

Editorial

European Biophysical Societies' Association (EBSA)

At the 8th I.U.P.A.B. Congress of Biophysics, held in Bristol from July 29th to August 4th, a meeting was held of representatives from the Biophysical Societies within the European area. These included the eight societies whose representatives had met originally in Frankfurt in November 1981, and who had decided to proceed with the establishment of the European Biophysical Societies Association, under an Executive Committee comprising A. Ehrenberg (Stockholm), W. Kreutz (Freiburg), J. Clauwaert (Antwerp) and P. Bayley (London).

The Founding Societies are those of the following countries: Belgium, Denmark, Germany (FRG), Great Britain, Italy, The Netherlands, Sweden, and Switzerland. In addition, the meeting was attended by representatives of the societies of France and Israel, who were also admitted to membership. Observers were also present from the societies of Bulgaria, Germany (GDR), Hungary, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, USSR, and Yugoslavia.

A constitution was adopted for EBSA in the form of Statutes which define the purpose of the Association in the following terms:

"The objectives of the Association shall be to advance and disseminate knowledge of the principles, recent developments and applications of Biophysics. It shall foster the exchange of scientific information among European biophysicists and biophysicists in general".

An Executive Committee was adopted comprising: A. Ehrenberg (Stockholm) as President; J. Engel (Basel) as Vice-President; J. Clauwaert (Antwerp) as Secretary-Treasurer; and P. Bayley (London).

The Executive Committee is empowered to process applications for membership from societies which have expressed their interest in joining EBSA; formal confirmation of membership is made by the next General Assembly of EBSA. In countries where a National Biophysical Society has yet to be established, the representatives have been requested to proceed as quickly as possible to achieve this status. Meanwhile, communication would continue to be with the representative of the National Committee for Biophysics, or the Biophysics Group of a parent society.

The meeting welcomed the proposal to publish an EBSA Calendar of Events in the *European Biophysics Journal*. Secretaries of all societies are invited to send details of their forthcoming meetings to the Editorial Office for inclusion in the next issue of the Journal.

All enquiries concerning EBSA should be addressed to the Secretary, Dr. J. Clauwaert, Department of Biochemistry, U.I.A., Universiteitsplein 1, B-2610 Wilrijk, Belgium.

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European Biophysics Journal