

MINUTES OF MEETING – 03-06 OCTOBER 2008 ISCA
CONFERENCE – KARLSKRONA, SWEDEN

[1] Formal Opening:

At 1030 Mr. Fritsch turned control of the meeting over to Mr. Wahren who advised the delegates that he had in fact assisted with the creation of ISCA many years prior. Mr. Wahren reported that based on what he had reviewed it was clear the participants sought additional information on “Safety at Sea”, a strengthened network for communication purposes and desired additional information on how best to avoid misunderstanding that sometimes lead to cultural conflicts.

[2] Introductions:

Mr. Wahren asked the delegates to introduce themselves; the attendance at the conference follows:

Mr. John Fritsch - Sweden
Mr. Eric Wahren – Sweden (Meeting Chairman/Facilitator)
Mr. Douglas Thomas – Canada (ISCA Secretary)
Mr. Keith Mullaly – Canada
Mr. Leon Griffiths – Australia
Mr. Heinrich Dettmer – Germany
Ms. Jeanette Butt - Germany
Mr. Ernest Chan – Hong Kong
Mr. Lawrence Li – Hong Kong
Mr. Jenson Mai – Hong Kong
Mr. Zydrunas Mozuraitis - Lithuania
Mr. Rabi Ahuja – India
Ms. Hironori Honma - Japan
Mr. Fujio Tamaoki – Japan
Mr. Jacques Brandt - Netherlands
Mr. David Smit – Netherlands
Mrs. Michelle Welsh – UK
Mrs. Karen Fulton – UK
Mr. Michael Campbell – USA

The Chairman advised the conference that Mr. Campbell had been granted authority to act on behalf of Mr. Waldie Bartie from South Africa. Questions regarding the status of Belgium, Belize and South Korea were all deferred to item 6 on the agenda.

[3] Approval of Secretary:

Mr. Thomas was appointed the Meeting Secretary.

[4] Selecting Two Delegates to Approve the Record of Decisions:

It was determined that in the interest of time a Record of Decisions would be issued within one month following the actual conference and that the past, current and future Chairs would review and approve the decisions. The Record of Decisions would also be distributed to the remainder of the members and any errors or omissions could be duly noted.

[2008 ISCA Motion 1]

Distribution of Record of Decisions within one month of the meeting to the Past, Current and Future Chairs.

Approved.

[5] Approval of the Agenda:

The Chair noted that any agenda needed to be prioritized thereby enabling the most important items to be adequately covered without members having to be cut off in the interests of time. Mr. Wahren noted that his role was to ensure that discussions were kept on track and introduced a naval Cat and Nine Tails as part of the essential equipment any meeting chairman should have.

[2008 ISCA Motion 2]

It was moved by Mr. Li that the agenda as presented be adopted.

Approved.

[6] Apologies and Regrets:

Mr. Wahren provided an update regarding those member countries unable to attend as follows:

Belgium: Regretted they were unable to attend and forwarded best regards.

Bermuda: Regretted they were unable to attend and forwarded best regards.

South Korea: Regretted they were unable to attend and forwarded best regards.

New Zealand: Nothing heard.

Russia: Regretted they were unable to attend and actually withdrew just prior to the meeting.

Singapore: Regretted they were unable to attend and forwarded best regards.

South Africa: Regretted they were unable to attend and forwarded best regards and assigned their proxy vote to the USA.

Zimbabwe: Regretted they were unable to attend and forwarded best regards.

Japan: Mr. Yagi's wife advised the Chair that Mr. Yagi would be unable to attend the meeting due to a very serious health concern.

[2008 - 1] *“Get Well” Card for Mr. Yagi:*

Mr. Johan Fischerström (Sweden) agreed to acquire a “get well” card for Mr. Yagi and have each member present sign it prior to it being sent by mail to Mr. Yagi.

Action: Sweden to acquire, complete and send a “get well” card to Mr. Yagi.

Status: Complete

[2008 - 2] *Contact with New Zealand Navy League:*

Mr. Leon Griffiths (Australia) agreed that he would attempt to make contact with New Zealand through a mutual contact in Singapore.

Action: Australia to make contact with New Zealand.

