**IFIP General Assembly (Tele Conference ZOOM) September 2020**


**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR INFORMATION PROCESSING**

# MINUTES OF THE
# Virtual General Assembly Meeting
# September 24th / 25th, 2020

# ZOOM

# Table of Contents

## Attendance List

**Member Society Representatives (28 representatives)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Austria | E Neuhold | Brazil | R Macedo |
| Bulgaria | E Manoach | Canada | M Havey |
| Croatia | M Frkovic | Czech Rep | J Pokorny |
| France | J Sakarovitch | Germany | Kai Rannenberg |
| India | S Mohapatra | India | K Vyas |
| Ireland | D Brady | Italy | P Schgör |
| Japan | H Aida | Korea | J-In Kim |
| Netherlands | W Bronsgeest | New Zealand | Liz Eastwood |
| Norway | S Røsvik | Poland | J Nawrocki |
| Slovakia | M Ftacnik | Slovenia | N Schlamberger |
| South Africa | R von Solms | Sri Lanka | A Athukorale |
| Sweden | J Gulliksen | Switzerland | R Morel |
| Ukraine | I Grebennik | U.A.E. | M Hassan |
| UK | A McGettrick | Zimbabwe | L Gudza |

**International Members at Large**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ACM | G van der Veer | CLEI | H Cancela |

**Ex officio Members (7 were present)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| M Hinchey | IFIP President | M Bramer | Honorary Secretary |
| A Wong | Vice President | G Marin-Raventos | Vice President |
| Y Murayama | Vice President | M de Roche | Councillor |
| A Yoshi | InterYIT | | |

**TC Chairs (13 TCs were represented)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TC 1 | L Barbosa | TC 2 | I Schaefer |
| TC 3 | D Passey | TC 5 | T Czachorski |
| TC 6 | B Stiller | TC 7 | L Stettner |
| TC 8 | I Ramos | TC 9 | D Kreps |
| TC10 | A Rettberg | TC11 | S Furnell |
| TC12 | R Mercier-Laurent | TC13 | P Palanque |
| TC14 | R Malaka | | |

**Affiliate Members**

| | |
|---|---|
| CEPIS | D Brady |

**Honorary Members**

| | |
|---|---|
| L Strous | A Rolstadas |

**Observers**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| T Kinoshita | Secretary General IPSJ | R Johnson | IFIP Historian |
| E Tarasova | HBMSU Strategic Affaires | M Wagner | SBC Director |

**Apologies**

| | |
|---|---|
| Bart de Decker | Belgium |

**IFIP Secretariat**

| | |
|---|---|
| E Dundler | IFIP General Secretary |

## 1 Call Meeting to Order

**The President** welcomed all participants to the virtual meeting. He welcomed especially all members who attended the General Assembly first time, Mr Manoach from Bulgaria, Mr Sakarovitch in his function as new representative of France, Mr Vyas from India, Mr Aida as new representative from Japan, Mr Athukorale from Sri Lanka, Mr Hassan from the U.A.E., Ms Schaefer the TC2 Chair, Mr Stettner the TC7 Chair, Ms Ramos the TC8 Chair and the observers from Japan, U.A.E. and Brazil.

**The President** expressed that this is the first time of a General Assembly held virtually and apologized for any inconveniences and the tight time frame.

## 2 Attendance and apologies

The Honorary Secretary, **Mr Bramer** announced the GA attendance, proxies and apologies (please refer to the attendance list). 28 Full Members, 2 International Member at Large, 13 TC representatives and 7 ex officio members with voting rights were present.

**Mr Bramer** stated that the attendance of members with voting rights exceeded the quorum and General Assembly could proceed with its work.

## 3 Business issues

### 3.1 *Approval of Agenda*

**Mr Hinchey** asked the Board for approval of the agenda for the Board meeting.
**Mr Neuhold** requested to transfer the presentation of the report of the Members Society Assembly to the first day, because the report will influence the voting on Statutes & Bylaws.

General Assembly **APPROVED** the re-ordering of the agenda unanimously.

### 3.2 *President's Report*

**Mr Hinchey** presented the President's report. He confirmed the statement of the Honorary Secretary that Mr Abeywickrama is deemed to be retired. A replacement will be elected at next General Assembly.

***Covid-19***

*Clearly the biggest issue for most people this year has been the current pandemic. Following, in many cases, several weeks of lockdown — and even some re-lockdowns — institutions, businesses and facilities are re-opened albeit with reduced capacity. However, travel is still uncertain and problematic (with required quarantines, limited flights, etc.) and as a result a number of activities are rescheduled or cancelled. Even our own Board meeting was delayed (cancelled in Nanjing, moved to Berlin, rescheduled and ultimately cancelled) and was ultimately held online. Therefore the decision was made to hold our GA online. I will update on other issues that are changed in the rest of this report.*

***General Assembly 2020***

*As reported elsewhere, the General Assembly was moved to be an online only event, with 2 sessions planned for 3 hours on 24th and 25th September. All participants have been asked to prepare their written report in a timely fashion and upload to the restricted area. The GA will focus on items that need voting, etc., on the first day, with items that do not require voting on Day 2.*

***UNESCO***

*We had planned to host an event to celebrate our 60th anniversary/jubilee at Maison de l'UNESCO on 28 September 2020. Because of the current situation we have decided to postpone this event. UNESCO are fully supportive of rescheduling the event but we do not yet have a specific date. We have specifically requested that the event is moved for a full year (to 28 September 2021) so that it will still coincide with UNESCO's International Day for Universal Access to Information and mark the end of our 60th anniversary year. We do not, as yet, have confirmation that this requested date will be possible.*

*It is likely that we will have a small number of smaller events in the meantime, possibly online or a mixture of online and physical. Such events could include the launch of the Jubilee books (cf. PC report) and the launch of an IFIP Code of Ethics, among others. We have also agreed with Springer to make these books available on an open access basis via the IFIP DL at no cost to IFIP.*

***UNCTAD***

*Following a successful IFIP "side event" at UNCTAD last year, the intention was to have a presence this year in Geneva. Due to the pandemic, the event was postponed by 6 weeks and ultimately run online as 3 x 1.5 hour sessions, 10-12 June. We have recently been asked to contribute some expertise to a new UNCTAD report.*

*A side event at the UN General Assembly on how ICT contributes to achieving the SDGs is planned for 1st October and will be run virtually. Mike Hinchey, Moira de Roche, and A Min Tjao will participate.*

***WSIS***

*WSIS was also postponed and ultimately it was decided to run it as multiple events over multiple weeks, following a consultation process on 28 May. Moira de Roche was IFIP's main representative and events have been run on Ethics, Disaster Risk Reduction and Education. IFIP visibility was high during the events and the logo was very obvious in closing videos for each event.*

***AI for Good***

*AI for Good has also been transferred to an online event, with activities spread out over a number of months.*

***Ethics***

*TC9 has been leading a development of an IFIP Code of Ethics based on, and expanding upon, the ACM Code of Ethics. A complete version is available for GA's consideration in advance of layout and printing. A budget for printing and distribution is also requested.*

***InterYIT***

*InterYIT has held a number of activities. This includes 2 online events related to the use of AI and related technologies in addressing the pandemic. All events had good attendance and promoted the IFIP brand.*

***AI Forum***

*As reported at the last Board meeting, and at the GA, at the request of BMVIT, we organized an event on the topic of AI at the Ministry in Vienna in May 2109. Sir Roger Penrose and Stephen Ibaraki were keynote speakers. Eunika Mercier-Laurent organized several other speakers and panels and is considering*

*this event as a model for an event in France in September 2020. BMVIT has asked that we have a repeat event in 2021, although that will depend on the situation in 2021.*

***Membership***
*Over the past 2 years we have spoken with potential new members: Botswana Computer Society, Thai Association of IT Professionals, Bangladesh Computer Society, IT Commission of the United Republic of Tanzania. IP3, and Moira de Roche in particular, have been helping to progress issues with Botswana and Tanzania, and Moira is assisting Botswana with a forthcoming event.*
*Unfortunately, we have lost John von Neumann Computer Society (Hungary). CSSL (Sri Lanka) have renewed their membership.*
*Sweden had concerns about continuing their membership. I was asked to attend their Board meeting in Stockholm, which became online only. They decided to deal only with coronavirus-related issues at that meeting and I have been asked to attend a future meeting instead. In the meantime, they have renewed their membership.*

***Finance***
*Naturally the financial situation for the coming months (and years) is uncertain. Income for 2020 is mostly received. 2021 and beyond are more uncertain as particular member societies suffer from loss of income. Also, cancelled events and events running online only will impact the income we receive from event fees and (to a lesser degree) royalties.*

*Time is allocated on the schedule to discuss budgets and finance*

**3.3** ***Secretary's Report***

**Mr Bramer** presented the report of the Honorary Secretary:

*This is my first report since taking on the role of Honorary Secretary at the end of the 2019 General Assembly in Kiev. Since then I have regularly communicated with Mr. Eduard Dundler, the IFIP General Secretary and the head of the IFIP Secretariat on management and administrative matters and have found him an invaluable source of information and support. I have had much less interaction with Mr. Dundler's colleagues in the Secretariat, Brigitte Brauneis and Marion Smith, but have invariably found them positive and helpful. The Federation is fortunate to have such a strong central secretariat, especially in these difficult times.*

*Apart from 'standard' office work, the Secretariat's work since the last General Assembly has included preparing a report to the Austrian government about the use of its grant for 2018/2019, preparation of a successful application to the Austrian government for a grant for 2020/2021 (the result of excellent personal communication and cooperation with the ministry), renewal of the Federation's IT Infrastructure in connection with Windows 10 and preparation of a report on the use of a UNESCO grant for a TC8 conference in Africa (10.000 USD)*

*I was concerned to learn that one of the Secretariat's regular commitments is the substantial work involved in processing files and metadata relating to event proceedings as preparation for the inclusion of papers in the IFIP Digital Library. Whatever the benefits of this work, it is a significant ongoing time commitment for the Secretariat and takes up staff time that might usefully be devoted to other matters especially providing additional support and information to the*

*Federation's member societies, Technical Committees and event organisers. In my opinion this use of Secretariat time needs to be reviewed.*

*Membership*
*At the time of writing the Federation's membership is as follows*
*Country Representative Members: 36*
*International Members at Large: 2*
*National Member at Large: 1*
*Associate Members: 4*
*Honorary Members: 7*
*Ex-Officio Members: 7*

*Membership issues will be discussed further under the Membership and Marketing Committee Report agenda item for this meeting.*

*Executive Committee*
*Since the last General Assembly, the Executive Committee has had two teleconference meetings: on January 30th 2020 and May 8th 2020. The minutes of these meetings are given in the Executive Committee report elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.*

