

DRAFT

# InterAcademy Council

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS: 2007 ANNUAL MEETING,  
Amsterdam, 29-31 January 2007

**NOTE:** This document contains a summary of major conclusions and action items agreed to at the January 2007 Annual IAC Board Meeting. Those Board members interested in helping with particular activities of the InterAcademy Council should contact the IAC Executive Director by return email: [j.campbell@iac.knaw.nl](mailto:j.campbell@iac.knaw.nl)

## A. MEETING ATTENDANCE

**IAC Board Members.** IAC Board members (or their representatives) present included **Bruce Alberts**, *IAC Co-Chair*, former President, U.S. National Academy of Sciences; **Lu Yongxiang**, *IAC Co-Chair*, President, Chinese Academy of Sciences; **Engin Bermek**, President, Turkish Academy of Sciences; **Achiel van Cauwenberghe**, Past President, International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS); **David Challoner**, Past Co-Chair, InterAcademy Medical Panel (IAMP); **Ralph Cicerone**, President, U.S. National Academy of Sciences; **Mohamed H.A. Hassan**, President, African Academy of Sciences [also representing *IAC Board Member* Howard Alper, Co-Chair, InterAcademy Panel on International Issues (IAP) and *IAC Board Member* Jacob Palis, President, Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS)]; **Jules Hoffmann**, President, Académie des Sciences, France; **Ichiro Kanazawa**, President, Science Council of Japan; **Volker ter Meulen**, President, Academy Leopoldina (representing Board Member Matthias Kleiner, President, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft); **Eduardo Moacyr Krieger**, President, Brazilian Academy of Sciences; **R.A. Mashelkar**, President, Indian National Science Academy [participated via telephone]; **Goverdhan Mehta**, Former IAC Co-Chair and Observer, President, International Council for Science (ICSU); **Frits van Oostrom**, Observer, President, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences; **Lorna Casselton**, Foreign Secretary, Royal Society of London (representing *IAC Board Member* Martin Rees, President, Royal Society of London); **Salleh Mohd Nor**, Vice-President, Academy of Sciences of Malaysia; and **Attila Meskos**, Secretary-General, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (representing *IAC Board Member* S.E. Vizi, President, Hungarian Academy of Sciences). IAC Board Members absent and not represented were Reza Davari Ardekani, President, Academy of Sciences of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Servet Martinez Aguilera, President, Chilean Academy of Sciences.

**Other Representatives of IAC Board Academies and Partner Organizations.** Other representatives present included **Edouard Brézin**, Former IAC Board Member, Past President, Académie des Sciences, France; **Guy de Thé**, Co-Chair, InterAcademy Medical Panel; **Thomas Rosswall**, Executive Director, International Council for Science (ICSU); **Rob Kaptein**, Foreign Secretary, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences; and **Hideaki Karaki**, Member, Science Council of Japan.

**Guests of the IAC Board.** Special guests of the IAC Board included **Kenneth Behring**, Founder, WheelChair Foundation, WaterLeaders Foundation, and Global Health and Education Foundation; **Jun Xia**, Chair Professor, Hydrology & Water Resources, and Director General, Center for Water Resources

Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences; and **Johanna (Anneke) Levelt Sengers**, Scientist Emeritus, U.S. National Institute for Standards and Technology.

*Staff Representatives of IAC Board Academies.* Staff representatives of IAC Board member academies included **John Boright**, U.S. National Academy of Sciences; **Emil Broesterhuizen**, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences; **Paulo de Goes**, Brazilian Academy of Sciences; **Bernie Jones**, Royal Society of London; **Heide Hackmann**, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences; **Fu Shuqin**, Chinese Academy of Sciences; **Keiko Murata**, Science Council of Japan; and **Masahiko Sue**, Science Council of Japan.

*InterAcademy Council Staff.* IAC staff members included **John P. Campbell**, IAC Executive Director; and **Shu-Hui Tan**, IAC Office Manager.

*IAC Study on Transitions to Sustainable Energy Systems.* Participating personnel and consultants for the IAC study on sustainable energy included **Jos van Renswoude**, Study Director; **Dilip Ahuja**, consultant; and **Marika Tatsutani**, editor/writer. Also participating was **Hunter Cutting**, Associate Director, ResourceMedia.

