

# History of the International Association of Paediatric Dentistry

## Part 8: Founding of the International Association of Dentistry for Children and meetings of Council 1971–91

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### **Meeting of the International Forum on Children's Dentistry and founding of the International Association of Dentistry for Children, June 1969**

An enormously successful *Symposium Internazionale di Odontoiatria Infantile* was held in Sienna, Italy, from 1 to 3 June 1969 under the presidency of Professor Sergio Fiorentini, formerly Secretary General of the SIOI. The local arrangements committee was chaired by Professor Luigi Masi. The official languages were English, French and Italian. Five hundred dental research workers, teachers and paedodontic practitioners came from 65 nations.

The General Council of the International Forum on Children's Dentistry also met in Sienna, on 31 May. In addition to President Arvid Syrrist and Secretary David (Dennis) S. Berman, the delegates present were Professors Erik Kisling (Denmark) and B. Tucac (France), Drs Kurt Binder (Austria), Felix Mockel (Belgium), Michel Schouker (France), Haim Sarnat (Israel), Giuliano Falcolini (Italy), Ricci Ermanno (Italy), D. Schapira (Romania), Goran Koch (Sweden), Manuel (Manny) M. Album (USA), M. Thornton (USA) and Benjamin Gomez Herrera (Venezuela). The latter had been an important participant in the aborted Pan-American Council. It was agreed that all countries represented in Italy could participate in the discussions and vote, even if not formally members of the Forum.

Syrrist reported that he had travelled widely in Europe and the USA carrying the message of international dentistry for children. He had met Berman on several occasions in Scotland, London

and Malmö to prepare a draft constitution. After discussion and several amendments this provisional constitution was adopted by the Forum members. Syrrist said that the Forum represented "a great step towards international cooperation for the advancement of children's dentistry and the solution of common problems".

The Council then resolved to change the name of the Forum to the *International Association of Dentistry for Children (Soci t  Internationale de Pedodontie)*. The officers elected for a 2-year period were: Syrrist as President, Fiorentini as President-elect, Berman as Secretary and Album as Editor.

It was agreed that the names of the proposed national delegates to the Council should be sent to Berman before its next meeting, which was to be held in association with the Third International Symposium in Copenhagen in 1971, at the invitation of Professor Erik Kisling and the Nordic Pedodontic Society.

### **Meetings of the IADC Council**

#### *Copenhagen, 1971*

The Council next met at Denmark's Royal Dental College in Copenhagen, on 20 August 1971. In addition to the Executive (Syrrist, Fiorentini and Berman), the delegates present were: Ingolf J. Moller (Sweden), John Ailianos (Greece), Gerald B. Winter (UK), Kurt Binder (Austria), Harald Ulverstad (Norway), Jacques Vandeneycen (Belgium), Haim Sarnat (Israel), Michel Schouker (France), Robert (Bob) A Ruddy (USA) and Giuliano Falcolini (Italy).

There were also two observers: Drs Pal Toth (Hungary) and Petre Firu (Romania). In discussing the rules and procedures it was agreed that the President would act also as Chairman of Council. Voting would be on the principle of one country, one delegate, one vote. At the discretion of the Chairman others could speak but not vote.

President Syrrist reported progress since foundation of the IADC. He stressed the need to overcome any financial, language or other impediments. Secretary Berman reported that 11 countries were now members, the new ones being Austria, Greece and Israel. It was hoped that more countries would join. There were already contacts with Australia, Canada, India, Japan, New Zealand and Spain. Syrrist was convinced that colleagues from East Europe could make a great contribution to the IADC from the scientific and public health points of view. There were nearly 300 Supporting (individual) Members. Erik Kisling (Denmark) became President-elect with Gerald B. Winter (UK) as Secretary and Manny Album (USA) as Editor.

Berman reported that six speakers from the IADC had been invited to participate in an FDI session in Mexico in October 1972. He placed on record his gratitude to Gerald Leatherman, the Executive Director of the FDI, who had provided guidance and help. It was agreed that the IADC should apply for affiliated membership of the FDI.

