

## CLOSING PLENARY SESSION AND CLOSING CEREMONY

Friday, July 19, 1996, 15:00 - 16:30

### PROGRAMME

#### Opening

*Shunji Murai, President ISPRS*

#### Decisions of General Assembly

*Lawrence W. Fritz, Secretary General ISPRS*

#### Presentation of Best Poster Awards (see Awards)

*Karl Kraus, Congress Director*

#### Address of Outgoing President

*Shunji Murai*

#### Presentation of Chain

*Shunji Murai*

#### Address of Incoming President

*Lawrence W. Fritz*

#### Address of Outgoing Congress Director

*Karl Kraus*

#### Presentation of Flag

*Karl Kraus*

#### Address of Incoming Congress Director

*Klaas Jan Beek*

#### Address of President of the Austrian Society for Surveying and Geoinformation

*August Hochwartner*

#### Closing of Congress

*Karl Kraus, Congress Director*

The final session was a fine celebration of happy ISPRS Officers in front of a satisfied auditorium. Everybody felt that the Congress was a great event finding an end after this festival hour. President Murai opened the Plenary Session and asked at first the Secretary General to report about the decisions of the General Assembly.

### DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY presented by Lawrence W. Fritz Secretary General 1992-1996

The General Assembly met five times during the 18th Congress of ISPRS. The following actions were taken:

#### 1. It admitted six new Ordinary Members:

Croatia (2)

Czech Republic (2)

Ghana (1)

Lebanon (1)

Namibia (1)

Slovakia (2)

( ) = Category



#### 2. It accepted the following changes in category of Ordinary Members:

Egypt from (1) to (2)

India from (1) to (8)

Italy from (5) to (6)

Ukraine from (1) to (3)

Brazil from (8) to (5)

#### 3. It accepted resignations from Bophuthatswana, Estonia and Czechoslovakia.

#### 4. It decided that the next Congress will be held in Amsterdam in the year 2000 with The Netherlands Society for Earth Observation and Geoinformatics as the host.

The General Assembly ratified Dr. K. Beek as Congress Director.

#### 5. It ratified:

(a) The Doležal Award sponsored by the Austrian Society,

(b) The donation by Pasco International to support the Young Authors and CATCON Awards.

#### 6. It amended the Statutes and Bylaws, mainly to introduce Associate Membership, but also to make improvements in:

Statute II - Definitions

Statute IV - Activities

Statute V - Cooperation with Other International Organizations

Statute VI - Membership

Statute X - General Assembly



Statute XIII - Technical Commissions  
 Statute XV - Finances  
 Statute XVI - Voting

Bylaw II - Definitions  
 Bylaw V - Cooperation with other  
 International Organizations  
 Bylaw VI - Membership  
 Bylaw VIII - Officers  
 Bylaw X - General Assembly  
 Bylaw XI - Council  
 Bylaw XIII - Technical Commissions  
 Bylaw XV - Finances  
 Bylaw XVI - Voting

7. It accepted reports of the President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, the Congress Director, the Financial Commission, the Ad-hoc Committee on the *ISPRS Journal*, the Ad-hoc Committee on E-Mail, the *ISPRS* HomePage, the *ISPRS Journal* contract with Elsevier, the *ISPRS Bulletin*, the Editor of *ISPRS Journal*, and on Interorganizational Relations.

8. It admitted 5 new Associate Members which subscribe at one half of Ordinary Member categories as follows:

Italy - Remote Sensing (6)  
 Korea - GIS (2)  
 Korea - Remote Sensing (2)  
 Thailand - Academy of Science (2)  
 Iran - Remote Sensing (1)

9. It elected the President, Secretary General, Treasurer and Second Vice President. The outgoing President opted to become First Vice President in accordance with Bylaw VIII - Officers.

The Council of ISPRS has the following composition for the 1996 - 2000 term:

President -  
 Lawrence W. Fritz, USA  
 Secretary General -  
 Prof. John C. Trinder, Australia  
 First Vice President -  
 Prof. Dr. Shunji Murai, Japan  
 Second Vice President -  
 Marcio Barbosa, Brazil  
 Treasurer -  
 Prof. Heinz Reuther, South Africa  
 Congress Director -  
 Dr. Klaus Beek, The Netherlands

10. It assigned the seven Technical Commissions to the following countries with Presidents:

Commission I - India  
 Dr. George Joseph  
 Commission II - United Kingdom  
 Prof. Ian J. Dowman  
 Commission III - USA  
 Dr. Toni F. Schenk  
 Commission IV - Germany

