



**Minutes of the 14th Annual General Meeting of the Association held on
Thursday 2nd October 2008 at 0930 in the RAI Conference Centre,
Amsterdam.**

In attendance: Claire Martin (in the Chair), John Teather, Inge Niedek, Dieter Walch, Tomas Molina, Bill Giles, Gerald Fleming, Panagiotis Giannopoulos and Daniel Corbett.

1. Apologies for absence and notification of postal votes.

Apologies were received from Jay Trobec, Francis Wilson, Richard Chapman, Evelyn Cusak, Monica Lopez and Albert Berniol.

2. Minutes of the 13th Annual General meeting.

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

3. Any matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

4. Report from the Chairman, Claire Martin.

As I sit to read this brief report on the state of our association, world economies are suffering – the extent of which many of us have never seen before.

The global turmoil we are witnessing in the financial world is mirrored somewhat within our own industry. TV stations are downsizing or even closing and as such the ability of our members to travel to conferences is being severely restricted. The IABM is by no means therefore immune to the economic struggling we're seeing in the global markets. We have always been a small association, with mighty goals and we have managed to survive by virtue of some very active volunteers from within our ranks – I would like to thank those who do so much to keep us alive and well in these difficult times.

That being said, the cancellation of the Second World Conference in Monterrey severely restricted our ability to bolster our own funds. We have however since 2007 been offered the opportunity to take part in the World Exposition scheduled to take place in Shanghai, China in 2010.

As the advertising for this event states: "World Expositions are galleries of human inspirations and thoughts. Since 1851 when the Great Exhibition of Industries of All Nations was held in London, the World Expositions have attained increasing prominence as grand events for economic, scientific, technological and cultural exchanges, serving as an important platform for displaying historical experience, exchanging innovative ideas, demonstrating esprit de corps and looking to the future."
<http://www.expo2010china.com/expo/expoenglish/oe/es/index.html>

Taking part in The 2010 World Exposition will therefore be a primary goal of the IABM and planning for the event will keep us rather busy over the next 2 years. It will eventually give us a severely needed injection of funds, promote our association and allow us to get together en masse as we did in Barcelona in 2006.

But that's all in the future; as far as the previous year is concerned we have taken part at several WMO meetings and had a very successful involvement in the Zaragoza meeting in June 2008 where European broadcasters were asked to discuss adaptation strategies to climate change. More and more, the IABM is being asked to take part in such meetings, and it is becoming a mutually beneficial role for us.

It is a pleasure to hold our AGM today in Amsterdam in conjunction with the European Meteorological Society's Annual Meeting – I hope we can set out some solid plans for 2009, and ultimately the 2nd World Conference in Shanghai in 2010.

5. Report from the Honorary Secretary, John Teather.

Both the committee and individual members have been busy again this year. As usual it proved difficult to meet as a committee as often as we would wish, however there was a constant traffic of emails, to ensure the affairs of the association are properly managed. Meetings were held in Lorenzo del Escorial, Geneva and Cannes.

Our main attention has been directed towards planning the 2nd World Conference in Shanghai in 2010, but that still left time to run a successful 1-day conference in Zaragoza, Spain on the 18th - 19th June as part of Expo 2008. This was done with the cooperation of CBN-E, and IABM organised the event with financial support from the European Commission. Special thanks must go to Tomas Molina for the huge task of organising the event, ably supported by Gerald Fleming.

We were only able to fund one edition of UP FRONT, and it remains a task to try and seek funding to publish more often. Our target is three times a year.

Membership has remained static with loses being made up by the gains.

6. The report from Treasurer, Gerald Fleming.

The report was tabled at the meeting. He noted that 4,500 Euros were still due for the costs of organising the Zaragoza event. He noted the problems in getting in subscriptions and reported on a new system that will greatly help with this. The 2008 subscriptions will be billed as soon as possible.

7. Election of Directors and Officers. The following persons were elected:

Chairman	Claire Martin – proposed by GF, seconded by IN
Vice Chairman	Tomas Molina – proposed by CM, seconded by BG
Secretary	John Teather – proposed by GF, seconded by TM
Treasurer	Gerald Fleming – proposed by IN, seconded by CM
Membership	Inge Niedek – proposed by DC, seconded by CM
Publications	Bill Giles – proposed by JT, seconded by CM
Ordinary Directors	Richard Chapman- all proposed by GF and seconded by CM

	Paul Gross
	Dieter Walsh
African Representative	Stephen Quoa
Asia Representative	Yoshikazu Idesako

8. Resolutions.

There were no resolutions.

9. Any other business.

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 0950.