## B. MAJOR CONCLUSIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

1. *New Board Members.* The Board welcomed the new members of the IAC Board: **Ralph Cicerone**, President of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (USNAS), who will represent the USNAS; **Jules Hoffmann**, who succeeded Edouard Brezin as President of the Académie des Sciences, France; **Ichiro Kanazawa**, who succeeded Kiyoshi Kurokawa as President of the Science Council of Japan; **Matthias Kleiner**, who succeeded Ernst Winnacker as President of the Deutches Forschungsgemeinschaft; and **Jacob Palis**, who succeeded C.N.R. Rao as President of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS).
2. *New Ex Officio Board Members.* The Board noted the unanimous approval, by email ballot on 27 January 2007, of an amendment to the IAC Bylaws. This amendment provides for a new category of Board membership—Ex Officio Member with full voting rights—and specifies representatives of the InterAcademy Panel (IAP), InterAcademy Medical Panel (IAMP), and the International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS) as such members. The Board welcomed new Ex Officio Board Members: **Howard Alper**, Co-Chair of IAP; **Achiel van Cauwenberghe**, Past President, CAETS; and **David Challoner**, Past Co-Chair of IAMP. IAC Board Observer status is retained for the International Council for Science (ICSU), represented by **Goverdhan Mehta**, President; and the IAC host academy, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, represented by **Frits van Oostrom**, President.
3. *Appreciation for Contributions of IAC Host Academy.* The Board thanked the IAC host academy, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, for its extraordinary contributions to the success of the InterAcademy Council in providing funding, personnel, office space, and other support, as well as financial management for the IAC Secretariat.
4. *G8+5 Academies.* The Board noted a presentation by Volker ter Meulen, President, Academy Leopoldina, on preparations for development of joint statements by G8+5 academies to the G8 Summit, to held 6-8 June 2007 in Heiligendamm, Germany.

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Board members are requested to provide suggestions for joint academy statement topics related to the G8 Summit agenda.**

5. ***IAC Annual Report.*** The Board took note of the 2006 Annual Report of the IAC Executive Director and accepted his conclusion that 2006 was a successful year for IAC. The Board especially noted the publication of a high quality report, *Women for Science*, in 2006 and substantial progress in completing the *Toward a Sustainable Energy Future* report that is to be submitted for external peer review in April 2007. It also noted the important contributions of member academies to the work of IAC studies during 2006.
6. ***Reports from IAP, IAMP, CAETS, and ICSU.*** The Board discussed and noted with appreciation presentations by representatives of IAP, IAMP, CAETS, and ICSU on the work and strategic plans of each of their respective organizations.
7. ***Proposed New Staffing Contribution from IAP Member Academies.*** The Board noted that the scope and range of new IAC studies and programs being planned for 2007 will require greater staff resources. The Board agreed that the IAC Secretariat should expand its personnel through a new global network of senior-level staff. To begin, three new staff positions – IAC Associate Directors – would be appointed to provide greater professional support and oversight for IAC studies and programs. These persons would be appointed from staff or associates of IAP, IAMP, and CAETS member academies; they would serve in the IAC staff positions on either a full-time or part-time basis. Salaries for these new Associate Directors would be provided by their host academies. These IAC Associate Directors would work primarily at their employing academies, utilizing communications technologies to conduct assignments in coordination with Amsterdam-based staff. Staff meetings and assignments at the IAC Secretariat would be funded by the IAC to enhance teamwork.

**ACTION ITEM: The IAC Executive Director will begin consultations with IAP, IAMP, and CAETS member academies regarding possible contributions of academy staff or associates for three new staff positions within the IAC Secretariat. Actions for achieving a full complement of IAC Secretariat staff should be undertaken as soon as possible.**

8. ***Financial Support for IAC Studies and Projects.*** The Board noted that new IAC studies and projects require considerable time and effort to secure funding from donors, including government agencies, foundations, corporations, and private philanthropists. The Board agreed that Board Members should become more actively engaged in efforts to identify sources and secure needed funds for IAC studies and projects. The Board agreed that an ad hoc Board Committee on Program Funding should be established to provide ideas and advice on potential new funding sources; the IAC Co-Chairs have requested Board Member Ramesh Mashelkar to serve as Chair of the Committee on Program Funding. The Board also requested that the IAC Co-Chairs actively explore the creation of an external Development Advisory Committee to advise the IAC Board on funding prospects for specific projects and help with development of an endowment for providing ongoing financial support of IAC programs.