Prof. Dieter Fritsch  
 Commission V - Japan  
 Dr. Hirofumi Chikatsu  
 Commission VI - Indonesia  
 Mr. Klaas Villanueva  
 Commission VII - Hungary  
 Dr. Gabor Remetey-Fülöpp

11. It elected Financial Commission members as follows:  
 Chairman: Dr. A. Gruen, Switzerland  
 Members: Dr. I. Katzarsky, Bulgaria  
 Mr. A. Boberg, Sweden

12. It approved an increase of 10 Swiss Francs per category unit of subscription. The unit of subscription is now 100 Swiss Francs.

13. It approved 45 resolutions proposed by the Council and the seven Technical Commission Presidents.

Congress Director **Karl Kraus** was asked thereafter to continue with the presentation of the Best Poster Awards. (See Awards section of this book)



#### Address of Outgoing President Shunji Murai

Distinguished Delegates,  
 Ladies and Gentlemen!

It is my gratitude to congratulate all players present here to make the Vienna Congress successful. Particularly I would like to express my sincere congratulation to Congress Director, Professor Karl Kraus and his team for excellent arrangements of the Congress. We will miss the beautiful city of Vienna and the rich European culture.

Twelve years ago, in 1984, I was ratified at the Rio de



Janeiro Congress as the Congress Director of the Kyoto Congress in 1988 with the votes of the colleagues of South America who formerly were my competitors for such a long time. This is a real international community.

Eight years ago, in 1988, I organised the 16th ISPRS Congress in Kyoto. I was very tired in many aspects, particularly concerning fund raising. Actually I wanted to resign the ISPRS affairs. But I was elected Secretary General at Kyoto Congress. However very luckily I succeeded in getting a big surplus at Kyoto Congress, that has become a big financial support for my tasks as the Secretary General (1988-1992) and the President (1992-1996). I have to thank Japan Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing for its full support to my duties. I am sure this helped ISPRS from the financial crisis.

My biggest difficulty was the time as Secretary General. I did not know how tough the Secretary General's job became during these past four years. Without him, the Society could not survive.

Four years ago, at the Washington Congress in 1992, I was elected as ISPRS-President, the first president from Asia. Many people watched my job. Some people might have doubted my leadership. But I decided four years ago that I will never be such a president who does not do anything. My experience as General Secretary of Asian Association on Remote Sensing since 1981, helped me for bringing new wind to ISPRS. My new appointment at the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand, for three of these four years also helped me to understand the requirements of developing countries.

I dare to tell my five initiatives as ISPRS-Council Member and as Asian representative in ISPRS because this will be the last chance to report my achievements to you.

- I introduced more soft and frank human relation to ISPRS in the Asian way. This would bring co-operation rather than fighting in ISPRS affairs.
- I succeeded in opening the Society to any persons and any organisation who wish to join ISPRS. The ISPRS General Assemblies of the Kyoto Congress approved the new type of "Associate Membership". Out of the first five admitted Associate Members four came from Asia. The tradition of ISPRS, which is democratic spirit and open attitude, is well promoted by the Council.
- I initiated the Young Author's Award in order to encourage the young generation to challenge their dreams. I also initiated the Best Poster Award at the Kyoto Congress in 1988. I am pleased to know that this has been continued during the following Congresses.
- I publicised ISPRS in Asia and Pacific Region through the activities of Asian Association on Remote Sensing, to which I have served as a Secretary General for 15 years, since 1981. I am proud to know that the number of presented papers from Asia has drastically increased in this decade.
- I tried to offer better service to ISPRS members, particularly information service. I appreciate our Secretary General, Larry Fritz, to have initiated the Annual Report along this policy.

In addition, the team of Council was the best. I believe Larry Fritz was the best Secretary General. Kennert Torlegard was an excellent navigator as the First Vice President. Armin Grün was a theoretical lawyer in charge of the amendment of Statutes and Bylaws as the Second Vice President. John Trinder was the best money collector as the Treasurer. Karl Kraus, Congress Director, was of course the most busy man who never stopped working. So everybody of the Council contributed to the operations of ISPRS office at maximum.

I wanted to resign the Council this time because 12 years are too long for me. However I have to serve the First Vice President for continuity to keep our Society sound and member friendly body. It is sad to know that three of six council members will leave the office. They are Professor Kennert Torlegard, Professor Karl Kraus and Professor Armin Grün. To answer their achievements, I would like to present them a small gift.

