



**RESEAU INTERNATIONAL DES ORGANISMES DE BASSIN
INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS
RED INTERNACIONAL DE ORGANISMOS DE CUENCA**

**4th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
30 SEPTEMBER - 4 OCTOBER 2000
CRACOW - ZAKOPANE (POLAND)**

FINAL RESOLUTIONS

The 2000 General Assembly of the International Network of Basin Organizations took place in Cracow-Zakopane (Poland) from 30 September to 4 October at the invitation of the Polish Authorities.

The conference was honoured by the presence of Mr. A. TOKARCZUK, Polish Minister for the Environment and Mrs. E. SELTENREICH (Poland), Director of the RZGW for the Upper Vistula; Mr. A. BACHLEDA-CURUS (Poland), Mayor of Zakopane as well as representatives of the Marshal and the Voivod of Malopolska, who officially opened the debates.

The Assembly gathered 158 delegates who represented 84 Organizations from 23 Countries.

The delegates thanked the Polish Government, the RZGW for the Upper Vistula, Cracow Voivodship and region, as well as the town of Zakopane for their warm welcome and the perfect organization of their Assembly and for the quality of the documentation distributed, and in particular for an interesting book on water management in Poland.

The General Assembly took note **that 133 Organizations from 49 countries had already expressed to the Permanent Technical Secretariat an interest in becoming either full "Members" or "Observers"**, by signing the declaration of Membership or sending the information sheet. Several other organizations, that meet the criteria, have also shown an interest without officially becoming members.

34 Member-Organizations paid their subscription fee in 1999 and 33 had done so before the General Assembly for year 2000.

The delegates reaffirmed their support to INBO Charter and reminded that INBO membership is based on the four following principles:

❶ comprehensive, integrated and consistent management of water resources on the relevant scale of river basins, including aquifers;

- ② participation of the local Authorities concerned, the different categories of users and associations for environmental protection in decision-making within basin committees, beside the appropriate Governmental Administrations;
- ③ definition of medium and long-term objectives to be achieved through master plans and priority action plans;
- ④ mobilization of appropriate financial resources, based on the "users-polluters-pay" principles.

The Assembly thanked the French Authorities for their financial support to the Secretariat since 1994, as well as basin organizations and Governmental Authorities of Brazil, Mexico, Spain, Guatemala, Colombia and Argentina for having organized INBO and LANBO General Assemblies since then.

The Assembly also thanked the Spanish and Argentinean Authorities for the organization of Liaison Bureau meetings in Madrid in April 1999 and in Mendoza in August 1999, as well as the Dutch Authorities and organizers of the "World Water Forum" for hosting the Liaison Bureau meeting and INBO Workshop in The Hague in March 2000.

The Assembly congratulated the Brazilian Authorities, and in particular **Mr. R. SANTOS GARRIDO**, Federal Secretary for Water Resources, for the way they carried out the "Chairmanship" of INBO since the SALVADOR General Assembly in December 1998.

A - The General Assembly, in the unanimous vote of the represented Member-Organizations, approved the new statutes to provide INBO with an independent legal entity and ensure budget transparency.

Upon the proposal of the Polish Member-Organizations and in accordance with the Charter, the Assembly unanimously nominated **Mr. Tomasz WALCZYKIEWICZ**, Deputy Director of the Upper Vistula RZGW (Poland), as the **new INBO President** until next General Assembly.

It also nominated the following **members of the Liaison Bureau**:

<u>Incumbents</u>	<u>Substitutes</u>
• <u>Africa</u> :	
Mr. ABROUK (Algeria)	Mr. LAKH (Senegal)
Mr.....(1) (SADC)	Mr.....(1) (South Africa)
• <u>America</u> :	
Mr. LATULIPPE (Quebec)	Mr.(1) (Mexico)
Mrs BALLESTERO (Costa Rica)	Mrs de GRANDMAISON (Caribbean)
Mr. ABIHAGGLE	Mr.....(1)

(LANBO President)	(Colombia)
Mr. BROCHI	Mr. GOMEZ
(Brazil)	(Chile)
Mr. LLIORET	Mr. BENAVENT
(Ecuador)	(Peru)

• **Asia :**

Mr. RUSFANDI-USMAN	M. SOKOLOV
(Indonesia)	(Uzbekistan)
Mr.....(1)	Mr.....(1)
(Mekong Commission)	(Indian Union)

• **Western Europe:**

Mr. LLANOS BLASCO	Mr. SANTAFE MARTINEZ
(Spain)	(Spain)
Mr. ROUSSEL	Mr. BESEME
(France)	(France)
Mr. de VILLENEUVE	Mr. OUDSHOORN
(Netherlands)	(Netherlands)

• **Central and Eastern Europe:**

Mr. BADOWSKI	Mrs BURAKOWSKA
(Poland)	(Poland)
Mr. PUNCOCHAR	Mr. PAPP
(Czech Republic)	(Hungary)
Mrs. VASIU	Mr.(1)
(Romania)(1)

(1) representative to be designated by the national authorities and member organizations concerned.

In addition:

- Mr. Juan-Manuel ARAGONES BELTRAN (Spain), Mr. Raymundo SANTOS GARRIDO (Brazil) are ex-officio members of the Bureau as former Presidents, as well as Mr. Jean-François DONZIER (IOWater) who represents the Permanent Technical Secretariat in the Liaison Bureau, and, as an exception, also Mr. Eduardo MESTRE who represents LANBO.