[2008 - 3] *Contact with New Zealand Navy League:*

Mr. Rabi Ahuja (India) also undertook to establish contact with New Zealand through an officer from India that was currently employed in New Zealand.

Action: India to make contact with New Zealand.

[7] Approval of Minutes from Previous Conference:

[2008 ISCA Motion 3]

The Minutes from the 2007 Conference hosted in Hong Kong were approved.

[8] Matters Arising from Previous Conferences:

[8.1] Any Open Items:

[2008 - 4] Print and Distribute ISCA Articles of Association:

Mr. Johan Fischerström (Sweden) agreed to print and distribute copies of the updated version of Articles of Association.

Action: Sweden to print and distribute copies of the ISCA Articles of Association.

Status: Complete

[8.2] Escort Guide:

[2008 - 5] ISCA Exchange Guide:

Mr. Michael Campbell (USA) requested a one year extension on the project to update the ISCA Exchange Guide. Members were requested to provide input. Members were advised to make use of the current guide until such time as the new version was approved.

Action: USA to complete the second version of the ISCA Exchange Guide and distribute it for review.

[8.3] Use of E-Mail:

It was determined that the ISCA Articles of Association had been amended to reflect the fact that ISCA could, where necessary, use E-Mail to pass resolutions and to vote.

[8.4] Conference Fee to Cover ISCA Award:

It was pointed out that this subject had been previously “tabled”. Mr. Campbell stated that the US had recently donated enough money to cover the recent award to Japan. It was determined that the cost of the award was in the neighbourhood of being between \$100.00 and 150.00 USD and that a system where a member volunteered to cover the cost was probably the best approach.

[8.6] Membership Principles:

[2008 - 6] New ISCA Membership Certificate:

Mr. Michael Campbell (USA) stated that he would have a new version of the ISCA Membership Certificate available for review at the 2009 ISCA Conference in India.

Action: USA to create and distribute for review a revised ISCA Member certificate.

[2008 - 7] New Membership Application Form:

Mr. Eric Wahren (Sweden) requested that the conference give additional consideration to both the form all requested supporting material and re-visit it later on the agenda.

Action: ISCA Delegates to review the proposal on a new membership application form and discuss it later in the agenda.

[9] Submitted Motions:

Mr. Wahren reported that no motions had been submitted and called for any new motions from the floor. There were none and the Chairman concluded the agenda item.

[10] Reports from Member Organizations (Part I):

[A] Canada:

Please see Annex A for a copy of the report submitted on behalf of Canada by Mr. Mullaly.

[B] Australia:

Mr. Griffiths of Australia reported that each elemental chief within their armed service was responsible for their respective cadets. He added that they were facing some impressive challenges regarding resource allocations. In addition Mr. Griffiths reported that it was getting increasingly more difficult to secure support for exchange activities and that the navy was in the process of reviewing the exchange agreement. At present he stated there was support available for incoming cadets but not for outgoing activities. The exchange camp they had hosted was well received and he hoped to leave Sweden with clear direction as to who would attend the 2009 programme. He concluded that within Australia they were trying to employ political pressure to influence the navy.

The Chair concluded the meeting for the day and stated that the conference would return to the Member Organization reports later in the conference. Mr. Wahren added that some reports were included in the meeting programme book and that he was more committed to using conference time for pressing issues as opposed to static reports.

[11] Safety at Sea:

The Chair acknowledged the fact that the assigned working group from the previous year had not advanced the matter any further. The Swedish Naval representative was asked to provide his presentation regarding proactive steps taken within Sweden on the subject. Please refer to Annex B for a hard copy of this presentation. Mr. Wahren also recognized the fact that Hong Kong had also made impressive progress on the subject. Mr. Mai from Hong Kong next provided their presentation on the subject – please refer to Annex C for a copy of Hong Kong’s presentation. The Chair suggested that with so many great ideas being generated by individual member nations it would make sense to establish a best practices system to both capture and make these ideas available to others.

[2008-8] Water Safety:

Mr. Michael Campbell (USA) recommended that ISCA create the means to capture “best practices” as they relate to water safety practices. In addition, general accident or incident details could also be added in the hopes that ISCA members might learn from one another’s successes and failures.

Action: USA and ISCA Secretariat to create a system to permit the collection of “best practices” in regard to water safety. Related accidents and incidents will also be highlighted from an educational standpoint.