Now I also thank Mr. Keith Atkinson and his team of the Financial Commission for supervising the financial affairs. Because of Keith Atkinson, the finances of the Society have been very healthy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To my last duty as the President, I would like to hand the presidential collar, this golden chain, to the incoming ISPRS President Larry Fritz. This chain is as heavy as the burden of the President's tasks. During these four years, I could never forget this golden collar because it is not only expensive but also worn by the respective past presidents before me:

Dr. Frederick Doyle:	1980-1984
Prof. Gottfried Konecny:	1984-1988
Prof. Kennert Torlegard:	1988-1992

I am sure that Larry and his new team will lead our Society into a bright and also dreamful direction for the next period. I wish Larry and his wife Evelyn all the best.

Finally I thank my wife Taeko because she supported my family without complaints even though I used to travel almost than 100 days in a year.

Thank you!





## ADDRESS OF INCOMING PRESIDENT

*Lawrence W. Fritz*

Distinguished Delegates and Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen !

I greet you today with great appreciation and anticipation of the honour and responsibilities which you have given me. I am deeply aware of the requirements of the President of our Society and I pledge to you that I will conscientiously perform these duties to the best of my ability.



My friends - the past eight years on Council have been very challenging, yet very rewarding. The distinguished Council I have worked with has been quite competent and ambitious in preparing our Society to meet the needs of the 21st century.

Similarly, it has been a great pleasure to have worked with our Commission officers for the past four years. I thank them all for their dedication and hard work in successfully completing the scientific and administrative responsibilities for which they were elected in 1992. Each of them has masterfully produced an historical record of these achievements which have been preserved forever in their published Annual Reports and the Archives of their Symposia.

I wish to express with you my appreciation to our three outgoing Council Members, First Vice-President, Kennert Torlegard, Second Vice-President Armin Gruen and our Congress Director Karl Kraus. Professor Kennert Torlegard has not only shared his experience and wisdom with us but also his diplomatic approach to achieve successful consensus within Council. We are all grateful for his dedicated service to our Society. We are pleased that Armin Gruen will continue to serve our Society as Chairman of the Financial Commission. He has made significant contributions in re-architecting the Statutes and Bylaws for our Society and in designing activities for the future. His willingness to continue to contribute is good for us all. Our Congress Director Karl Kraus has had the most difficult task of all. We are pleased and thankful to him for

the success of this Congress and the lasting bonds of friendship that it has brought to us all. The deliberations, discussions and decisions of Council meetings have been greatly enriched by the contributions of these three leaders.

The General Assembly in its wisdom has provided me with an outstanding team for the next four years. The six members of Council represent the six major continents of the world. This fact clearly demonstrates that ISPRS is truly an international Society. I look forward to working with Klass Beek, Heinz Reuther and Marcio Barbosa and the fresh perspectives that they bring to lead our Society into the 21st Century.

I am very happy that Prof. J. Trinder and Prof. S. Murai will continue in service to the Society. Both have been strong pillars of technical and administrative leadership. Our Society will continue to benefit from their talent and dedication. At this time I would like to interrupt my address to present a Certificate of Appreciation and to share a small token of appreciation on behalf of us all to Shunji Murai for his leadership as our Society's President.

*(L. Fritz presented a certificate for service and a painting to S. Murai. Applause.)*

Thank you for your approval!

At the General Assembly I reported on the achievements of our Society during the past four years. Now I would like to express to you some of my hopes for the future of our Society. Our Keynote Speaker and Honorary Member, Prof. Gottfried Konecny provided the operative term for consideration at this Congress - "A paradigm shift." The Resolutions approved by our General Assembly illustrate this shift and will guide us into the next four year term.

Members of ISPRS, we are at the heart of advancing technology for entering the digital era. Our imagery and algorithms represent the lifeblood and the central nervous system of the spatial information sciences. Our ISPRS objectives are to foster international co-operation and communication of the sciences, technologies and applications of photogrammetry, remote sensing and GIS. There are two mutually complementary areas toward which I feel we should direct more sustained efforts.

The first is to strive for a more common identity for photogrammetry, remote sensing and GIS. ISPRS has a long proud photogrammetric heritage but all too often has not sufficiently embraced the complementary disciplines of remote sensing, GIS and related vision sciences. It is time to suppress parochial interests and to unify these component disciplines. The differences between these so called disciplines have been and are continuing to be fused by the technologies we use, so that to a casual observer the differences are now only virtual and our names to the external user community are often quite confusing. Let us abandon these virtual differences. Let us harmonise with technologic change and with our cartographic brethren by presenting a unified face to the world under a common banner as the "Spatial Information Sciences."



