

# IFMBE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, August 27, 2003, Sydney, Australia

## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

### A) Changes to Constitution and Bylaws.

There have been 7 ballots on proposed changes to the Statutes of IFMBE, all of which were agreed by the majority of the National Member Organisations (NMO) that voted. The changes related to:

1. Improving the efficiency of communications between IFMBE AC and NMO - It was agreed that:
  - \*electronic mail could be used in addition to postal mail.
  - \*the deadline for responding to electronic mail was set at 30 days.
2. Changes in membership requirements - It was agreed that:
  - \* it be possible that there be more than one IFMBE member organisation from a single country.
  - \*there be individual IFMBE affiliated members in countries without an IFMBE affiliated MBE organisation or the interests of the individual were not covered by the national society.
  - \*MNO in arrears of membership dues for more than 12 months lose the right to vote in ballots unless there are exceptional circumstances and that AC shall recommend to GA that the membership of the NMO be terminated if it is in arrears for 18 months or more.
3. Terms of office of members of AC – It was agreed that:
  - \* the position of an elected Council member failing to attend 2 consecutive meetings of the AC without reasonable excuse be declared vacant.
  - \*an AC member elected to fill a vacancy for less than 3.5 years be eligible for election for the next 6 year term.
4. \*A statement required by the US Inland Revenue Service in order to waive the need to pay tax on interest earned on accounts held in USA.

### B) New members.

The application for IFMBE membership from The Nigerian Institute for Biomedical Engineering and The French Society of Biomedical Engineering (SFGBM) were accepted after a ballot of MNO delegates to the GA.

There are pending expressions of interest or applications from 3 additional countries.

J.C.Barbenel

July 2003