*Finance Committee and Technical Assembly Chairs*
*Franz Rammig and Michael Goedicke have left the General Assembly and so under our Statutes and Bylaws are no longer eligible to serve as Finance Committee and Technical Assembly Chairs, respectively. The President has appointed Raimundo Macêdo as the Acting Chair of the Finance Committee and Philippe Palanque as the Chair of the Technical Assembly.*

*Annual Report*
*My experience of discussion with senior members of one of our member societies strongly suggests that the production of a printed annual report adds considerably to the Federation's external credibility. The 2018/19 Annual Report has now appeared and, in my view, gives a very good impression of the wide range of valuable work being done by the Federation's constituent parts.*

*Experimental Board Meeting*
*As an experiment an additional meeting of the Board was held in Kiev shortly before the 2019 meeting of the General Assembly. This experiment was certainly not an unqualified success. There were strongly expressed views – mistaken but understandable – that the intention was to conceal important information from the non-Board members of the General Assembly and in my view any small benefit gained from the additional meeting was more than outweighed by the time it took away from the GA meeting itself and the negative atmosphere that it inadvertently created. I am pleased to report that at the Board meeting in June it was decided not to continue this experiment.*

*Covid-19 Problems*
*Since approximately February the work of the Federation and much of the rest of the world has been severely disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic. It is fortunate that the layout and size of the headquarters building in Laxenburg has enabled the Secretariat to continue working there whilst maintaining safe 'social distancing'. Most of the Federation's events have been postponed to later this year or to 2021. Some of them have been organized as 'virtual conferences'. So far only a few have been cancelled altogether.*

*At the time of writing it is still impossible to estimate the effect on IFIP – an organization that operates on a worldwide scale - and its member societies. The virus seems to have been almost eliminated in some countries but is still spreading almost uncontrolled in others. All countries are potentially vulnerable to a 'second wave' of the virus later this year or next and it is unlikely that it will be eliminated worldwide for many years.*

*However, it is easy to predict that many conferences, both IFIP 'sponsored' events and member societies' own events, having changed to a virtual mode of presentation will remain that way with significantly lower fees, that many organisations will go out of business, possibly including some Universities and even some airlines, and that world-wide travel is likely to be severely constrained for safety reasons for several years at least. The economic implications of imposing lockdowns in many countries are likely to lead to major budget cuts in several countries and may cause severe financial problems or even existential problems for some of our member societies.*

*The overall effect of all this on the Federation's finances, probably for a long time and possibly permanently, can only be significantly negative. It would certainly be foolish to imagine that if we wait a few more months the problem will simply go away and everything will go back to normal. Far more likely the world will have to adjust to a 'new normal' and this may not be easy or pleasant to do.*

*Even before the CoronaVirus crisis hit the world, the Federation had been spending considerably more than it brings in every year, relying on income from the 'Investment Fund' to make up the deficit. However, that investment income is now itself under threat as the Honorary Treasurer will no doubt explain, and continuing to spend far more than we earn is likely to be the route to extinction. The Federation urgently needs a new financial model.*

*I draw the General Assembly's attention to Minute 2(b) of the Executive Committee meeting on May 8th, where it was agreed that 'the Finance Committee [will] draw up a strategy for bringing the Federation's annual income and expenditure (excluding any investment income) into balance within three years' and that Mr Milan Ftacnik, Honorary Treasurer-elect, 'will work together with Mr Brady [outgoing Honorary Treasurer] on a proposal for a finance strategy to be discussed with the Finance Committee before being put to the GA for approval'. I see this as a most important initiative. Drawing up a new financial model involves a thorough examination of the way we are currently working. We must be prepared to look for new sources of income and at the same time must avoid assuming that any of our current expenditure is sacrosanct. An initial report on this work is scheduled for elsewhere in this meeting.*

**The Board ACCEPTED** the report.

### 3.4 *EC Meetings Report*

**Mr Bramer** informed the Board that since 2011 all minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee have been made available to General Assembly members in the Secure Area of the Federation's website.

## 4 Member Societies Assembly

**Mr Neuhold**, Chair of the Member Societies Assembly, presented the report of MSA:

*One important action item from our last meeting was to complete our membership to the planned 12 members. I, with the help of Eduard Dundler, have asked for nominations. We have received only one from Korea* ***Jee-In Kim*** *jeeink@gmail.com. Jee-In was herewith appointed. There remains one open position.*

***Summary of Member reports:***
*All the member reports now are in the Secure Area of the IFIP Web page (18 of them). However, as nobody has raised any objections to have them moved to the open part of the IFIP Web page, this will be done soon by the IFIP Secretariat.*

*There was a lengthy discussion about the proposed changes to the Bylaws for the selection of Fellows. The MSA then voted for the following proposal:*

- *Votes should be cast for each and every candidate approved by the Selection Committee, i.e. not the whole group. A list of candidates is handed out for the vote, i.e. one voting process.*
- *For each candidate, an absolute majority should be required, excluding abstentions.*

*In summary, the MSA supports the German amendments, with the above clarification, on the voting.*

It has been **decided** to move the discussion and clarification to the item about Statutes and Bylaws later in these minutes.

***Key Items for the GA 2020 – 2021***

- ***Lack of action to acquire new Members***
  - *Budget has prevented the appointment of a dedicated resource*
  - *Tasks to attract new Member Societies needs to be actioned by a* ***dedicated resource*** *employed in Secretariat's office*

- ***Lack of Positioning Statements***
  - *IFIP and the TCs need a process to ensure that IFIP provides a positioning statement on hot topics like:*
    - *Drone delivery, Autonomous vehicles and robots, eWaste,*
    - *IT Education in Schools, Misuse and misunderstanding of technology*
    - *Note that the Country Member reports are a source of position statements, so these should be considered a valuable resource.*

***Other Issues Raised***

- ***MSA Public Website – T****he Website is not being maintained, and Country Reports should appear in the OPEN Web-Page. The IFIP Secretariat promised to update the Web page.*
- ***Electronic Voting*** *system - (and by-laws) - need to be updated to allow (and enable) electronic voting across the organisation. Note that TC1 use an electronic voting system. The voting system used for the Elections (e-mails to the General Secretary) should be improved. There exist several systems that could be easily adopted.*

- ***How can Member Societies*** *communicate better?*
  *There is quite a large number of information possibilities that already exist but the felling of MSA is that the members of our member societies do not really benefit from them. How can we reach those people? After some discussion it was decided:*

  *MSA members will each assist by engaging a* ***small group*** *of (less-active) Members directly.*

- *The ACM member Gerrit van der Meer will briefly present the ACM/IEEE Education Report and he will ask the IFIP General Assembly to endorse that report (please see AOB of these minutes).*

## 5 Statutes & Bylaws

**Mr Bramer** presented proposals for changes / clarifications in IFIP's Statutes and Bylaws.

1. Bylaw 6.1.1 (Overview of voting rights of GA members): To correct an inconsistency with Statute 8.1. / To correct long-standing drafting error.
   The proposal was **ACCEPTED** (For – Abstain – Against) 39 - 1 - 0

2. New Bylaw 6.1.2: To resolve conflicts in the Bylaws
   The proposal was **ACCEPTED** (For – Abstain – Against) 39 - 1 – 0

3. Bylaw 2.9 (Liability for Dues): To make a more substantial sanction for non-payment of dues
   The proposal was **ACCEPTED** (For – Abstain – Against) 39 - 2 – 0

**The President** proposed a complete replacement for Bylaw 5.4, concerning IFIP Fellowships. In accordance with Statute 9 this was circulated to all members of the General Assembly 40 days before the start of the meeting. Bylaw changes require a two-thirds majority of all Members present or represented by proxy who have the right to vote on the topics concerned.

Shortly before the meeting a number of proposals for amendments were presented by Mr. Rannenberg (Germany) to a deadline specified by the Honorary Secretary. The text of the three proposed amendments is given at the end of this minute. They were all seconded by Mr. Neuhold (Austria).

The Honorary Secretary clarified the procedure to be followed. Proposal 1 had been accepted by the President and so was deemed to be incorporated into his proposal without a vote. The other two proposals would be put to the vote and each required an absolute majority to go forward.

Proposal 2 was then put to the vote. There were 39 votes in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions. The majority in favour met the 'absolute majority' criterion and so the **amendment was carried**.

Next, Proposal 3 was put to the vote. There were 30 votes in favour, 6 against and 5 abstentions. The majority in favour met the 'absolute majority' criterion and so the **amendment was carried**.

Finally, the revised motion as amended by the successful Amendments 1, 2 and 3 was put to the vote. There were 38 votes in favour, none against and 3 abstentions. The

majority in favour met the 'two thirds majority' criterion and **so the revision to Bylaw 5.4 was carried**.

## 6 Election of IFIP Officers

**Mr Bramer** reported that Mr Milan Ftacnik will start after this General Assembly his first term as IFIP Honorary Treasurer.

**Mr Bramer** explained General Assembly the voting procedure within the given situation of a virtual meeting.

Vice President:
There was one vacation and three nominations for Vice President, each of the nominees presented themselves to the General Assembly:

- Ms Moira de Roche (Councillor for IP3) 10 votes
- Mr Jan Gulliksen (Sweden) 16 votes **elected (2020-2022**)
- Mr Jerzy Nawrocki (Poland) 13 votes

Councillor:
There were two vacancies for Councillor position to be nominated by the GA. Nominations Committee received three nominations.

- Mr David Kreps (TC 8) 25 votes **elected (2020-2022**)
- Mr Mr Rainer Malaka (TC14) 27 votes **elected (2020-2022**)
- Mr Jacques Sakarovitch France) 23 votes

**The President** congratulated the new officers and wished them successful work as IFIP officers.

## 7 Code of Ethics

**Mr Kreps** presented the IFIP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct to General Assembly.
*The purposes and values of a profession, including its commitment to the public good, are expressed by its code of ethics. This Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct expresses the values and reflects the ethics of IFIP's member societies and the wider profession. It is a global statement of the conscience of the ICT profession and clarifies what our profession should strive to be: it is a call to action.*
*Professional ethics is about what is expected of a professional in a field. As we act, all of us in the ICT Profession must remember that every choice that impacts others is an ethical decision and that those decisions need to be guided by professional ethics. The competent application of ICT technical skills is necessary for the well-being of contemporary society; our technical skills are important, but how we apply them is what distinguishes us as professionals. Professionals are asked to promote good while working within ethical constraints.*
*The IFIP Code of Ethics [the Code] provides organizations and governments around the world with a common set of values that should be reflected in codes of ethics for all parts of the ICT profession. The Code promotes the continued development of a global conscience within the ICT sector, providing a common ground for international discourse on professional responsibility.*
*(please find full booklet at https://www.ifip.org/images/stories/ifip/public/Announcements/code of ethics booklet.pdf )*

General Assembly **ADOPTED** the IFIP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct after voting (40 votes for, 2 abstentions).