#### *Paris, 1973*

At the Council meeting held on 10 July 1973 in Paris, France, in addition to the Executive (Fiorentini, Kisling and Winter) the delegates present were Professors Erik Welander (Norway), Arvid Syrrist (Sweden), B. Tucac (France) and John Ailianos (Greece), and Drs Kurt Binder (Austria), Bjorn Svaton (Norway), Felix Mockel (Belgium), Jacques Vandeneeycken (Belgium), Roy L. Lindahl (USA), Kirsten Jeppesen (Denmark), Michel Schouker (France), Stanley Gelbier (UK), Reginald J. Andlaw (UK), Giuliano Falcolini (Italy), Haim Sarnat (Israel) and E. Mass (Israel). The observers were Professors Pal Toth (Hungary), Petre Firu (Romania), H. Wegner (DDR), G. Schutzmannsky (DDR) and S. Kikuchi (Japan), and Drs J. Pinto (Switzerland), S. Uechara (Japan), J. Novotny (USSR), T. Vinogradova (USSR), and M. Bautchew (Bulgaria). Applications for membership were accepted from Canada, Ireland, Hungary, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland and Switzerland. Secretary Winter

reported that provisional applications had been received from Australia, East Germany (DDR), Spain and West Germany (FDR). There were 352 paid-up Supporting Members. Michel Schouker (France) became President-elect. Gerald Winter (UK) and Jacques Vandeneeycken (Belgium) were proposed for the post of Secretary: Winter was elected.

Kisling reported on informal meetings of representatives of EEC Pedodontic Societies in Liege in 1972 and in Brussels in 1973. They were collecting information on child dental health for their national dental associations. It was agreed that they should form a study group within the IADC.

The IADC had contributed to the FDI Symposium on Prevention of Dental Caries in Mexico under the Chairmanship of Professor G. L. Slack (UK), with financial support from the Beecham Group Ltd, UK. Scientific contributions came from Professors G. B. Winter (UK) and J. Kostlan (WHO Europe), and from Drs L. M. Silverstone (UK), H. S. Horowitz (USA) and G. Koch (Sweden).

Professor Max Horsnell and Dr Roger Hall had been appointed to represent the IADC at the FDI congress in Sydney in July 1973. Although continued support for the IADC had been given by the FDI, its Executive Director, Gerald Leatherman, wished to discontinue the arrangement as it placed a burden on his HQ staff and would require an amendment to the constitution.

The Executive Committee of Kisling, Schouker and Winter met in Dobogoko, near Budapest in Hungary, on 2 November 1973. They discussed the use of English as the administrative language. Schouker said the French pedodontic society might prefer French and English to be the working languages. He suggested the possibility of simultaneous translation at scientific meetings. There was much discussion about finances, especially as the 4th Symposium in Paris in 1973 was in serious financial difficulties due to inadequate support. Syrrist reported that the Financial Subcommittee consisting of himself, Schouker and Winter had met Berman on 28 April. The Executive considered the possibility of changing the title to the *International Association of Pediatric Stomatology*.

#### *Hertzlia, 1975*

At the Council meeting on 27 July 1975, held in Hertzlia, Israel, a possible re-naming of the association was again discussed, but it was agreed to retain

the title IADC. Council established a subcommittee of Kisling, Berman and Ed Mack (USA) to consider an emblem for the Association. Haim Sarnat was elected President-elect with Winter as Secretary and Silverstone as Editor. Applications for membership were accepted from Argentina and Finland, taking the total to 22 countries. Newly formed associations in Australia and Spain had confirmed their membership. Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia were interested in joining. However, one-quarter of the Supporting Members had failed to pay their subscriptions.

Professor Neil Swallow reported on the study group investigating the teaching of children's dentistry in the EEC plus Switzerland. He suggested that in future it should consider the problem throughout Europe. Council approved his proposal as well as one from Raymond S. Pauly of Costa Rica to form a similar group in Latin America.

The Executive Committee met in Israel on 30 July 1976, when it was agreed to establish better relationships with the World Health Organization.