This discussion led to another regarding the sharing of incident and accident reports amongst ISCA members. It was determined that a great deal of good could come from sharing reports, with personal details omitted of course, under the premise that a review of actual accidents could be beneficial in actual accident prevention.

[2008-9] Sharing Incident and Accident Reports:

All members were encouraged to share any such reports, less any sensitive information, with one another until such time as a “best practice” site is established.

Action: All ISCA members are encouraged to share accident and incident reports with one another pending the creation of a “best practices” venue.

The Chair noted that in the interests of time and planning agenda item [16] would be dealt with next.

[12] Health, Safety and Risk Assessments:

Ms. Fulton acknowledged that their concerns had already been addressed in their report. Ms. Fulton added that UK Escort Officers were instructed to conduct risk assessments on every activity that cadets could be expected to participate in. She added that it was essential that host countries recognize this requirement and questioned the practicality of creating a standardized approach. Many of the members present were reluctant and stated that they preferred an approach whereupon the actual Escort Officer would identify activities their cadets could or couldn't participate in. Mr. Mullaly suggested that those countries, like the UK, that have specific concerns or criteria could pursue their interests prior to a given exchange. It was finally determined that the subject was an important one and that a working group should be formed to more closely analyze the issue.

[2008-10] Risk Assessments:

It was determined that the whole subject of countries conducting risk assessments was complicated and that a working group should be formed to review the issue and then make recommendations back to

the membership. Sweden, the UK, USA and Holland all agreed to participate in the review.

Action: Sweden, the UK, USA and Holland to review the issue of conducting risk assessments and report back to the membership with their recommendations.

Mr. Ahuja stated that in India's opinion the Escort Officer was the single most important element in any exchange and while there should certainly be ISCA generated guidelines they should be just that and nothing more than guidelines.

[13] Future of ISCA – Membership Criteria:

The Chairman questioned the results of the previous meeting held in Hong Kong and agreed that ISCA should question whether or not it should be expanded and, consider the identification of a funding source. The use of embassies was viewed as one potential way to reach out in search of new member nations. The concept of approaching commercial interests in pursuit of operating funds was also discussed. Some felt the website served a valuable role in attracting new members while others expressed a desire to become much more proactive in the search for new members. In addition, consideration was given to the creation of two separate categories of membership: one for those members that actively exchange cadets and another for those more passive countries that don't attend conferences or exchange cadets. Mr. Campbell stated that he was prepared to do a little work seeking out potential new sources of funding and added that ISCA might even qualify for grants. Mr. Campbell recommended that where possible members draw attention to ISCA through mention in newsletters, press releases and the like.

[2008-11] ISCA's Future:

Mr. Michael Campbell (USA) agreed to undertake a review of potential organizations or businesses that might be interested in sponsoring ISCA.

Action: USA to conduct a review of potential organizations or businesses that might lend support to ISCA.

Attention was next directed towards the issue of what constitutes a minimum of participation in ISCA thereby maintaining an active membership in the association. Following a lengthy discussion on the subject it was determined that the following terms would constitute "minimum participation":

[2008-12] Minimum Participation in ISCA:

It was determined that as a very minimum ISCA members need to either (a) attend the annual conference or (b) submit in advance of the conference an annual report outlining their activities. It was determined that a country that failed to comply with either of the requirements would not be issued an annual certificate attesting their membership in ISCA.

Action: ISCA Secretary to amend the ISCA Articles of Association to incorporate the fact that members need to either attend the annual conference or, submit an annual report.

[14] Safety at Sea Project:

[2008 ISCA Motion 4]

It was moved by Canada and seconded by the UK that the subject of “Safety at Sea” be adopted as an ISCA priority and that this change be reflected in ISCA’s Articles of Association.

Approved.

[2008-13] Attaching the “Safety at Sea” Mandate to the ISCA Articles of Association:

The conference determined that the promotion of maritime safety should be adopted as an ISCA priority and as such, should be added to the ISCA Articles of Association. There was some discussion regarding whether the balance of the ISCA membership should be afforded an opportunity to first review the proposed amendment prior to the articles being amended. It was decided that changes to the Articles of Association could be proposed up to eight (8) weeks in advance of the ISCA Conference. It was also decided that in this case the ISCA Articles of Association should be amended and ratified later. The Meeting Chairman agreed that he would write the other members and advise them of the approved change.