**ACTION ITEM: Board Member Ramesh Mashelkar will lead a process aimed at identifying sources of funds for supporting new IAC studies. All Board Members are requested to provide ideas and suggestions for funding sources to Ramesh Mashelkar and the IAC Secretariat.**

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Co-Chairs will explore options for (and potential members of) an external Development Advisory Committee. Board Members are requested to recommend names of individuals to serve on this committee.**

9. *New IAC Study on Critical Water Issues.* The Board noted with appreciation a presentation by Kenneth Behring on the goals and actions of the WaterLeaders Foundation and the Global Health and Education Foundation and look forward to a continuing dialogue with him on new opportunities for improving water quality and quantity throughout the world. The Board noted with appreciation a presentation by IAC Board Member Eduardo Krieger on the IAP Water Program and opportunities for IAC support for that IAP program. The Board noted with appreciation a presentation by Xia Jun, Chinese Academy of Sciences, on critical water issues facing China and issues for a possible new IAC study. The Board unanimously approved the convening of an Organizing Group to consider a scope, plan of work, and potential funding of a new study or a series of studies on critical water issues. The report of this Organizing Group and a study prospectus will be submitted to the IAC Board. The Board would then consider authorizing the IAC to (a) formally request responses from IAP, IAMP, and CAETS member academies regarding the study prospectus and nominations for study panel members and (b) develop the necessary financial resources through formal funding proposals to prospective donors.

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Board Members are requested to provide recommendations of persons to serve on this Organizing Group.**

10. *New IAC-IAMP Study on Surveillance of Infectious Diseases.* The Board unanimously approved the convening of an Organizing Group – in consultation with IAMP – to consider a scope, plan of work, and potential funding of a new IAC-IAMP study on improving global surveillance for emerging zoonotic diseases, such as avian influenza and SARS. The report of this Organizing Group and a study prospectus will be submitted to the IAC Board. The Board would then consider authorizing the IAC to (a) formally request responses from IAP, IAMP, and CAETS member academies regarding the study prospectus and nominations for study panel members and (b) develop the necessary financial resources through formal funding proposals to prospective donors.

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Board Members are requested to provide recommendations of persons to serve on this Organizing Group.**

**ACTION ITEM: Volker Ter Meulen will explore opportunities for staffing and financial support of this Organizing Group.**

11. *New IAC Study on Strengthening the Role of African Universities in National Systems of Innovation.* The Board unanimously approved the convening of an Organizing Group to consider a scope, plan of work, and potential funding of a new IAC-IAMP study on strengthening the role of African universities in national systems of innovation. The report of this Organizing Group and a study prospectus will be submitted to the IAC Board. The Board would then consider authorizing the IAC to (a) formally request responses from IAP, IAMP, and CAETS member academies regarding the study prospectus and nominations for study panel members and (b) develop the necessary financial resources through formal funding proposals to prospective donors.

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Board Members are requested to provide recommendations of persons to serve on this Organizing Group.**

**ACTION ITEM: Rob Kaptein will explore opportunities within the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences for staffing and financial support of this Organizing Group.**

12. *New IAC-IAP Project on S&T Indicators.* The Board unanimously approved the participation of the IAC in a new joint IAC-IAP project on the topic of improving national indicators on S&T. The IAC

and IAP will convene a Consultative Group composed of IAC and IAP representatives; representatives of UNESCO and OECD; experts in the field of S&T data collection and analysis; and academic and non-academic experts. A report of the Consultative Group will be submitted to the IAC Board and IAP Executive Committee for authorization to proceed with the project. A memorandum would then be sent to all IAP academies requesting volunteering academies – especially those that have conducted reviews of S&T indicators in their own nations – to participate in the project. Volunteering academies will be selected for participation, with a focus on developing countries.

