

Report from Fifth General Assembly in Vietnam

ISME held its Fifth General Assembly in August 2002 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, with participation of representatives of Ho Chi Minh City, local universities, research institutes, NGOs and members of ISME gathering from eight different countries.

At the opening ceremony, Mr. Nguyen Khae Ngan, the Director of Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of Ho Chi Minh City, congratulated achievements of ISME, and expressed his wishes for active discussion leading to good action plans of restoration, management, and conservation of mangrove ecosystems. Prof. Aprilani Soegiarto, President of ISME, welcomed the participants and thanked the government of HCMC and representatives of MERD for hosting the Assembly and series of ISME meetings taking place in Vietnam. Dr. Shigeyuki Baba, the Executive Secretary, thanked the participants for their supports to the activities of ISME, and Dr. Diop, Vice-President of ISME, gave a keynote address, "Future scenario on world mangrove conservation and sustainable utilization."

According to the Statutes of ISME, the election of ISME Executive Committee Members, except for the position of Executive Secretary, takes place once every three years. As reported in the recent issue of ISME Newsletter (No. 25, July 2002,) the willingness of the present executive members to continue their tenure for another three years were supported by the members of ISME. Accordingly, the participants of the General Assembly officially ratified the second term of present Executives from 2002 to 2005. Names of the Executives are as follows:

- President: Prof. Aprilani Soegiarto, Indonesia (Former Chairman of Plant Resources of South-East Asia, Indonesian Institute of Sciences – LIPI);
- Vice-President: Ambassador Noboru Nakahira, Japan (Former Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, and Canada);

- Vice-President: Dr. Marc Steyaert, France (Former Director of the Division of Marine Sciences, UNESCO);
- Vice-President: Dr. E. S. Diop, Senegal (Senior Environmental Affairs Officer, Division of Environmental Information, Assessment and Early Warning, UNEP)
- Treasurer: Prof. Sanit Aksornkoe, Thailand (Professor Emeritus, Department of Silviculture, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University)

Activities and finance of the past three years were reported by the Treasurer and the Executive Secretary. The activities and budget for 2002-2005, and fund raising strategies were also discussed. The following is some of the major activities ratified at the General Assembly:

- Expansion and improvement of GLOMIS (Global Mangrove Database and Information Systems);
- Continuation of the training course "Sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems;"
- Revision of World Mangrove Atlas;
- Restoration of mangrove ecosystems in Asia and Pacific;
- Planting and producing mangrove nurseries in small island countries;

In conjunction with the General Assembly, also held were several meetings of ISME, including project workshops on GLOMIS, ISME Action Plan on sustainable mangrove management, as well as meetings of Councils, Executive Committee, and so on.

The Sixth General Assembly will be held in 2005, venue of which would be Malaysia or Philippines.

The Executive Members of ISME wishes to express their gratitude to the members of ISME for their continued support and attention to the activities of ISME.

New Members

- CAMEROUN -

Din, Ndongo
Douala, CAMEROON

- FIJI -

Thaman, Batiri
University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji

- FRANCE -

Clusener-Godt, Miguel
UNESCO, Paris, France

- INDIA -

Das, Premananda
Regional Plant Resource Centre, Orissa, India

P. Singh, V.
Vikram University, Ujjain, India

- JAPAN -

Ebisawa, Masako
United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan

Fukushima, Rieko
Nagoya University, Aichi, Japan

Gushi, Moritoshi
Okinawa Prefectural Government, Okinawa, Japan

Hatori, Hiroyuki
Institute of International Cooperation, Tokyo, Japan

Hirata, Eiji
University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa, Japan

Honda, Mitsuo
Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan

Ida, Atsuo
Forestry Agency of Japan, Tokyo, Japan

Ide, Toru
Japan International Cooperation Agency, Japan

Inaba, Rika
Ihara, Shizuoka, Japan

Kosaka, Kunitsugu
Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan

Maeda, Kenichi
Maeda Corporation, Tokyo, Japan

Moriyama, Munenobu
Bunkokuji, Tokyo, Japan

Nakazato, Nagahiro
Iriomote, Okinawa, Japan

Takai, Sachiko
Akita Univ. Akita, Japan

Takeda, Yusuke
Forestry Agency, Tokyo, Japan

Tamura, Kyouko
Maeda Corporation, Tokyo, Japan

Uehar, Hideki
Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan

Utazu, Youichi
Maeda Corporation, Tokyo, Japan

- MEXICO -

Moreno-Casasola, Patricia B.
Institute of Ecology A.C., Veracruz, Mexico

- UAE -

Chatterjea, Protul Kumar
ZADCO Oil Company, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Membership of ISME

Individual membership: JPY2,000, or equivalent in US\$ (approx. US\$20), annually;

Life membership: JPY20,000 or equivalent in US\$ (approx. US\$200);

Institutional membership: JPY25,000, or equivalent in US\$ (approx. US\$250), annually.

UNESCO coupons and international postal money-order are acceptable. We also accept Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. Please avoid cheques. For further information, contact ISME Secretariat. Your contribution is appreciated. Your donation for the Society is also welcomed.

News from your country

If you have any news from your country or your work concerning mangrove ecosystems that you wish to see published in the ISME newsletter, please forward it to ISME Secretariat.

Send articles/publications of mangrove to ISME Secretariat

ISME is organizing GLOMIS. Please send articles/publications concerning mangroves and mangrove ecosystems to ISME Secretariat.

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