

19. Resolutions submitted by Commissions, subject to the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee.
20. The place and date of the twelfth General Assembly.
21. The election of a President, six Vice-Presidents and a General Secretary.
22. The appointment of representatives to the International Council of Scientific Unions.
23. Addresses by the retiring and the newly-elected Presidents.
24. Closing ceremonies.

The items of agenda were taken, as far as practicable, in the order in which they were given; but items 3(b), 10(c) and 12 onwards were deferred until the second session. The same item numbers are used throughout this report, for both the first and second sessions of the General Assembly.

### FIRST SESSION

*Held on Tuesday 15 August 1961 at 14<sup>h</sup>15<sup>m</sup>, in the main auditorium of Wheeler Hall on the Berkeley Campus of the University of California.*

Professor J. H. OORT, President, in the chair.

1. *Official opening.* The President spoke a few words of welcome to the Members of the Union, invited participants and their guests, and formally declared open the first session of the eleventh General Assembly of the Union.

2. *Official interpreters.* The General Secretary asked the General Assembly to approve of the appointment of the following six official interpreters:

- from English to French: L. Houziaux and J.-C. Pecker
- from French to English: D. S. Evans and S. D. Gossner
- from Russian to English: A. G. Massevitch
- from Russian to French: P. G. Kulikovsky

This was unanimously approved.

1. (*cont.*) The President then welcomed the official representatives of other scientific Unions and organizations as follows:

- IUGG (Geodesy and Geophysics): M. Nicolet
- IUPAP (Pure and Applied Physics): G. Herzberg
- IUTAM (Theoretical and Applied Mechanics): N. J. Hoff
- IUPAC (Pure and Applied Chemistry): H. C. Urey
- URSI (Scientific Radio): J. F. Denisse
- OEEC (Organization for European Economic Co-operation): A. H. Delsemme

He referred particularly to the fact that Dr H. P. Robertson, who was to have represented the ICSU (International Council of Scientific Unions) had been prevented from attending owing to an accident. He was to have spoken at the Inaugural Ceremony on behalf of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, of which he was the foreign secretary.

The President reminded the General Assembly of the gracious message that had been received from the President of the United States of America, and proposed from the chair that a telegram, expressing the appreciation of the General Assembly, be sent to the President

of the United States. He also proposed that a similar telegram be sent to the Governor of the State of California for his message of good wishes. These proposals were approved by acclamation.

At the request of the Chairman, the General Secretary informed the General Assembly that during the last few months he had received information from many Members that they were prevented from attending the General Assembly; he would not give a detailed list. However, he had just received a telegram, which he read, from the Academy of the Rumanian People's Republic, regretting that they could not be represented at the General Assembly, but sending their good wishes for a successful meeting.

The General Secretary then asked Members to stand while he read the following list of Members who had died since the last meeting:

A. Ali, J. A. Anderson, W. Baade, J. Baillaud, J. Bobone, W. Brunner, Miss E. J. Bugoslavskaja, G. Contino, D. Cot, A. K. Das, B. H. Dawson, A. Dittrich, A. D. Dubyago, I. A. Dyukov, C. S. Gum, J. Jackson, F. A. Jenkins, H. Spencer Jones, A. Kopff, E. Lange, P. Lejay, F. C. Leonard, A. McKellar, C. E. Kenneth Mees, P. W. Merrill, M. Milankovitch, S. A. Mitchell, S. V. Orlov, A. Pannekoek, P. P. Parenago, A. Patry, I. Polit, F. E. Ross, R. F. Sanford, O. Seydl, C. K. Seyfert, A. V. Soloviev, F. J. M. Stratton, G. Thiessen, G. A. Tikhov, P. J. van Rhijn, R. Vernić, Miss J. M. Vinter Hansen, H. von Zeipel, V. P. Vyazanitsyn, H. P. Wilkins, R. E. Wilson, W. H. Wright.

3.(a) *Report of the Executive Committee.* The General Secretary said that the Report of the Executive Committee, as printed in the *Agenda and Draft Reports*, was now open for discussion; and that he would be happy to answer any questions that might be asked. There were no questions, and the report was approved.

4. *Report by the General Secretary.* The General Secretary stated that he did not wish to add anything to the published report of the Executive Committee, but took the opportunity of making one or two announcements concerning the arrangements for the General Assembly. He referred particularly to the publication of the *IAU News Bulletins*, which were being published by the editors of *Sky and Telescope* and from which all participants would obtain day-to-day information about meetings of Commissions and other arrangements.

