

IFRAO Report No. 10

MINUTES OF THE THIRD BUSINESS MEETING OF IFRAO

Cairns, Australia

The Third Business Meeting of the International Federation of Rock Art Organisations (IFRAO) was held on the evenings of 1, 2 and 3 September 1992, in Lecture Theatre 3 of the Hilton Conference Centre in Cairns, north Queensland. On 1 September, an open consultation had been announced, which could be attended by any delegate of the Second AURA Congress, providing a forum for raising and discussing matters concerning the discipline. However, the attendance of this meeting was adversely affected by the considerable popularity of the public lectures (J. Clottes and P. Bahn) coinciding with it. The meeting was adjourned with only one recommendation: such events should in future be timed so as not to coincide with predictably popular academic sessions. The Business Meetings on the following two days were closed sessions, attended only by Official IFRAO Representatives.

PRESENT:

Ken Hedges (ARARA); Dr Jean Clottes (ARAPE and Arišge-Pyr,n,es); Robert G. Bednarik (AURA, Chair); Dr Mila Simoes de Abreu (proxy, CeSMAP); Prof. Osaga Odak (EARARA, and proxy, SARARA); Dr Michel Lorblanchet (Groupe de r,flexion); Nobuhiro Yoshida (JPS); Maurice Lanteigne (RAAC); Prof. Jack Steinbring (RAAM); Prof. Chen Zhao Fu (RARAC); Dr Giriraj Kumar (RASI); Marja Mercedes Podest (CIAR-SAA, and proxy, SIARB); Ludwig Jaffe (Le Orme dell'Uomo) and Prof. B. N. Saraswati (observer, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts). Consequently, sixteen of the twenty-one member organisations were represented.

1. APOLOGIES

Prof. Ben K. Swartz (ACASPP); Mario Consens (CIARU); Prof. Herbert Nowak (IC).

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the Cathedral Peak meeting in 1991 as reported in RAR (9: 158-61) and other affiliated journals were taken as read, and were accepted with three very minor modifications.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Additional matters arising from the previous Minutes are reported regularly in affiliated journals.

4. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

Several reports were given by Official IFRAO Representatives, and it was decided that such presentations should be more formalised in the future, and made generally accessible. It was agreed that member organisations should each prepare short reports, of up to 500 words, on their recent and current activities. M. S. de Abreu proposed to publish a book of about 200 pages, summarising the work of IFRAO members: their activities and organisational work, education programs and specialist courses, research conducted, publications produced etc. [It is noted that brief activity statements by six members are contained in the minutes of the 1991 meeting, Item 6 (RAR 9: 158-9).]

5. EXCHANGE

5.1 G. Kumar reiterated the role of IFRAO as an information exchange network, and proposed that all members should automatically send their publications to all other members. The postage costs were queried, but it was argued that many members already adhere to this system, which has the very considerable benefit that each member receives all the publications of the others in return.

5.2 Discussion established that the earlier proposed waiving of copyright among members, for texts of up to 1000 words, is confirmed. Consequently all members may reprint short published texts by other members without having to obtain permission, provided they acknowledge the source of the material. However, for longer articles and research papers, the permission of the authors would be required. Such arrangements are to be encouraged, especially for the purpose of producing translated versions of existing work. In such cases the journal that originally published the material still needs to be contacted concerning copyright releases.

6. NEW MEMBERS

J. Steinbring moved that matters concerning the approval of new members be given priority, and that Argentina be assured to be considered in this session. K. Hedges, N. Yoshida and M. Lanteigne requested clarification of the status

of the CIAR-SAA, which was explained by M. Podest , and after establishing that nomination referred only to the rock art organisation within SAA (Sociedad Argentina de Antropología) and some debate of IFRAO membership conditions, it was moved that CIAR-SAA be accepted as a member of IFRAO.

Moved: ARARA; Seconded: RAAM; Carried.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 G. Kumar raised the possibility of introducing a two-year probationary period for new members of IFRAO. J. Steinbring proposed that selection should be in sufficient depth so that we would not have to have a probationary period, and we should have sufficient confidence in candidates before we elect them as members. While the motion had the support of some members, others argued against it. In response to the view of G. Kumar and O. Odak, that observance of ethics needs to be monitored, M. S. de Abreu pointed out that adherence for a limited period does not necessarily guarantee continued adherence, and that we must distinguish between organisations and their individual members. G. Kumar cited the example of a European member of IFRAO, whose executive committee members are said to continue conducting unethical recording methods in India. A mechanism of addressing such matters needs to be developed within IFRAO, and the issue of research permits was considered. L. Jaffe and J. Clottes suggested that the organisation concerned be asked to respond to the claims by the Indian scholars, and J. Clottes emphasised that the actions of individual members should not be held against organisations they are members of. It was moved that a letter be sent to the senior officer of the organisation in question, expressing concern and asking for clarification.