## 8 Code of Conduct for officials

**Mr Bramer** presented to General Assembly a Code of Conduct for IFIP Officials to promote and maintain high standards of behaviour by its Officials whenever they conduct the business of the Federation, including the business of the office to which they were elected or appointed, or when they claim to act or give the impression of acting as a representative of the Federation.

This Code of Conduct is based on the principles of selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, and leadership.
(Full text please see on IFIP's website --- "Rules & Forms").

The General Assembly **ADOPTED** the Code of Conduct for IFIP officials in a voting (35 votes for, o abstentions, 0 against).

General Assembly **APPROVED** the proposed new paragraph to introduce a new Statute 5.5 in a voting (18 votes for, o abstentions, o against).

*The Federation has adopted a Code of Conduct for IFIP Officials to promote and maintain high standards of behaviour by its Officials whenever they conduct the business of the Federation, including the business of the office to which they were elected or appointed, or when they claim to act or give the impression of acting as a representative of the Federation.*

*For the purposes of the Code and for this Statute, an 'Official' of IFIP will be taken to mean the holder of any of the following posts: President, President-elect, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Secretary-elect, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Treasurer-elect, Councillor, together with Chairs and members of the Federation's Technical Committees, Technical Assembly, Member Societies Assembly, Standing Committees and Domain Committees. Additional posts may be specified in the Code itself. All those elected or appointed to these posts shall be deemed to be bound by the Code including those in post when the Code is adopted.*

*The Code of Conduct for Officials will initially be adopted and may subsequently be amended by a simple majority vote of those Country Representative Members, Members at Large and ex officio Members present or represented by proxy at any meeting of the General Assembly.*

## 9 IFIP Awards

### 9.1 *Service Awards*

**Mr Hinchey** presented the report from the Service Awards Committee. The Committee received three nominations for the IFIP Service Award. Two received a majority of support to recommend them to the GA as supported by the Awards Committee for the Service Award.

General Assembly **APPROVED** (voting: 40 for; 3 abstentions; 0 against) to award with the Service Award:

Frada Burstein (TC8)
Amani Elbanna (TC8)

### 9.2 *IFIP Fellowship*

**Mr Hinchey** reported that the Fellowship Selection Committee received fourteen nominations. Twelve nominations received a majority of support within the committee to recommend them to General Assembly for approval.

General Assembly **APPROVED** the recommendation of the Fellows Selection Committee (voting: For 39; abstentions 4; against 0) to award with the IFIP Fellowship:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Liam Bannon | Judith Bishop | John Carroll |
| Bernard Cornu | Geraldine Fitzpatrick | Jan Kacprzyk |
| Paula Kotze | Raymond Morel | Matthias Rauterberg |
| Alistair Sutcliffe | William Waite | Anthony Wasserman |

## 10 IFIP Flagship Events

### 10.1 *WCC Future*

**Mr Hinchey** reported that there is an interest of India to organise a World Computer Congress. But it is recommended not to do it right now and postpone the event.

### 10.2 *WITFOR Future*

**Mr Hinchey** reported that for the time now there are no concrete plans for a WITFOR in the next time.

In a discussion within the Board, several people suggested having events that benefit IFIP's members and that are related to Covid-19 and exploiting the fact that many events are running entirely online.

The Board **REQUESTED** the President to folow the idea and to form an ad hoc committee to run WITFOR event to online.

### 10.3 *WCF Future*

**Mr Hinchey** reported that under the present circumstances it is not recommend organize a World CIO Forum right now

### 10.4 *IFIP 60th Anniversary*

**Mr Hinchey** reported that it has been planned to host an event to celebrate IFIP's 60th anniversary/jubilee at Maison de l'UNESCO on 28 September 2020.

Because of the current situation it has been decided to postpone this event. UNESCO are fully supportive of rescheduling the event but could not provide a specific date.

IFIP has specifically requested that the event is moved for a full year (to 28 September 2021) so that it will still coincide with UNESCO's International Day for Universal Access to Information and mark the end of our 60th anniversary year. We do not, yet, have confirmation that this requested date will be possible.

It is likely that IFIP will have a small number of smaller events in the meantime, possibly online or a mixture of online and physical. Such events could include the launch of the Jubilee books and the launch of an IFIP Code of Ethics, among

others. We have also agreed with Springer to make these books available on an open access basis via the IFIP DL at no cost to IFIP.

# 11 Finances

## 11.1 *Treasurer's Report*

**The Honorary Treasurer, Mr Brady** informed General Assembly that he is at the end of his second term as Honorary Treasurer and thanked General Assembly for the trust he received in the elapsed years. At the end of this General Assembly Mr Ftacnik will take over the position of the Honorary Treasurer of IFIP. **Mr Ftacnik** emphasized that he has the same approach as Mr Brady for the office and he will follow the plan of the Honorary Treasurer for the coming years.

**Mr Brady** informed General Assembly on the finances of the calendar year 2019:

*FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE 2019 CALENDAR YEAR*
*The accounts have been maintained during 2019 by the Secretariat, monitored by the Treasurer, and have been audited by CONSULTATIO Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH & Co KG.*

*The 2019 financial year ended much as anticipated in my report to GA in Kiev, 2019.*
*Income of €310,660 for 2019 was a par with previous years, though the mix shifted slightly; a little stronger than budget due to better royalties from publications and proceeds from activities. Fee income continues to be weak; this is due to members availing of discount, and the need to write off uncollectable income.*
*Expenses – at €450,224 – are below budget; higher than expected Secretariat costs (larger salary costs) are offset by considerably lower Technical Committee expenses and the budget for additional staff remaining unspent.*
*IFIP budgeted to return an operating loss (i.e. excluding portfolio performance) in 2019 of €227k, but some €112k has been saved, leading to an operating loss of €139k.*
*A second bright spot in this financial gloom is that the realisation of the portfolio forced upon us by UBS (when they ended their relationship with us) created an exceptional €213k return on the portfolio investment, all but reversing the previous year's investment loss. While this (after allowing for TC fund provision and Portfolio management fees) means we end the year with a surplus (before Financing Projects from Portfolio) of €49k, it again illustrates the exceptional and dramatic effect that the portfolio performance, which we cannot influence, has on our finances, variously either flattering them, or damning them. I said last year that this merits some further thought, and it bears repeating.*

*OBSERVATIONS ON FINANCES*
***Concerning membership dues**: 2018 was the first year where a discount was offered to member societies for early payment, and this was still available in 2019; there has been deductions in the accounts amounting to ~€4.6k where this has been taken advantage of. This source of income continues to be weak (i.e. under budget)*
***Concerning Projects**: per the decision of the Board, the establishment costs of the Digital Library, and the costs of the Marketing contract, have been financed from the portfolio (as an investment, totalling €27,296).*
***Auditors Opinion –** it is (mostly, but not always) comforting when the auditors have essentially no opinion to offer on the accounts.*

*PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS*
*The portfolio of investments was managed on IFIP's behalf until December 2019 by UBS in London. Our portfolio was managed as a "balanced" investment, with costs compatible with expectations.*

*During 2019, UBS gave us notice that they were terminating their relationship with us. This arose from a number of factors:*
1. *UBS was itself undergoing a reorganisation, and the office in London was no longer taking on the management of funds from clients in our category*
2. *The size of our portfolio (~€2m) fell below UBS' (increased to €5m) threshold for fund sizes*

*While we did engage with UBS to attempt to transfer the portfolio to a different UBS office (Vienna), it transpired that this office was unable to take our business on due to a policy restriction on management of funds where any of the "beneficial owners" is a US passport holder. (For financial governance and reporting purposes, "beneficial owners" are either exactly that (they natural persons who own the assets) or those natural persons that control the funds – in our case, the members of the Board).*
*Communications with other banks in Germany, Austria and Ireland concluded similarly, leaving us with a conundrum. For the time being, the funds are on deposit with Raffeisenbank Mödling (Austria), our day-to-day bankers.*

*SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS*
*IFIP's financial performance always represents a somewhat mixed view of IFIP. The exceptional nature of the losses and profits emanating from the former portfolio investment is too much outside of IFIP's control to be budgeted reliably. Factoring out the effect of the portfolio, the size of IFIP's expenses exceeds the size of IFIP's income. This would be fine, if this was as a result of a series of planned expenditures (either investments, or pubic goods), but in truth it is systemic, and has been for a number of years. IFIP is a small, but ambitious, organisation, and is not in immediate danger.*
*Nevertheless, some important "repairs" need to be undertaken while we have the capacity to do so (some thoughts on this will come later). The events of 2020 represent both a crisis (not to be wasted) and an opportunity to be leveraged (as many previously held assumptions prove groundless).*

**The Honorary Treasurer** presented the planned budget for 2021. In a discussion with TC Chairs about cutting the funds for TCs it turned out that the TC Chairs saw the cutting as a "change of the rules" for the funding. The Honorary Treasurer and the incoming Honorary Treasurer confirmed to the TC Chairs that the rules for funding and budgeting for TCs has not been changed. **Mr Brady** offered the TC Chairs to include a joint pool for the "cutted amount".

General Assembly **APPROVED** the inclusion of a joint pool for Technical Committees.

Here is the revised report of the Honorary Treasurer (including the approved change):

***Budget Considerations, 2021 calendar year***
*The Honorary Treasurer required by the statutes and bylaws to prepare a budget for IFIP each year, according to procedures and principles laid down in the*

*standing orders, for approval at GA. A considerable part of this process requires taking input from budget holders, as their combined budgets comprise the large part of the overall expenses of IFIP.*

*This year, together with the Treasurer Elect, the Treasurer has been tasked to try to establish a course to obtaining a balanced budget that does not rely on being able to subsidise expenditure from IFIP reserves. This is no simple challenge. For several years now, IFIP's income has lagged its budgeted expenditure. The effect of this is a gradual diminution in the size of IFIP's reserves.*

*This budget is an attempt to start the process of achieving sustainability, while balancing the need to be prudent in these times of great uncertainty.*

*The annual budget proposition is based on a number of inputs:*

- *Considered requests and submissions from IFIP budget holders These have generally been slow to come by, with limited detail, with some TCs failing to provide any input.*
- *Analysis of budgetary patterns from previous years This has been the primary method of budget analysis.*
- *Decisions from General Assembly*
- *Analysis of projected operational costs*

*It is also affected by various constraints:*

- *The need to achieve balance in the budget (eventually, net of investments)*
- *Where considered requests are not received, budget cannot be proposed*

*2020 has been a very difficult year, as the world has been gripped by the COVID 19 pandemic caused by the SARS-COV-2 virus, which emerged in late 2019. The impact on IFIP has been that many of the events that had been planned have been unable to take place, or have taken place in quite different circumstances; curtailment of travel has had the effect of reducing many items of IFIP cost, but also has had an impact on projected income. To try to understand how this might play on into 2021 is effectively to gaze into a crystal ball, and yet a budget must be proposed.*

