

INTERNATIONAL MINES RESCUE BODY

Minutes of the Meeting of the IMRB held at Johannesburg, South Africa, on 7 October 2003.

<u>Present:</u>	Christo de Klerk (Chairman)	-South Africa
	James Johnson	-South Africa
	Vaclav Posta	-Czech Republic
	Zygmunt Kajdasz	-Poland
	Jean-Pierre Amartin	-France
	John K Rodomsky	-USA
	Joe Pavlovich. <i>Allen Dupuis</i>	-USA
	George Artur Gaman	-Romania
	Barrie Jones	-UK
	John Ellis	-UK
	Murray Bird	-Australia

Non – Attendance: There was no representative from Slovakia.

1. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all members present.

2. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Mr Jean-Pierre Amartin read his organisation's letter of resignation effective from 1 February 2004. The resignation was due to the closure of mining in France and the subsequent closure of his rescue organisation.

The members accepted the resignation by France and wished Mr Amartin and his team success for the future.

3. NEW MEMBERS

A discussion ensued regarding the formation of the body and particular the parent organisation from each country that would be entitled to membership of the IMRB.

In principle the members agreed that only the Central Mines Rescue Body/ Organisation/ Institute that was responsible for training of Brigadesmen, mobilisation of rescue teams, co-ordinating the rescue capabilities, would be entitled to membership of the IMRB, each with only one vote from a country.

This did not preclude other organisations e.g. Universities, research organisations, suppliers etc. from participating in the Mines Rescue Conferences.

The following organisations were accepted as members of the IMRB:

- Association Mining & Service Rescuers (Romania) to be incorporated with Insemex Petrosani
- KGHM Polska Miedz S.A.(Poland) in addition to Centralna Stacja Ratownictwa Gorniczego
- Zentrales Grubenrettungswesen der Bergbau – Berufsgenossenschaft (Germany)
- Mines and Aggregates Safety and Health Association (Canada)
- State Mines Rescue Command Center of State Administration of Work Safety (China)
- Uranium Corporation of India. *Secretary's Note: this was subsequently changed to Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.*

The following applications for membership was rejected based on the aforementioned resolution

- LC Rescue Plus Inc. (Canada)
- VSB Technical University of Ostrava (Czech Rep)
- Silesian Technical University (Poland)

Secretary's Note: The Ukraine did not apply for membership prior to the meeting as the delegate attending the conference, required approval from his superiors. In principle the Ukraine would be accepted as a member.

4. HOST COUNTRY FOR 2004/2005

It was unanimously agreed that Australia would host the next conference for 2005. Mr Murray Bird accepted the nomination and the Chairman then duly congratulated him.

5. HOST COUNTRY FOR 2006/2007

In further planning the members agreed that, following Australia, the next host should be identified. To facilitate approvals it was agreed that a six-month window period would be allowed for each host country to accept this nomination.

The following countries, in order of preference, were nominated

1. United States of America
2. Czech Republic
3. China

6. CLOSURE

In closing the Chairman thanked members for their participation