appointed the IEC, to follow the recommendations of the Election Policy Committee.

REMINE also wanted to emphasise the fact that the listing of candidates on ballots and in statements had appeared in alphabetical

order, which was a violation of a specific instruction in the Constitution that the names appear “in order determined by lot.”

LEEK felt it was unfortunate that IEC Chairman DAVIES was not present to reply to these comments, however he acknowledged that there had been problems during the election, and there were also various issues the IEC was trying to resolve at the time. Also, DAVIES had dropped two members from the IEC list, because they were not replying to messages, but LEEK did not think he had dropped them from the Committee.

REMINE said that another major problem had had to do with a breach of the confidentiality of voter ballots. Poll watchers had been able to identify voters and see how they had voted, because they had been instructed to put their names on the ballot papers. This must be prevented in future.

BOSWELL wanted to make two points, the first being that the Electoral Reform Society (ERS) had been criticised in the IEC report, and he felt the criticism might be unfair. Then, BOSWELL noted, the report lists complaints against some candidates, some of whom are named, while others are not. The report also calls for a sanction, and the IEC has no authority to do that.

REMINE agreed with BOSWELL “absolutely” regarding the recommended sanction, and said he would be responding to the report, to the IEC Chairman directly.

## 6. Appointees

a.	Archivist	<i>No report</i>
b.	Constitution Review Officer	<i>No report</i>
c.	Editor, <i>International Journal</i>	Appendix E.6.c
d.	Editor, <i>Mensa World</i>	<i>No report</i>
e.	Gifted Child Programme Co-ordinator	<i>No report</i>
f.	International Webmaster	<i>No report</i>
g.	MensaMATE Co-ordinator	<i>No report</i>
	<i>LYTLE apologised for not preparing a report, and explained that the committee was “redefining its purposes.”</i>	
h.	Ombudsman	<i>No report</i>
i.	Publishing Agent	<i>No report</i>
j.	SIGHT Co-ordinator	<i>No report</i>
k.	Supervisory Psychologist	Appendix E.6.k
l.	International Election Committee	Appendix E.6.l

7.	Executive Director	Appendix E.7
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**E. OLD BUSINESS**

(Singapore, 14-15 October 2000)

1. **IBD passed ASIE 00-22, which ordered that every national Mensa have an internal disciplinary procedure in place.**

LEEK asked if every country had an internal disciplinary procedure in place, and all present confirmed that their Mensa had such a procedure.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Moved BURGER, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD accept the audited financial statements for Mensa International Ltd. for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2001, as presented.**

**Passed. (01-09)**

2. **Moved BURGER, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the Treasurer has an abridged version of the year's financial statements published in the *IJ*, within three months of their approval by the IBD. Along with this abridged version, a statement will be made that the full version is available to any member upon request from the MIL office.**

**Passed. (01-10)**

3. **Moved BURGER, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD approve the budget for the fiscal year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003 as presented.**

BOUWENS asked why there had been a substantial increase in the accounts for legal fees.

BURGER explained that this was provided in case MIL needed to seek legal advice, in relation to licensing issues and commercial activity in future, as he felt was likely.

NACARD asked if the category "Chairman's expenses" was a new addition to the accounts, and BURGER explained that this was a regular budget listing, provided in case a Chairman had travel or related obligations in office.

**Passed (HERBERT & PARKER abstained). (01-11)**

**4. Moved BURGER, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD approve the revised Expense Guidelines as presented.**

**Passed. (01-12)**

BURGER said he had made minor changes to the existing guidelines, mainly to clarify certain items.

LEEK recommended that delegates be fully informed about expense guideline provisions, and asked the Treasurer to be alert to possible abuse for claims and advances, citing a recent request for a ticket purchase, US-Budapest return at \$3500, a cost estimate that appeared excessive, as tickets for that route were readily available at about \$750 at the time.

**5. Moved REMINE Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD Standing Orders Section I subsection 3 be changed to read:**

**“...., but may be invited by their convener with the Chairman’s permission to attend Board meetings and speak....”**

**Passed. (01-13)**

REMINÉ said that the purpose of the motion was to assure that the Chairman was always consulted for prior approval, before members of a sub-committee are asked to attend a meeting or speak at it.