*To assist with the task of budget preparation for 2021, we solicited input from all the budget holders regarding their foresight on circumstances in 2021, and also concerning their ideas and suggestions on what might be useful to consider in terms of making changes to how IFIP works and is funded and financed; unfortunately only a small minority of budget holders provided any kind of response; this means that while the exercise will need to be repeated over the coming months, there was insufficient material to be able to provide any real input into this year's budget considerations.*

***Budget Headline Figures***

*The table below shows the headline figures for budget 2021*

***IFIP Finance General Statement (TREAS 4)***

| | PY 2018 | PY 2019 | *Budget 2019* | Act 2020 01 - 07 | *Budget 2020* | Prop. Budget 2021 | *Notes* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **INCOME** | **313,405** | **310,669** | **280,756** | **246,843** | **278,210** | **269,354** | 1 |
| **Dues from Members** | 135,856 | 130,814 | 156,000 | 134,512 | 160,000 | 150,000 | |
| **Return On Assets** | 10 | 19 | 50 | 112 | 50 | 40,000 | 2 |
| **Royalties from Publications** | 63,381 | 79,369 | 42,503 | 82,579 | 39,801 | 16,829 | 3 |
| **Proceeds from Activities** | 86,158 | 78,467 | 57,203 | 17,140 | 53,359 | 37,525 | |
| **Other Income** | 28,000 | 22,000 | 25,000 | 12,500 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 4 |
| **EXPENSES** | **429,045** | **450,224** | **508,080** | **158,349** | **631,182** | **448,570** | 5 |
| **Admin.Secretariat** | 240,714 | 260,355 | 247,300 | 127,212 | 326,000 | 289,800 | 6, 7 |
| **Admin.Support** | 57,409 | 81,404 | 80,003 | 12,097 | 96,702 | 47,470 | 8 |
| **Technical Committees** | 50,471 | 65,611 | 102,777 | 8,713 | 63,480 | 71,800 | 14,15 |
| **Domain Committees** | 0 | -300 | 0 | 4,828 | 0 | 0 | |
| **DCSC Supp to TC Events** | 7,438 | 8,353 | 12,000 | 500 | 12,000 | 6,000 | 9 |
| **Projects** | 70,505 | 22,672 | 54,000 | 3,728 | 116,000 | 24,000 | 10 |
| **Events (WCC, WITFOR, CIO)** | 2,508 | 12,129 | 12,000 | 6,100 | 17,000 | 9,500 | 11 |
| **PROFIT / LOSS** | **-115,640** | **-139,555** | **-227,324** | **88,494** | **-352,972** | **-179,216** | |
| **Financing Projects from Portfolio** | 65,517 | 27,296 | 50,000 | 3,728 | 131,500 | 33,720 | |
| **TC Fund Provision** | -21,798 | -23,925 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| **Return On Portfolio** | -218,974 | 213,247 | 122,000 | 0 0 | 72,000 | 0 | 12 |
| **GRAND TOTAL** | **-290,895** | **77,062** | **-55,324** | **92,222** | **-149,472** | **-145,496** | 13 |

*As an aide memoire, I have appended the budgets for 2020 and 2019, as well as the outcomes for 2019 and 2018. Detailed figures are given in the attached spreadsheet (see Treas 3). Explanatory notes (numbered) are provided below (Section 2).*

### *Notes on Budget Proposal*

*This budget maintains this Treasurer's approach of zero budgeting TCs that fail to engage with the budget preparation process. This does leave open a question that may need to be addressed during the year (as was the case in 2019 with TC10). While this has the beneficial effect of reducing projected expenses, this is counterbalanced by having a (smaller) reducing effect on projected income.*

*We anticipate that many of the measures imposed worldwide in order to mitigate the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic will endure into 2021: international travel will be limited – both as airlines struggle to manage the devastating impact on their business models, and as governments impose different types of quarantine measures on international travelers, and the numbers of people that may gather for an event will continue to be restricted. Thus, the need for expense in these areas will be reduced. On the other hand, the same circumstances will limit the revenue that might have been generated through event attendance – though the scale of this is very difficult to foresee.*

1. *Income for 2020 is projected at €269,354. This is based on a conservative opinion of likely income from Membership Dues, the impact of discounts, and on a continued trend in income from Publications and Events (Royalties) as projected by TCs.*
2. *While the IFIP reserves are no longer invested with UBS, and currently sit on deposit with Raffeisen Bank in Vienna, these funds must not be allowed to be idle. Therefore, €40k (or approximately 2%) is established as an investment income goal to achieve from these funds. Ideally, we would hope for more.*

3. *TCs provide income through royalties and events proceeds. The amounts shown are based on projections from those TCs that responded to budget income requests. It should be noted that while normally the difference between TC income and expenditure is small it is clear that TCs – in general – fail to generate sufficient income to cover the portion of secretariat activity that is required to support them (the current "tax" is insufficient). This represents a large part of the drain on IFIP resources overall (and a drain on the TC Fund), and needs to be tackled with imagination by the Technical Assembly.*
4. *IFIP each year enjoys the benefit of a grant from the Austrian Government,*
5. *Expenditure is budgeted at €448,570 with the largest part of this being made up of expenses related to the operation of the Secretariat in Vienna. ALL budget requests have been squeezed, but in the sole case of the TCs, this reduction has been mitigated by the implementation of a support pool matching the size of the reduction (see item (15)).*
6. *The cost of the Secretariat (€289,800) represents ~65% of the costs of IFIP.*
7. *Staff costs (€229,700) represent ~80% of secretariat costs and, on their own, exceed (non-task) budgeted income.*
8. *Expenses related to standing committees is typically related to travel costs, which are expected to be lower during 2021 than in previous years.*
9. *DCSC Support to TC Events is also primarily about subsidizing travel, suggesting that this grant needs to be looked at in a more innovative way during 2021.*
10. *Projects are typically funded from reserves as investments. Two key projects – hiring additional staff, and celebrating IFIP 60th anniversary – originally planned for 2020 but thrown into disarray, need to be re-examined. The question of staffing needs close examination – recruitment (except locally in Vienna) is likely to be challenging for most of 2021, and so the proposal is to defer (or to accommodate from existing resources). Ambitions for 60th anniversary celebrations need to be scaled differently.*
11. *Expenditure associated with planning different flagship events typically relates to travel, so again this is expected to be less.*
12. *The "portfolio" is no longer invested with UBS.*
13. *Even with the above suggestions, and in the absence of a return on the portfolio, this budget presents a loss of €143,561.*
14. *The exceptional circumstances prevailing at this time mean that the Treasurer was tasked by the Finance Committee to achieve a cut of 30% in the requested expenditure from TCs. This was implemented by graded reduction across all TC expenditure. However, this proved too radical in discussions at GA, and has effectively been reversed (see (15)).*
15. *Recognising that the cuts proposed in (14) are a task, I have also created a "TC Support Pool". Following the discussion at GA, and my compromise proposal, this now amounts to approx. €18k (funded by the task on creating additional income from reserves, item (2)), which might be used by TCs to make up the above shortfall where such expenditure can be justified and approved by the Executive Committee.*

*In many respects, this budget represents a "parking budget"; while so much uncertainty remains, it is immensely challenging to try to predict with any degree of certainty. On this basis, it may be viewed that some portion of this budgeted loss represents the cost of remaining active during the COVID 19 pandemic.*

***Towards a new financial model***
*It is a challenging area, made more complex by the lack of prescience concerning potential fallout arising from SARSCov-2. The most important thing to do now, is to do our best to understand the factors, and to set out a roadmap to achieve positive action, based on our best assessment of the potential impacts of various possible steps.*

*Milan and I have discussed the finances, and we believe there are a number of key factors to be considered:*

- ***Secretariat:*** *As a single cost item, this is IFIP's largest, and costs more than IFIP's single largest revenue source (membership fees). Good governance recommends that IFIP periodically evaluates the role, function, costs, productivity, effectiveness, and value for money afforded by the Secretariat, so that that can be weighed against the challenges of ensuring that it is appropriately funded. It is our view that the costs of Secretariat should be covered by IFIP income streams in proportion to the support given by the Secretariat to the activities associated with those streams (e.g. support for member societies and GA funded by membership income, and support for technical committees and associated events funded by income generated by technical committees, with some reasonable allowance for cross subsidisation). All options should be on the table here.*

- ***Expenses:*** *Discretionary spending, while relatively actively modest, does add up. A saving in this area can be an importance contribution to another area with greater need. The pandemic has helped to contrast the difference between what is essential, and what can be achieved by innovative means, and IFIP needs a renewed concentration on the latter; it seems reasonable that a society based around information technology should be seen as a leader/exemplar in the exploitation of such technology to achieve its goals/aims/purposes in a best-practice context. For example, conference travel grants might be better used to subsidise open publication, and so on.*

- ***Recurring Expenditures:*** *There are several areas within IFIP of recurring expenditure where an impartial evaluation of whether IFIP obtains benefit to match such expenditure is lacking. There should be no "sacred cows" here, so areas such as publications, digital library, landmark events (WSIS, WITFOR) need to be objectively assessed for real value (monetary, and achievement of IFIP goals and aims).*

- ***Income Streams:*** *IFIP has essentially three streams of income: member fees; event royalties; and publication royalties (we ignore, for the moment, sporadic windfalls from retained funds, and irregular sponsorship in cash or kind). Member fees are essentially flat for a number of years, and we are all witness to the latest actions on revision. Member Societies (of course, and rightly) are focusing on what they perceive for the value obtained for their fee. Event royalties go up and down, but the trend for physical events has been down – this deflates both income and costs. It is too early, yet, to see what the medium-to-long term effect of SARS-Cov-2 and the COVID pandemic will be (e.g. virtual events should be cheaper to run, so individual royalties may decrease; however, if other costs are removed, there is more to spend on more events, so maybe more people attend more events, so overall royalties increase? At the moment, this -like much else - is crystal ball gazing). Publication royalties are flat, and seem likely to remain so; it is unclear whether lack of physical ev) books or less.*

- ***TC Funds:*** *There is an ongoing challenge here, the fundamental source of which predates my relationship with IFIP. It is likely that some fundamental rethinking on how TCs are funded is needed. This needs to consider how TCs (and, indeed, the various IFIP committees) plan financially for more that one year, and how "profits" from one source might be used to "subsidise" something else. This requires the most proactive support and engagement from the TA and from TC chairs.*

- ***Assets:*** *IFIP does not have a regular product-based income stream that can be relied on or leveraged; nor does it own anything of any substance. What IDIP does have, is a large sum of money. In the past, the policy was that IFIP is not in the business of investing (we are not experts there), and so the money was placed with UBS on a "low risk" basis. Well, that era has ended; consideration needs to be given to the potential to use the IFIP fund to generate income - else we will just spend it down (though, to be fair, this will take perhaps 20 years at the current run rate). This may be as "simple" as just buying into a market-indexed fund (with all the ups and downs!), but we need then to get past the "american elephant" in the room. Options are needed*