Moved: ARAPE; Seconded: ARARA; Carried.

7.2 The proposal of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi to host an IFRAO Meeting in late 1993 was debated, bearing in mind that no proposal had been received from an IFRAO member for that year. The proposal had strong support from some delegates, and K. Hedges queried whether there were any restrictions excluding nomination of an event by a non-member. R. Bednarik suggested that we should be guided by what was considered in Darwin in 1988, and J. Steinbring pointed out that the principal consideration was to support whatever would enhance the exchange of information. G. Kumar suggested that a RASI Meeting be held as part of the New Delhi proceedings. After consultation with B. N. Saraswati and detailed discussion, it was moved that an IFRAO Meeting be held in New Delhi at the end of November 1993.

Moved: ARARA; Seconded: RAAM; Carried.

7.3 K. Hedges asked what the status of the IFRAO constitution was. A draft constitution has now been published (RAR 9: 160-1), subsequent to the deliberations at the Cathedral Peak meeting, and proposals concerning it have been invited from IFRAO Representatives.

7.4 O. Odak raised the subject of organisations composed of researchers conducting work in continents other than those they reside in. J. Clottes argued that IFRAO members are not necessarily national organisations, and that their individual members may work in a variety of regions. This led to a discussion of sizes of member organisations, their spheres of influence, and political considerations. It was observed, however, that ultimately it is the IFRAO executive which accepts or rejects candidates for membership.

7.5 L. Jaffe presented arguments in favour of accepting the bid by CeSMAP to site the 1995 IFRAO Meeting in Pinerolo-Torino, Italy. The proposal had good support, but O. Odak expressed concern that the event will coincide with a major archaeological meeting in the same region, and feared that this could have adverse effects. Debate showed, however, that delegates are confident of the discipline's strength and perceive more potential benefits than disadvantages from such concurrence.

8. GENERAL

The experience of the previous IFRAO Meeting had shown that future meetings should be conducted in the form of short sessions of several hours per day, rather than in one long session. This had been taken into account in planning the Cairns event. However, only one third of the items on the Agenda were actually discussed, and it became clear that future business meetings need to be timed so that they will not compete with any other sessions or lectures, i.e. they need to take place on the day(s) immediately before or after the proceedings of the host event.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meetings were adjourned at 8.30 p.m. on 3 September.

Robert G. Bednarik
Secretary, AURA
RAR 10-281

THREE NEW MEMBERS OF IFRAO

At its 1992 Annual General Meeting, the Association des Amis de l'Art Rupestre Saharien (AARS) has unanimously decided to apply for IFRAO membership. The submission has been placed before the IFRAO Representatives, and the fourteen ballot papers so far received all support the admission, therefore a majority vote is assured, and AARS becomes the twenty-second member of IFRAO.

The new member specialises in the study of Saharan rock art, its conservation, and exchange of information about documentation and events related to Saharan rock art. The Association's constitution emphasises that 'membership implies commitment to personal respect of, and, as far as it is possible, prompting other people to respect, the archaeological heritage of Saharan countries'. The executive board is democratically elected, with terms of office limited to one or two years. There are no restrictive or discriminatory membership rules.

AARS was founded in 1991, with an initial membership of 184, and publishes a newsletter in French. The contact address is:

Association des Amis de l'Art Rupestre Saharien
Alfred Muzzolini (President)
7, rue J. de Ress,guier
31000 Toulouse
France

The establishment of the Associação Portuguesa de Arte e Arqueologia Rupestre (APAAR) had been foreshadowed by its founders, Dr Mila Simoes de Abreu and Ludwig Jaffe, at the Cairns congress. It has recently become a reality, with an initial membership of over fifty, and the new organisation immediately sought IFRAO affiliation. The constitution of the Association declares it to be a non-profit organisation dedicated to interests concerning rock art, including teaching, research and protection. It has a democratically elected executive and membership is open to all. Working groups have already been formed in several universities in Portugal. The first issue of a newsletter has been produced, and a lecture series by international speakers has been initiated. One of the priorities of APAAR is to compile a detailed rock art inventory of Portugal, a small country with a substantial rock art heritage that extends back to the Palaeolithic period. A specific aim, reflecting an admirably strong commitment by the executive committee, is to eradicate physical enhancement recording methods in Portugal.