**6. Moved REMINE, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD Standing Orders Section II subsection 4 be changed to read:**

**“Meetings shall be conducted following the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of Robert’s Rules of Order newly revised by Perseus Publishing” and in Section 3 subsection 1, “Demeter’s Manual of Parliamentary Law and Procedure” be replaced with “Robert’s Rules of Order”.**

**(This will also change ASIE 98-35).**

**Passed. (01-14)**

**7. Moved REMINE, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD Standing Orders Section VI. subsection 4 be changed to read:**

**“The person appointed as Chairman of any Committee of the Board, other than the Executive Committee, shall not have the authority to appoint and remove members without the approval of the IBD.”**

**Passed.**

**(01-15)**

REMINE moved this motion, he said, because he wanted to underscore the fact that it was “the Board and only the Board” that could appoint a committee and appoint or remove members from it.

**8. Moved REMINE, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD Standing Orders section IX subsection 1 be changed to read:**

**“Postal Ballots of Board members shall be conducted when approved by a vote of at least four members of the ExComm.”**

**Passed (Burger against, Quintallet abstained).**

**(01-16)**

**9. Moved REMINE, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD Standing Orders section IX subsection 3 be changed to read:**

**“A postal ballot may be conducted by telephone if followed by written confirmation, email or fax.”**

**Passed.**

**(01-17)**

**10. Moved REMINE, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the IBD Standing Orders section XI subsection 1 be changed to read:**

**“All mail from the International Office dealing with meetings and agendas shall be sent by fax, email, airmail, special delivery or first class express, whichever would be appropriate for faster receipt.”**

**Passed.**

**(01-18)**

**10A. Moved DRESSEL, Seconded BAKKE, BOUWENS, KNIGHTS, NACARD, PARKER, RAMSEY**

**THAT Ms Carole Bell be removed from the office of Director of Development for misfeasance and/or malfeasance in office. The misfeasance – perhaps malfeasance – that provides the basis for this motion consists of the following charges:**

1. On or about August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2001 after staying on in a Swiss hotel that was the site of an IBD Executive Comm meeting, Ms BELL deliberately misled the hotel and left without paying her bill. This act resulted in the hotel filing police charges against her. It endangered Mensa's, especially Swiss Mensa's good name. This is not the act of a responsible officer and is at least misfeasance.
2. Ms BELL's actions resulted in MIL feeling obliged to pay the bill in order to avoid her being arrested upon returning to Zurich for her flight home, and any further possible embarrassment to Swiss Mensa or Mensa International. Ms Bell has not repaid MIL for this expenditure which is an act of at least misfeasance.
3. On or about August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2001 Ms BELL sent to many people an email titled "This is absurd – urgent to IBD and IGC" in which she libeled Mr VINCENT, Executive Director of Mensa International, and blamed him and members of ExComm of wrongdoing.
4. She then placed on the agenda for the Budapest meeting and before they were accepted sent to all IBD and IGC, motions that disparage Executive Director VINCENT and wrongly attempt to have IBD sanction a member of the American Mensa Committee. This motion was ruled out of order by Chairman REMINE due to it being unconstitutional and the International Ombudsman concurred on this. This direct circulation of an out of order motion is another case where Ms BELL has acted in opposition to the proper rules. This is not a proper act for a Director of the Organisation to commit and is misfeasance.
5. Despite directions from the Treasurer to all ExComm officers, Ms BELL failed to clear her hotel bill of all personal charges, including a large number of phone calls before departing the Glockenhof Hotel after the ExComm meeting. This led to MIL being charged for items that were her personal responsibility. This misuse of members' funds is misfeasance in office.
6. Ms BELL related to ExComm that she was visiting many national Mensas at their request, Switzerland being one of them, which was not true. The Constitution allows for such official visits only upon the request of the national Mensa. Ms BELL used her office title to gain support from these countries which included funding from these Mensas. She misled them to believe that she was on an official approved IBD assignment. This is at least misfeasance in office.
7. At the ExComm meeting Ms BELL constantly refused to accept the vote of the majority of the ExComm, made disparaging remarks about her colleagues, refused to be bound by legal opinion being sought upon wording of the Constitution, and was repeatedly out of order. This is misfeasance in office.

