



MEETINGS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL – BARCELONA

6<sup>th</sup> October 2015 (09.00 – 12.00)

7<sup>th</sup> October 2015 (13.00 – 15.00)

8<sup>th</sup> October 2015 (9.30-12.00)

Session of 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Present: the President, Mrs. Cristina Crespo, the First Vice-President, Mr. Christophe Regnard, the Vice-Presidents Mr. Đuro Sessa, Mr. José Manuel Igreja Matos, Mr. Cagney Musi and Mr. Gaetano Pagone; the Honorary Presidents Mr. Sidnei Beneti, Mr. José Maria Bento Company, Mr. Ernst Markel, Mr. Gerhard Reissner, Mr. Ramon Rodriguez Arribas, Ms. Maja Tratnik and Mr. Günter Woratsch; the Secretary-General, Mr. Giacomo Oberto; the Deputy Secretaries-General, Mr. Galileo D'Agostino and Mr. Raffaele Gargiulo; the IAJ representatives at the UN seats in New York and Geneva, Mrs. Louise Mailhot and Mr. Pierre Zappelli, as well as the following national associations, represented by the delegates whose names are on the list attached to these minutes (see enclosure n. 1):

ALBANIA	IVORY COAST
ALGERIA	KAZAKHSTAN
ARGENTINA	LATVIA
ARMENIA	LIECHTENSTEIN
AUSTRALIA	LITHUANIA
AUSTRIA	LUXEMBURG
AZERBAIJAN	MALI
BELGIUM	MOLDOVA
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	MONTENEGRO
BRAZIL	MOROCCO
BULGARIA	MOZAMBIQUE
CANADA	(THE) NETHERLANDS
CHILE	NIGER
CROATIA	NORWAY
CYPRUS	PERU
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	POLAND
DENMARK	PORTUGAL
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	PUERTO RICO
EGYPT	REPUBLIC OF CHINA - TAIWAN
ESTONIA	SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE (OBSERVER)
FINLAND	SENEGAL
FRANCE	SLOVENIA
GEORGIA	SPAIN
GERMANY	SWEDEN
GREECE	SWITZERLAND
HUNGARY	TUNISIA
ICELAND	TURKEY
IRAQ (OBSERVER)	UKRAINE
IRELAND	UNITED KINGDOM
ISRAEL	URUGUAY
ITALY	USA

President Crespo opened the meeting of the Central Council at 9.00, by welcoming all present. She then invited the Assembly to observe a minute of silence in memory of Mr. Lothar Juenemann, who for a long while represented the German Association at the IAJ meetings and prematurely passed away at the end of July.

### **1. Checking the votes and proxies;**

The Secretary-General carried out a check on votes and proxies: 60 members were present. There were no proxies.

### **2. Appointment of auditors to examine the accounts and the financial report and to report;**

The Assembly unanimously appointed Mr. Walter Barone (Brazil) and Mr. Roy Garré (Switzerland) as auditors responsible for scrutinising the annual accounts and financial report and for reporting on it to the Central Council.

### **3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held in Foz do Iguazu;**

President Crespo pointed out that the minutes of the meeting of Foz do Iguazu had been sent to all national associations and that no remarks had been raised within one month. The Assembly submitted no objections; therefore the President stated the minutes of the meeting held in Foz do Iguazu as unanimously approved.

### **4. Possible discussion on**

#### **4.1. written report of the President of the I.A.J.;**

#### **4.2. written report of the Secretary-General;**

#### **4.3. written reports of the Vice-Presidents responsible of the Regional Groups and their reports on the Regional Groups meetings in Barcelona;**

President Crespo invited the Presidents of the Regional Groups to inform the Assembly about the outcomes of their respective Groups meetings held the day before.

The President of the European Association of Judges, Mr. Christophe Regnard, told the Central Council that the Group focused again on the situation in Turkey and in Ukraine and briefly summarized them for the Assembly.