5. *Proposals for membership of the Executive Committee.* In accord with the provisions of the Statutes and By-laws, the President submitted for consideration to the General Assembly the names of those proposed, by the present Executive Committee, for membership of the Executive Committee for the period 1961-64. He reminded Members that there was an agreed procedure by which a Special Nominating Committee, largely appointed by the Nominating Committee and approved by the General Assembly at its previous meeting, makes proposals to the Executive Committee. On this occasion the proposals by the Special Nominating Committee, to fill the positions of President and two Vice-Presidents, had been unanimously adopted by the Executive Committee and were those now before the General Assembly. The President accordingly submitted the name of Academician V. A. Ambartsumian for the office of President, and the names of Professor Y. Hagihara and Professor G. Haro for the offices of Vice-President. The membership of the new Executive Committee would then be as follows:

PRESIDENT: V. A. Ambartsumian.

VICE-PRESIDENTS: L. Goldberg, Y. Hagihara, G. Haro, R. M. Petrie, B. Sternberk, R. H. Stoy.

GENERAL SECRETARY: D. H. Sadler.

In accord with the By-laws the formal election would take place at the final session of the General Assembly.

6. *Announcements.* At the request of the Chairman, the General Secretary announced:

(a) the names of representatives of Adhering Countries, empowered to vote on their behalf;

(b) the names of representatives of Adhering Countries to serve on the Nominating Committee.

<i>Country</i>	<i>(a) Official Representative</i>	<i>(b) Representative on Nominating Committee</i>
Argentina	C. O. R. Jaschek	J. Sahade
Australia	J. L. Pawsey	J. L. Pawsey
Austria	no representative	no representative
Belgium	H. L. Vanderlinden	H. L. Vanderlinden
Bulgaria	no representative	no representative
Canada	C. S. Beals	J. F. Heard
Chile	A. Gutierrez-Moreno	A. Gutierrez-Moreno
Czechoslovakia	E. Buchar	E. Buchar
Denmark	E. Hertzprung	E. Hertzprung
Egypt	A. H. Samaha	M. R. Madwar
Eire	M. A. Ellison	M. A. Ellison
Finland	G. Järnefelt	G. Järnefelt
France	A. Danjon	J. Rösch
Germany	H. Haffner	H. Strassl
Great Britain	R. O. Redman	W. H. McCrea
Greece	J. Xanthakis	J. Xanthakis
Hungary	L. Detre	L. Detre
India	M. K. Vainu Bappu	M. K. Vainu Bappu
Israel	N. Robinson	N. Robinson
Italy	M. Cimino	F. Zagar
Japan	M. Miyadi	M. Miyadi
Lebanon	no representative	no representative
Mexico	P. Pishmish de Recillas	P. Pishmish de Recillas
Netherlands	A. Blaauw	M. G. J. Minnaert
Norway	E. Jensen	E. Jensen
Poland	E. Rybka	J. Witkowski
Portugal	A. Botelho	A. Botelho
Rumania	no representative	no representative
South Africa	W. S. Finsen	W. S. Finsen
Spain	P. J. Cardus	J. M. Torroja
Sweden	B. Lindblad	C. Schalén
Switzerland	M. Schürer	M. Waldmeier
Taiwan	M. Tsao	M. Tsao
U.S.A.	L. Goldberg	F. K. Edmondson
U.S.S.R.	V. A. Ambartsumian	A. G. Masevitch
Vatican City State	D. J. K. O'Connell	D. J. K. O'Connell
Venezuela	no representative	J. Abdala
Yugoslavia	L. Randic	L. Randic

(c) *Acting Presidents.* The General Secretary announced that several Presidents of Commissions had been unable to attend the General Assembly, and that the Executive Committee had invited the following Members to serve as Acting Presidents during the General Assembly:

Commission 3: D. Barbier

Commission 22: L. Krésak

Commission 21: F. E. Roach

Commission 23: P. Sémirot

7. *Finance Committee.* In accord with the Statutes the following Finance Committee, consisting of one representative of each Adhering Country, was appointed by the General Assembly:

Argentina	J. Landi Dessy	Italy	G. Righini
Australia	B. J. Bok	Japan	M. Miyadi
Austria	no representative	Lebanon	no representative
Belgium	P. Bourgeois	Mexico	A. Poveda
Bulgaria	no representative	Netherlands	G. B. van Albada
Canada	M. M. Thomson	Norway	T. Ringnes
Chile	A. Gutierrez-Moreno	Poland	S. Piotrowski
Czechoslovakia	E. Buchar	Portugal	A. Botelho
Denmark	K. Gyldenkerne	Rumania	no representative
Egypt	M. K. M. Aly	South Africa	W. H. van den Bos
Eire	M. A. Ellison	Spain	M. Loron
Finland	G. Järnefelt	Sweden	E. Holmberg
France	Ch. Fehrenbach	Switzerland	M. Schürer
Germany	H. Siedentopf	Taiwan	M. Tsao
Great Britain	C. W. Allen	U.S.A.	N. U. Mayall
Greece	J. Xanthakis	U.S.S.R.	E. K. Kharadze
Hungary	L. Detre	Vatican City State	P. J. Treanor
India	M. K. Vainu Bappu	Venezuela	no representative
Israel	N. Robinson	Yugoslavia	L. Randic

Professor Ch. Fehrenbach was appointed chairman of the Finance Committee.