**ACTION ITEM: IAC and IAP will convene a Consultative Group.**

**ACTION ITEM: The Chinese Academy of Sciences will consider hosting a conference of participating academies.**

13. **Strategic Planning for IAC.** The Board agreed that a 10-year strategic plan is necessary for the future of IAC. The first step would be a consultative process among Board members to envision an ideal scope of IAC studies and programs for the year 2017. The second step would be to develop a strategic plan for realizing goals for 2017. A key part of this strategic plan will be the staffing requirements to carry out the studies and programs. In that regard, the Board noted that, by agreement in 2005, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) would continue to host the IAC Secretariat for another five years beginning January 2010, unless there was a decision by either party by January 2008 to terminate the agreement. The Board requested the views of the KNAW leadership regarding KNAW interest in continuing to host the IAC Secretariat beyond 2010, as well as any new conditions—financial, personnel, facilities, etc.—related to continued KNAW hosting and staffing of the IAC Secretariat. The Board further agreed to explore other options regarding the location of the IAC Secretariat beyond January 2010. The Board approved the creation of a small ad hoc joint committee of IAC, IAP, and IAMP to consider the strategic plans of these organizations and whether combining their secretariats would better facilitate their strategic plans. This joint committee would explore the advantages and disadvantages of merging the secretariats of IAC, IAP, and IAMP, as well as venue options for such a merged secretariat. The IAC Co-Chairs have appointed IAC Board Member Eduardo Krieger as the Chair of this ad hoc joint committee.

**ACTION ITEM: With the leadership of Board Member Eduardo Krieger, IAC Board Members will begin a consultative process to envision an ideal scope of IAC studies and programs and to develop a strategic plan for realizing goals for 2017.**

**ACTION ITEM: As part of the strategic planning process, the IAC Co-Chairs will request the IAP and IAMP to participate in an ad hoc joint committee to explore whether the merging of the secretariats of IAC, IAP, and IAMP would contribute to their strategic goals. the ad hoc joint committee, with the leadership of Board Member Eduardo Krieger, will report to the Co-Chairs of IAC, IAP, and IAMP.**

**ACTION ITEM: Based on results of the IAC strategic planning process and the report of the joint ad hoc committee, the IAC Co-Chairs will make recommendations to the Board on a 10-year IAC strategic plan; as well as a proposal regarding the hosting and location of the IAC Secretariat, for Board decision by January 2008.**

14. **Women for Science.** The Board noted with appreciation a status report by Anneke Levelt Sengers on follow-up of the publication of the IAC report *Women for Science*. The Board approved a Resolution stating: “Be it resolved that the InterAcademy Council Board affirms its commitment to increased

participation of women in science, engineering, and health professions. Gender issues relevant to study topics will be included within the scope of IAC studies, giving close attention to gender aspects within reports produced. The IAC will strive to increase female participation in study panel memberships. The IAC will foster increased opportunities for women in employment of Secretariat and consultative personnel.”

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Co-Chairs will communicate with Co-Chairs of the IAP regarding possible IAP leadership in the follow-up of the IAC report and implementation of its recommendations to academies worldwide.**

15. *IAC Study on Sustainable Energy.* The Board noted with appreciation a status report by IAC Study Panel Co-Chair José Goldemberg on progress in completing a draft report for submission to external review. The Board approved in principle plans for generating news and information regarding the final published report, provided that such information—whether in form of brochures, press releases, press information kits, etc.—be released at times appropriate to completion of the study project.

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Board Members are requested to provide names of potential reviewers for this report.**

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Co-Chairs will review and authorize any release of public information in connection with this report.**

16. *IAC Financial Report.* The Board approved two reports from the IAC Executive Director—the IAC Financial Report for 2006 and the Proposed IAC Budget for 2007. The Board approved the 2007 Report of the IAC Board Finance Committee. Included in this report were two recommendations to Board members: (a) IAC Board member academies should provide an annual voluntary contribution to IAC of no less than \$5,000 to support IAC project initiation and follow-up; and (b) as study proposals are developed, IAC Board member academies should consider providing direct or in-kind financial support for those projects of interest to their academies.

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Board Members should explore their academies’ mechanisms for providing at least \$5,000 annually as a voluntary contribution to IAC.**

17. *Enlisting the Participation of Former Board Members.* Considerable discussion at the Board meeting was devoted to the advantages of retaining close associations with former members of the IAC Board in current IAC activities and programs. It was agreed that the Board would recruit former Board members to serve on various Board committees as appropriate to their expertise and interests.

**ACTION ITEM: IAC Co-Chairs will work with other Board members to form sub-groups of present and former Board members that will consult throughout the year on particular projects and activities.**

John P. Campbell  
IAC Executive Director  
14 February 2007