The President of the ANAO Group, Mr. Gaetano Pagone, told the Central Council that the Group dealt with the monitoring process; discussed the application of the Iraqi Association; decided to remark significantly the work made by the former Group President, Mr. Robert Blair, declaring him Honorary President of the ANAO Group; considered the issue of social media in courts.

The President of the African Group, Mr. Cagney Musi, told the Central Council that the Group dealt with the situation of the judiciary in Tunisia and the role of civil society; decided to urge the African associations to complete the monitoring process; reflected upon the possible amendment of the African Group Statute in order to admit the Iraqi Association; dealt with the issue of the translations for the delegates coming from Arab-speaking countries.

The President of the Ibero-American Group, Mr. Rafael de Menezes, told the Central Council that the Group created a monthly newsletter; cooperated with Vice-President Igreja Matos on corruption; kept contacts with national associations of judges which are not yet members of the IAJ: in this context, Mrs. Elisabeth Linares was the IBA delegate at the conference held in Jamaica by the Caribbean English Speaking Countries. Also, the Group tried to establish relationships with other international institutions that share the same goals of the IAJ: the International Union of Portuguese Speaking Judges held a meeting in Mozambique; in November the International Organization for Judicial Training will have a conference in Brazil. The Group designated Mr. Mario Morales (Porto Rico) to be member of the working group chaired by Mr. Régnard and charged to revise the Universal Charter. He was appointed by President Crespo as IAJ environmental representative, an issue that must not be considered as interesting only the IBA Group but as a matter of concern of the IAJ as a whole. Mr. De Menezes added that the IBA Group wishes that the Guatemala Association remains an IAJ member and it approved resolutions on the situation of the judiciary in Chile and Uruguay which will be presented to the Central Council for its approval.

## **6. Applications for membership: Iraq.**

President Crespo invited the representatives of the Iraqi Association to quit the meeting hall in order for the Central Council to discuss the application.

The rapporteur Mr. Abdelouahid Elhajioui (Morocco) took the floor and delivered a speech also on behalf of the other rapporteurs, Mr. Robert Blair (Canada) and Mr. Mohamed Fouda (Egypt). The examination of the application started on the basis of documents and information gathered through the internet. In February Mr. Elhajioui and Mr. Fouda travelled to Iraq and met members of the judiciary, representatives of Parliament and the Cabinet, the office of the state prosecutor, lawyers' groups, legal educational institutes, and representatives of civil societies. He then summarized the report and recommended the admission of the Iraqi Association as IAJ member.

President Crespo informed the CC that the Presidency Committee examined the report and expressed a favorable opinion.

Mr. Stadelmann (Switzerland) took the floor and, after having expressed solidarity and closeness to the Iraqi judges, informed the Assembly about the concerns of the Swiss Association caused by the fact that the Chief Justice Al-Mahmoud is a controversial person. Mr. Elhajioui answered underlying that the Iraqi Association is independent as to its budget and funding and that the Chief Justice enjoys a good reputation among the Iraqi judges, who consider him as a point of reference for the evolution of the judiciary. He also stressed that what was under examination by the Central Council was the independence of the applicant association and the rules within the national legal system granting independence to the judiciary. These aspects were dealt with by the rapporteurs and no critical aspects were found.

Mr. Khadaraoui (Morocco) and Mr. Aidouni (Algeria) underlined that an association should be evaluated for its activities and its rules and not on the basis of the reputation of a particular judge.

Mr. Ordoñez Alcantara (Peru) announced the positive vote of his association because of the engagement of the Iraqi Association in the fight for the independence of the judiciary.

Mr. Zuccarelli (Italy) announced the positive vote of his association on the basis of the report and to give a message against terrorism.

Ms. Karafi (Tunisia) announced the positive vote of her association taking into consideration the courage with which the Iraqi colleagues perform their daily duties in courts.

Mr. Almpouras (Greece) and Mr. Mutenda (Democratic Republic of Congo) expressed the support of their respective associations.