The preliminary result of a postal ballot is: thirteen votes received, twelve for acceptance, one abstention. Consequently APAAR becomes the twenty-third member of IFRAO. The contact address is:

Associação Portuguesa de Arte e Arqueologia Rupestre
Dr Mila Simoes de Abreu (Chairperson)
Av. D. Jos, I, n. 53
2780 Oeiras
Portugal

Another very recent application for IFRAO membership is from the Centar za Istrazivanje na Karpestata umetnost i Praistorijata na Makedonija (Rock Art Research Centre of Macedonia). The society's members are elected democratically, it has non-profit status as a scientific organisation, and there are no restrictive membership rules. The President is Professor Dusko Aleksovski, and his application was accompanied by a supporting letter from the Minister of Science of the Republic of Macedonia, Dr A. Selmani. It had been submitted and vetted by Professor Dario Seglie, the IFRAO Representative of Italy, who reminded fellow members that 'our acceptance will be important, especially in this time when the young Macedonian Republic (formerly part of Yugoslavia) is asking for, and going to receive, international approval'.

The preliminary result of the postal ballot suggests that the IFRAO members have heeded Dario Seglie's words: thirteen votes received so far, all of which approve the nomination. Consequently the Macedonian Centar becomes the twenty-fourth member of IFRAO. We take this opportunity to wish the young Republic of Macedonia well for the difficult times it faces. The contact address of the new member is:

Centar za Istrazivanje na Karpestata umetnost i Praistorijata na Makedonija
Professor Dusko Aleksovski (President)
91320 Kratovo
Republic of Macedonia

ADDRESSES OF IFRAO REPRESENTATIVES

The number of IFRAO members has grown rapidly, and in order to facilitate correspondence and the exchange of publications as per IFRAO policy, an updated and complete list of the current IFRAO Representatives is provided below. Three new members are listed above, bringing the total of rock art organisations affiliated with IFRAO to twenty-four. They are essentially the twenty-four largest and most active rock art societies in the world, and they include in their combined memberships virtually all scholars active in this discipline.

Professor B. K. Swartz, Jr
American Committee to Advance the Study of Petroglyphs and Pictographs (ACASPP)
Dept of Anthropology
Ball State University
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Alice J. Bock
American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA)
P. O. Box 65
SAN MIGUEL, CA 93451-0065
U.S.A.

Dr Jean Clottes
Association pour le Rayonnement de L'Art Pari,tal Europ,en (ARAPE)
11, rue du Fourcat
09000 FOIX
France

Robert G. Bednarik
Australian Rock Art Research Association (AURA)
P. O. Box 216
CAULFIELD SOUTH, Vic. 3162
Australia

Mario Consens
Centro de Investigacin de Arte Rupestre del Uruguay (CIARU)
C.C. 18.007
MONTEVIDEO
Uruguay

Professor Dario Seglie
Centro Studi e Museo d'Arte Preistorica (CeSMAP)
Viale Giolitti, 1
10064 PINEROLO (TO)
Italy

Lic. Marja Mercedes Podest
Comite de Investigacin del Arte Rupestre de la Sociedad Argentina de Antropolog;a
Av. Santa Fe 983, 4 piso A
1059 BUENOS AIRES
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Dr Fidelis T. Masao
East African Rock Art Research Association (EARARA)
Archaeology Unit
University of Dar Es Salam
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Tanzania

Dr Lothar Wanke
Gesellschaft f • r Vergleichende Felsbildforschung (GE.FE.BI.)
Geidorfg • rtel 40

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Dr Michel Lorblanchet
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Charg, de recherches au CNRS
46160 CAJARC
France
Dr Shyam K. Pandey
Indian Rock Art Research Association (IRA)
C/79, Gaur Nagar University
SAGAR (M.P.) 470 003
India

Professor Herbert Nowak
Institutum Canarium (IC)
Postfach 48
A-5400 HALLEIN
Austria

Nobuhiro Yoshida
Japan Petrograph Society (JPS)
P. O. Box 11
Kokuranishi Post Office
Kitakyusyu-city, N803
Japan

M. P. Lanteigne
Rock Art Association of Canada, Inc. (RAAC)
306-450 Talbot Avenue
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Professor Jack Steinbring
Rock Art Association of Manitoba (RAAM)
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Canada

Professor Chen Zhao Fu
Rock Art Research Association of China (RARAC)
Central Institute for Nationalities
100081 BEIJING
P. R. China

Dr Giriraj Kumar
Rock Art Society of India (RASI)
Faculty of Arts
Dayalbagh Educational Institute
DAYALBAGH, Agra 282 005
India

Roy Querejazu Lewis
Sociedad de Investigacin del Arte Rupestre de Bolivia (SIARB)
Casilla 4243
COCHABAMBA
Bolivia

Ludwig Jaffe
Societ... Cooperativa Archeologica Le Orme dell'Uomo
Piazzale Donatori di Sangue, 1
25040 CERVENO (Brescia)
Italy

Dr Jean Clottes
Soci,t, Pr,historique AriŠge-Pyr,n,es
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