

## **MINUTES OF THE SIA SECTION MEETING HELD ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> OF JUNE 2007 IN SEOUL, KOREA AT THE ANNUAL IAIA CONFERENCE.**

### **PRESENT:**

Aucamp, Ilse  
Baines, James  
Isaksson, Karin  
Schirmer, Jacki  
Stolp, Annelies  
Taylor, Nick  
Vanclay, Frank  
Wolf, Charlie

The meeting was chaired by Ilse Aucamp, the current SIA section chair. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes of the meeting conducted in Stavanger in 2006 was accepted by this meeting. No new points were placed on the agenda.

### **Effectiveness of sections**

The first point of discussion was how sections could be made more effective, as the message from the IAIA Board is that it is felt that the members feel that the sections is not serving them or meeting their needs. James Baines commented that it is an interesting observation that this observation is made. The SIA section is one of the more active sections in IAIA. It is seen as a major resource, and the creation of the Guidelines and Principles for SIA was mentioned as an example. Another example is the SIA bibliography.

### **SIA Bibliography**

The next point of discussion was the SIA bibliography. Frank Vanclay reported that there is no new news on the bibliography, but the fact that IAIA has a new website made things more difficult to manage, as problems with the efficiency of the website was experienced. It was decided that the SIA bibliography is a good resource that will always be potentially useful. It is important to keep on bombarding SIA practitioners to keep on adding to the bibliography to ensure continual improvement. An e-mail should be send out to remind practitioners of the bibliography – even grey material should be added to the bibliography since it can be potentially very useful. All queries regarding the bibliography should be directed to Frank Vanclay. Ilse Aucamp must contact Theo Hacking to check on the status of the new repository for PDF documents that could accommodate these grey documents which was started a few years ago. Mention was made of a new programme called E-prints, used by universities and other tertiary

institutions that give information higher priority when searches are done. It was suggested that IAIA should investigate having an E-print server.

### **HIA/SIA Workshop**

Three members present at the meeting attended the SIA/HIA pre-conference workshop. The HIA/SIA workshop is an outcome from the Boston conference in 2005, when it was decided to develop a sample Terms of Reference for integrating impact assessment. At the workshop in Seoul it was decided to develop a one page document on key ideas on integration. There are no clear ideas for the workshop for next year. One of the ideas is to involve other sections in the process as well. Suggestions about the format next year are encouraged.

### **IAIA 2008**

The IAIA conference of 2008 will be in Perth, Australia. The organising committee is welcoming suggestions regarding the programme at the moment. It was suggested that there should be more integration with other sections next year. At the moment the conference are themed by sections, and it needs to be decided whether to stay with the current grouping, or to organise things differently. If a different model than the current one is used, different thinking is required. The theme for next year's conference: "The art and science of impact assessment is not clear, and people need to get a fuller understanding.

One of the ideas mentioned was that a big global topic e.g. water scarcity, should be chosen, and then the same topic can be used for presentations by different disciplines. It is important that the chosen topic must be substantive. Another suggestion was that there should be a round-up of best –practice in different sections, where the section focuses on best practice in their specific discipline. Fewer papers should be allowed per session to allow for more discussion time. There should be more discussion across the disciplines and bottom-up discussions. The sections should be made more accessible to section members, especially newcomers to IAIA. A session or theme forum on Integrated Impact Assessment was suggested. Joint sessions should also be encouraged.

Some of the sections that should be approached by the SIA section includes the Health Impact Assessment section, Public Participation, Indigenous People, Biodiversity, Agriculture and Fisheries, Forestry, Biodiversity and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

**Closure**

The meeting was closed and adjourned. Ilse Aucamp will circulate the minutes to members present and the SIA section, as well as to all the section chairs.