President Crespo opened the vote: there were two abstentions and one contrary vote and the Association of Judges of Iraq was admitted by the Central Council as an IAJ member.

## **7. Proposal of the Presidency Committee on four priorities for the work of the Presidency Committee and IAJ for the next three years;**

President Crespo gave the floor to the Chairman of the Commission on the review of the Universal Charter of the Judge, Mr. Christophe Regnard. Mr. Regnard recalled the instruments adopted by various bodies of the IAJ with respect to the status of judges and explained that the new text will be divided in sections: general principles; external independence; internal independence; recruitment and training; appointment, evaluation and promotion; ethics; discipline; remuneration, social security and pension.

The members of the Commission will be the following people: on behalf of the EAJ, the Secretary-General Oberto and Ms. Janja Roblek (Slovenia); on behalf of the African Group, Ms. Marie Odile Thiakane (Senegal) and Mr. Cherif Kone (Mali); on behalf of the ANAO Group, Ms. Julie Dutil (Canada) and Ms. Allyson Duncan (USA); on behalf of the IBA Group, Mr. Walter Barone (Brazil) and Mr. Mario Morales (Puerto Rico).

President Crespo then gave the floor to Vice-President Mr. Igreja Matos, to inform the Assembly about the IAJ projects against corruption. Mr. Igreja Matos underlined that the IAJ strategy is articulated in two points: contacts with international organizations (i.e. International Anti-Corruption Academy based in Vienna; International Bar Association) and requests by local associations. Latin America is the priority because Latin-American judges are determined to disprove the legend of corruption as an unsolvable problem.

President Crespo then focused on the enlargement of the IAJ, mentioning the ANAO Commission presided over by Mr. Tsong (Mongolia). The President of the ANAO Group, Mr. Pagone, stressed that the Group is deeply engaged on the enlargement and has identified some countries in its geographic

area whose judiciary could be interested in joining the IAJ. The main difficulty is the little dimension of these judiciaries and their lack of funds and structures. There is also the issue of transnational associations like CAJO and the problem of the language barrier.

President Crespo thanked the colleagues and underlined that the topic of the death penalty was cancelled after the meeting in Foz do Iguazu because of the contrariety of several associations.

#### **8. Associations which have not paid their contributions for several years (Benin, Guatemala);**

President Crespo informed the Central Council about the fact that the associations of Benin and Guatemala were risking losing their membership in the IAJ because of the non-payment of their annual contributions and opened the debate.

Ms. Linares (Porto Rico) told the Central Council that the colleagues of Guatemala are eager to remain members of the IAJ but they are facing serious problems of funding: she therefore asked the Assembly to wait for another year. Mr. Barone (Brazil) took the floor to support the proposal to postpone of one year the decision on Guatemala.

Mr. Kone (Mali) took then the floor to inform the Assembly that there had been contacts with the Association of Benin, which is trying to settle its debts in order not to lose its membership. He also informed the Central Council that the Association of Burkina Faso, which was expelled because of the non-payment of annual fees, would like to join again the IAJ.

Mr. Recondo (Argentina) suggested to try and ascertain the origins of the crisis and to reflect upon the possibility of a solidarity intervention by the Regional Groups.

Secretary-General Oberto underlined that, according to article 5, paragraph 2, of the Constitution there is the necessity of an explicit decision by the Central Council, as otherwise membership will be lost automatically.

As for Guatemala, the Central Council decided (with one abstention) that the membership will not cease until the 2016 meeting.

As for Benin, the Central Council decided (with one abstention) that the membership will not cease until the 2016 meeting.

#### **14. IAJ representatives at the U.N.: possible discussion on written reports;**

President Crespo gave the floor to Ms. Louise Mailhot, who informed the Assembly about the recent changes at the UN, where the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Navanethem Pillay (South Africa), was replaced by Mr. Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein (Jordan). Also, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Ms. Gabriela Knaul (Brazil) was replaced by Ms. Monica Pinto (Argentina), who is not a judge but a professor of international law. This will be the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations and there will be a conference on climate change in Paris in November.