Action (a): ISCA Secretary to amend the ISCA Articles of Association to include “Safety at Sea” as an approved objective.

Action (b): ISCA Chairman to write to the ISCA members not present to advise of the change regarding the inclusion of “Safety at Sea”.

Action (c): ISCA Secretary to amend the ISCA Articles of Association to restrict proposed changes to eight (8) weeks in advance of a conference.

It was also determined by those members present that proposed changes to ISCA’s Articles of Association should be forwarded to all members no later than eight (8) weeks in advance of the Annual Conference.

[15] Health, Safety and Risk Assessments Part II:

The working group as appointed earlier in the meeting returned to the members with their proposal regarding a reasonable approach to the issue of Exchange Risk Assessments. The proposed policy was displayed on a screen. Mr. Jacques Brandt from the Netherlands applauded the working groups efforts but expressed some concern regarding the requirement to issue a “detailed” programme four weeks in advance of an activity. He stated that at times the programme is not confirmed this early on and as such suggested that consideration be given to issuing programme highlights for review by visiting nations.

[2008-14] Exchange Programme Health and Safety:

The UK expressed some concern that their office was not receiving a detailed exchange programme well enough in advance of an activity thereby allowing adequate time to analyze potential health and safety considerations. The UK suggested that a detailed programme should be made available four (4) weeks in advance of the activity. Some members suggested that perhaps a summary of highlights could be made available four (4) weeks in advance. A second point raised was the fact that an exchange group must be made aware of who the Activity Safety Officer is so that they can bring to their attention any concerns they might have.

Action (a): ISCA Secretary to amend the ISCA Articles of Association to reflect the fact that “receiving” members must provide as many programme details as possible to the” sending” country (s no later than four (4) weeks in advance of the activity.

Action (b): The “receiving” or host country must clearly identify the Activity Safety Officer to all involved.

[16] Shrinking Number of Cadets:

The following points and observations were made during this most informative workshop:

[a] **Canada:** Within Canada their statistics note a small decline in Sea Cadet numbers but that the decrease was not of a grave concern. As such he added that Canada was trying to increase the “word of mouth” approach whereupon current serving cadets approach friends to join. Mr. Mullaly also stated that the Navy League and Canadian Forces had identified smaller towns as being the best place to seek expansion since smaller towns had fewer activities to offer young people. He concluded by adding that a specific audience that had been identified was that of new Canadians and noted that some West Coast cadet units were 99% Asian.

[b] **Japan:** In Japan a declining birth rate has been identified as a key challenge along with an increasing number of children attending additional schooling which in turn precludes involvement in Sea Cadets. The Chair commended the report submitted on behalf of the Junior Sea Friends and recommended that all involved read the report if they had not already done so.

[c] **Hong Kong:** In Hong Kong there has been a 50% increase and with close to 800,000 young people within the secondary school system there is no shortage of youth to attempt to attract. Of the 800,000 just 10% are involved in either Cadets or Scouts. The Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps has a plan in place that will allow for an increase in cadet infrastructure thereby enabling the programme to grow alongside the population. In addition, a requirement for young people to volunteer within the community is also playing very nicely into the Sea Cadet Corps.

[d] **The Netherlands:** A slow decrease has been observed in the Sea Cadet population. It was noted that within Holland the Cadet units were very much individual in nature and as such, not required to follow any national policies. Also, a unit must have a ship which can restrict programme growth given the complications associated with both acquiring and operating such an asset. There is a sense that young people want to sample a variety of programmes and can find the opportunity to travel and experience adventure through other youth programmes. Finally, they believe that attracting youth at an even younger age would be of assistance to them since they feel they are trying to recruit young people who have already chosen and embarked upon an activity of choice.

~~Based on~~ statistics that go back to 1993 it would appear that the cadet population within the UK has remained stable and that in fact, there has been a slight increase in junior cadets. They are currently re-writing their cadet training programme

and in doing so are concentrating on four key areas they hope will ensure the programme remains interesting for youth. Special attention is also being directed towards improving adult training since many cadets reported that the adults were an embarrassment to the programme. The UK sees their involvement in ISCA as a means to provide a very attractive reward to those cadets over fifteen years of age.

