



# World Plumbing Council

**October 2000**

**Ref: WPC/Minutes 10/2000**

Minutes of the 2000 Annual Meeting held at the Sheraton Hotel, Rotorua, New Zealand on Wednesday 1 November

## **WPC 1/00 PRESENT**

### **Member Organisation Delegates**

Brian Collis (Australia), Stephen Movley (Australia), Ray Herbert (Australia), Ejvind Villadsen (Canada), Ray Brooks (England and Wales), David Parish (Fiji), Graeme Mander (New Zealand), Robert Burgon (Scotland & Northern Ireland), Chris Burgess (South Africa), Russ Chaney (USA), George Bliss (USA) with Don Morin, Chairman WPC (USA), Stuart Henry Vice Chairman WPC (Australia), Michael Von Bock und Polach, Vice Chairman WPC (Germany), George Verry, Treasurer WPC (New Zealand) and Andy Watts, Secretary WPC (England and Wales) in attendance.

### **Observers**

Murray Thomas (Australia), Paul Kelly (Australia), Judy Collis (Australia), Mel Crook (New Zealand), Fran Crook (New Zealand) and Gilbert Kissling (USA).

## **WPC 2/00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Max Park (Australia), Michael Kefford (Australia), Bernard Bateman (England and Wales), Shiming Zhao (China), Max Meyer (Switzerland), Ian Fraser (South Africa).

## **WPC 3/00 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING IN SUN CITY, SOUTH AFRICA ON 15, 16 AND 17 SEPTEMBER 1999**

The Chairman welcomed all present who introduced themselves in turn. The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman who then invited Wally Weavers, Registrar of the New Zealand Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Registration Board to address the Council.

## **WPC 4/00 ADDRESS BY WALLY WEAVERS, REGISTRAR OF THE NEW ZEALAND PLUMBERS, GASFITTERS AND DRAINLAYERS REGISTRATION BOARD**

Wally Weavers said the origins of his organisation could be traced back to the early part of the last century when the efficiency of plumbing and the competence of plumbers were considered important to the preservation of public health. Until recently his Board was administered within the Ministry of Health but a new Act had established it as an independent statutory body. The New Zealand Government was currently reviewing arrangements for the regulations of disciplines under the Act which, in addition to plumbers, covered doctors, nurses and other paramedical occupations. Despite

opposition from some quarters, he was confident the Government would preserve the regulation of plumbers.

The New Zealand Plumbers Board had been founder members of the Australian, New Zealand Reciprocity Association (ANZRA) formed in 1948. The Association consisted of all statutory regulatory bodies with responsibility for plumbing in the six states and two territories of Australia and also New Zealand. In 1954 ANZRA members agreed a document to formally recognise plumbers registered in each other's jurisdiction. Mutual recognition centered upon training and competency in accordance with Australian Standard 3500. Normally, regulation was based upon the licensing of firms and the registration of operatives. ANZRA recognised the qualifications of 17 overseas countries. Migrants without these qualifications needed to be assessed for competence within 3 months of arrival. The majority entering Australia were from the UK, South Africa and Germany whereas most entering New Zealand were from ANZRA jurisdictions. In the past most UK plumbers were considered competent but some needed additional skills. ANZRA had a website at <http://www.pgdb.co.nz>

Asked about the periodic reassessment of competence, Wally Weavers said ANZRA were addressing the issue and he considered reassessment, perhaps every 5 years, would become the norm in due course.

The Chairman thanked Wally Weavers for his presentation and for making WPC delegates so welcome at the 21<sup>st</sup> Biennial Conference of ANZRA.

#### **WPC 5/00 WPC FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

Stuart Henry (Vice Chairman) gave a detailed explanation of the discussion paper. In essence this proposed that WPC became more pro-active and increased its membership and influence. Future Directions followed in the wake of previous studies articulated by George Verry and Russ Chaney. The paper advocated a future vision for WPC and identified key concerns, key benefits and key priorities (pages 11, 12 and 13). A summary of strategies needed to fulfill the vision is given on page 26. In any event WPC could only develop towards the vision at a pace set by its Member Organisations.

In a brief discussion which followed Ray Herbert (MPMSAA) said he thought the paper was very good although he felt more emphasis should be placed on environmental issues. His Association had been successful in obtaining state funding to help the plumbing industry in Victoria contribute towards meeting the Koyoto targets of reducing greenhouse gases. He offered to give guidance on how WPC may play a part on behalf of the global plumbing community.