Mr. Pierre Zappelli took then the floor to inform the Central Council that it had not been possible yet to have a meeting with the new UN Special Rapporteur. He underlined that the Special Rapporteur may react to violations of the independence of the judiciary when he knows them and suggested to establish a procedure to inform the Special Rapporteur about ongoing crisis of the independence.

President Crespo then thanked the Honorary Presidents Mr. Gunter Woratsch and Mr. Ernst Markel for the work done in their capacity as IAJ representatives at the UN seat in Vienna and informed the Central Council that, after their resignations, the charge will be performed by Honorary President Mr. Gerhard Reissner.

#### **9. Budget of the International Association of Judges;**

#### **10. Report by the auditors;**

President Crespo postponed to the next session of the Central Council the examination of this point of the agenda.

#### **11. Procedures for the submission of draft resolutions to the Regional Groups and to the Central Council;**

President Crespo summarized the issue and the reasons that made necessary the establishment of a procedure.

The Presidents of the Regional Groups informed the Central Council about the fact that the procedure was examined within each Group and met no objections.

President Crespo thanked the Italian *Associazione Nazionale dei Magistrati* for its constant support and the Presidency Committee for its cooperation and then closed the session at 11.30.

Session of 7<sup>h</sup> October 2015

Present: the President, Mrs. Cristina Crespo, the First Vice-President, Mr. Christophe Regnard, the Vice-Presidents Mr. Đuro Sessa, Mr. José Manuel Igreja Matos, Mr. Cagney Musi and Mr. Gaetano Pagone; the Honorary Presidents Mr. Sidnei Beneti, Mr. José Maria Bento Company, Mr. Ernst Markel, Mr. Gerhard Reissner, Mr. Ramon Rodriguez Arribas, Ms. Maja Tratnik and Mr. Günter Woratsch; the Secretary-General, Mr. Giacomo Oberto; the Deputy Secretaries-General, Mr. Galileo D'Agostino and Mr. Raffaele Gargiulo; the IAJ representatives at the UN seats in New York and Geneva, Mrs. Louise Mailhot and Mr. Pierre Zappelli, as well as the following national associations, represented by the delegates whose names are on the list attached to these minutes (see enclosure n. 2):

ALBANIA	KAZAKHSTAN
ALGERIA	LATVIA
ARGENTINA	LIECHTENSTEIN
ARMENIA	LITHUANIA
AUSTRALIA	LUXEMBURG
AZERBAIJAN	MALI
BELGIUM	MAURITANIA (OBSERVER)
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	MEXICO
BRAZIL	MOLDOVA
BULGARIA	MONTENEGRO
CANADA	MOROCCO
CHILE	MOZAMBIQUE
COSTA RICA	(THE) NETHERLANDS
CROATIA	NORWAY
CYPRUS	PERU
CZECH REPUBLIC	POLAND
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	PORTUGAL
DENMARK	PUERTO RICO
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	REPUBLIC OF CHINA - TAIWAN
EL SALVADOR	SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE (OBSERVER)
ESTONIA	SLOVAKIA
FINLAND	SLOVENIA
FRANCE	SPAIN
GEORGIA	SWEDEN
GERMANY	SWITZERLAND
GREECE	TUNISIA
HUNGARY	TURKEY
ICELAND	UKRAINE
IRAQ	UNITED KINGDOM
IRELAND	URUGUAY
ISRAEL	USA
ITALY	YEMEN (OBSERVER)
IVORY COAST	

President Crespo opened the meeting at 13.00.

### **9. Budget of the International Association of Judges;**

The IAJ Treasurer, Mr. Galileo D'Agostino, took the floor to inform the Central Council about the balance sheet and the budget for the new year.