[f] **USA:** The cadet population within the US is starting to go into a decline and part of this has been linked to the economy since some families might face a considerable challenge to produce the \$75.00 a week it costs to send a cadet to camp. There is also an image issue related to promoting a military style programme when there is a war on ultimately leading to parents questioning whether or not the cadet programme leads to military service. They believe that “best practices” gained from ISCA can be utilized to make improvements to their programme and they are currently looking at ways to have the Sea Cadet programme accepted as a means by which students might qualify for additional high school credits.

[g] **Sweden:** The programme in Sweden is free of charge and proves very popular amongst young people. Following four years as a youth member the Cadets can become adult members which is also very appealing. The national budget restricts the number of youth that can belong and as a result there are only 200 vacancies per year. In addition, there is only a very limited number of summer camp beds available.

[h] **India:** There are two programmes in India, a national organization and then the Mumbai based Corps that Mr. Ahuja commands. There are a total of 6,000 Sea Cadets in India who are in turn restricted to five hours of training per week. At present the cadet population is increasing at the rate of 10-15% per year. There is also tremendous pressure on youth to do well in school and as such, the young people attend “cram” school on Saturdays which only leaves Sunday available for cadet training. Despite the increase in numbers they have noticed that cadets in their fourth year tend to quit the programme in what has become an alarming trend that is currently under review.

[i] **Australia:** At present there are no captured statistics to show either an increase or decline on a national basis. They have noted that in Australia there are almost too many choices for young people. They too use ISCA as an incentive to both attract and retain cadets. They have discovered that TV is not a great way to reach potential recruits and find more success ending cadets into schools.

[j] **Germany:** At present there are no official statistics regarding cadet population trends. The German programme is comprised of two different youth elements divided by age. In general they have witnessed an increase in the junior programme (under eight years of age) and a decrease in the senior element. There is a sense that the programme is falling out of favour with their intended audience and as the youth lose interest some units have been forced to close.

Mr. Wahren thanked the members for sharing their own individual situations with the other members of the conference. He concluded that it was clear to him that all involved

needed to find ways to better link a cadet's experience to that of real life. He heard that local campaigns work far better than nationally orchestrated efforts and also learned that ISCA could play an important role as offering the potential of international travel to in both a recruiting and retention context.

[17] New Membership Applications:

Mr. Wahren introduced Mr. Whelie from Somalia to the conference. Mr. Whelie provided by means of a slide show a number of images that projected the Somali programme as being dedicated to the training of fishermen. The parent organization was described as being the Somali Seaman's Union which was founded in 1958. Mr. Whelie also reported that the youth component of their Union had been operating for the past six years and had received some funding from a German not for profit organization. MR. Mullaly inquired as to how many youth were involved in the training and was advised that the number of involved youth was entirely dependent on the programmes being offered at any given time. The conference also learned the following:

The programme in Somalia was basically administered by four individuals and that Mr. Whelie was assisting them.

It takes approximately six years for a Cadet to complete the full training cycle.

The Cadets spend between six months to one year in Basic Training.

The participants are in fact called "Sea Cadets".

The language of operation is Somali but that English also works.

The Somali Sea Cadets are currently awaiting additional funding so that they can offer more training.

Mr. Wahren stated that it was time for ISCA to make a decision regarding both Belize and Somalia. There was considerable discussion regarding what actually constitutes membership in ISCA. Questions were asked about whether or not a member needed to actually have Sea Cadets or, could they in fact be students? In addition consideration was given to withholding full membership privileges and instead granting some form of conditional membership. Other members questioned whether or not they should first be encouraged to better strengthen their own programme prior to seeing an international affiliation. Mr. Lee suggested that perhaps the ISCA designation would in turn be used to assist the Somali programme in their search for assistance. India, Hong Kong and Canada all spoke in support of the Somali membership provided there were strict conditions that would have to include the fact that Somalia would not be permitted to seek financial aid from other ISCA member nations.

[2008 ISCA Motion 5]

It was moved by the Conference Chair that Somalia be granted conditional membership in ISCA.

Approved.