8. Despite agreement by the other members of ExComm regarding Ms BELL'S website <http://www.carole-bell-development-director.com> called by herself "the development website") she refuses to rename it or take it down. Her direct response to ExComm was "I am ashamed of my ExComm colleagues."
9. It is apparent by her actions and the charges detailed above that Ms BELL cannot work cooperatively nor collegially with her colleagues and will not recognise their votes if they are opposed to Ms BELL's wishes. Elected officers must work together and accept the vote of the majority. To do otherwise is misfeasance of the office.

Evidence to be presented but not limited to:

Minutes of the Zurich ExComm meeting

Communications from the Glockenhof hotel and its staff

Zurich police report

Hotel bills

Emails from Mr REMINE, Ms BELL, Mr VINCENT, Mr DRESSEL, Mr LEEK

Passed by secret ballot, forty votes for the motion, four against, two abstentions. (01-19)

A report on the discussion of this motion is attached as Appendix  
"MOTION 10A – DISCUSSION AND PROCEEDINGS"

**10B Moved REMINE, Seconded Unanimously**

**THAT UDO SCHULTZ be appointed as MIL Director of Development.**

**Passed. (01-20)**

REMINÉ noted that as a consequence of the previous motion, the position of Director of Development was vacant, and asked the Board for nominations to fill that position.

LEEK suggested that both MARINA TAY (Singapore) and TIM KNIGHTS (South Africa) would be excellent candidates for the position.

TAY thanked LEEK and the Board for the consideration, however she reported that she had too many professional and personal obligations to accept a nomination at this time.

KNIGHTS also expressed his gratitude for being considered, yet he was also too engaged with other matters to accept a nomination.

NACARD nominated former Director of Administration and IJ Editor THERESE MOODIE-BLOOM.

SALA nominated former Mensa Spain Chairman XAVIER BELLES ROS.

(Note: BELLES said he was reluctant to accept the nomination since he had been accused on an e-mail list of lying in his election biography. He wanted to make it clear that having opinions about other candidates was legitimate and that disagreement could not be considered lying. Then to make it clear that he had not been lying on his election statement, Belles showed written evidence to the IBD that he was currently managing two companies plus a business school. The IBD accepted this and Belles then accepted the nomination.)

BALANYI nominated former Director of Development CAROLE BELL.

BAKKE nominated former MIL Chairman and Director of Development UDO SCHULTZ.

The four nominations were accepted by the Board. The nominees thanked the Board for the nominations and consideration, accepted the nominations and pledged to provide good service if elected.

The Chairman asked the nominees to leave the room, so discussion and voting could proceed.

A paper ballot was distributed and the Board voted. The count was made, and SCHULTZ was declared winner by the Chairman.

**11. Moved REMINE, Seconded BURGER**

**THAT Frank Parth be re-appointed as Constitution Review Officer, with an assistant Constitution Review Officer, Tim Knights, for a term commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD Meeting.**

Originally intended as a simple reappointment motion, the motion was changed to reflect concerns expressed at the IGC meeting that the CRO position and duties were too demanding for one individual to reasonably manage, so the assistant CRO position was added as a means of providing assistance to the CRO.

**Passed.**

**(01-21)**

**12. Moved KUNZ, Seconded BURGER**

**THAT Vince Bonzagni be re-appointed as Archivist for a term commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD meeting.**

**Passed.**

**(01-22)**

**13. Moved KUNZ, Seconded BECKER**

**THAT the Name and Logo Committee (Mark Levy, Chairman, Darlene Criss, Don Pendley, Godwin Zwanenburg) be re-appointed commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD meeting.**

**Passed. (01-23)**

**14. Moved KUNZ, Seconded BURGER**

**THAT the Licensing Committee (Mark Griffin, Chairman, Stacey Kirsch, Mark Levy, Don Pendley, Xavier Belles Ros,) be re-appointed commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD meeting.**

**Passed. (01-24)**

**15. Moved REMINE, Seconded BECKER**

**THAT ANDRE JACQUET be appointed Gifted Child Programme Coordinator commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD meeting.**

**Passed. (01-25)**

KRAVANJA recommended JACQUET for this position as he had served in this role in Mensa Belgium, and Jacquet was happy to serve the IBD. NACARD agreed that Jacquet would be a good choice for this role.

