

Association des Ingénieurs et Scientifiques Suisse-Japon
Case Postale 169
CH-1025 St-Sulpice (VD)

Email: contact@swiss-japan.org
URL: <http://www.swiss-japan.org>



Association des Ingénieurs et
Scientifiques Suisse - Japon

Minutes of the General Assembly

Date: 30th November 2000

Place: Residence of the General Consul of Japan, Geneva

As some of our members had difficulties to find the meeting place, the meeting started at 7 pm instead of 6 pm as planned on the agenda.

20 members and 5 guests participated to the Assembly. Among them, the General Consul of Japan, Mr Katsura, who kindly invited our association in his Official Residence.

1. Welcome words

Nadia Nibbio (NN), the AJ President, welcomed the members, Mr Katsura, General Consul, Mr Maekawa, Vice-Consul and Mr Imai, Vice-Director of Jetro. She left then the floor to the General Consul, Mr Katsura.

In his welcome words, Mr Katsura ensured the AJ of his support and he expressed his deep interest to know better our experience of Japan.

2. 2000 Activity report

The production of the "Members' Directory", managed by Nathalie Piguet (NP), has been finalised. NP was thanked by NN for her very substantial effort. An update will be produced as soon as possible.

The 3rd "AJ Bulletin" is under way to be finalised and Mr Sanne Stijve (SS) should be able to have it copied early 2001. SS also manages the web site and he is thanked for his vital contribution to the Association.

NN informed the members that she's working on the EPFL course called "Technology policy: the Japanese case" that will take place in spring 2001. The conferences given within the frame of this course will be open to the public and NN believes that the programme will be of interest to all AJ members. Information will be forwarded as soon as possible and published on our web site.

NN also informed us about the other actions and contacts that took place during the year.

3. Accounts

Emile Tasev (ET) presented the accounts, which were approved by the auditors and accepted by the Assembly, with no additional remarks.

ET noticed that some members forgot to pay their membership contribution. This situation will require soon a decision on the exclusion of some members that do not respond to our solicitations anymore.

4. Election of the committee

The whole current committee was re-elected for the next 2 years.

5. Statutes modification

Various statutes modifications have been proposed. The reasons for their introduction were the following ones: Our members get older and their contacts with Japan tend to get loose. This decreases their interest in the Association. Since a couple of years also, less young engineers have been attracted by a Japanese experience and it has limited our possible membership base. Therefore, in order to keep the association alive, a broadening of the admission's criteria has been proposed, which would allow professionals in the field of economics as well as companies to become members.

All the proposed amendments have been accepted without modification, including the ones giving precision on the actual statutes, especially for the accounts auditors. You will find them on our Web site soon.

Mr Cedric Oelhafen has been then nominated for the accounts audit along with Mr Jean-Luc Hefti.

6. Budget presentation

Amédée Zryd (AZ) presented the budget for the year 2000. He showed that the publication of the third "Bulletin" would take all our budget. This pointed out the fact that we need to increase our revenues or to stop the printing of the "Bulletin".

The members proposed that the Bulletin should be sent by e-mail and/or posted on our web site from now on. This unless the Committee is able to find new resources to print it.

7. Activities for 2001

The activities for 2001 are the following ones:

1. Publication of the third Bulletin
2. Summer barbecue (date and place to be confirmed)
3. Improvement of our web site and other communication tools with our members
4. Involvement in the EPFL seminars on Japan: "
5. Contacts with possible new members; in particular companies to broaden our network
6. Contacts with other associations sharing similar interests and evaluation of possible common activities

A sushi party, offered by the General Consul, ended up our General Assembly.