- ***Budget and Control:*** *with so many volunteers doing so many things in so many different ways, establishing and controlling budgets is very challenging within IFIP. Real consequences of this are our inability to assess trends and perform other kinds of financial analysis that might advise and inform. With everyone's cooperation, this area needs to be tightened (though with reasonableness and flexibility in mind, rather than draconian burden).*

*IFIP is not profligate. The scale of expenditure when compared to the enormity of the voluntary work that is done does not seem unreasonable. Nevertheless, many small things add up to larger numbers, and a refocused balance is needed in order to become sustainable. Some of this will benefit from innovation, while other parts may need "cutting our cloth to our measure".*

*We are all volunteers, and there is rather a lot in the above (which is only a sample) to be realistically considered in a realistic timescale by voluntary effort. A key date is the General Assembly in September, as fundamental changes will require – at the very least – the blessing of GA in order to proceed. Therefore it is necessary to prioritise and apportion, in order to divide a reasonable volume of tasks to available resources with a reasonable chance of achievement.*

*We propose that various of the above considerations get tasked on a prioritised basis to appropriate parts of IFIP, with the goal of making a draft financial proposal to GA in September for a five-year plan (with interim goals and measures) to achieve balance. The Treasurer and Treasurer-elect will coordinate (in addition to any tasks), and the Finance Committee will be asked to review (in addition to any tasks).*

The report has been discussed within General Assembly and the proposals were in general **ACCEPTED** by the Board.

General Assembly **REQUESTED** the Treasurer to create subgroups to specific issues and present models to General Assembly based on various scenarios.

The Honorary Treasurer will start conversations with the Technical Committees regarding plans for financing the TCs.

It has been noted that a detailed analysis and discussion of the Digital Library is necessary.

The area of events needs to be examined carefully also in respect of chances due to CONVID-19; Virtual conferences would increase the opportunities to reach much more people from developing countries.

The majority opinion of the General Assembly was that the area of events must be analysed carefully regarding sponsoring of Technical Committees, numbers of events (maybe there are too many events) and too much relaying to online events.

### 11.2 *Finance Committee Report*

**Mr Macedo**, Chair of the Finance Committee, presented the report of the Committee:

*General Comments from FC*
*The COVID-19 pandemic brought to IFIP new finance uncertainties for 2020 and coming years as member societies losses of income, cancelled events and/or events running online only will certainly affect IFIP's income for the related period. Therefore, IFIP's expenditures should be carefully executed for the coming years, adapting budgeted expenses with actual incomes.*

*Concerning its charter FC has the following duties:*
*1.To formulate policies for the sound management of IFIP finances and to propose such policies to the appropriate IFIP body for approval. Policy areas of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:*
*- dues, royalties and conference surpluses*
*- grants and loans*
*- investments*
*- cash management*

*Comments: The present policies are considered by FC to be adequate and useful. No alternations are proposed by FC.*

*2.To issue guidelines and/or to establish procedures as necessary to carry out approved policies.*

*Comments: FC considers the present guidelines and procedures to be adequate and useful. At the moment, no alterations are proposed by FC. FC emphatically asks all budget holders to provide the necessary data in a strict timely manner.*

*3.To analyze and evaluate IFIP's financial condition as necessary to ensure that policies are being followed, and to propose changes in policy when appropriate.*

*Following are the FC evaluation and related observations concerning IFIP's financial condition.*

*3.1 Evaluation of 2019 and 2020*

*We have received the tables Treas 3 and Treas 4 from Mr. Eduard Dundler. They give a good overview of the financial situation of IFIP from 2016 to 2020. We have also received the auditors' report as well as the Treasurer's report for fiscal year 2019.*

*The overall finance situation of IFIP improved in 2019 with a € 77K gain in comparison with € 290K loss for 2018. Excluding the amount of € 27K of Financing Projects from Portfolio (Digital Library and Marketing), the net result for 2019 is actually a positive balance of €49k. This improvement is, however, mainly due to an extraordinary return from portfolio. As reported by the IFIP treasurer, Mr. Declan Brady, in a direct communication with FC, such an extraordinary return was originated from the requirement to liquidise the portfolio to end our investment relationship with UBS. Thus, the structural financial problem of IFIP remains as it is currently unable to cover its expenses from regular income (excluding the portfolio), with an operating deficit of €139K in 2019, as we further comment below.*

*Income for 2019 is similar to the three previous years, and approximately € 30K higher than budgeted. It can be observed that the income of membership dues is lower than budgeted by an amount of € 26K approximately, while income of royalties from publications and proceeds from activities, altogether, is € 97K higher than budgeted, which results in a small decrease by € 3K of total income in comparison to 2018. At the same time, total expenses were € 58K lower than budgeted, which was mainly due to TC funded expenses that were € 37K lower than budgeted. The resulting operating loss of about €139K is lower than budgeted by € 87K, but with an increase of € 25K compared with 2018's operating loss.*

*2020 has been an atypical year for IFIP finances. Though the data available for 2020 is partial, it can already be observed some consequences of the pandemic such as a decrease in proceeds from activities, € 36K lower than budgeted, and possibly a decrease of dues from members that are € 26K lower than budgeted in the partial data. On the other hand, these negative results of events' proceeds and membership dues should be compensated by royalties from publications, which is € 42K higher than budgeted, and by expenses that were postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19.*

*The total budgeted expenses for 2020 is € 631K, which is € 184K higher than the actual expenditure of 2019, with an operating loss of € 353K and grand total deficit of € 149K. This large difference in budget is mainly due to new expenses such as additional staff in secretary and IFIP 60th anniversary. These expenses should, however, not be realized due to the pandemic, resulting in an expected lower operating loss than the originally budgeted (€ 353K).*

*3.3 budget for 2021*
*The Treasurer presented the report concerning the budget for 2021.*

*He informed that, together with the Treasurer Elect, the Treasurer has been tasked to try to obtain a balanced budget that does not rely on being able to subsidise expenditure from IFIP reserves. FC completely endorses and supports this initiative as the structural finance problem of IFIP may end up compromising its existence in the future - reserves tend to disappear if actions to balance the budget are not taken.*

*The Treasurer pointed out some difficulties to establish a proper budget because some IFIP budget holders are failing to provide the required inputs. He also mentioned the difficulties in anticipating the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on*

*IFIP finances. Nonetheless, considering all uncertainties and some expectations for 2021 such as a lower expenditure with travels, and by adopting a conservative estimation approach, a budget for 2021 has been proposed with total expenses of € 492K and total income of € 249K, with an operating loss of € 243K - such an operating loss for 2021 is € 109K lower than the operating loss budgeted for 2020. The budgeted total loss for 2021, with a pessimistic return from portfolio, is € 201K, € 52K higher than the budgeted grand loss for 2020.*

*Additionally, in his report for the 2021 budget, the Treasurer raised concerns on the financial IFIP structure that are shared by the FC. We highlight here the most significant ones.*

*Portfolio returns have been essential to sustain IFIP activities. As IFIP funds are no longer invested with UBS, a firm providing financial services, they must not be allowed to be idle in the near future, aimed at investment funds that can sustainably produce finance returns.*

*TCs, in general, fail to generate sufficient income to cover the portion of secretariat activity that is required to support them. This represents a large part of the drain on IFIP resources and needs to be tackled by the Technical Assembly.*

*Expenditure for 2021 is budgeted at € 492K, with the largest part of it being made up of expenses related to the operation of the Secretariat in Vienna. The cost of the Secretariat (€ 319K) only represents, approximately, 65% of the costs of IFIP and exceeds the total budgeted income.*

*During the meeting at cyberspace (zoom) on September the 22nd at 2 p.m. Vienna Time (GMT+2), after discussing items of the above proposed budget for 2021, FC raised new concerns about the high operating loss, and asked the Treasurer to achieve a cut of around 30% in the requested expenditure from TCs - possibly applying a graded reduction across all TC expenditures to favour fairness. The Treasurer, then, produced a new budget with a reduction of nearly 12% of total expenses. Moreover, he proposed to create a "TC Support Pool" of €6k (funded by the task on creating additional income from reserves), which might be used by TCs to cover some justified expenditure. In the new presented budget, the total income, total expenses, operating loss, and grand total loss are, respectively, € 259K, €436K, € 177K, and € 143K.*

*Based on the above considerations, FC makes the recommendation to GA that:*
*- GA discharges the Treasurer and the EC for fiscal year 2019*
*- GA accepts the Auditors' report for 2019*
*- FC recommends GA to adopt the 2021 budget presented.*

*4.To encourage and facilitate the use of external financing support for IFIP activities.*

*Comments: No concrete plans concerning this aspect have been discussed by FC.*

*5.To review IFIP's dues structure at no less than 3-year intervals, and to propose changes in a timely manner for General Assembly approval.*

*Comments: FC makes the proposal to GA to keep the fee structure as installed by GA 2017, which includes a periodic realignment of rates. Such realignment should, however, be realized only after analysing and better understanding the impact of COVD-19 on IFIP finances, possibly in 2021.*

*6. To propose the amount to be set aside each year for the IFIP Development Fund.*

*Comments: As already mentioned above, we have a structural financial problem; our income is not enough to cover our costs without help from our portfolio. Ideally we would be growing our portfolio above inflation, we are not quite up to that at present. FC recognizes that under the present condition on the financial market satisfactory interests cannot be achieved when following a conservative investment policy. FC supports the Treasurer's strategy to continue with such a conservative strategy.*

General Assembly

- **DISCHARGED** the Treasurer and EC for fiscal year 2019 (with 40 votes for, 2 abstain, 0 against)
- **ACCEPTED** the Auditor's Report for 2019 (with 40 votes for, 2 abstentions, 0 against)
- **ADOPTED** the revised budget for 2021 with 24 votes in favour, 12 against, 4 sustained.

**Mr Hinchey** closed the meeting at 16:30 and informed the participants that the meeting will be continued on the next day (September 25th 2020) at 12:00 Vienna time.

**D A Y 2**

**Mr Hinchey** open the General Assembly meeting, as tele conference on September 25th at 12:00, in order to proceed with the meeting according the agenda.

## 12 InterYIT

**Mr Joshi**, Chair of InterYIT, presented the report. He reminded General Assembly on the Working Objectives for2020:

- To encourage the professional growth of Young Professionals around the world.
- Be the umbrella organization for all Young IT groups that are directly and in-directly working with national computer societies and at interest levels.
- Foster communication between Young IT Groups.
- Encourage the creation of new Youth IT Groups within member societies who does not currently have such representation in digital meeting formats.
- Promote representation of young professionals in the computer societies as well as within IFIP.
- Be the linkage between young professionals (www.ifip-interyit.org) and IFIP (www.ifip.org).

