

**Minutes of the 10th Annual General Meeting
of Species 2000
held at
The Natural History Museum, London, UK
on 14th May 2008**

Present:

Officers : P H Schalk (In the Chair, Chairman of Directors & ETI), F A Bisby (Executive Director/ Company Secretary),

Representatives of Members : T Bourgoin (MNHN, Paris), P Kirk (CABI), J Van Tol (UNESCO-IOC), A Larizza (IRC, Bari proxy for C Saccone), G Beccaloni (Orthopterists' Society proxy for D Eades), C H C Lyal (NHM London proxy for M Scoble), R Govaerts (RBG Kew proxy for A Paton), Y Roskov (ILDIS, proxy for J Zarucchi)

Others : G Higley (NHM London), P Harling, E Shaughnessy (Linnean Society)

Apologies : P Uetz (TIGR Reptile Database), D Schindel (CBOL), N Robinson (Thomson Zoological Ltd), M Seddon (NMGW), Frans Jongejan (Ticksbase), R Vignes Lebbe (CIPA Group), M Costello (EcoServ), M N Dadd, plus all other Members

1. The Chair was taken by Dr Schalk.
2. The Members agreed to take the Notice convening the Meeting as read.
3. The Minutes of the 9th Annual General Meeting held at The University of Reading, Reading, UK, on 30th March 2007, were approved.
4. The Report of the Directors and the Accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2007 having been circulated, the Members agreed that the Report and the Accounts could be taken as read.
5. The following Resolution was duly proposed and passed unanimously:

That the Accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2007, and the Report of the Directors thereon, are hereby approved and adopted.
6. The following Resolution was duly proposed and passed unanimously :

That Dr. Guy Baillargeon be re-elected as a Director of the Company in accordance with Article 13.3 of the Articles of Association.
7. The Members received a report from the Executive Director, explaining the principle of access agreements and permissions. A list of all of the Permissions given in 2007 was provided (see Appendix A).

The Executive Director responded to queries by C Lyal (NHM London) and T Bourgoin (MNHN, Paris) by explaining that in addition to the permissions listed,

special Licences had been arranged for certain organisations using a separate Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC). For instance these had been signed with GBIF, with EoL and with CETAF for its members.

A full cumulative listing of permissions, MoU's and MoC's was requested.

8. The Chairman reminded Members of the discussion at the previous AGM about trial commercial usage, and asked the Executive Director to circulate a paper describing an agreed pilot project involving Taylor & Francis publishers.

The Executive Director circulated a consultation paper (see Appendix B). This was titled 'Decision to license certain commercial users, with a Fee contribution to Running Costs'. The paper outlined the circumstances under which a commercial usage licence might be appropriate, the terms of usage, and the trial run with Taylor & Francis. It also outlined the changes needed to the Species 2000 Access Agreement and Access License documents if this was to be extended beyond the present single trial run.

Additional information was given about the trial with Taylor and Francis in response to a request by R Govaerts (RBG Kew). Taylor and Francis had signed a Letter of Agreement, initially for one year but able to be rolled over for future years. In exchange for a modest fee, Taylor & Francis have set links in their Dictionary of Natural Products on DVD product, so that genera and species cited in the DVD link to the appropriate CoL entry at our own web-site. So far the feedback from Taylor & Francis and the customers had been positive. There was a hope that this would enable the arrangement to continue or be expanded, as allowed for in the LoA. This may be a good way to generate a modest but ongoing income that might contribute to Running Costs of both Species 2000 and its member databases.

G Higley (NHM London) asked about setting the fee and commented that a regular pattern may need to be sorted out. No figures were given, but these will be visible in the accounts, although this permission for Taylor & Francis remains a trial process.

There were no further comments, and the Chairman stated that the consultation and trial run would continue, with a view to concluding the issue at the next AGM.

9. Executive Director advised that for the coming year Species 2000 would be submitting two major Grant Proposals.
 - a. BBSRC Lola Grant
Pre-proposal submitted 12th March. Due to hear shortly if it has been approved to apply for the full proposal in July 2008. Proposal is for Completing the Catalogue of Life and will be a 4-year British led proposal
 - b. INFRA – EC Proposal – Framework 7
e-infrastructures – new state of the art architecture, development of services and networking. Less than 1/3 of the grant is for research, the rest is for services/network community. 3-year project.

The Executive Director explained that the proposals complement each other and the partners were having a meeting after the AGM and Presentation to discuss further how to put them forward.

10. The Chairman concluded by reminding those present that Species 2000 is controlled by its Members and invited those who had not already joined to do so, either through their institutions or as individuals.

11. The Chairman declared the meeting closed.