#### *San Francisco, 1977*

The Council next met in San Francisco, USA, on 30 July 1977. In addition to President Schouker, President-elect Sarnat, past-President Kisling, Secretary Winter and Editor Silverstone, there were 21 delegates and two observers (Costa Rica and East Germany). In order to change the Association's legal base from the FDI's address in London to that in Belgium, Jacques Vandeneuycken had been appointed as the IADC's Belgian legal representative. A few deficiencies in the constitution had been noted by the Belgium Ministry of Justice. Vandeneuycken had undertaken some modifications in conjunction with an English-speaking lawyer and it was now acceptable to the legal authorities. After discussion of the modified constitution, Council set up an *ad hoc* committee of Album, Kisling and Gelbier to examine the details, separate the Articles from the By-Laws and advise on any necessary amendments to the Articles.

Manuel M. Album became President-elect and Winter and Silverstone were re-nominated as Secretary and Editor. Membership was agreed for Brazil, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, East Germany and Turkey. Winter reported that although Chile's application was accepted at the last meeting no further communication had been received. Czechoslovakia and Romania had not yet formally applied to join.

Following advertisement in the *Journal of the IADC*, the subcommittee on emblems had considered 22 entries and had selected one submitted by Vera N. Warren (UK), a recommendation accepted by Council.

#### *Budapest, 1979*

The Council next met on 9 July 1979, in Budapest, Hungary. Present were President Sarnat, President-elect Album, Secretary Winter and 37 delegates. The observers were S. Bodnar (Hungary), H. Pajand (Iran), Professor Bantcher (Bulgaria) and E. Stempler (Argentina). Cuba was admitted to membership. Although there was still interest from Chile no formal application had been received. Bulgaria had not taken up the offer of membership. As Mexico had paid its debts it was readmitted to full membership. Professor Pal Toth (Hungary) became President-elect, with Professor John J. Murray (UK) as General Secretary and Silverstone as Editor. Giuliano Falcolini (Italy) became Editor-elect, to take over during the course of the next 2 years.

The original Constitution proposed by the UK and Sweden had suggested two types of membership: member nations and supporting members, the latter being individuals with a dental qualification recognized in their country of residence who wished to support the concept of international dentistry for children. However, with one exception, the amended Constitution drawn up by Kisling's subcommittee was accepted. The Articles confirmed three groups of members: (1) *effective*: national paedodontic societies or specialised sections of national dental associations; (2) *supporting*: legal dental practitioners interested in dentistry for children (no right to vote); (3) *honorary*: limited number of distinguished people who have made extraordinary contributions to realize the objectives of the Association.

Council agreed that the IADC would meet on alternate years in a member nation's country. In addition to promoting international friendship between children's dentists it would both provide a forum for the exchange of information and knowledge internationally on matters relating to child dental health.

At the Board of Directors meeting held in Paris, France, on 27 September 1980, Kisling reported that his subcommittee had put the Constitution into

clearer English. The Board decided to replace the term *effective* by *active* member as it would be less confusing. It was agreed that the Secretary should write to the two Argentinian groups to determine which one was to represent their country. The Secretary reported that there were 500 Supporting Members but 136 people had not paid their subscription for 1980.

#### *Davos, 1981*

At the Council meeting held in Davos, Switzerland, on 22 July 1981, Professor Ludwig Rinderer of Switzerland became as President-elect. Applications for membership had been received from India and Korea. The latter's representative was welcomed. Secretary Murray was asked to invite Dr Tewari of India to attend their next meeting as an observer, with a view to India assuming full membership status thereafter. Murray reported that although Cuba had been elected a member in 1979, no subscription had been received. Iran had announced at the previous meeting its intention to seek membership but had not done so. Murray pointed out that the IADC had been in financial deficit for the past 2 years, a theme which kept recurring.

It was in Davos that the IADC made its first major political statement. The following motion proposed by Erik Kisling and Haim Sarnat was approved unanimously:

'The International Association of Dentistry for Children strongly advocates the use of fluorides for caries prevention on a worldwide basis. All members of the Association are encouraged to initiate or assist the planning of such programmes adjusted optimally to the various conditions in their home countries. Thus, the IADC powerfully supports the resolutions unanimously carried by representatives of health authorities in most member countries of the World Health Organization.'