8. *Statutes and By-laws.* The General Secretary formally proposed that the revised Statutes and By-laws, for which the proposed texts in French and English were printed in the *Agenda and Draft Reports* should be adopted. He referred Members to the section of the Report of the Executive Committee dealing with the Statutes and By-laws (page 51) and explained that, apart from the specific points mentioned, all amendments are concerned with minor matters of wording and clarification. He mentioned a few minor typographical errors in the printed copies and requested that he should be given permission to make such minor corrections. He gave it as his view that, in other respects, the Statutes and By-laws should be accepted or rejected *in toto*; since otherwise it would not be possible to submit amendments to Adhering Countries with appropriate notice.

The Chairman formally put the question to the vote and the revised Statutes and By-laws were unanimously adopted.

[The Statutes and By-laws, as revised, are printed on pages 476-483].

It was then announced that the proceedings of the Union (in particular in regard to the organization and membership of Commissions) would be ruled by the revised Statutes and By-laws as from that moment.

9. *Revised Structure of Commissions.* The Chairman requested the General Secretary to make a statement on the revised structure of the Commissions, of which full details had already been given to Members in *Information Bulletin* No. 4 of August 1960. The General Secretary explained that some small changes in procedure, mainly of simplification, had been introduced in the By-laws as compared with the revised structure given in the *Information Bulletin*. These changes were not substantial. He answered one or two questions on matters of detail.

He then announced that the Executive Committee wished formally to propose that all Sub-Commissions become Committees or Working Parties of their main Commissions, with the

exception of Sub-Commission 29*a*, which it proposed should become Commission 36. If this were approved the existing Sub-Commissions would remain in being until the end of the present General Assembly.

This proposal was then approved.

10. *Resolutions by Adhering Countries.*

(*a*) *Admission of Taiwan.* The General Secretary stated that the official representatives of Czechoslovakia and the U.S.S.R. had requested him to combine the two resolutions (i) and (ii) (given in the *Agenda*) into one resolution, and to present the combined resolution to the General Assembly as objectively as possible. He then proceeded to give a brief history of the events that had given rise to these resolutions. He pointed out that it was quite possible to adopt different view points on this matter and that some of these are incorporated in the resolution as proposed by the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. However, the majority of the Executive Committee had taken a rather different view, which would be presented to the General Assembly in a statement by the President. He then formally put the motion to the meeting by reading the resolution in item 10 (*a*) (ii), as printed in the *Agenda and Draft Reports*. The representatives of Czechoslovakia and U.S.S.R. stated that they did not wish to add anything to the presentation of the motion as made by the General Secretary.

The President then read the following statement which had been prepared by the Executive Committee:

“On behalf of the Executive Committee, I formally move the rejection of the motion and ask representatives of adhering countries to vote against the motion.

“In the opinion of the majority of the Executive Committee, the application for adherence to the Union from Taiwan was in proper form, and it was neither possible nor desirable for the Executive Committee to decline the application. There can be no question that Taiwan qualifies for adherence to the Union under the terms of the Statutes of the Union. Taiwan already adhered to the International Council of Scientific Unions, in which the IAU is federated. At present, astronomical activity is on a very small scale, but it must surely be the policy of the Union to encourage the development of astronomy in such countries. In recent years the Union has been glad to welcome the adherence of other countries in which astronomical activity is on no higher level. There is no evidence that this astronomical activity is not independent; it is directed by a properly-constituted National Committee of Astronomy.

“The Executive Committee much regrets the resignation of China from adherence to the Union as a consequence of the decision to admit Taiwan, but it must be made absolutely clear that the decision to withdraw was made by China alone, for reasons which have nothing whatsoever to do either with the Union or with Astronomy. The Executive Committee was, however, informed that China might withdraw if Taiwan were admitted, and for that reason approved a resolution which it was hoped would enable China to maintain its adherence to the Union. This resolution reads:

“*Whereas* there is the possibility of confusion in the descriptions variously accorded to the two Republics of China, both of which adhere to the Union, and

*in order* to indicate unambiguously the two geographical areas in which independent astronomical activity has been developed,

*it is resolved* that short names, as indicated below, shall be used for all purposes of the Union, with the exception of formal correspondence and descriptions in which the use of the official titles of the two countries is desirable.

