

MINUTES OF Business Meeting of ESAFS

November 25, 2003. 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

At Meeting room of Department of Agricultural Chemistry, National Taiwan University

Chairman: President of ESAFS, Professor Zueng-Sang Chen

Record: Prof. Dar-Yuan Lee, Secretary-General of ESAFS.

PRESENT (21 PERSONS)

1. Dr. Zueng-Sang CHEN	President of ESAFS (Taiwan)
2. Dr. Dar-Yuan LEE	Secretary-General of ESAFS (Taiwan)
3. Dr. Hari ESWARAN	Specialist from USDA (USA)
4. Dr. Kazutake KYUMA	Honorable President of ESAFS (Japan)
5. Dr. Sheng-Bin HO	Secretary-General of society (Taiwan)
6. Dr. Masahiko SAIGUSA	President (Japan)
7. Dr. Nakai Makoto	National representative (Japan)
8. Dr. Kazuyuki Inubushi	National representative (Japan)
9. Dr. Syed Anwarul HAQUE	National representative (Bangladesh)
10. Dr. G. Narayanasamy	President (India)
11. Dr. Jai-Joung KIM	President (Korea)
12. Dr. Key-Hoon KIM	Secretary-General of international affair (Korea)
13. Dr. Jae E. YANG	National representative (Korea)
14. Dr. Myung Ho UM-	Chairman for Ad hoc Committee (Korea)
15. Dr. Young-Woong KIM	President-elected (2004-2005) (Korea)
16. Dr. W. M. A. D. B. Wickramasinghe	President (Sri Lanka)
17. Mr. K. M. A. Kendaragama	Secretary-General (Sri Lanka)
18. Dr. Clarita Aganon	President (Philippines)
19. Mr. Rodel CARATING	Secretary-General (Philippines)
20. Dr. Praphasri Chongpraditnun	National representative (Thailand)
21. Ms. Churai Chongpraditnun	National representative (Thailand)

President of ESAFS, Professor Zueng-Sang Chen, presented the reports of 6th ESAFS International Conference and General rules for ESAFS to all the participants of this business meeting.

The Provisional Agenda was adopted.

A. Report of 6th ESAFS conference

Chairman of ESAFS presented the reports (see attached file #1) and all the members reviewed the reports of the 6th ESAFS conference.

The report of the 6th ESAFS conference was approved.

B. Discussion

1. Which Society wants to host the next ESAFS conference (2004-2005)? What is the key topic to be discussed in this region? We need to keep this tradition of announcing the next host in the ESAFS conference to maintain continuity in the Organization.

After discussion, Japan Soil Science Society promise to host the next ESAFS conference (2004-2005) if there is no any member of ESAFS wants to host the next conference. Please contact to President Zueng-sang Chen or Prof. Masahiko SAIGUSA to confirm the interesting to host the next conference.

Note: Dr. CLARITA P. AGANON, President of the Philippines Society of Soil Science and Technology (PSSST) mailed an email letter to President Zueng-sang Chen and Prof. Masahiko

SAIGUSA to explain their interesting to host the 7th ESAFS conference at December 17th, 2003. The topic will be INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABILITY OF PADDY FARMING SYSTEMS which to be held on June 20-24, 2005, shown in the 1st announcement. Director Rogelio N. Concepcion will be the chairman of the 7th ESAFS Conference. Finally, the date of conference was revised on June 1-4, 2005, shown in the 2nd announcement. President Zueng-sang Chen and Prof. Masahiko SAIGUSA forward this email letter to all the Presidents of ESAFS in December, 2003. Finally, all the Presidents of the Society members of ESAFS accepted the proposal of PSSST.

The proposal of the PSSST to host the 7th ESAFS International Conference was approved in Dec. 24, 2003.

2. Do We need to extend our mechanism to bring Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar (Burma) into the ESAFS? Is there any process to be followed or just follow the rules of ESAFS?

After the discussion, The ESAFS should keep the modern member's structure except we can operation very well to show our very active to have good contribution in the Asia countries. We can contact with some president of Soil Science Society of Nepal, Pakistan, some of Eastern Asian countries.

3. Can we have the "Fellow personal member" or "Honorable President" of ESAFS? How to nominate from Society? What is the maximum number? Do we need to revise the rules of ESAFS?