[2008-15] Somalia Granted Authority to Join ISCA as a “Candidate” Member:

The Conference voted in favour to allow Somalia to join ISCA as a Candidate Member for a two (2) year probationary term.

Action: ISCA Secretary to amend the ISCA Articles of Association to reflect the fact that Somalia was granted permission to join ISCA as a Candidate Member for a two (2) year probationary term.

Belize’s status was also discussed and despite some noted difficulties associated with attempting to maintain regular contact it was agreed that they should too be considered for a Conditional Membership.

[2008 ISCA Motion 6]

It was moved by the Conference Chair that Belize be granted conditional membership in ISCA.

Approved.

[2008-16] Belize Granted Authority to Join ISCA as a “Candidate” Member:

The Conference voted in favour to allow Belize to join ISCA as a Candidate Member for a two (2) year probationary term.

Action: ISCA Secretary to amend the ISCA Articles of Association to reflect the fact that Belize was granted permission to join ISCA as a Candidate Member for a two (2) year probationary term.

[2008-17] Proxy Votes and “Candidate Membership”:

The conference attendees decided it would be beneficial to have details on the proposed “Proxy” and “Candidate Membership” amendments circulated to the entire membership prior to any amendments to the ISCA Articles of Association.

Action: ISCA Secretary to distribute the proposed amendments regarding Proxy Votes and “Candidate Membership” in ISCA.

[18] ISCA Website:

The secretary spoke about the requirement for new information to be submitted to Canada as the webmaster in order to keep the site “fresh”. Mr. Thomas stated that information sent to him was normally posted the same day. To this end Mr. Thomas made a request that each member nation give consideration to forwarding items or information they think other members would find of interest. Discussion then shifted to whether or not a “member’s only” section could be created within the current site. Mr. Thomas suggested that it shouldn’t be a problem and volunteered to pursue the project.

[2008-18] Members Only Section for the ISCA Website:

The conference attendees decided that it would be advantageous to establish a “Members Only” section within the current ISCA Website.

Action: ISCA Secretary to create a “Members Only” section within the ISCA Website.

[19] Gifts on International Exchanges:

The UK delegates explained that in an effort to reduce and control gift giving they have adopted a process whereupon their national office provides an outgoing group with a photo and a plaque. The group then presents the gift at an appropriate time and place. Mrs. Welsh went on to explain that if each country that participates in a mass programme brought one gift the Escort Officers could coordinate together and ensure that each deserving person/agency receives some token of group appreciation. The discussion led to the following Action Item:

[2008-19] Gift Exchanges:

The UK suggested that when more than one country is participating in an exchange activity the countries involved should each prepare a practical gift (photo or a plaque) that is in turn presented on behalf of the entire exchange. This would avoid a situation whereupon each country feels required to bring along a number of gifts that may in turn lead up to duplicate gift giving.

Action: ISCA Secretary to add the points raised along with recommendations to the soon to be created “Best Practices” section with the statement that ISCA “strongly recommends the following with regards to gift giving”.

[20] ISCA Award of Excellence:

Mr. Campbell provided the members with a short Power Point presentation on the subject. Mr. Campbell advised the meeting that Japan had announced that they would donate \$250.00 USD towards the creation of the next award. Canada was encouraged to re-submit their nomination regarding Captain Varukhin of the Young Russian Sailor’s Club.

[2008-20] ISCA Award Application Going On-Line:

Action: ISCA Secretary to facilitate ensuring the ISCA Award application is available on-line.

[2008-21] ISCA Award to be added to the ISCA Articles of Association:

Action: ISCA Secretary to facilitate ensuring the ISCA Award is included in the ISCA Articles of Association.

[2008-22] ISCA Award Application for Captain Varukhin of Russia:

Action: ISCA Secretary to ensure that Canada nominates Captain Varukhin of Russia for the ISCA Award eight (8) weeks prior to the next conference.

[2008-23] Certificate for Retiring Individual Members of ISCA:

Action: USA to create a certificate for presentation to individual retiring members of ISCA.

[21] Recognition of Retiring Members:

It was determined that the intent of the certificate was to recognize the contributions of an individual who had made a significant contribution to ISCA and that was permanently retiring from their respective organization. Messrs. Johan Fischerström and Reeves were both identified as being very worthy candidates of such recognition.