**ACTION: RAY HERBERT**

Brian Collis (MPA) agreed that Future Directions was an excellent long term document, but what were needed were short term objectives and a business plan. Don Morin agreed the Executive Board should consider what was achievable in the short term.

**ACTION: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**The Council then unanimously approved the adoption of Future Directions.**

## **WPC 6/00 WPC LEGAL STATUS AND BYELAWS**

Stuart Henry reviewed developments which had led to the circulation of proposed new byelaws drafted to facilitate incorporation of the Council in Switzerland.

Written comments had been submitted by the Institute of Plumbing Australia and the Mechanical Contractors Association of Alberta, Canada. A detailed discussion on these comments followed. Ejvind Villadsen felt the MCAA views had been clarified during the Executive Board discussion the previous day. Steve Movley (IoPA) was principally concerned about making provision for the dissolution of WPC. He also felt the current wording of Article III, Membership would prevent individuals from joining WPC as was suggested at the preceding Executive Board meeting. On the latter issue it was agreed to amend part two of Article III, Membership, to read:-

*The passive members are affiliate members who are others involved in the plumbing industry who wish to be associated with the WPC who have no vote at WPC General Meetings.*

On the former point regarding the dissolution of WPC, it was agreed that the Executive Board would consider an additional byelaw to put before a future Annual Meeting.

### **ACTION: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Russ Chaney advocated staying as close as possible to the present wording so that incorporation in Switzerland could proceed as soon as possible.

The Chairman said that if Member Organisations had any concerns about the wording of the byelaws they should submit comments in writing to the Secretariat prior to the Spring meeting of the Executive Board in May 2001.

### **ACTION: MEMBER ORGANISATIONS**

Russ Chaney proposed and Steve Movley seconded that the new byelaws be adopted and the Executive Board be authorised to incorporate WPC in Geneva in accordance with the Swiss Civil Code. This was unanimously agreed by the eight countries represented which were entitled to vote namely:-

<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>
Ray Herbert	Australia
Ejvind Villadsen	Canada
Ray Brooks	England and Wales
Michael von Bock, Vice-Chairman WPC	Germany
Graeme Mander	New Zealand
Robert Burgon	Scotland and Northern Ireland
Chris Burgess	South Africa
Russ Chaney	USA

The Chairman felt this decision was important to the future direction and well being of WPC. He paid tribute to the detailed work undertaken by Stuart Henry and thanked IAPMO for the help they had given.

## **WPC 7/00 LOGO LICENSING POLICY AND TRADEMARK REGISTRATION**

Don Morin reviewed the background to the paper circulated to Member Organisations with the Agenda. He added that the Executive Board felt use of the logo should be added to the Conference Guidelines.

Following discussion it was agreed that Full Member organisations be entitled to use the WPC logo coupled with the word "Member". Affiliate Member Organisations would be entitled to use the WPC logo with the word "Affiliate". The Secretariat would produce camera ready bromides of the logo for use on stationery.

**ACTION: ANDY WATTS**

Use of the logo on multiple copies of commercial items such as codes, technical publications, workwear etc would be subject to a Logo Use Agreement approved by the Executive Board.

**ACTION: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Chairman said this was also related to registration of the WPC logo as a trademark which was also linked to incorporation in Switzerland.

Russ Chaney proposed and Brian Collis seconded that the Executive Board be authorised to take whatever action was appropriate to protect the WPC mark around the world.

**ACTION: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Ray Herbert thought the Master Plumbers Association of New South Wales should be notified of the action taken by WPC as the Association originated the logo in 1985 upon staging the first World Plumbing Conference and there should not be any misunderstandings regarding ownership of copyright.

**ACTION: ANDY WATTS**

## **WPC 8/00 LINKS WITH WHO AND CIB**

### World Health Organisation GoHAP

Russ Chaney reported that several chapters had been received but overall, he estimated the project was some 60 days behind schedule although this accounted for a 60 day period of examination by the Executive Board. Don Morin didn't feel the Board needed 60 days so the timescale could be recovered.

Russ Chaney said all GoHAP contributing Member organisations would receive a copy of their drafts by 1 December 2000. It was important to keep to the agreed timescales in order that the completed final draft could be submitted to WHO by September 2001 and that publication could coincide with the 6<sup>th</sup> World Plumbing Conference in Berlin in May 2002.