Dr. Kyuma does not completely accept this personal Fellow member or Honorable President of ESAFS. But, the President of 6th ESAFS, Professor Zueng-sang Chen, still presented a plaque to Dr. Kyuma to thank his great contribution on the establishment of ESAFS and advisor and services in the different activities of ESAFS held in Asian countries in last 12 years. Dr. Kyuma regarded that we do not need to revise the original rules of ESAFS.

4. What is the representative "Logo of the ESAFS"? Do we need a new one? (note: the old one is printed in the cover of the newsletter of ESAFS).

After discussion on the logo of ESAFS, the members of ESAFS still keep the original characters and logo of "ESAFS", shown in the all the Newsletter of ESAFS since 1990, as a logo in the next Bulletin of ESAFS and the color of "ESAFS" still keep it's free choice by the host society of ESAFS conferences.

5. What's the next topic to be considered?

We should focus on the land degradation in the Asian countries, especially on the topics of indicators for the evaluation of soil degradation, reclamation techniques of land degradation, and land assessment.

6. What's kind of symposium should be organized in the coming 18th World Congress of Soil Science?

President Zueng-sang Chen of ESAFS and Prof. Masahiko SAIGUSA can submit a proposal to the organizing committee of 18th WCSS before April, 2004.

Note: Before April, 2004, the president of ESAFS requested all the members of ESAFS to submit the topics to be selected to held in 18th WCSS. Finally, there is no any society of ESAFS members to show their interesting to host the special symposium to be discussed in the organizing committee of 18th WCSS.

7. Data of next meeting

The proposed date and time of the next business meeting of ESAFS will be proposed by the host society of 7th ESAFS conference.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Attached file #1

Report of 6th ESAFS International Conference

Printed on Nov. 25, 2003

Zueng-Sang Chen

President of ESAFS (2002-2003)

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Rational

The 5th ESAFS International Conference was held on May 27-31, at Krabi, Thailand, to discuss the “Rice Environmental and Rice Products”. During the business meeting of 5th ESAFS conference, the National representative from the Chinese Society of Soil and Fertilizer Sciences (CSSFS), Dr. Chenfang Lin, proposed that the CSSFS wants to host the 6th ESAFS International Conference at Taiwan to discuss the “Sustainable soil management technology on problem soils”. The conclusion of the meeting had approved this proposal on May 29.

In the business meeting of 5th ESAFS conference, the rule of ESAFS was revised. The rule listed on the vice-president of ESAFS automatically promoted to next President and hosted the next conference was cancelled. The rule was revised to elect a new President of ESAFS during the conference and this new president will host the next ESAFS conference. Therefore, I was automatically appointed as the 6th term President of ESAFS from Jan. 2002 to Dec. 2003, because I was elected as the President of the Chinese Society of Soil and Fertilizer Sciences (CSSFS) from Jan. 2002 to Dec. 2003.

Business Meeting during 17th World Congress of Soil Science

We have a business meeting of ESAFS on August 16, 2002, during the 17th World Congress of Soil Science held at Bangkok, Thailand. Dr. Jai-Joung Kim, Dr. Moo-Eon Park and Dr. Kye-Hoon Kim from Korean Society, Dr. Katzutake Kyuma from Japan Society, Dr. Markus Anda from Indonesia Society, Dr. Irb Kheoruenromne and Dr. Somsri Arunin from Thailand Society, Dr. M.S. Brar from India Society, and Dr. Chenfang Lin, Dr. Dar-Yuan Lee, and Zueng-Sang Chen from Taiwan Society to attend the meeting. The participants proposed to present a “Honorable President” to Dr. Kyuma and recorded in the rules of ESAFS and presented a plaque in the next ESAFS conference held at Taiwan in 2003. But, Dr. Kyuma did not completely accept this honor. He suggested that we need more discussion on this.

Organizers and sponsors

The organizing Committee of 6th ESAFS was established in Dec. 2002. We send the first announcement of the 6th ESAFS conference on Feb. 2003 and focus the theme of conference on “Soil Management Technology for Low-productivity and Degraded Soils”. The second and final announcement and detailed program was sent to all the intended participants by Secretary General, Dr. Dar-Yuan Lee, on May 30 and Oct. 30, 2003.

