



## **PENSIONS, BENEFITS AND SOCIAL SECURITY SECTION (PBSS)**

### **Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the PBSS Section held on Sunday 23 June 2013 from 12:30 to 14:30 hrs at the Hôtel des Congrès, Lyon**

#### **1. Introductions and Apologies**

The Chairman (Marius du Toit) welcomed everybody to the meeting. Eight PBSS committee members attended the meeting. (Note: The place of the committee meeting was changed to the Hôtel des Congrès which is located near the Espace Tête d'Or. )

#### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

MdT briefly discussed the agenda and two agenda points were added: financial statements and the IAA secretariat recoveries paid to the IAA for the service. Both are sub-items of the agenda 'Finance report'.

#### **3. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday, 14 November 2012 from 16:30 to 18:30 hours at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort & Casino, Nassau**

No comments were added and the minutes were approved without change.

#### **4. Matters arising from the minutes**

##### **4.1 JSCPA membership**

MdT explained that we are going to introduce the 'corporate membership' of the JSCPA next year and Mr Christian Levac made a draft invoice, which is in line with the proposal from Mr Chris Daykin. It gives normal membership dues for 50 members and CA\$5 per additional membership. Total membership due is much higher than the current one, so it is beneficial for the PBSS Section and it also benefits the JSCPA. The corporate membership of the JSCPA is as from next year (2014). MdT added that other countries, like Mexico, could also be considered.

##### **4.2 Bursary offers**

MdT reported that we had a lot of correspondence on this. MdT said that the amount of the bursaries might be either full CA\$1,000 or CA\$500, both of which is an amount covering some of the costs of attending. MdT also proposed the principles of the bursaries: firstly, the person should attend the meeting and secondly, the paper of the person should be accepted. In addition, committee members cannot be eligible for the bursaries, for avoiding conflicts of interests. The proposal was unanimously accepted. With respect to the countries of the candidates for the bursaries, it was agreed that we should be flexible about it, though preference would be given to developing countries.

##### **4.3 Prizes for best papers**

MdT explained that it was decided at the last Committee meeting to grant the prizes to the best paper at the Colloquium and the best papers published in the ASTIN Bulletin. Then, MdT said that a question remains about how many prizes we would grant. MdT suggested one for each Colloquium and one per year for papers published in the ASTIN Bulletin but pointed out that the ASTIN Bulletin contains not so many papers in the field of pensions. Mr Abraham Hernández noted the importance of having two

separate prizes, because some of the topics or the papers usually presented at a PBSS Colloquium would not necessarily fit the requirements of the journal but [are](#) still worthy of a prize. It was decided [that to grant](#) one for each Colloquium and one per annum for the ASTIN Bulletin, taking into account the purpose of the prizes of encouraging members to participate in the Colloquium and to submit pension papers to the ASTIN Bulletin. As for the question of how we assess the papers, Mr Florian Leger questioned whether the best paper prize of the Colloquium's organiser and that of the PBSS section should be the same prize or not, and it was agreed that two prizes could be different ones. Mr Wang Wenliang proposed the idea of utilising feedback from the audience or the readers of the IAA journal. However, currently there was no feedback from the readers of the IAA journal and thus the idea could only be considered in future.

(Note: MdT discontinued the Committee meeting because the lunch time was very limited and it was requested to move to a different room for lunch.)

#### **4.4 Bursaries**

(MdT reopened the Committee meeting.)

MdT took up several issues on the bursaries for the next ICA at Washington: 1) Whether the amount of a bursary should be full (CA\$1,000) or not. 2) Whether the bursaries should be limited to PBSS members and the theme of the paper should be limited to pensions. As for the question 2), it was pointed out there are overlapping areas between life and pensions like mortality. No conclusion was reached in the Committee about these issues. It was agreed to donate \$10,000 to the bursary fund if the ICA could indicate that the money would primarily be used for members of the PBSS. The decision as to who would be awarded bursaries would then be left with the ICA.

#### **4.5 ASTIN Bulletin**

MdT recalled that the ASTIN Bulletin is published by Cambridge University Press and we have already decided as the Committee to select the option of the electronic copy only. Then MdT noted that there are discussions within the Chairmen's and Treasury's meetings as to how the Bulletin should be funded. Currently we are paying a fixed amount of CA\$5 per Bulletin per member. MdT added that there is another issue whether there should be a different version of ASTIN Bulletin covering more practical themes, since the current version is very technical and scientific and thus not always fit for pension practitioners. MdT pointed out that Mr Geoff Rashbrooke is a member of the ASTIN Committee and we can convey the thought of the PBSS Committee through him. It was agreed to address the issue further at future Committee meetings. Mr Junichi Sakamoto said that he would raise the issue at the Social Security Committee.

### **5. Future Colloquia, Meetings, Conferences or Seminars**

On the ICA 2014 to be held in Washington DC, USA, from 30 March to 4 April, MdT explained that Mr Robert Brown is the representative of the Committee and that MdT considers that everything would be prepared well.

On the 2015 Colloquium to be held in Oslo, Norway, in 7 to 10 June 2015, MdT explained that it was already agreed to hold the Colloquium, although there have not yet been any communication with the organiser about the details of the Colloquium. Mr Florian Leger mentioned that the ISSA would probably hold a conference for social security actuaries and statisticians in September 2015, so as to avoid the dates conflicting with those of the Oslo Colloquium. He explained that there was a history of having Joint conferences with the PBSS, like in the cases of Vancouver and Helsinki, which were very successful, but this time it is difficult to find an ISSA-side host organisation in Norway. He promised to provide the Committee with information about the date of the conference.