### WHO Drinking Water Quality Committee (DWQC)

Russ Chaney reported on his participation at a meeting of this Committee in Berlin in June. DWQC was a high level WHO group which formulated Water Quality Guidance worldwide. Its membership was composed mainly of scientists and chemists of high

academic standing. He was pleased to report that DWQC now recognised WPC and the importance of plumbing and the competence of plumbers in the maintenance of water quality standards around the world.

## CIB W62

Stuart Henry reported he had represented WPC at the annual meeting of CIB W62 in Rio de Janeiro in September. He had presented a paper on the importance of enforceable regulation of plumbing and plumbers and the effects of globalisation.

Brian Collis felt CIB W62 was primarily a forum for researchers involved in water supply and sanitation to talk to themselves. He felt WPC could do much to help CIB W62 disseminate information and maybe WPC could link with the next CIB W62 meeting being held in Berlin?

## **WPC 9/00 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### Annual Financial Statements

George Verry presented the annual financial statements covering the period 1 May 1999 to 30 April 2000 which had been circulated together with the audit report of Ernst & Young to Member Organisations prior to the meeting. These showed a total equity of 58000USD with a net equity of some 52000USD.

### Summary of Receipts and Payments

A summary of the transactions from 1 May to 15 October 2000 was tabled. The balance of funds in the bank at 15 October 2000 was approximately US\$46,000

### Budget of Revenue and Expenditure

George Verry tabled a budget statement for the year ending 30 April 2001. This showed a shortfall of income over expenditure of some 22,600USD which was due largely to the costs incurred with incorporation in Switzerland.

Following discussion all three financial statements were approved by the Council.

## **WPC 10/00 MEMBERSHIP**

George Verry tabled a list of Member Organisations which was noted by the Council.

David Parish explained the difficult situation in Fiji due to political unrest but assured the Council that the FIPMS annual subscription would be paid in due course.

## **WPC 11/00 PRESENTATIONS TO IAN FRASER AND MAX PARK**

In recognition of their work for WPC, Don Morin presented commemorative travelling clocks to Chris Burgess and Stuart Henry for local presentations to Ian Fraser and Max Park respectively. These presentations were greeted with acclamation.

## **WPC 12/00 FUTURE EVENTS**

### Spring 2001 Executive Board meeting

Michael von Bock outlined his suggestions for the meeting which could start in Cologne/Bonn on 5 May where UICP would also be meeting. Delegates could then travel on to Berlin to view facilities for the 2002 6<sup>th</sup> World Plumbing Conference.

### 2001 Annual Meeting, Beijing, China

The Council discussed arrangements for the meeting which was proposed to be held during the week beginning 24 September 2001. It was felt appropriate to hold pre and post educational and technical visits to relevant establishments and construction sites.

Russ Chaney offered to make contact with the Beijing authorities with regard to these arrangements.

**ACTION: RUSS CHANEY/ANDY WATTS**

### 6<sup>th</sup> World Plumbing Council Meeting Berlin, Germany, May 2002

Michael von Bock outlined arrangements for the Conference which would feature the "Smarthouse" of the future to be unveiled at the next ISH exhibition in Frankfurt in March 2001. He invited suggestions for workshops which could feature aspects of the "Future Directions" paper.

### **WPC 13/00 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### 8<sup>th</sup> WPC Conference 2008

Ejvind Villadsen said Canada would be bidding to hold the 2008 Conference.

### WPC Website

Following a suggestion by Tony Gordon (IAPMO), Andy Watts proposed the WPC website incorporated an international events section, entries to which could perhaps be added by event organisers and Member Organisations. This was agreed.

**ACTION: ANDY WATTS/TONY GORDON/JAMES ROBshaw**

### Video Presentations

George Bliss, Director of Training of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters, USA showed a video of his organisations apprenticeship training programme. Stuart Henry, Master Plumbers Association of Western Australia played a video recording of a recent awards ceremony.

It was agreed that presentations of this nature played a valuable part in the World Plumbing Council annual meetings.

### **WPC 14/00 CLOSING REMARKS**

Don Morin closed the meeting which he considered had been very important to the future of the WPC. He thanked everyone for attending and participating. The Council was particularly grateful to the Master Plumbers Society New Zealand and the NZ Plumbers Registration Board which had hosted the ANZRA Conference.