As to the balance sheet, the Treasurer stressed that no excesses of items occurred in the period in the three main items into which the IAJ budget is divided: “1. Meetings of the Presidency Committee” (9,000.00 Euro allocated; 2,666.20 Euro remaining); “2. Expenses of the President or his delegates, of the Honorary Presidents and of the rapporteurs” (10,000.00 Euro allocated; 5,253.73 Euro remaining); “3. Expenses of the General Secretariat” (36,645.00 Euro allocated; 17,055.99 Euro remaining).

As to the Regional Groups, although two of them consumed their annual funding, none of them exceeded its respective budget (made of the annual funding and the reserves from previous years).

The new budget was drafted taking into consideration the following aspects: the economic crisis, the necessity to enhance IAJ activities to react to threats to judicial independence, the trend of IAJ members to move to lower contribution groups, the request by Regional Groups to allocate increased budgets, the impossibility to increase annual contribution amounts, the existence of current bank reserves in the amount of more than 277,000.00 euro. Therefore, a variation of the budget for 2015-2016 was arranged drawing money from the reserves for a total amount of 35,000 €. This increase is exceptional in character and will only be applied for the (October) 2015- (autumn) 2016 budgetary year. President Crespo thanked Mr. D’Agostino for the excellent work done and remarked that, thanks to the reserves and to the wise administration of IAJ finances, the financial situation of the IAJ is quite sound. No remarks were made by the Central Council on the report and, upon proposal of the IAJ President, the Assembly unanimously approved it as well as the draft budget for the year 2015-2016 (enclosure n. 3).

#### **10. Report by the auditors;**

Upon recommendation of Justice Barone and Justice Garré, who were appointed by the Central Council to audit the accounts, the Assembly unanimously approved the financial report and the closed budget for the year 2014-2015 and discharged the General Secretariat of any responsibility in this respect.

#### **11. Procedures for the submission of draft resolutions to the Regional Groups and to the Central Council;**

President Crespo came back to the issue and asked the Central Council to vote on the draft procedure examined the day before.

The Central Council approved the procedure unanimously (enclosure n. 4).

#### **12. Addresses delivered by guests;**

#### **16. Meetings of the I.A.J. in the next years. Possible host-countries;**

President Crespo invited the Mexican delegation to take the floor.

Mr. Edgar Elias Azar, President of the Association, delivered a speech on the situation of the judiciary in his country and the ongoing reforms. He then illustrated the programme for the next IAJ meeting, which will be held in Mexico City.

President Crespo asked the Central Council to vote on the Mexican candidature for the organization of the 2016 meeting and the Assembly approved unanimously.

#### **13. Activities and Reports of the Study-Commissions; Selection of the new subjects;**

#### **5. Organisation of the works of the Study Commissions;**

President Crespo postponed the examination of this topic to the following day.

#### **15. Foundation Justice in the World: possible discussion on written report;**

President Crespo gave the floor to the Executive President of the Foundation, Mr. Ruben Jimenez Fernandez, who referred to his written report and underlined the importance of the prize “Justice in the World”. He proposed that the ceremony of delivery of the prize is included in the program of the Central Council meetings in order to give it an increased visibility also within the IAJ.

President Crespo asked whether there was any objection and having received no contrary advice decided that the Presidency Committee will examine the proposal.

President Crespo then informed the Central Council that four delegations asked for an IAJ resolution: Turkey, Ukraine, Chile and Uruguay. The Presidency Committee will meet the following day before the session of the Central Council and the resolutions, as well as the conclusions of the Study Commissions, will be dealt with by the Central Council the following day.

Mr. Aljarrah Ahmed Baleid, delegate of the Yemeni Association, took the floor to inform the Central Council about the civil war in his country and the fact that several judges were removed from their positions (Chief Prosecutor, Chairman of the High Council). The Yemeni Association considers these changes unconstitutional and asks the support and help of the IAJ.