[2008-24] “Recognition of Service” Certificate to Mr. Gavin Reeves:

Action: USA to create a “Recognition of Service” certificate for eventual presentation to Mr. Gavin Reeves from Australia in recognition of his hard work in support of the ISCA mandate.

[22] Host for Future ISCCs:

India confirmed that they were fully prepared to host the conference in 2009 and USA confirmed that they were also totally prepared to host in 2010. The USA dates were confirmed as being the 4th to the 9th of October in Washington DC. Japan confirmed that they would host the 2011 conference. Mr. Campbell stated that South Africa had asked him to announce that they intend to host the 2012 conference and also indicated that Bermuda was considering hosting in 2013.

Mr. Ahuja reported that India was already fully prepared to host next year’s conference and having hosted the 2002 conference knew exactly what to expect. The conference will run from the 22nd to the 27th of October in Mumbai and an International Regatta will take place at the same time whereupon all member nations will be invited to send Cadets. India was named the Conference Chair to unanimous applause.

[23] Reports from Member Organizations (Part II):

The Chair re-emphasised the importance of having members submit written reports prior to the conference for subsequent distribution prior to the conference. This he added would permit members to review reports in advance of the meeting thereby conserving valuable meeting time to proactive discussions.

[C] Germany:

Ms. _____ reported that they had discovered that seamanship competitions had proven to be a very large success within their programme. She reported that the German Marine Jugen was liaising with another German nautical youth group and that the alliance was a strong one. The Marine Jugen was also exploring other potential alliances that might in turn assist in the attraction of funds. The German delegation extended their heartfelt thanks to the Sea Cadets of the Netherlands for their kind invitation and incredible hospitality. The German Cadets really enjoyed touring the museums, old fortresses, windmills and in particular; the Navy Day in Den Helder.

[D] Hong Kong:

Mr. Li reported that Hong Kong had indeed submitted a report. Mr. Li added that things in Hong Kong had been very busy over the past year driven to a large extent by the Olympic Games. As it turned out the Olympic Committee wanted to involve as many youth groups as possible and that the majority of events undertaken were in fact included in Hong Kong's report. As it relates to exchanges the conference was advised that individual cadets pay for their own transportation while the programme covers the costs to transport the Officers. Mr. Li reported that Hong Kong has done its best to support the ISCA programme and that over the past 10 years they have been hosting an international camp that by all reports is highly thought of.

[E] Lithuania:

Mr. _____ reported that they had exchanged with Sweden and that as a result two Cadets from Sweden travelled to Lithuania. Their programme ran two camps, the second was done in cooperation with the local Maritime College. They had little contact with other countries and recognized that efforts were required to better connect them to their European neighbours. Lithuania expressed a particular desire to work more closely with the Young Sailors Club in Russia.

[F] India:

Mr. Ahuja reported that while they were honoured by Sweden's "standing invitation" to participate in their summer exchange programme they were sadly unable to respond. Mr. Ahuja added that in an interesting development the Royal Thai Navy had taken some Indian Cadets to Sea at their expense. In addition, he reported that the Army Sappers had made some surplus buildings 200 Kames south of Mumbai available to the Sea Cadets and that his Corps was very much looking forward to hosting the upcoming conference.

[G] Japan:

Mr. Honma reported on Mr. Tamaoki's behalf that Japan was still working on their report and that Mr. Campbell was assisting in this regard. The Japanese Junior Sea Friends are under continued financial pressure but were still able to host their annual international gathering. He added that Canada, South Korea and Hong Kong had attended the JSF Camp and that the group had actually climbed Mount Fuji. Mr. Honma added that Japan had every intention of again sponsoring Sea Cadets from Zimbabwe and South Africa and related how they purchase the cadet from Zimbabwe a watch and then teach them how to use it.

[H] Netherlands:

Mr. Smit reported that their written report was still being produced and was currently held up in translation. They had 20 foreign Sea Cadets from HK, the UK, USA and Canada attend their camp. Mr. Smit stated that the camp went very well with Cadets met at the airport and then transported to the ship. Much of the programme was focussed around sight-seeing and involved travel through a number of canals. The visitors made cheese, saw wooden shoes being built, saw dykes, Anne Frank's house in Amsterdam. He reported that the visit to Anne Frank's house left a strong and lasting impression on

the Cadets. He concluded by stating that a written report would be distributed when completed.