**16. Moved KUNZ, Seconded BURGER**

**THAT Faith Cormier be re-appointed as SIGHT Coordinator commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD meeting.**

**Passed. (01-26)**

KUNZ told the Board that CORMIER was a reliable and prompt individual who did a very good job, and should be re-appointed

**17. Moved KUNZ, Seconded LEEK**

**THAT Barbara Lytle be re-appointed as Coordinator for MensaMate (Mensa WorldConnect) commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD meeting.**

**Passed. (01-27)**

**18. Moved REMINE, Seconded LEEK**

**THAT Cyberspace Committee members Dave Angulo, Mark Greaves, Patrick Khoo, Jeremy Malcolm, Godwin Zwanenburg be re-appointed commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD meeting. (Committee to appoint own Chairman, then to advise IBD and secure approval.)**

**Passed. (01-28)**

**19. Moved REMINE, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the International Awards Committee (Andre Jacquet, Helen Kupper, Amanda Milne, Therese Moodie-Bloom, Xavier Belles Ros, Udo Schultz, Remine as Chairman) be appointed commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2003 IBD meeting.**

**Passed. (Schultz abstained) (01-29)**

**20. Moved REMINE, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT the International Election Committee be dissolved.**

**Passed. (01-30)**

HERBERT recommended that the International Election Committee be appointed much earlier in future, and DRESSEL felt that a specific earlier date should be set. REMINE agreed, and asked that all Chairmen consider possible nominees and advise him as soon as possible.

**21. Moved REMINE, Seconded LEEK**

**THAT the Constitution Revision Committee (no end of term date) be re-appointed commencing immediately and ending on the last day of the 2002 IBD meeting.**

**Passed (Burg and Herbert abstained). (01-31)**

DRESSEL requested that Mr Burg be added to the Constitution Revision Committee.

BURG accepted. Committee now reads:

Jean Becker  
Willem Bouwens  
Dan Burg  
Carl Christian-Dressel  
Sylvia Herbert



Tim Knights  
Ed Becker (Counsel)  
Therese Moodie-Bloom (Counsel)  
Godwin Zwanenburg (Counsel)

(At this point in the meeting, LEEK suggested that the Board wanted to formally thank the ED for his service to MIL and to give him a vote of confidence. The Board applauded this, and VINCENT thanked all members of the IBD for their thoughtful kindness and support.)

**22. Moved BECKER, Seconded BOUWENS, DRESSEL, KUNZ, RAMSEY**

**THAT the name of the “MENSAMATE” programme be changed to “MENSA WORLDCONNECT”.**

**Passed. (01-32)**

BECKER noted the American Mensa and International program coordinators requested this change as they have been troubled by many contacts from persons who apparently think this program is a dating service. They feel the new name lessens that misconception, while describing the intention of the program.

**23. Moved BOSWELL, Seconded WOJCIK**

**THAT poll watchers should not be able to identify voters when observing the ballot count.**

**Passed (LEEK and BOUWENS abstaining). (01-33)**

(Information: This motion was a substitute motion for one moved by Becker addressing the same issue. Many opinions were expressed about issues relating to how ballots could be counted and observed by poll watchers, and issues about the confidentiality of voters and ballots as well. There was also concern noted that no motion passed in relation to these matters should restrict the IEC, as it was Constitutionally instructed to create election rules itself.)

BECKER noted that because “poll watchers” are allowed to watch the ballots being counted, it is possible for them to see how members voted in an election. This is contrary to basic democratic precepts, and many members objected to this. Some objected so strongly, they had declined to vote. Currently, each MIL Election Committee may set all election rules. It is felt that this requirement would not unduly fetter future committees, nor make the elections any more difficult.

DRESSEL said that a secret vote is important – no one should be able to tell how anyone had voted.

BECKER said that while it was necessary to allow “poll watchers”, it was also necessary to assure that details of the vote and ID were not visible to them.

BURG observed that as long as there is ID on a ballot, it is not a secret ballot.

BOUWENS objected to this motion, while KUNZ felt that although this was a sensible motion, a means must be determined to assure that the IEC follows it.

BOSWELL noted that the Constitution does not allow the IBD to impose rules on the IEC, however, the Board can arrange for poll watchers to receive instructions.