President Crespo confirmed the vicinity of the IAJ to the Yemeni Association and Secretary-General Oberto recalled the resolution approved last November in Foz do Iguacu.

Mr. Cheick Baba Ahmed, delegate of the Mauritanian Association, took the floor to express the eagerness of his association to be admitted in the IAJ and its regret not to be able to finance the travel expense of the rapporteur. Ms. Dessard, in her capacity as rapporteur on the Mauritanian application, solicited the IAJ to find means to finance the travel of the first rapporteur to the country.

President Crespo closed the session at 14.00.

#### Session of 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Present: the President, Mrs. Cristina Crespo, the First Vice-President, Mr. Christophe Regnard, the Vice-Presidents Mr. Rafael De Menezes, Mr. José Manuel Igreja Matos, Mr. Cagney Musi, Mr. Gaetano Pagone and Mr. Đuro Sessa; the Honorary Presidents, Mr. Ernst Markel, Mrs. Maja Tratnik, Mr. Gerhard Reissner and Mr. Günter Woratsch; the Secretary-General, Mr. Giacomo Oberto; the Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. Raffaele Gargiulo; the IAJ representative at the UN seat in Geneva, Mr. Pierre Zappelli, as well as the following national associations, represented by the delegates whose names are on the list attached to these minutes (see enclosure n. 4):

ARMENIA	LITHUANIA
AUSTRALIA	LUXEMBURG
AZERBAIJAN	MALI
BELGIUM	MAURITANIA (OBSERVER)
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	MEXICO
BRAZIL	MOLDOVA
BULGARIA	MONTENEGRO
CANADA	MOROCCO
CHILE	MOZAMBIQUE
COSTA RICA	(THE) NETHERLANDS
CROATIA	NIGER
CYPRUS	NORWAY
DENMARK	POLAND
ESTONIA	PORTUGAL
FINLAND	PUERTO RICO
FRANCE	REPUBLIC OF CHINA - TAIWAN
GERMANY	SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
GREECE	SENEGAL
HUNGARY	SLOVENIA
ICELAND	SPAIN
IRELAND	SWEDEN
IRAQ	SWITZERLAND
ISRAEL	TUNISIA
ITALY	TURKEY
IVORY COAST	UKRAINE
KAZAKHSTAN	UNITED KINGDOM
YEMEN (OBSERVER)	URUGUAY
LATVIA	U.S.A.
LIECHTENSTEIN	

The session was opened at 9.40 a.m. by President Crespo who announced the treatment of point 17 of the agenda.

### **17. Miscellanea.**

Secretary-General Oberto carried out a check of the assisting associations: there were 52 delegations representing their respective national association out of a total of 84 IAJ members.

President Crespo then announced that the Presidency Committee received and examined four draft resolutions concerning the situation in Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay and Chile.

She then gave the floor to Secretary-General Oberto, who read the English version of the resolution on Turkey.

President Crespo asked whether there were any remarks and, after receiving negative answer, called for an open vote. The Central Council approved unanimously the resolution on Turkey (enclosure n. 6).

President Crespo then asked Secretary-General Oberto to read the resolution on Ukraine.

President Crespo asked whether there were any remarks and, after receiving negative answer, called for an open vote. The Central Council approved unanimously the resolution on Ukraine (enclosure n. 7).

President Crespo then asked Secretary-General Oberto to read the motion on Uruguay.

President Crespo asked whether there were any remarks and, after receiving negative answer, called for an open vote. The Central Council approved unanimously the motion on Uruguay (enclosure n. 8).

President Crespo then gave the floor to the delegate of the Chilean Association, Mr. Alejandro Vera, who announced that his association will address the Presidency Committee additional information for its evaluation.

### **13. Activities and Reports of the Study-Commissions; Selection of the new subjects;**

President Crespo invited the Presidents of the Study Commission to present the conclusions.