The second key area for emphasis by our Society is to expand our efforts in addressing the scientific and technologic needs of the developing world. Council has initiated meaningful relationships and dialogue with the United Nations and many of its organisations. I wish to express our appreciation to the UN Office of Outer Space Affairs (OOSA), in particular Dr. Jasentuliyana and Dr. Abiodun for their most generous support for the travel and expenses of several attendees to the Congress from the developing world, as well as for their contribution to several sessions in the scientific program of this Congress. ISPRS is a member organisation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the International Council of Scientific Unions, and the International Council for Engineering and Technology, and we have opportunities for collaboration with the International Council for Social Sciences. It is with such organisations as these that ISPRS can better fulfil its objectives. ISPRS is officially recognised as a Nongovernmental Organisation by ECOSOC the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and by UNESCO. It is my belief that ISPRS should utilise this privileged position by seeking traditional and innovative ways and means to facilitate opportunities for grants, fellowships, co-operative training activities, and so forth, for our Society Members in an open, equitable and economical way.

In summary, ISPRS has much to contribute to the advancement of our sciences and technology and for the introduction of valuable applications to the global community. Each one of us has an important role to play in helping the world achieve a peaceful and healthy environment as well as a reasonable standard of living for all by addressing our science, technology and applications to solve the needs of humanity. At the same time let us recognise and strive to be tolerant and considerate of cultural differences. The ISPRS officers are a reflection of our Society. We are devoted to address the challenges and opportunities of the future. We must not forget that our ultimate objectives are to apply our collective talents to the needs of all humanity and in so doing help to achieve global harmony and a high quality of life for all.

Thank you for placing your confidence in me and electing me as your President. I wish you all a safe and pleasant journey home.

#### Address of Outgoing Congress Director Karl Kraus

First of all I would like to mention that this congress was a hard business. In addition to the budget of the travel agency the congress budget is 20 Mill. ATS, which is approximately 2 Mill. USD. To bring this budget to the positive side was not easy in a very expensive country like Austria and with very restrictive budgets all over the world. At the end of the congress I can tell you that the result is slightly positive. In some cases I made very hard decisions. A few of you are disappointed about these decisions. Please forgive me. These decisions were made by Karl Kraus as business man.

Now a few words regarding our approach to organise such a big event. We, in the organising committee preferred in

the most cases an approach from the participants point of view. In some cases we combined the drop-down approach with the bottom-up approach.



Now a few words about unconventional things in our programme of the congress:

1. In the poster area we encouraged a multilinguistic atmosphere.
2. In the exhibition also artists found a place to present their works.
3. In most of our tours in Social-Programme and the Programme for Accompanying Persons buses etc. were used. But I gave an example with my bike tour, that not always buses, trains etc. were necessary for the tours.
4. In the same direction we put pressure on our participants. We recommended to use the public means of transportation and not the individual cars. I am sure that you are now experts in using the modern public traffic system in Vienna.
5. I would like to mention that there were two Organ Recitals during the congress. They were not mentioned neither in the First Announcement and nor in the Second Announcement. After we saw light at the horizon of our financial heaven we made the decision, that each participant of our congress can participate in one Organ Recital free of charge. I was informed that this offer was widely used. It was a contrast to the Heurigen and other events. A human being - that is my opinion - needs from time to time one hour, in which he is alone with the classical music in such surroundings like the St. Stephens Cathedral.

That was my address, thank you for your attention. And now I have to hand over the Flag of ISPRS to the new Congress Director and I wish him and his team all the best for the hard preparatory work in the coming four years.





**Address of Incoming Congress Director  
Klaas Jan Beek, The Netherlands**

Mr. President  
Karl Kraus, past Congress Director  
Members of the Council  
Distinguished Delegates  
Ladies and Gentlemen  
Dear Colleagues and Friends

Two years ago my colleague Martien Molenaar and I received the first signals that perhaps the Netherlands could play a role in organising a major event for our Society.

But at that time, getting the Congress to the Netherlands seemed a bird too difficult to catch. To us it looked like the story of the man who managed to breed a chicken with three legs, expecting to sell such chickens for a very good price. But when he applied for an export-license of his three-legged chickens, he was faced with one question of the export-license committee which made him blush and stammer: how does this three legged chicken actually taste? He had to answer that he did not really know, because these three legged chickens ran so fast that he had never been able to catch one!