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|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Official title of country:                           | The People's Republic of China                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Site of Government:                                     | Peking, China                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Adhering Organization:                                  | National Committee of Astronomy (Nanking)                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Date of Adherence:                                      | 1935                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Geographical area in which astronomers are represented: | The mainland of China                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <i>Short name:</i>                                      | <i>China</i> (in French: <i>Chine</i> )                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2. Official title of country:                           | The Republic of China                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Site of Government:                                     | Taipei, Taiwan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Adhering Organization:                                  | The Astronomical Society of the Republic of China (Taipei), recognized as a National Committee of Astronomy by the Academia Sinica (Taipei), through which organization the Republic of China adheres to the International Council of Scientific Unions. |
| Date of Adherence:                                      | 1959                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Geographical area in which astronomers are represented: | Taiwan (Formosa)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <i>Short name:</i>                                      | <i>Taiwan</i> (in French: <i>Taiwan</i> )                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

“The Executive Committee can only express the hope that circumstances will soon change in such a way as to enable China to resume its adherence to the Union, and so to play its full part, formally, in international co-operation in Astronomy. We have noted the great strides that are being made in Astronomy in China, and have learned with pleasure from Chinese astronomers that international co-operation will continue informally even though China no longer adheres to the Union.”

He then announced that the matter was open for discussion.

Dr Kukarkin, a Vice-President of the Union, said that the only comment he wished to make at this stage was to dissociate himself from the statement that had been made on behalf of the Executive Committee.

There being no further discussion, the motion was put to the ballot. The General Secretary explained that this was an administrative question, not involving a question of finance, to be voted upon by countries, each country having one vote. He asked the General Assembly to approve the appointment of two of the interpreters (Mrs Gossner and Dr Pecker) to act as scrutineers of the ballot.

As a result of the ballot there were:

5 countries for acceptance of the motion and 24 against; 3 countries abstained from voting; and the representative of one country was prevented by illness from being present at the General Assembly.

The President accordingly declared that the motion was lost.

He then asked the General Assembly to approve that a message be sent to the astronomers of the People's Republic of China, regretting their absence from the General Assembly and sending every good wish for astronomical research in China. This proposal was received with acclamation, and the General Secretary was instructed to send an appropriate message.

Professor Blaauw, the official representative of the Netherlands, requested permission to make a statement. The statement, made on behalf of the Dutch delegation, concerned the usage of official and unofficial names of countries in the proceedings of the Union, and arose from the resolution of the Executive Committee, contained in the statement read by the President.

The President stated that this matter was not formally on the agenda for the General Assembly, and could only be discussed with the approval of the General Assembly. He asked the General Secretary to make a statement.

The General Secretary reported that the Executive Committee had received a letter from the Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan, formally requesting that the question of the name used for their country in the proceedings of the Union be submitted to the General Assembly, as they do not approve of the resolution adopted by the Executive Committee. As this request was received too late for it to be placed on the circulated Agenda, in accord with the Statutes of the Union it could only be discussed provided a proposal to that effect was approved by one half of the votes of the countries represented at the General Assembly. The Executive Committee had, however, considered the matter and it recommended to the General Assembly that the matter be not discussed.

The Chairman then asked whether the representative of any country present wished to propose that this question be discussed; there being no demand for discussion, the meeting proceeded to the next business.

10. (b) On the recommendation of the Executive Committee the General Assembly agreed to refer the motion by the National Committee for Astronomy of Australia to Commissions 25 and 29.

11. *Resolutions by Commissions.* Again on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the General Assembly agreed to refer the resolution by the President of Commission 19 to Commission 19, and the one by the President of Commission 41 to Commission 41.

The General Secretary then announced that all other items of agenda would be deferred until the next session, pending reports from the various Commissions and Committees.

The Chairman thanked the interpreters and the scrutineers of the ballot and formally adjourned the meeting at 16<sup>h</sup>15<sup>m</sup>.

#### FINAL SESSION

*Held on Thursday 24 August 1961 at 9<sup>h</sup>15<sup>m</sup>, in the main auditorium of  
Wheeler Hall on the Berkeley Campus of the University of California.*

Professor J. H. OORT, President, in the chair.

3. (b) *Report of decisions taken by the Executive Committee.* In opening the second, and final, session of the General Assembly the President said that this was a convenient opportunity to inform the General Assembly of various decisions taken by the Executive Committee during its meetings in Berkeley. These decisions do not require the formal approval of the General Assembly.

He announced that the Executive Committee had accepted the applications for membership from the following countries, with the adhering organizations as stated:

BRAZIL: Conselho Nacional de Pesquisas, Rio de Janeiro.

NORTH KOREA: Academy of Sciences of the Popular Democratic Republic of Korea,  
Pyongyang.

TURKEY: Turkish Astronomical Society, Istanbul.

The President said that he was very happy to welcome these three countries to membership of the Union, and he noted with pleasure that representatives of two of the countries were present at the General Assembly.