Present at the Board of Directors meeting in London on 17 July 1982 were Toth, Rinderer, Falcolini and Murray. Rinderer reported that 460 people had attended the meeting in Davos; he and his group were congratulated.

#### *Melbourne, 1983*

At the Council meeting held on 20 February 1983 in Melbourne, Australia, Secretary Murray reported that Poland had asked for a prolongation of the

terms of payment of membership because of financial problems, a request which met with some sympathy. As Brazil and Mexico had not paid for 2 years they were excluded from the IADC. Professor A. Tewari and Dr Harpinder Chawal attended as observers. The Indian Society of Paedodontics and Preventive Dentistry was welcomed as a member, as was the Federal Republic of Germany. It was agreed to admit Algeria and Czechoslovakia. An enquiry had been received from the Equador Society of Pediatric Stomatology asking for a relationship between it and the IADC. Council directed the Secretary to enquire further and gave the Board of Directors authority to admit Equador if it fulfilled the criteria for membership. The Secretary reported that there were 650 Supporting Members, but that fewer than 200 had paid their subscriptions, and that group subscriptions had not been received from France, Italy, Spain and Switzerland.

Taking up an idea first proposed by Stanley Gelbier in 1973, Giuliano Falcolini suggested that the provision of awards to dental students as a means of encouraging contact with IADC should be encouraged; however, this idea was never adopted.

Professor Guillain felt it would be dangerous to hold regional meetings between international congresses as they might take away support from the latter. Raymond Pauly strongly supported him. However, the discussion demonstrated that some countries were in close contact with each other and often arranged joint meetings; for example, the Scandinavian paedodontic societies. Indeed, the IADC *Newsletter* had encouraged such cooperation between member societies. Nevertheless, all speakers affirmed that the main patronage must be to the bi-annual IADC congresses. There was discussion on the bids for the 1989 12th International Symposium from the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Holland, India and Japan: the decision was in favour of Greece.

Elections returned Dr Roger K. Hall as President-elect, Murray as Secretary, Falcolini as Honorary Editor, Vandeneken as Legal Representative and Professor Yoshida as the Representative at Large on the Board. Peter Heffer and Peter Rock were to be the Honorary Auditors. Professors Manuel M. Album and Pal Toth were elected as Honorary Members.

It was clear that the Council members were actively stimulating world-wide developments in children's dentistry. The Secretary reported that

President Toth had visited societies in Dresden (DDR), Mordena (Italy) and Pennsylvania (USA). President-elect Rinderer had attended the inaugural meeting of the paedodontic society of the German Federal Republic, and meetings in Spoleto (Italy) and Strasbourg (France). Falcolini had been to Buenos Aires (Argentina), Montevideo (Uruguay) and Bath (UK). Album had visited the Spanish Society and Murray had lectured to the Danish and Greek societies of dentistry for children. It was reported that the French paedodontic society had helped the finances greatly by taking out a group subscription in 1981, which action Switzerland and Hungary were also to take in 1982.

In April 1984, Murray read to the Board of Directors a letter from Roger Hall, General Chairman of the 9th Congress. The new Australian Labour government had failed to honour the £10,000 support advised by the previous government. His committee was thus in some difficulty.

In asking the Board to think about a replacement Secretary because of his heavy work commitments, Murray proposed Alan Brook, currently Professor of Child Dental Health in Hong Kong; Brook was about to become Professor at the London Hospital Medical College. Murray said he was prepared to work with Brook for a year to ease him gently into the job.

The Board of Directors next met on 4 September 1984, at the Apollo First Hotel in Amsterdam, Holland. Ludwig Rinderer was in the Chair. The Secretary reported the death of Dr Kurt Binder of Austria. Roger Hall informed the Directors that 282 delegates and 49 accompanying persons had attended the Melbourne Congress, fewer than the 400 registrants needed to make a profit. Hall and Manny Album were asked to draw up guidelines on the organization of IADC Congresses. Raymond Pauly formally presented to the Board of Directors his report on the 10th Congress to be held in Costa Rica. The Government had contributed \$15,000 financial support. Pauly also presented the report of the subcommittee on budget planning and scientific activities. Finally, he read out a letter from Panama seeking affiliation. The Secretary was asked to write to the Panamanian society to determine if they were eligible to join the IADC.