Mr. Peter Hall took the floor to read the conclusions adopted by the 1<sup>st</sup> Study Commission. He then informed the Assembly about the topic chosen for the 2016 meeting: “Best practices within the judicial system for ensuring transparency and integrity and preventing corruption”. The Central Council approved both the conclusions and the topic.

Mr. Thomas Cyr took the floor to read the conclusions adopted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Study Commission. He then informed the Assembly about the topic chosen for the 2016 meeting: “Class action”. The Central Council approved both the conclusions and the topic.

Mr. Chuck Simpson took the floor to read the conclusions adopted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Study Commission. He then informed the Assembly about the topic chosen for the 2016 meeting: “Sentencing of criminal offenders”. The Central Council approved both the conclusions and the topic.

Mr. Philippe Bron took the floor to read the conclusions adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Study Commission. He then informed the Assembly about the topic chosen for the 2016 meeting: “Social networks and labour relations”. The Central Council approved both the conclusions and the topic.

### **5. Organisation of the works of the Study Commissions;**

President Crespo gave the floor to Vice-President Pagone to inform the Central Council about possible future directions for the Study Commissions. Mr. Pagone underlined that the work of the Study Commissions is an essential part of the IAJ and that the Study Commissions are integrated organs of the wider IAJ body. Study Commissions should be encouraged to broaden the way in which they fulfil the objectives they are intended to serve. It is also desirable that the participants at the study commissions believe that they obtain value from their attendance. The subjects to be studied are determined by the Central Council upon proposal of the Boards, but the chairperson of each commission has the power to determine “the working methods” of the relevant commission. Questionnaires should remain one of the methods in which judicial problems are studied by the study commissions. However some different options may be proposed such as issue presentation and study tours.

Mr. Cyr took the floor to say that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Study Commission considered seriously using the presentation model. Mr. Simpson agreed on the flexibility of the Study Commission and underlined that the feasibility of meetings with local authorities will depend on the place chosen for the meeting. Ms. Linares asked to consider the organization of simultaneous translations also for the Study Commissions, to grant a greater participation. Ms. Rahouda Karafi (Tunisia) said that the debates

within the Study Commissions should focus on the critical aspects of the chosen topic within each country, while the questionnaires focus mainly on the description of the relevant rules.

Mr. Elias Azar (Mexico) said that in Mexico City the Study Commissions will be free to choose the system that they prefer and that the Mexican Association will offer them any possible cooperation.

Upon request of President Crespo, Mr. Elias Azar said that the proposed dates for the meeting are 23<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

President Crespo asked the Mexican Association to evaluate the possibility of granting simultaneous translations also for the Study Commissions.

She then gave the floor to the President of the Spanish Association, who thanked all the delegates for their participation and in particular the Spanish Honorary Presidents, Mr. Rodriguez Arribas and Mr. Bento Company.

President Crespo thanked the Spanish Association, its President and the team that organized the meeting in Barcelona, the Presidency Committee and the General Secretariat as well as the Assembly for the outcomes of its works and then invited the delegates to join her in the greetings to Honorary President Merkel for his birthday.

The session was closed at 13.15.

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the Secretary-General  
Giacomo Oberto

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the President  
Cristina Crespo

enclosures:

1. List of participants (6<sup>th</sup> October 2015);
2. List of participants (7<sup>th</sup> October 2015);
3. Financial report and budget documents;
4. Procedures for the submission of draft resolutions to the Regional Groups and to the Central Council (<http://www.iaj-uim.org/iuw/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/ProcedureforsubmissionofresolutionsEN1.pdf>)
5. List of participants (8<sup>th</sup> October 2015);
6. Resolution on Turkey (<http://www.iaj-uim.org/iuw/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/ResTurkey2015IAJEN.pdf>)
7. Resolution on Ukraine (<http://www.iaj-uim.org/iuw/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/ResUkraine2015IAJEN.pdf>) ;
8. Motion on Uruguay (<http://www.iaj-uim.org/iuw/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/MotUruguay2015IAJEN.pdf>) .