The InterYIT board expects to expand its services to support young professionals around the world as well as to strengthen groups of young professionals who are in the field of IT.

InterYIT represents youth or Young ICT Professionals represents the countries or regions, covering all 5 continents at this point of time. Ambassadors would be the face of the InterYIT in the member countries as well as trying to maximize the presence of InterYIT in nonmember countries as well. Ambassadors are responsible for promoting

InterYIT activities among the like-minded researchers and Young ICT professionals working in the different ICT domains.

**Mr Joshi** reported that InterYIT had 24 events in the last year in 11 countries – India, Namibia, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom, Canada, Egypt, Ukraine, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Mauritius.

InterYIT was present at AI Forums on COVID (2 Events – 24 Speakers).

InterYIT supported Conferences of ICT and related topics - 40 Speakers – 5 conferences.

InterYIT discussed in 11 meetings future collaborations and worked in 3 meetings processing to sign MOU for involving further activities.

InterYIT talked to universities and institutions.

**Mr Joshi** presented the plans of InterYIT for the next year:

- Taking presence of InterYIT to 20 Countries
- Connecting people to Forum. – Youth
- Making stakeholders know about IFIP
- Creating a trust today to build the tomorrow's IFIP community.

## 13 Professionalism Program (IP3)

**Ms de Roche**, Chair of IP3, reminded General Assembly in her report on the strategic goal of IP3:

Advance professionalism in ICT, by:

- Promoting appropriate bodies of knowledge for ICT practitioners
- Promoting common skills and competencies frameworks
- Promoting accreditation and certification
- Promoting high quality ICT education
- Promoting life long learning

*World Summit for Information Society (WSIS)*

Postponed due to COVID-19, it took place as a virtual event in June, July, August 2020. IP3 participated in the

- High-level Policy Session: Ethical Dimensions of Information and Knowledge Societies and addressed the question “What support does IFIP provide to governments, organizations and the information society to help them promote and ensure ethical behaviour?”,
- High-Level Dialogue on the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs: Strengthening the Multi-stakeholder partnership asking and answering the question: “Who does IFIP partner with and how does this help advance the SDGs?”

IP3 contributed to the Thematic Workshop “Living the standard – how can the Information and Knowledge Society live to an ethical and FAIR Standard and leave nobody behind ?” with topics like,

- What role does a Codes of Ethics play?
- The role of Law and Regulation in complementing Codes of Ethics to improve the public’s trust in goods and services that use technologies including AI.
- How can we create Trust in Digital?

- Does a digitally skilled citizenry drive economic growth in all countries? The Digital Skills Everywhere for Everyone project was introduced.

*Project: "Everybody everywhere digital skills digital capacity building IFIP / Rotary / STD collaboration:*
The project is led by Liesbeth Ruoff (KNVI & CEN) and uses OECD 2015 report "The future of productivity report".
The goals and deliverables set in the proposal are:
- to make a repository of best practices, frameworks and use cases worldwide around the development and the usage of frontline digital technology;
- practical recommendations based on findings
- to start a platform of experts based on the inventory of best practices and use cases around the development of the ICT profession
- Revised and expanded as we interact with partners
  Resources: ITU Digital Skills Assessment Guidebook

**Ms de Roche** informed General Assembly that IP3 is looking for partners in the project and would like to bring in leaders from the ICT world (IFIP) and leaders in profit and nonprofit organizations (Rotary) together to cooperate and exchange knowledge. Contact was made with Rotary in the Netherlands with a positive reaction. IP3 is working toward applying for Global Grant and is staying in touch with CSTD.

*IFIP IP3 David O'Leary prize*
Deputy CEO of the Irish Computer Society (ICS), Mary Cleary won the inaugural David O'Leary Award 2019 in recognition of her ethical and professional leadership over many years. In receiving her award at IFIP General Assembly in Kiev, Ukraine, Ms Cleary said she was surprised and delighted to be honoured in this way.

**Ms de Roche** informed General Assembly that the IP3 Board decided to suspend the award in 2020, as there will be no face-to-face General Assembly. A call for nominations will start end 2020.

**Ms de Roche** reported from other activities of IP3 in the last year:
- Computer Society Botswana
  Ms de Roche visited Botswana to promote IFIP & IP3. In a second visit she gave a keynote at the Annual Symposium about "Skills needed in 4IR" and attended the AGM and explained presented benefits of an IFIP membership and strategies to attract members to CSB.
- IFIP Ethics Code: IP3 participated in the task & finish group.

**Ms de Roche** presented the finances of the last two years:

| | 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020 Actual (€) | 1 July 2018- 30 June 2019 Actual (€) |
|---|---|---|
| Opening balance held in IFIP accounts as of 1 July | 46,571.02 | 46,187.16 |
| RECEIPTS | | |
| Membership Fees | | |
| Sponsorship* | | 9,236.45 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Total receipts** | 0.00 | 9,236.45 |
| **EXPENDITURE** | | |
| **Travel and associated expenses** | 2,886.92 | 7,944.00 |
| **Website** | 140.63 | 908.63 |
| **Meetings** | 1,024.44 | - |
| **Other (Trademark renewal)** | 4,360.00 | |
| **Award (Prize & travel)** | 1,630.00 | |
| **Total expenditure** | 10,041.99 | 8 852.63 |
| **Surplus /Deficit** | (10,041.99) | |
| **Total equity carried forward to next period:** | 36,529.03 | 46,571.02 |
| **Ringfenced Award Sponsorship reduced by expense** | 7,606.45 | 9,236.45 |
| **Available Equity** | 28,922.58 | 37,334.57 |

## 14 Technical Assembly (TA)

**Mr Palanque** explained to General Assembly the composition and role of Technical Committees within the structure of IFIP. He said that the 13 Technical Committees have in total with their National Representatives, Working Group chairs, Expert members, Officers currently 336 members. The committees are split into 118 Working Groups with 5826 members (officers, members, observers). In total Technical Assembly represents about 6000 people. These people are responsible for organizing about 100 events, like conferences, workshops, summer schools, per year. These events generate income for IFIP, which is together with royalties for publication is used for funding the Technical Committees.

The funds of the Technical Committees are used for:
Management of the TC
- – One or two physical meetings a year
- – Website
- – Chair travel to GA

Support of the Working Groups
- – Seed money for setting events
- – Incentives for having events within IFIP

Support the development of the field
- – Grants to attend events
- – Provide additional money for travels of participants to events

**Mr Palanque** presented the report of Technical Assembly to General Assembly:

*Computing Curricula 2020* (CC2020): Technical Assembly expressed its support to ACM CC 2020 and offered their help (proposed a task force)

*Modifications of Working Groups:*
- ➢ Creation of WG 12.11 on "AI for Energy and Sustainability"

- Change name of WG 9.4 previous name “The Social Implications of Computing in Developing Countries” -> new name “The Implications of Information and Digital Technologies for Development”
- Creation of WG 5.15. "Information Technology in Disaster Risk Reduction (ITDRR)"

*Relationship with other societies*

- Informatics for all society (Led by Don Passey TC 3 chair)
  - No fee for IFIP
  - Participation agreed unanimously for one year
  - Propose 2 people to join (TC3 chair and Mary Webb (leader of task force on curriculum)

- Participation of IFIP within Association for Information Systems https://aisnet.org/ (led by Isabel Ramos TC 8 chair)
  - Strong interest from at least 3 TCs: TC8, TC9 and TC13 (with already contacts in place)
  - Decided to have a task force on that led by Isabel
  - Have a proposal for next meeting (second week of December 2020)

*Issue of representation of Technical Assembly in IFIP top level management* (brought by Michael Goedicke former TA chair (July 2020)

- Issues to tiling with previous knowledge (Past TA chair could remain within TA for a while e.g. one year)
- Have TA chair a member of the Executive Committee (even more salient after the budget processing from day before)
- More included in TC funds management

*Functioning of the Technical Assembly*

- More meetings (we go to 4 per year) to be more agile
- Precise description of the roles
- Systematic storage of information for later use (organizational learning)

**Mr Palanque** announced that Technical Assembly will come up with a proposal of a set of modifications with rationale for next IFIP Board.

General Assembly **ACCEPTED** the report of the Technical Assembly.

## 15 Domain Committees (DC)

### *15.1. DC on Health Care*

No report has been submitted. **Mr Hinchey** will check the current situation and come up at General Assembly.

### *15.2. DC on Internet of Things*

**Mr Strous** drew attention to his report from the Domain Committee on Internet of Things:

*Membership*

*Since the report to GA 2019 the membership has not changed. The Domain Committee is still interested in expanding the membership to the Technical Committees that are not yet represented.*

*Position paper*
*The draft position paper is included in the open access proceedings (AICT 548) of the first working conference during WCC 2018. A revised version was accepted by the Board 2019 and the position paper has been published and distributed. Upon publication a number of reactions have been received. These were included in the report to GA 2019 with the intention to discuss how to proceed. This discussion however did not take place. With the GA 2020 taking place as a virtual meeting, there is little opportunity to have the discussion in this GA. The DC will prepare a proposal for finalizing the position paper. An option could be to include the position paper in the book that is being planned by the DC, see end of this report.*

*Conferences*
*The second conference took place on 31 October and 1 November in Tampa, Florida, USA. Thanks to a lot of efforts by the local team, under the guidance of general co-chair Srinivas Katkoori, and the speakers and participants the event was a success with 30-40 participants for each session during two very full days of sessions. See IFIP Newsletter of December 2019 https://www.ifip.org/images/stories/ifip/public/Newsletter/2019to2020/news_dec_2019.pdf and the DC IoT website http://ifip-iotconference.org/archive-2019/index.html*
*The proceedings "Internet of Things. A Confluence of Many Disciplines" are available as IFIP AICT 574. You can find information at https://www.springer.com/978-3-030-43604-9*

*The third edition was scheduled to take place on 5 and 6 November 2020 in Amsterdam. Unfortunately, this edition had to be postponed and will now take place on 4 and 5 November 2021, in Amsterdam. In order not to lose momentum, on 5 and 6 November 2020 a virtual event will be held with invited speakers. The program is currently being developed.*

*Book*
*The DC is working on an idea for a state-of-the-art book that will include chapters on various aspects of IoT. The planning for the book would be to publish it in Q2 or Q3 2021.*

## 16. Publications

**Mr Rannenberg** presented the *accomplishments since the 2019 GA meeting, important facts and ongoing work:*

- *Open Access to IFIP Publications in general*

*Open Access to IFIP Publications is currently realized via three channels, as documented on www.ifip.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=219&Itemid=564 :*