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Netherlands Society of Earth Observation and Geoinformatics is proud to have caught the three legged chicken, and we found out here in Vienna that it has a very good taste. We want you all to come to Amsterdam in 2000 to get this taste. We shall prepare it for you with great care. Dates 14-15 July tutorials, 16-23 July core congress, 24-26 July workshops. Since this ISPRS Congress will coincide with the 50th Anniversary of the ITC we expect many participants from the developing countries.

To ensure high scientific achievement and interaction, and also because we celebrate the turn of the millennium, we expect interest from the UN agencies and our international sister societies in neighbouring disciplines to organise joint

technical sessions.

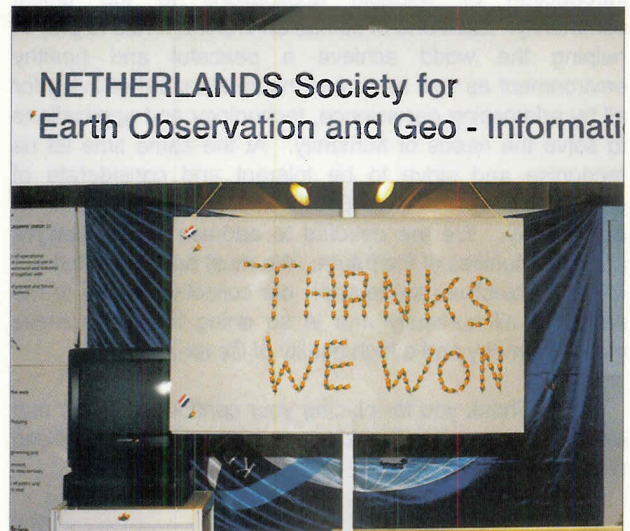
Our congress theme: Geoinformation for All will require a good match of disciplines for interdisciplinary achievement, as well as between science-driven and society-driven goals.

With an ISPRS Council that combines six continents and with the great competence of the newly elected Commission presidents, we feel confident that the ISPRS and its XIXth Congress can contribute significantly to a new century of more social justice and of sustainable development processes.

Karl Kraus, Congress Director:

I feel deeply honoured to receive from you the flag of ISPRS, which we shall take to the Netherlands, where it will be greeting all of you from the top of the RAI Congress Centre in Amsterdam, only four years from now.

Many volunteers of our Netherlands Society and of the ITC look forward to the formidable task of organising the 19th Congress. Of course its success will in the first place depend on the success of your research during the coming four years and that of your colleagues. I am sure that this congress has inspired you to great achievement.



As Gottfried Konecny explained in his brilliant opening address, our sequence of congresses is a kind of step-function: each of them marking some important break troughs. May your contributions in the year 2000 again prove his point.

Finally I express my feeling of respect, congratulations and thankfulness to our Congress Director Karl Kraus and his team for setting the best possible example of how to organise an unforgettable and innovative congress. Thanks to him and also by following the trend set by predecessors like Larry Fritz, Shunji Murai, Gottfried Konecny and the late Placidino Fagundes, we feel confident that we can make you enjoy also the ISPRS-2000 Congress.



We look forward to seeing you all back in Amsterdam, in July of the year 2000.  
I thank you and wish you all a safe journey home.

Auf Wiedersehen in Amsterdam!

Klaas Jan Beek

**The President of the Host-Society, the Austrian Society for Surveying and Geoinformation (ASG), August Hochwartner**, thanked the Council of ISPRS and the many participants for their visit to Vienna and for all their contributions to the Congress, he wished the new Congress Director good luck for the Amsterdam Congress 2000 and expressed his best wishes for a safe journey home for everybody.

### **Closing of the XVIIIth ISPRS Congress by the Congress Director Karl Kraus**

Our intention was that after this Congress everybody will know who Eduard Doležal was. He founded ISPR(S) in 1910. In the meantime ISPRS is one of the best organised societies in the world. In the future ISPRS should go further in the spirit of Eduard Doležal . His spirit can be characterised with 3 key statements:

- be not local, but be global
- be not narrow-minded, but be open-minded
- be not unsensitive, but be open for social matters

These three key statements were the last sentences in this Congress. The Congress is closed.



*During the Closing Session small gifts were presented to the friends*





*Outside the serious sessions were events well to remember:  
The bicycle tour guided by Karl Kraus*