**24. Moved BECKER, Seconded BURGER**

**ASIE 85-05 is rescinded to give a deadline of three months to submit expense claims.**

**Passed. (01-34)**

**25. Moved BURGER, Seconded BECKER**

**THAT the IBD set the component for the fiscal year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003 at eight percent (8%).**

Note: Because of ASIE 98-15, applying a rebate of 50%, the effective rate for the year 2002/2003 will remain at 4%.

**Passed. (01-35)**

BURGER was confident that leaving the component level at 4% will continue to reduce MIL reserves, which was IBD policy and intent.

WERDELL said that he agreed with this motion, insofar as it is important to have gradual steps in either direction, in relation to lowering or increasing the component.

QUINTALLET asked for some clarification as to why the component rate was officially 8%, but the active rate was 4%.

REMINE explained that historically the rate had been 10%, then was reduced to 8%, as MIL reserves kept growing. The IBD decided to attempt to lower the reserves to a set level, and to reduce the actual component payment level in order to achieve this. However, as Werdell pointed out, it is easier to have steps, rather than try to make one big change.

**26. Moved BURGER, Seconded BECKER**

**THAT the IBD re-appoint Henry Bach & Co. as Auditors for the fiscal year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2002.**

BURGER reported that Henry Bach & Co have performed satisfactorily as MIL's auditors, at a reasonable cost.

**Passed.**

**(01-36)**

**27. Moved REMINE, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT Bob Vandembosch, an American Mensa 'Life Member' currently living in the Netherlands be granted relief under Section III B 2 of the Constitution and be allowed to remain a member of American Mensa.**

**Failed. (KUNZ, QUINTALLET, RAJOVIC abstained)**

REMINÉ said that he was asked by VANDENBOSCH to put this motion on the IBD Agenda. He knows he is in violation of the Constitution, since he lives in Holland and participates in Dutch Mensa activities, while he remains an American Mensa life member. REMINÉ said that in previous requests for change of membership status, there were usually political reasons behind the requests, however this time he did not think that was the case. VANDENBOSCH wanted to continue the life membership with American Mensa but also to participate in Dutch Mensa.

KUNZ said that this member could suspend his life membership with the US yet still receive their magazine by subscription and could then join Mensa Netherlands and participate as an active member there. She then asked if there have been any political problems with this member. BOUWENS replied that there had not been any of which he was aware.

SALA asked for a clarification of the rules.

REMINÉ referred him to Section 3.D of the Constitution.

SALA replied that there were many members from different countries living in Spain, who continued to retain their original memberships in their homeland Mensas. How can he (if he can) get these members to change their memberships to Mensa Spain?

BOUWENS said that he felt that citizenship is a key issue in these matters, and asked if anyone knew whether VANDENBOSCH was a Dutch or an American citizen. Bouwens was aware that many Dutch members lived abroad and participated in other Mensa groups, likewise some foreigners did the same in the Netherlands. Mensa Netherlands was flexible and friendly in these instances. Yet this was a grey area, and problems could arise if a visitor wanted services from the "host" Mensa and was not paying for them.

QUINTALLET observed that the Constitution is not clear enough on these matters, and may also be too restrictive. There is a need for more precise rules.

QUINTALLET said that at least Mr VANDENBOSCH was honest enough to request this attention from the IBD.

BOUWENS said that VANDENBOSCH requested a membership list from Mensa Netherlands and was refused, as the list is only given to members of Mensa Netherlands.

SAIA stated that his concern was not about temporary residents in Spain. He was worried about the members of other Mensa groups living full time in Spain and still retaining their resident country memberships. Some of them actually recruit and test persons on behalf of their national Mensas. Whereas Mensa Spain told its members who plan to live abroad to join the local Mensa group, so, there seemed no equilibrium in relation to these matters.

BAKKE thought this was a complex matter, but that the Constitution seems quite clear regarding the assignment of membership. Also he felt that the membership regulation seemed to protect the smaller Mensas from these problems, as they could not afford to lose members as easily as larger groups. However, this motion did not address the problems being discussed.

ELLIS reported that New Zealand currently has six members with overseas addresses, four of whom keep close ties with New Zealand Mensa. The only trouble is that they find that they sometimes want to join in the activities of that country, but are not members there. How, he wondered, could anyone keep track of dual memberships?