1) *The new IFIP Digital Library (https://hal.inria.fr/IFIP/ ), which currently makes available the author's files of IFIP Springer publications (AICT, LNCS, LNBIP) from 2017 (as applicable) back to 2010. It also includes the references to such publications up to and including 2019.*
2) *Springer Link (https://link.springer.com ) for IFIP Springer publications (AICT, LNCS, LNBIP) with free access for all articles 4 years old and older, almost complete backwards till 2005 and additionally many publications backwards till 1995, when Kluwer Academic Publishers (KAP) became the official IFIP publisher. NB: Not the "books" are free, but the individual articles. So, don't get*

*confused by the fact that there is a lock on the book download. Just move on to the table of contents and download the articles individually.*

3) *IFIP Select: Selected papers from IFIP proceedings, selected to be of interest to a more mainstream audience, especially member societies' members, so that member societies can distribute this compendium as a service to their members. Papers are more overview papers than very special ones and in any case each accompanied by "cover paper" of 2-3 pages that describes the related scientific paper and its relevance for a more mainstream audience.*
4) *The previous IFIP Digital Library (dl.ifip.org/) for some non-Springer publications and also Springer publications between 2005 and 2012.*

*Combined, (almost) all IFIP works published with Springer from ca. 2005 to 3 years old are available for open and free access (one way or the other). In addition many proceedings back till 1995 when KAP became the official IFIP publisher are available (NB: KAP, the then official IFIP publisher, was merged into Springer in 2004).*

- *Revision and update of the IFIP Digital Library*

*Per 20th September 2020 there were 15864 full text document uploaded (14903 in October 2019). All IFIP publications by Springer from 2010 through 2018 and most of 2019 are in the DL. We also have the first three eCollection (non-Springer publication) volumes in the DL. One can see the eCollection from the DL home page now. Each eCollection is also in the collection for its TC and events. Several options for search are implemented and also a function "Cited literature" to extract bibliographies from articles automatically.*
*For all downloadable papers the numbers of record views and document downloads are given. https://hal.inria.fr/IFIP-AICT-362/hal-00669799 also documents an example of the interface to Altmetric coverage with e.g. Mendeley and News references.*
*For the most recent Springer publications (for which Springer has the exclusive publication and embargo rights for three years except for author copies on authors' home pages) the tables of contents are given. There is a link to the author manuscript and a link to the paper in SpringerLink. So the author manuscript can be obtained by clicking on its link, and the publication copy of the paper can be obtained by clicking on its link (designated "DOI"). The publication version link will be active as soon as the proceedings volume is added to the DL, so the paper will be accessible to those with a subscription to SpringerLink, and then it will be accessible to the public four years after publication. The author manuscript link will not be active until three years after publication.*

*The eCollection workflow procedures are now agreed with the IFIP Secretariat and Inria. So we are now inviting regular IFIP eCollections. The price is 10 EUR per paper upload (with the front matter counting as one paper also). Interested events are invited to contact the IFIP Secretariat. Moreover the PC progressed on the concept to use the DL also as a repository for "other" IFIP documents that are not reviewed research conference/workshop papers but are relevant and not documented elsewhere, such as the Algol 68 book. To avoid misunderstandings: this repository should not be called a "Series", but to give it a title other than "other" the term "ePublications" and the use of individual identifiers beyond URLs was agreed to ease stable referencing. The pricing will match that of volumes in the eCollection series.*

*In the period from 1st September 2019 till 1st September 2020 monthly views and downloads were between 50000 and 75000 with a peak in June 2020 and typical seasonal changes (i.e. rather smaller figures in December, January, February, July, August). Ca. 75% of the accesses are actual downloads, the others just views of the metadata. More detailed figures are expected from Inria, and we are also negotiating with Inria to focus delivery of statistics on views and downloads. Inria has been developing Kibana as a tool for gaining advanced and first uses are being tested,*

*including statistics to understand from where papers are downloaded (with probably the IP address identifying the origin of the access) and from where which papers are downloaded.*

*At the same time with thanks to the volunteer efforts of TC 6 and especially Aiko Pras we continue to have many IFIP publications (mainly proceedings from 2005 till 2012) available for free access at http://dl.ifip.org/. This is not limited to TC 6 publications and holds for publications three years old and older. However this library has collected more proceedings than agreed and made announcements, that the links to those proceedings would be preserved, even when dl.ifip.org will be rerouted to the new IFIP DL. Therefore the transfer effort is larger than expected and the degree of rerouting is being clarified.*

- Publications agreement with Springer

*The current contract with Springer is valid since January 01, 2020 and until December 31, 2024. Please let the PC know any issues that you see, so that they can be discussed and considered in the work with Springer and for future negotiations.*

*IFIP's flagship line of publications is IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology (IFIP AICT, http://www.springer.com/series/6102). Besides the main line IFIP AICT currently has two active sub-lines: Surveys and Tutorials. In addition several IFIP publications are published as part of LNBIP and LNCS.*

*In 2018 altogether 45 volumes were published (after 48 in 2017 and 49 in 2016). Income for 2018 had been 50001 EUR after 60938 EUR for 2017 and 51942 EUR for 2016. So for 2018 the positive trend from 2017 (increase by 17.3 % in EUR) could not be upheld, but a decrease by 17.95 % in EUR occurred. However, 2019 showed a positive development with 56 published volumes and an income of 69244 EUR. Compared to 2018 this is a raise of more than 24.4 % in published volumes and more than 38.4 % in EUR.*

*As of 2017 Springer has started inserting society logos on the SpringerLink pages of proceedings resulting from their cooperation with societies. Therefore, the IFIP-logo is being displayed on the bottom of the sections "About these proceedings" (Bibliographic information) and "About this paper" of all IFIP AICT, IFIP LNCS and IFIP LNBIP volumes. The relation between the IFIP AICT Editorial Board members (one per IFIP TC) and the respective TCs is made explicit both on the Springer IFIP AICT website and the AICT book front matter. The IFIP AICT website also links to detailed information about the 13 series editors organized by the sequences op IFIP TCs. Authors and editors can now add their ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) to their name in all IFIP-AICT proceedings papers.*

*Access to IFIP publications with Springer (AICT, LNBIP, and LNCS) is as follows:*

- *All IFIP publications in SpringerLink are becoming cost-free accessible four years after publication. This holds for as long as IFIP has a contract with Springer. It covers the publications since the contract between IFIP and Chapman and Hall (and later Kluwer) back in 1996. So many more of the earlier IFIP publications are now available for free as long as this contract holds. (NB: This is not to be confused with the embargo period for the IFIP Digital Library. After 3 years IFIP can put the author's versions of IFIP publications published with Springer into the IFIP Digital Library.)*
- *"Retrodigitized" proceedings are opened after 3 years instead of 4 years. As Springer had retrodigitized many of the older proceedings in 2013, almost all became available during 2016.*

- *Publications published under the current and the previous contract (i.e. from 2015 till 2019 and from 2020 till end of 2024) will be accessible cost-free also after the end of any contract with Springer.*
- *Springer now offers to IFIP a special tariff structure for IFIP events going for immediate open access publications with Springer. If a complete whole volume is made open access the normal net fees are 34 EUR/page; for the first 2 proceedings per year this fee is reduced to net 30 EUR/page, for further ones on the same year to net 28 EUR/page. If single articles are made open access the net price is 42 EU/page.*

*Quality assurance and other IFIP procedures*
*The interaction between a proceedings editor and Springer is subject to all procedures established by IFIP for all IFIP publications. In particular, this includes any quality assurance mechanisms established by IFIP. There is a high degree of agreement on quality assurance between Springer and IFIP, although some elements in IFIP's policy had needed explanation. To operationally ease the process of quality assurance the members of the AICT Editorial Board are being informed every time, when Springer has accepted to start the process of publishing proceedings from an event of "their" TC.*

*An IFIP event whose proceedings are published by Springer can receive up to 50 printed copies of the proceedings free of charge except for shipping costs.*
*However, it should be noted, that Springer is moving to the option of temporary, normally two weeks prior and two weeks following the event, free access to the publication on SpringerLink instead of this option. So at some point in the future there may be only the option to receive temporary free access to the proceedings in SpringerLink.*
*Springer indeed reduced the default number of complimentary copies to 25; the other 25 copies need to be requested explicitly. This option was only this summer included into the standard information on terms handed to editors (the terms for bulk purchases of conference proceedings) after an explicit request by IFIP.*
*Moreover Springer will provide free printed copies for post-conference proceedings only, if the files are sent within 9 months after the conference. Otherwise only temporary free online access is offered. New events in their first two instances are exempted from this restriction.*
*Springer is currently offering the free use of the iThenticate tool for plagiarism check as a part of the Springer proceedings publication package. The tool is offered on demand to all events publishing with Springer, but as it has costs, Springer does not publicize this widely (also, 90% of the events seem to not really need this). The software checks everything registered at CrossRef (whatever has a DOI – so all serious publications) plus a lot of cites on the web. The tool is not perfect, but to Springer's knowledge the best available.*

*There are also general trends in Springer's interests and offerings that are worthwhile to note:*
- *Springer is more interested in topically targeted publications than in publications that cover the whole of informatics or computer science, as topically targeted publications seem to sell better.*
- *Publications on SpringerLink have moved from pdf to an html/e-book compatible format.*
- *All printing is via "print on demand".*
- *For institutions who purchased one or more eBook collections from Springer and their people there is a lower quality, black-white only printing option, called "MyCopy" for £24.99 / $24.99 / € 24.99 / ¥2999 (depending on shipping*

*address) per copy including shipping & handling excluding local VAT/Sales tax where applicable. Details including a list of the ca. 30 countries, where this service is available, can be found on https://www.springernature.com/gp/librarians/products/ebooks/my-copy .*

- *IFIP Select: An "e-journal" comprising "best" papers from IFIP proceedings*

*The purpose of IFIP Select is to obtain a better outreach and diffusion of some of the excellent research done in within IFIP TCs and WGs. By doing that and adding some information & discussion on the practice contribution we make the research produced within IFIP available to a much larger audience of national computer societies. IFIP Select is to be a more or less regular compendium of papers from IFIP proceedings that could be of interest to an audience, especially member societies, who could distribute that compendium and see value in it justifying the IFIP membership fee. "Best" is "Best for member societies", i.e. more overview papers than very special ones.*
*The concept especially includes asking the authors of the selected papers to produce a "cover paper" of 2-3 pages that describes the related scientific paper and its relevance for a more mainstream audience, especially for practitioners and other "typical" members of member societies.*
*IFIP Select is accessible under www.ifip.org/select and via the IFIP home page. It contains the "cover papers" and links to the full original papers in the IFIP DL or Springer Link or copies of the full papers, if they are not published elsewhere.*
*A preliminary agreement was reached with Springer that existing papers from Springer Link can be linked in a way enabling cost-free access. These papers are available for 12 months to cover for 2 issues per year.*

*a) Editorial process*

*The TC Chairs once a year appoint two published papers from the last 18 months as the best from their TC.*
*The Editor-in-Chief contacts the authors and asks them to write and add a 2-3 page "How can I apply this? – The practice contribution" aimed at the thousands of members of national and regional Computer Societies (that are members of IFIP).*
*When received this new addition is reviewed by a small Editorial Board (currently 2 people) appointed by IFIP Publications Committee consisting of representatives from National Societies with a reasonable command of research.*

*b) Logistics*

*The journal is to be published electronically 2-3 times a year. In each issue of the journal there are to be 5-7 papers. This means that each TC on average will have 1.5 best papers published per year.*

*c) Operations till now*

Jan Pries-Heje – former Chair of TC 8 – is Editor-in-Chief for the first 3 years. Elizabeth Eastwood has agreed to to review the "cover papers" from the perspective of a national computer society representative
The first 2 issues with a total of 10 papers were published in February and December 2019
(https://www.ifip.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=262&Itemid=674) . They contain papers from TCs 3, 8 (6 papers), 9, and 13 (2 papers).