The 6th ESAFS conference was organized by CSSFS, DAC/NTU (Dept of Agricultural Chemistry, National Taiwan University), TARI (Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute), and FFTC/ASPAC (Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region). This conference is also supported by Council of Agriculture (COA), Taiwan, East and Southeast Asia Federation of Soil Science (ESAFS), National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, and Department of Soil and Environmental Science, National Chung Hsing University. Some Environmental Consultant Companies in Taiwan also supported this conference by donating US\$1,000 to 1,500 for each company.

Budget and expenses

Total budget of this conference is about US\$40,900 including US\$25,000 supported from Council of Agriculture of Taiwan, US\$ 3,500 supported from Environmental Consultant Companies in Taiwan, and US\$9,000 from registration fee of conference and field trip, and US\$3,400 from FFTC and NTU.

We spent US\$3,100 for publication, US\$1,800 for rent fee of conference venue and salary of service people, US\$1,700 for lunch box, tea and coffee, US\$13,500 for supporting the accommodation and air-ticket of 10 invited speakers, US\$14,500 for field trips on Nov. 26-29, US\$3,600 for welcome party on Nov. 24 and farewell party on Nov. 25, and US\$600 for handing bag and plaques.

The organizing committee of the 6th ESAFS Conference has published the Program and participants list, Proceedings of full papers, extended abstract (2 pages for each paper) of all oral and poster papers, field study tour guides of techniques and culture, and Newsletter No. 11 (November, 2003) of ESAFS in the conference.

Participants, oral and poster papers in 2 days

One hundred and ninety (190) participants from 9 countries registered for this conference, including 105 participants from Taiwan, 67 participants from Korea, 10 participants from Japan, and two or one national representative from Bangladesh, India, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and United States. There are no participants from Indonesia, Mainland China, Malaysia, and Vietnam, from 12 ESAFS member Societies. During the conference, 23 oral papers and 51 poster papers were presented and discussed in the first two days in Taipei. Sixty-four foreign participants will join the study tours in the next four days in western part of Taiwan.

Field study tours in 4 days

We will visit some sites or Institutes to learn the soil management technologies, including Taiwan Tea Experiment Station, strong acid soils for fruits production and soil and water conservation demonstration plots, Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, hill land tea plantation at Yu-Chi, saline soils and seashore farmlands, bad lands (mudstone erosion), National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, and poor drainage soils for wax apple production. We also visited some typical Taiwan cultural sites, including Earth Quake (Sep. 21, 1999) Museum at Taichung, Sightsee Sun Moon Lake Scenery Park at Nantou, Taiwan Aboriginal Culture Park at Pingtung, and National Palace Museum at Taipei. We also stay one night at Tainan city and Kaohsiung city to see some typical old and new culture in Taiwan.

Special thanks

The organizing Committee of the 6th ESAFS conference would like to express our gratitude to Prof. Dar-Yuan Lee, Secretary General of conference, Mr. Horng-Yuh Guo, field trip organizer of conference who is Research Fellow working in Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, and 30 graduate students of Department of Agricultural Chemistry, National Taiwan University for their hard work to make this conference possible. Special thanks also go to two invited keynote speakers, Dr. Kazutake Kyuma from Japan and Dr. Hari Eswaran from USDA, and to 8 Presidents of ESAFS member societies to come Taiwan for their active participation in this conference.

Recommendations

I found that we need a real representative or contact person of national Society for communication between the President of ESAFS and member societies. In the last one year, I found some difficulties between our ESAFS members even we have email system. I suggest that we can publish "Brief Newsletter of ESAFS" every half year or every year to mention the basic information of Society only include information of 3 persons, President, Secretary General and Contact persons of the member Society. We can't change these contact persons of ESAFS.

I think we can extend the ESAFS into a bigger Federation, such as "Asian Union of Soil Science (AUSS)" or "Asian and Pacific Union of Soil Science (APUSS)" to promote our research and technology transfer activities on the soil science, plant nutrition, and soil environmental sciences in the Asian countries. I think financial supporting is very important to encourage developing countries to attend the coming ESAFS conference. The host society of ESAFS conference can provide one representative of national Society to attend the conference and this person has the responsibility to provide the basic information of the society for ESAFS.