KUNZ said she admired that aspect of Mensa that encouraged travelling members to interact with other (foreign) Mensas, and, she disagreed with BOUWENS about not giving out address details to persons who were not Dutch members, as these visitors should be allowed to socialise. She did not feel it was appropriate to give out entire data bases to members in other Mensa groups.

NACARD said that it was a drain on financial resources to allow visitors to participate in certain activities. Smaller Mensas cannot afford to let members from other countries enjoy full privileges, although this is not a current problem for Australia as they generally know about foreign members. She could understand that this might be awkward in Europe, where many national Mensas are close to one another and members can participate in various Mensa groups.

PARKER noted that if VANDENBOSCH suspends his membership of American Mensa then he will not receive the benefits he has paid for.

BECKER suggested that IBD assign this motion to a small committee to examine the various issues.

LEEK felt that if a visiting Mensan wanted to participate in the activities of another Mensa, then that person should pay for any services obtained, where those services involved a cost to that national Mensa. He also noted that these issues had been

discussed on and off, by IBD/IGC, for many years, without resolution, so he agreed that forming a committee made sense.

**28. Moved BECKER, Seconded LEEK**

**THAT Annette Kunz and Tim Knights be directed to work with Mensa France to develop a hearings procedure that is acceptable to the CRO.**

**Passed.**

**(01-37)**

This motion was made as a substitute motion for one that had addressed issues in relation to the removal of a member from Mensa France. A key issue in that matter was, to the mover and seconder, whether the procedure was legitimate. This motion is intended to provide a review of the hearing procedures in Mensa France, and to allow the expelled member to appeal his removal once the review was completed satisfactorily.

**29. Moved DRESSEL, Seconded KUNZ**

**THAT approved Minutes of all international meetings (i.e. IBD, IGC, Ex Comm meetings) be published on the Mensa International website, in a section accessible to members only, as soon as implementation on the MIL website is deemed practical by the volunteers in charge, and that this be advised in the International Journal, with the option to request hard copies for those not able to access the website.**

**Passed.**

**01-38)**

DRESSEL noted that none of the international meetings are secret meetings, indeed they are open to members. At present copies of Minutes can be requested in hard copy, however more members worldwide are expressing an interest in MIL meetings, and an increasing number of them are online. It would achieve a higher degree of open communication and transparency for Mensa to provide this information on the web.

**H. GOOD & WELFARE**

**30. Moved NACARD, Seconded BECKER**

**THAT all Sub-committees and Appointees submit an Annual Report to the MIL office by the due date announced, for inclusion in the Agenda for the IBD meeting.**

**Passed.**

**(01-39)**

Both NACARD and BECKER noted that many reports had not been submitted for the meeting, and they felt that this absence of information impeded IBD proceedings.

**31. Moved BECKER, Seconded LEEK**

**THAT the Director of Administration, the Constitution Review Officer and/or his assistant review all National Mensa current bylaws and Constitutions, to ensure that they comply with the current MSCR;**

**THAT all National Mensas whose bylaws or Constitutions are found not to meet current MSCR work immediately to come into full compliance;**

**THAT the Constitution Review Officer report to IBD at least annually about any National Mensa bylaws not in compliance with the MSCRs.**

**Passed (01-40)**

**32. Moved BOSWELL, Seconded BAKKE**

**THAT the International Election Committee be established no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May 2002.**

**Passed. (01-41)**

**33. Moved BURG, Seconded PARKER**

**THAT minutes of all IBD/IGC meetings be approved by postal ballot, and any and all ASIE contrary to this be changed to allow this.**

**Passed. (01-42)**

**I. POSITION OF NEXT MEETINGS (2002)**

A written ballot was distributed to see whether Belgium, Croatia or Italy would host the 2002 IBD/IGC meeting.

**Moved REMINE, Seconded unanimously**

**THAT the next IBD/IGC meeting will be held in Zagreb, Croatia on the October 4-7 weekend 2002.**

**Passed (01-43)**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chairman thanked the IBD members for their “dedication, timeliness, cooperation and contributions” and asked for a motion to adjourn, which was moved and passed unanimously.

The meeting ended at 2:30pm on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2001.