- *IFIP TC journals*

*Three TCs have journals:*

1) *TC-3 Education and Information Technologies, with Springer, https://link.springer.com/journal/10639*

2) *TC-11 Computers & Security (COSE, https://www.journals.elsevier.com/computers-and-security/ ) and the International Journal for Critical Infrastructure Protection (IJCIP, https://www.journals.elsevier.com/international-journal-of-critical-infrastructure-protection/ ) with Elsevier.*
3) *TC-14 Entertainment Computing, with Elsevier. https://www.journals.elsevier.com/entertainment-computing*

***Ongoing work in Publications:***

- *Continued development of the IFIP DL and the "IFIP eCollection" series*

*Aiming for an "IFIP eCollection" series as the primary series for proceedings not published by Springer a process is being developed to integrate the respective articles (including proceedings with an IFIP ISBN) into the IFIP DL. Several publications are being used for test runs. Tools are needed to support the editors of non-Springer proceedings for those tasks that for Springer proceedings are executed by Springer. This holds especially for the transfer of files out of paper reviewing systems and the production of the metadata needed for the DL. One option is the Sciencesconf conference management system that Inria provides. However, at least four different systems are being used by the several organizers of TC-6 conferences. A related step is to transfer the e-only proceedings that are currently in Aiko Pras' library into the new IFIP DL.*
*Moreover it is planned to redirect dl.ifip.org to the new IFIP DL. This requires that the links to the proceedings in the previous IFIP DL will be preserved or redirected. As this library has collected more proceedings than agreed and made announcements, that the links to those proceedings would be preserved, even when dl.ifip.org will be rerouted to the new IFIP DL the transfer effort will be larger than expected.*
*In view of restricted resources in Inria the opening of the IFIP DL towards non-Springer proceedings has got priority over the bibliographic processing of Springer IFIP proceedings older than 2010.*
*The concept of "ePublications" is to be implemented: Using the DL also as a repository for "other" IFIP documents that are not reviewed research conference/workshop papers but are relevant and not documented elsewhere, such as the Algol 68 book. "ePublications" will be a new section in the DL. Documents will get individual identifiers beyond URLs to ease stable referencing. The pricing will match that of volumes in the eCollection series.*
*There are also some open questions being clarified with regard to IFIP's possibilities and impossibilities for (usually old) papers where the copyright is not clear.*

- *Quality assurance for IFIP publications*

*Work is underway to implement quality assurance for all IFIP publications by an IFIP editorial board. Feedback from the Technical Assembly on the proposal for regular quality assurance process (that had originally been developed within the Technical Assembly) was mixed. Some TCs like the process. A few TCs don't see any need for any formalized process, as one should trust the well-chosen Programme Committee chairs. Some TCs are insecure about the effort for the process. One TC is now trialling the proposed process reporting good experiences.*
*For the "IFIP eCollection" series quality assurance will also need to cover those aspects that with Springer publications Springer is taking care of (e.g. compliance with the IFIP templates and proper lists of references). The respective requirements procedures are now being discussed with the IFIP TA.*

- Development of IFIP AICT

*The intention remains to involve the AICT Editorial Board, along with the PC, in considering how to make AICT a stronger series, using sub-lines to distinguish*

*between different types of events and publications. A new sub-line "Festschrifts" (honouring individual researchers and their scientific work or they institutions or fields) will be established. The first two issues are planned on the occasion of IFIP's 60th anniversary. One issue is AICT 600, a collection of papers focussing on the technical/scientific output of the TCs and their WGs. The second issue is an IFIP "history" book.*

- IFIP Select: An "e-journal" comprising "best" papers from IFIP proceedings

*Since the publication of the first issue IFIP Select is being publicised together with Springer.*
*The first issue of the second volume is under preparation to be published this autumn. Deadline for TCs was 2020-09-10.*

- *The UNESCO Software Heritage initiative*

*The UNESCO Software Heritage initiative has asked for IFIP support. This can have a wide spectrum, e.g.:*

1) *IFIP recommending for IFIP publications the archive/reference/cite guidelines that are detailed in the article "Archiving and Referencing Source Code using Software Heritage" published by International Congress on Mathematical Software (ICMS, Springer open access at https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007%2F978-3-030-52200-1_36);*
2) *An official IFIP commitment to the initiative.*
3) *An expansion of our DL to archive software (NB: the guidelines mention HAL (the basis for our DL) as an existing infrastructure for archiving software).*

*Many things can be imagined. For the moment the PC is assessing the paper referenced with regard to:*

1) *The usefulness of the guidelines to be added to our guidelines for editors and authors;*
2) *Possible competing or parallel initiatives we should also consider;*
3) *Advice to IFIP EC or Board or GA on this topic;*
4) *The idea of expanding our DL with software archiving;*
5) *Possible related issues of relevance.*

The report was received by General Assembly.

## 17. Digital Equity Committee

**Ms Marin-Raventos** presented the report of the Digital Equity Committee:

2019:

- DEC had a 2019 budget of 12.000 euros
- During the first two calls, I-2019 and II-2019, 13.500 euros were allocated
- Since at the end of the year we already knew some activities would not be able to invest the funds received (only 9.910 euros were reimbursed), an additional call has distributed
- For III-2019, an additional 3.000 euros funding was approved but for I-2020 (since the event was to be held on January 2020)

2020:

- DEC had a 2020 budget of 12.000 euros
- During the first call I-2020, 11.500 euros were allocated (plus de 500 euros already allocated and reimbursed for the January event)

- By July 2020, most events were not clear if they would use their funding, thus no II-2020 call was distributed
- Now we have a clearer view of events: some were cancelled and some changed to online

COVID has caused many events to cancel or move to online versions, not requiring travel funds.

In April DEC met virtually and decided that the allocated funds could be used to cover registration fees for Ph.D. students from developing countries for events being held virtually.

This possibility was communicated to events with allocated funding.

Under "other activities" **Ms Marin-Raventos** reported that a chapter has been written for the IFIP Jubilee Book on "Digital equity, sustainable development and the ICT professional" by Leon Strous, Robert M. Davison and Gabriela Marín-Raventós.
It describes and illustrates with examples some major UN initiatives and reflects on the options for ICT professionals and professional societies to contribute to achieving digital equity and sustainable development.
Some efforts to contribute meet challenges and impediments are listed.
Finally, suggestions are made to address the challenges and to increase the impact and long term effect of efforts.

General Assembly well received the report.

## 18. Future Meetings

**Mr Bramer** presented the pattern for IFIP meetings for 2021:

*Future meetings of the Board and the General Assembly are still provisional, as we cannot be sure when it will be safe to hold face-to-face meetings again and what restrictions on international travel there will be in the coming year.*

*The German Informatics Society has confirmed its invitation to host the Board Meeting in Berlin on March 23rd and 24th 2021. Should a face-to-face meeting prove to be impossible I recommend that the meeting by held on the same dates by videoconferencing.*

*If we were to carry over the other arrangements originally planned for this year to 2021, the pattern would be:*

*General Assembly: September 2021 in France*

*IFIP Jubilee Event: September 20th-28th 2021 in France, including September 28th at UNESCO.*

*At the time of writing, our French member society has confirmed that it will host the GA in September but has not yet confirmed the city in which it will be held. Although UNESCO has expressed its support for a rearranged event the dates of the Jubilee event have not yet been finalised.*

## 19. Any Other Business

**Mr Gerrit van der Veer** presented to General Assembly the Computing Curricula 2020 (CC2020), Paradigms for Future Computing Curricula encompassing undergraduate programs in Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Cybersecurity, Information Systems, Information Technology, Software Engineering with Data Science from ACM and asked for endorsement by General Assembly (please see at https://www.ifip.org/images/stories/ifip/public/Announcements/24aug2020-report-v42-1.pdf ).

As a voting on the subject is necessary, General Assembly **DECIDED** that an electronic voting system shall be opened, and the members shall vote on the acceptance of the CC2020.

## 20. Closing of Meeting

**Mr Hinchey** thanked everybody for attending this first virtual General Assembly meeting under these difficult conditions and declared the meeting as closed.

## Amendments

AMENDMENT 1
In 5.4.2: New sentence after 'The procedure consists of the following steps:': '1. By January 15 (or a later date determined by the Executive Committee) the IFIP Secretariat invites all voting members and the members of all IFIP substructures to submit nominations explaining the terms of nomination and the deadline.' All following numbered items are to be renumbered accordingly.

AMENDMENT 2
In 5.4.2.2.(b) replace 'A nominee is deemed supported if they have received support from at least two thirds of the members of the FSC" by "A nominee is deemed supported if they have received support from at least two thirds of the members of the FSC exercising a vote with abstentions not being counted. In addition, there must be a minimum of 4 votes supporting the nomination.'.

AMENDMENT 3
(1) In 5.4.4, Sentence 3 'At the beginning of each three-year period, starting in 2021 (or when a vacancy occurs thereafter) the President will seek nominations from members of the outgoing or current FSC and also the members of the Technical Assembly.' replace 'President' with 'Executive Committee'.
(2) In 5.4.4, Sentence 4 'He or she will generally appoint the members of the Committee from those nominated but is free to do otherwise if he/she thinks fit.' replace 'He or she' with 'The Executive Committee' and replace 'he/she' with 'it'.
(3) In 5.4.4, Sentence 8 'In choosing members for the FSC, the President will generally act on the principle that no more than 2 members aligned to any given technical area should serve on the FSC in any particular year' replace 'President' with 'Executive Committee'.
(4) In 5.4.4, Sentence 12 'The Chair is appointed by the President from among the members of the FSC and may serve only one 3-year term as Chair, although he/she is eligible for membership of the FSC as otherwise allowed with their time as Chair counting toward membership.' replace 'President' with 'Executive Committee'.