One representative of GWP and of the Organization Committee of the 3rd Global Water Forum will also be invited to the Liaison Bureau meetings. The next two meetings of the Liaison Bureau will take place in Brazil, in April, and in Spain in September of 2001.

The General Assembly also awarded the title of "honorary expert" of INBO to Ms. REYNA CHACON (Guatemala) and Messrs. D.BRAVO (Colombia), A. KOUADIO (Ivory Coast) and G. CHAVEZ ZARATE (Mexico) for their service to the Network.

The Assembly empowered Messrs. Tomasz WALCZYKIEWICZ, as President of the Network, and Raymundo SANTOS GARRIDO, as former President, the French members of the Liaison Bureau, Messrs. BESEME and ROUSSEL, and Mr. DONZIER, Permanent Technical Secretary, to approach the French Authorities (Paris Prefect's Office) to register the new association.

The delegates decided that the **yearly subscription fee would amount to US\$ 1,000 or FF. 7,000 for 2001, just as in 2000**, to cover the expenditures of the Network management and the publication of the "Network Newsletter" as a priority.

They reminded the Member-Organizations that the payment of this subscription is important to develop the Network's activities and requested that the members who have not yet paid their dues for 2000 should do so promptly or inform the Liaison Bureau on any encountered difficulties.

The Permanent Technical Secretariat (PTS) opened a special INBO bank account (in FF and \$) to collect these dues. The payment of expenditures requires the agreement of the President of the Network or of a delegate Member of the Liaison Bureau (Treasurer). The next Bureau will also designate an independent Auditor.

The Liaison Bureau, during its next meeting, should determine the technical and financial conditions for the organization of the future General Assemblies.

B - The General Assembly approved the INBO multi-year action program, namely "creation and strengthening of basin organizations", in its version n° 9 of September 2000, prepared in close cooperation with GWP, LANBO, the Regional TACs for Asia and Europe and the International Secretariat for Water, and presented in the form of a GWP Associated Program. This last version of the Associated Program meets the main requests made by the TAC of GWP which approved it during its meeting in Stockholm in August 2000.

The General Assembly thought advisable to begin the actions planned as soon as possible and to set up a Steering Committee for the Associated Program, gathering in next meeting of the Liaison Bureau, representatives of GWP and bi and multilateral cooperation agencies, interested in supporting such projects.

The General Assembly designated the two former INBO Presidents, Mr. R. SANTOS GARRIDO, Federal Secretary for Water Resources in Brazil and Mr. J.M. ARAGONES BELTRAN, President of the Jucar Hydrographic Confederation, as well as the members of the Liaison Bureau who also seat on GWP governing bodies, to liaise with the President Mr. WALCZYKIEWICZ, LANBO and regional TACs of GWP. With the PTS help, a special mission should be organized to promote the Associated Program to bi and multilateral cooperation agencies which support actions for **I**ntegrated **W**ater **R**esources **M**anagement at the river basin level.

Meetings involving interested TAC organizations may be organized to present the Associated Program.

The General Assembly was pleased with the success achieved by INBO, six years after its birth, regarding both activities carried out and the international recognition, especially within the framework of its Associated Program with GWP and the implementation of international agreements and action plans suggested by the Hague Water Forum.

C - The Assembly was pleased with the unquestionable success of the "**Network Newsletter**" publication and of the INBO **Internet site**:
<http://www.iowater.org/inbo>

The Assembly decided to continue with the dissemination of the newsletter n° 9 that has just been published and the publication of the newsletter n° 10 in 2001.

The Assembly stressed the great advantage for the Member-Organizations of contributing to the "newsletter" by timely sending their articles to the PTS and expanding the Web site by providing all interesting information.

It recommended that the Member-Organizations quickly acquire an **electronic mail address (E-mail)** in order to facilitate contacts and the dissemination of the information inside the Network and to send these particulars to the Permanent Technical Secretariat.

It requested that the PTS direct "**discussion forums**" on the WEB, especially on the topics already dealt with by INBO during General Assemblies' meetings:

- ➔ "financing of Basin Organizations";
- ➔ "master plans for water development and management";
- ➔ "participation of users in sustainable water resource management" by developing an appropriate social engineering approach in particular in cooperation with the International Water Secretariat in Montreal;
- ➔ management of shared rivers;
- ➔ flood control;
- ➔ information needed for decision-making.

The Assembly adopted the recommendations presented at the end of **the technical seminars of 3 October 2000** and mandated the President and PTS to ensure their wide dissemination to the Members and to the interested International Cooperation Organizations.

INBO should look for a wider participation of International Commissions of shared rivers in the network.

The Assembly thought advisable that INBO continue the reflections started for the GWF in the Hague and propose its own "vision" on the evolution of water during the coming years, especially with the prospect of the 3rd GWF in Japan. It requested the establishment of a working group to deal with this project, made up of experts from the Member Organizations interested.

D - The Assembly gratefully received the invitation from the Quebec Authorities to host next INBO General Assembly in Quebec in Autumn-Winter of 2001-2002.

E - Moreover, it was pleased with the creation, within INBO, thanks to the support of the Basin Organizations and Governmental Authorities of Brazil, Colombia and Argentina, of the first Regional Network of Latin American Basin Organizations (RELOC-RRLA/RI OC), following the Constitutive Assembly in Brasilia (Brazil), in 1997 and the first General Assemblies in Bogota (Colombia)

in 1998 and in Mendoza (Argentina) in 1999. The Assembly wished that similar initiatives be developed in Central and Eastern Europe, Central America and the Caribbean and Asia, especially with the support of the regional TACs of GWP.