

## Closing report

Tsuneo Katayama, Secretary General of IAEE

After greeting the attendees to the Closing Ceremony, Dr. Alfonso López Arroyo, President of the 10WCEE Steering Committee turned the chair over to Dr. Tsuneo Katayama, Secretary General of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering.

Thank you, Professor López Arroyo. Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

I am going to report some of the issues discussed, approved, confirmed and decided at the business meetings of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering. The Executive Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, July 22, and the General Assembly of Delegates was held this morning (July 24). Both meetings were very well attended. We now have 39 member countries.

General Assembly today selected Acapulco, Mexico, as the site of the 11th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering to be held in 1996.

The persons elected as Officers of the IAEE for the next four years are :

President: Thomas Paulay (New Zealand)

Executive Vice President: Jose Grases (Venezuela)

Vice President from the host country of the next Conference: Roberto Meli (Mexico)

The Executive Committee approved and the General Assembly confirmed the acceptance of the Japanese invitation to have the Central Office of the IAEE in Japan, with myself as the Secretary General.

The eight directors elected during the Executive Committee Meeting are:

V. Bertero (USA)

D. Jurukovski (Macedonia)

T. Kobori (Japan)

J. Monge (Chile)

A. Ravara (Portugal)

N. Skladnev (Russia)

S. Uzumeri (Canada)

L. Xie (China)

Up to three more directors may be selected by the Executive Committee to improve the geographical distribution.

The Executive Committee Meeting recommended and the General Assembly confirmed the following distinguished scientists as Honorary Members of the IAEE:



**General Assembly of Delegates**



**A Technical Session**

N.N. Ambrasseys (UK)  
G. Grandori (Italy)  
J. Penzien (USA)  
R. Yazar (Turkey)

The "Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamics - The journal of the International Association of Earthquake Engineering" is in a very healthy condition under the co-editorship of Professors Warburton and Chopra. We all have to thank them for their tireless dedication. However, the IAEE and the publisher will be happier if many of you here become individual subscribers as well as readers and users of the Journal.

Since the 9th World Conference in 1988, the International Strong Motion Array Council (ISMAC) has focused on two major activities under the chairmanship of Professor Iwan. These are the organization of a set of international experiments on the effects of surface geology on strong ground motion and a survey of strong motion recording instruments available worldwide. A Joint IAEE/IASPEI Working Group on Effects of Surface Geology was formally established during the 9th World Conference in Japan. The Joint Working Group has assisted in conducting two significant experiments; one at Turkey Flat in the USA and one at Ashigara Valley in Japan. Successful workshops dealing with the results of these experiments have been conducted.

The Central Office of the IAEE has been publishing two books every four years. They are the "Earthquake Resistant Regulations - A World List" and the "Directory of Earthquake Engineering Research". The latest edition of the former was published only a week ago just in time for the present Conference. The latter will be revised and published late this year.

Here, I would like to make several remarks on our involvement with the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, a UN program which started in 1990. I want all of you to remember that the original idea of the Decade was made by Frank Press, President of the US National Academy of Sciences, in his keynote address at the Opening Ceremony of the 8th World on Earthquake Engineering held in San Francisco in 1984. I also want to remind you that the General Assembly of the IAEE enthusiastically endorsed the idea and recommended prompt action for implementation in the Resolutions.

However, no substantial activities could be made in the framework of the IAEE even after 1990, which was proclaimed as the start of the IDNDR. In early 1992, the Secretary General, with the approval of the President, asked US Earthquake Engineering Research Institute to form a small working panel to prepare a working paper to be discussed during this 10WCEE. The IAEE/EERI panel was formed with three members; H.C. Shah (Chairman), Charles Thiel and W.D. Iwan.

The working paper "A Time for Action: World Seismic Safety Initiative" was completed early this month and sent for review to the Officers, Directors, National delegates and several persons and organizations.

A one-day Special Theme Session on the IDNDR was held on Tuesday (July 21) and was attended by the Officers and National Delegates of the IAEE as well as representatives from several international organizations. In-depth discussions were made, which resulted in the proposals requesting the IAEE to approve the concept and implementation plan of the World Seismic Safety Initiative (WSSI) described in the working paper. These

proposals have been adopted as the IAEE resolutions at the General Assembly of Delegates.

The IAEE resolutions adopted this morning consist of three items. Item 1 is our deep Gratitude to His Majesty Juan Carlos I, King of Spain, for having accepted the Presidency of the Honorary Committee of the present World Conference, and Item 2 is the IAEE's great appreciation to our Spanish colleagues. Item 3 is the one related to the WSSI, our future involvement with the IDNDR. The resolution essentially says that the IAEE endorses the WSI and that the Executive Committee be directed to establish the WSSI as a legal entity according to the guidelines set forth in the aforementioned document.

The first World Conference was held in June 1956 at Berkeley Campus of the University of California to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. This Conference was attended by about 80 people from 11 countries. Now, there are 1700 participants and 1200 papers in the present Conference. However, the operational structure of the Association has hardly changed. Particularly because we have the Decade program, there is much more work to be done in the Association.

The IAEE is not somebody else's Association. It is your Association. Each National Organization is not somebody else's organization. It is yours. The IAEE needs your help and assistance. We have committed ourselves much more strongly than before to the IDNDR activities. The Resolutions have been adopted. But I expect that there will be many hurdles on the road before we realize the concept of the WSSI. I would like to ask all the members of our Association to contribute whatever you can to achieve our goals. Thank you for your kind attention and see you in Acapulco.