A letter had been received from Dr Sam Harris of the USA proposing the establishment of a Sam Harris Foundation. The Board enthusiastically supported the suggestion that any interest on the capital sum of money would be used for the benefit of the IADC,

especially for educational and promotional activities, but wanted clarification of a few points. This was done at the Board's meeting on 8 August 1988 at the Hershey Philadelphia Hotel when Frank Pulver stated that Harris wished the interest to be used in an appropriate division between IADC general funds and support of child dental health in developing countries.

#### *San Jose, 1985*

The 1985 Council meeting took place in San Jose on 20–24 February under the presidency of the President of Costa Rica, Alberti Monti. The Secretary informed the Council of correspondence from Equador, Panama and Sri Lanka. He had told them of the criteria for membership, namely that each country must show that its group is *the* national paedodontic society. They were asked to indicate the size of their membership, to indicate if there was more than one national representative society, to give information on their position in relation to the national dental association, to provide the names of officials and submit a subscription for the first year of membership. No replies had yet been received, but if they were the countries would be admitted.

Brook formally assumed his secretarial duties in January 1986 and attended his first Board meeting on 12 July in Zurich, Switzerland. It was agreed to set up a Sam Harris Foundation Committee consisting of the President, past-President, President-elect and Honorary Secretary.

Elisha (Eli) Ben-Zur introduced a report on a congress sites. He stressed the need for IADC meetings to be held in conjunction with a national congress and to ensure there were no separate meetings for the local members to attend. It was agreed that a levy representing 10% of the registration fee should go to the IADC funds.

#### *Toronto, 1987*

A Task Force of Professor Thomas Mod er, Harpinder Chawla, Eli Ben-Zur, Professor Sada-hiro Yoshida and Claudia Souza was set up at the 1987 Toronto, Canada, meeting to consider the future role of the Association

#### *Athens, 1989*

A report presented by the Task Force was discussed by the Council in Athens, Greece, in 1989. The Task

Force envisaged that the scientific role of the IADC should be developed to encourage a greater contribution by its members towards improving the dental health of children, especially in developing countries. They recommended that the IADC should promote research into paediatric dentistry, evaluate the findings, and encourage their application worldwide to promote dental health in children. It should also establish close contacts between individuals and other organizations with similar aims, and arrange scientific meetings. There was criticism of the Board of Directors concerning a lack of information in the recent past. They recommended frequent communications between the Secretary and the national representatives, who should send to the Secretary information on local meetings, projects and other activities for publication.

The Task Force suggested the printing and distribution of a newsletter every 6 months, to include reports from the President and Secretary on the work of the IADC and information concerning international and national meetings, conferences, symposia and projects. There should also be a report every 3 months from the Secretary or President to the Board members, outlining their activities and contacts made, and written feedback from the Board. They felt that the Association could thus adopt a more positive international role in paediatric dentistry. As a result, between 1989 and 1991, Council appointed the following standing committees: Education (Chairman Professor Steven

Moss); Finance (Franklyn Pulver); Membership (Chair vacant); site selection and coordinating (Manny Album); Constitution review (Roger Hall); Nominations (Roger Hall). In addition, it established a consulting group of past-Presidents Album, Hall and Sarnat.

#### *Kyoto, 1991*

The Board of Directors met on 26 September 1991 at the Kyoto International Conference Hall in Japan. Professor Sadahiro Yoshida reported that registrations for the Kyoto meeting were very gratifying: supporting members 143, non-supporting members 1067, accompanying persons 102, students 44, and hygienists 168.

Dr Mark Hector, who had now succeeded Brook as Secretary, told Council that he had rationalized the membership list, resulting in a smaller but healthier society, with the number of Supporting Members reduced from 707 to 380. He pleaded with national representatives to encourage their members to join the IADC. Hector said that communication with the membership had been substantially improved by the production and distribution of the *Journal* and the much improved *Newsletter*, for which much credit must go to Barry Scheer.

It was in Kyoto that the IADC finally changed its name, adopting the title *International Association of Paediatric Dentistry (Association Internationale d'Odonto-Stomatologie Pédiatrique)*.