

**Minutes of the 7th Annual General Meeting
of Species 2000
held at
The Suncrest Hotel, Qawara, Malta
on 16th March 2005**

Present:

Officers : F A Bisby (Executive Director), V P Canhos (Chairman of Directors),
P H Schalk (Director), K L Wilson (Director)

Representatives of Members : Y Ben-Dov (ScaleNet, Bet Dagan), T Bourgoin
(MNHN, Paris), R Froese (FishBase, Kiel), S J Owens (RBG Kew),
P Schoolmeesters (Scarabaeidae), G Tavakilian (TITAN, Paris), J van Tol (Naturalis,
Leiden).

Proxies : M N Dadd (personal member) to P H Schalk, J Zarucchi (ILDIS) to
R J White.

Others : E van den Berghe (VLIZ, Oostende), C Emblow (EcoServe), H Enghoff
(U Copenhagen), M Gimenez-Dixon (IUCN, Gland), D Gordon (NIWA, Wellington),
A Gray (U Cardiff), W Greuter (BGBM, Berlin), P Harling (Sp2000 Secretariat,
Reading), R Hyam (GBIF), A Jones (U Cardiff), Y de Jong (Sp2000 europa,
Amsterdam), S Jury (Reading), S Kimani (Sp2000 Secretariat, Reading), M Kracht
(DSMZ, Braunschweig), O Lage (EC - DG Research), W Los (U Amsterdam),
L J G van der Maesen (ILDIS/U Wageningen), M Malicky (Federal State Museum,
Linz), A Y Peñaherreras-Leiva (IRD, Paris), B Pitkin (NHM, London), M Ramos
(MNCN (CSTC), Madrid), Y Roskov (Sp2000 Secretariat, Reading), P Schembri
(U Malta), J von Schantz (MNH, Helsinki), M Seddon (NM Wales), A Soulier-Perkins
(Sp2000 europa, MNHN, Paris), L Stabile (IPGRI, Rome), J A Stalpers (CBS - Baarn,
Utrecht), D Triebel (BSM, Munich), P Uetz (FZK, Karlsruhe), J Wall (RBG Kew).

Apologies : M N Dadd (Director), and 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 6th Annual General Meeting held at the University of Reading on 8 May 2003 were approved.
4. The Report of the Directors and the Accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2004 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 2004,
and the Report of the Directors thereon, are hereby approved and adopted.

Following the formal meeting the Chairman and Executive Director then presented brief additional Reports on the activities of the Company during the year and plans for the future, which were discussed by the Members.

Notable events / issues were:

- a) In October 2004 V Canhos had stood down as Chairman of the Directors and L Blaine as Chairman of the Project Team; their places had been taken by P Schalk and K Wilson respectively. These appointments were reviewed each year.
- b) There had been changes in the requirements for financial reporting in England, where Species 2000 is legally based. Small companies (those with a turnover of less than £5.6 million) were no longer required to have a full audit of their accounts. As a result of this change it was no longer necessary for the Members to confirm the appointment of an Auditor each year and simplified accounts could be filed with the authorities. However the Directors would continue to provide the same detailed accounts to the members as before, and these would continue to be produced by the independent accountants.
- c) The implementation of the arrangements with GBIF had been successful : a MoC had been signed for the use of the CoL by GBIF as the main index within their portal and for their Nodes, and GBIF had provided funding to accelerate the rate of preparation of the CoL in 2003, 2004 and 2005. Further support was expected in 2006. This support had lead to major developments, particularly the work of S Kimani at the Secretariat in Reading, reviewing and bringing in new datasets.
- d) The partnership with ITIS continued to develop, for instance with the coming publication of the 2005 Annual Checklist.
- e) Developments in Species 2000 Asia-Oceania and in the New Zealand Program would be reported by the chairmen of those groups in the Workshop which was to follow later in the day
- f) The Species 2000 europa project was a major development with EU funding, partly supporting P Harling and Y Roskov in Reading, A Soulier-Perkins in Paris, and funding Y de Jong in Amsterdam.
- g) A MoU was being developed with CETAF
- h) Species 2000 had been invited to enter a formal relationship with the CBD
- i) The total number of species in this year's Annual Checklist had reached 500,000, which represented a major step on the way to our target of including the estimates 1.75 million known species by 2011.

The Chairman and Executive Director concluded by thanking the very committed staff at the secretariats, the partners and contributors to the CoL. The Chairman reminded those present that Species 2000 is controlled by its Members and invited those who had not already joined to do so.