[2008-25] Netherlands End of Exchange Report:

Action: The Netherlands agreed to distribute their 2008 End of Exchange Report once it was translated into English.

[I] UK:

Ms. Fulton reported that the report from the UK had been received by the membership. Ms. Fulton reported that the UK is enjoying considerable success with their practice of providing a full day for Escort Officer selection and training. That said, she also stated that as ever, there was room for improvement. Ms. Fulton also advised the conference that the international programme in the UK had been shifted from Portsmouth to a Cadet Royal Marine camp.

[J] Zimbabwe:

It was reported that Mr. Rollason had prepared a SITREP which was in turn distributed to the ISCA membership. In short, it was stated that the unit was down to 15 Cadets and was no longer meeting regularly. IT was further reported that the unit had its building confiscated and was in the process of building a new unit in an area park. The Cadets assist with parking at a musical festival to help raise funds and in some cases also assist the police with traffic control. There is a LT and a SLT that assist Mr. Rollason in keeping the unit active. Mr. Wahren stated that he was very impressed with what the Sea Cadets of Zimbabwe were accomplishing.

[K] USA:

Mr. Campbell also reported that his report had been distributed. He reported that a survey had been completed at the conclusion of their international programme and as a result, there were a number of recommendations they would be acting on. The foreign cadets really enjoyed the damage control simulator and actually managed to save the ship from sinking. For 2009 they are considering the addition of a two day trip to New York City and expect the activity to commence on the 29th of June. In future they will request that participants be non-smoking since trying to accommodate the needs of smokers is very complicated in this day and age. Internet will be offered as will Skype. The US is interested in establishing contact with all selected escort officers in advance of the exchange. It is believed this will aid in the smooth flow of communications. Finally, it was strongly recommended that the cadets from the Netherlands adhere to the established kit list.

[2008-26] Identifying Escort Officers to the USA:

The USA outlined the benefits of having visiting Escort Officers making contact with their staff well in advance of the commencement

of the exchange. This advance contact would permit the Escort Officer to participate in the planning of the exchange.

Action: The USA requested that all countries dispatching exchange groups to their country provide, well in advance of the start date, the name and contact information for their respective officer.

[L] Sweden:

Mr. Wahren advised the conference that their report had been included in the meeting folder. One key point that Mr. Wahren wanted to express was the fact that for the past year and a half the Swedish Sea Cadet Corps has been pretty much on their own. In the past they had worked in close cooperation with the Swedish forces but that now the relationship was quite different.

[24] Closing Remarks:

Mr. Wahren noted that significant progress had been made in regards to “Safety at Sea”, “Cultural Awareness” and on the establishment of new membership criteria. Mr. Wahren noted that two new members, Somalia and Belize, had been welcomed to ISCA under very strict and practical terms. He noted concerns with regards to declining enrolment numbers in all but one member nation’s programme – that being Hong Kong. Mr. Wahren commended the conference on their very insightful discussions in this regard. He expressed his pleasure that a portion of the conference was dedicated to health and safety concerns. He shared his personal vision of one day seeing an Olympic games of sorts between ISCA members whereupon Sea Cadets from around the world compete head to head in areas of seamanship and the like. The Chair thought that the discussions regarding renewed efforts in the area of fund development were both timely and interesting and concluded that the meeting reminded him of his very first ISCA meeting held in Sweden in 1990. He promised to stay in close contact with the members.

Mr. Jacques Brandt from the Netherlands responded to the concluding comments on behalf of the delegates and thanked the Swedish hosts for their generous hospitality. He added that he too took particular interest in the cultural awareness portion of the conference and commended the meeting hosts on selecting such a valued individual to speak on behalf of the subject. Beyond the conference Mr. Brandt extended very warm thanks for all the opportunities the group had been provided with to see so much of what makes up Sweden. Special thanks he added were in order to Mr. Fischerström for all the behind the scenes work that led to such a smooth overall experience. The ISCA gavel was handed from Mr. Wahren to Mr. Fritsch and was then officially presented to Mr. Ahuja of the Indian Sea Cadets – the hosts of the 2009 ISCA Conference.