On the 2016 Colloquium, MdT explained that we had already decided to have a Colloquium in Canada, but the Canadian Institute of Actuaries does not want to link a Colloquium with their conference. MdT said that if it is not possible, then we would like to have a Colloquium in Mexico in 2016, if possible. Mr Abraham Hernández said that Mexican Institute of Actuaries is planning a Mexican venue in 2017. However if Canada is not available Mexico will then be prepared to hold a Colloquium in 2016. He

expressed a small concern that they held a colloquium last year at Mexico City so the timing might be very close. MdT said that he had a discussion with IPEBLA and IACA (International Association of Consulting Actuaries) about having a Joint Colloquium. IPEBLA is very keen to partner us in the Colloquium, but is hesitant about Mexico as venue since they expect that too few of their members would attend. Mr Abraham Hernández remarked that he also put forward with Mexican colleges of the Health Section Committee to have a joint Colloquium with the Health Section. It was agreed in the Committee to have a Joint Colloquium with the Health Section.

As for 2018, MdT said that the 31<sup>st</sup> ICA would be held in Berlin.

## **6. Finance report**

Firstly, MdT reported about the Hong Kong Colloquium. Namely, since Hong Kong Actuarial Society was not in a position to take the risk of shortfall, the IACA underwrote the Colloquium. Even though other stakeholders, including the PBSS, do not share the risks, the IACA said very generously that the IACA would share the profits. It was determined that the IACA took 50% of the profit (about CA\$50,000) and the rest was shared among the other three stakeholders (i.e., the Hong Kong Actuarial Society, the Life Section and the PBSS Section). Thus the PBSS received CA\$8,423 as a revenue.

Secondly, MdT mentioned the IAA secretariat and the money that the PBSS pays for the services. The original agreement is that the IAA secretariat estimates the annual costs of the year and at the end of the year they reconcile and we pay in or get a refund. However, it was agreed by IAA secretariat and other sections to fix the amount upfront. This year we pay CA\$21 per person.

Then, MdT mentioned about the surplus and the reserves. That is, the surplus of the year was about CA\$17,000 and we have the reserves (net assets) of about CA\$41,000. MdT said that for the past few years our income exceeded expenses and the reserves are growing.

## **7. Membership and constitution**

MdT reported that last year the number of the PBSS membership was 486. He said that the PBSS is the only IAA section that the number of the membership is actually growing.

Then, MdT discussed the committee membership. MdT said that we have one vacancy and only have one nomination. Therefore, we have to ask at the Annual General Meeting tomorrow if there are any other nominations. In any way, we cannot have two or more committee members from the same country since the intention is to widely distribute the committee members. Mr Florian Leger asked whether the approval of the country organisation is compulsory or not and it was confirmed that there is no such rule and therefore such approval is not compulsory. Mr Wang Wenliang presented his opinion that it is stated in the PBSS rule that the notice of nomination have to be issued 60 days before the election and therefore on-site nomination is not valid. No conclusion was reached about the issue.

Then, MdT mentioned that Mr Geoff Rashbrooke is retiring in 2014 and we need a new Treasurer. In addition, MdT said that we also need a vice-chairman and we need a volunteer for the position. MdT asked if there is anybody to want to be a vice-chairman. Asked how long the term of the chairman is, MdT answered that he thinks that it is four years.

## **8. Cooperation with ISSA, ILO and other organisations**

As for ISSA, MdT said that Mr Florian Leger is here so we have built a good relationship with ISSA. As for the ILO, Mr Junichi Sakamoto is a member of the ILO, so we also have a good relationship with the ILO. As for the IPEBLA, MdT said that he attended the last IPEBLA Conference held in Rome and we are thinking about a combined webinar with them. Mr Abraham Hernández remarked that he thinks the relationship is very important since laws arrange most of the works of pension actuaries. He added that he always teaches his students that the difference of senior and junior pension actuaries lies on the point of whether he knows the law.

## **9. Website and information exchange**

As for the webinar, MdT said that we are thinking about having a combined webinar with IPEBLA and one with the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. MdT added that the CIA is quite keen to do that.

#### **10. Council Issues**

MdT said that he listed on the agenda issues that we voted on during the course of the year with respect to Council issues. MdT added that he always asks the input from the Committee members and asked continual contributions about such issues before voting on behalf of [the](#) PBSS.

#### **11. Newsletter**

MdT said that it is quite difficult to get enough information and topics to issue the PBSS newsletter on a monthly basis except for the reference list. It was suggested that in the future the newsletter should only be published every three months, with probably more news. MdT added that if anybody would like to contribute something, for instance from the ILO, ISSA or anything else, it would be appreciated and he will put them on the newsletter. With respect to the reference list, Mr Abraham Hernández proposed to utilise country organisations' reference lists. MdT raised the issue that currently the newsletter and the reference list are open to everybody including non-members of the PBSS. However, it was agreed in the Committee to keep the present situation since PBSS members get the material through the Chairman's newsletter, and after a couple of months, the materials are listed on the website of the IAA and everybody can access the materials.

#### **12. Any other business**

None

#### **13. Next meeting**

MdT said that the next PBSS meeting is in Singapore, in October this year.

#### **14. Close**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting, and thanked all for their attendance.

Marius Du Toit  
Chairman, PBSS  
June 2013