

Federation of Asian Scientific Academies and Societies (FASAS)

Minutes of the FASAS Council Meeting Held on 21 October 2010, Seoul, Korea

1.0 GENERAL

The FASAS Council Meeting 2010 was held on 21 October 2010 in Seoul, Korea. The Meeting was hosted by the Korean Academy of Science and Technology (KAST). The Meeting was held in conjunction with the Ninth General Assembly Meeting of the Association of Academies of Sciences in Asia (AASA) and the KAST-AASA-FASAS International Conference on Science Education in Asia and the Pacific. A list of members attending the FASAS Council Meeting is at **Attachment 1**.

2.0 REMARKS BY FASAS PRESIDENT

Professor Kurt Lambeck, President of FASAS, chaired the meeting and welcomed FASAS Council Members and observers. He noted the attendance of twelve member countries and thanked them for travelling to Korea to participate in this and associated meetings. He also thanked KAST for hosting the meeting in Seoul.

Prof Lambeck advised that he had invited Prof Jinghai Li, President of the Association of Academies of Sciences in Asia (AASA), the President of the Science Council of Asia (SCA), Prof Batbold Enkhtuvshin, and Prof Yoichi Muraoka, Secretary General/Treasurer of SCA, to join the meeting in order to provide comments on activities of their respective organizations that would better inform FASAS members and assist with the discussion on the agenda in relation to the future directions of FASAS.

Prof Lambeck had met briefly the previous day with Prof Li to have a general discussion on the future of FASAS and AASA. A copy of the report on this meeting is at **Attachment 2**.

Prof Li noted that AASA had been conducting workshops under the theme of sustainability, such as energy, water, and environmental resources, as there was common interest in these topics from countries in the region. He highlighted the fact that cooperation between AASA and FASAS was important as member countries of both organizations shared common problems. If both groups worked together they would have a unified opinion, have more visibility and influence to tackle not only global challenges but also the complex and diverse challenges facing the Asian region. There would also be financial and human resources savings.



Prof Muraoka gave an overview of the SCA. He indicated that SCA was established in 2000 and currently had 19 member organisations from 11 countries. He noted that government agencies could be members of SCA. There was no fee associated to membership of the SCA. The Secretariat has been hosted by the Japan Council of Science. The Council had three joint projects in the areas of natural disaster mitigation, water resource management and environmental management. The projects were output oriented with reports on the projects being published.

Prof Lambeck thanked Prof Li and Prof Muraoka for making themselves available to address the meeting. At this time Prof Li and Prof Muraoka, together with Prof Enkhtuvshin, left the meeting.

Before continuing with the meeting, Prof Lambeck reminded members that the President of FASAS was able to decide who would fill the position of Secretary General and Director of Projects of FASAS. He had asked Nancy Pritchard, Manager-International Programs, Australian Academy of Science, to take on the position of Secretary General. Ms Pritchard has extensive expertise in international matters. He would give further thought as to who might fill the position of Director or Projects and would advise members in due course.

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

FASAS Council adopted the agenda of the meeting.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF FASAS COUNCIL MEETING 2008

Minutes of FASAS Council Meeting held on 9 October 2009 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings of the meeting.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF FASAS COUNCIL MEETING, 9 OCTOBER 2009, DHAKA, BANGLADESH

Prof Subramanian Ramanathan (Singapore) was asked to report on the publication on the *Role of Science Academies in Science Promotion and Science Education*. Prof Ramanathan indicated that the situation was the same as he had described at the FASAS Council meeting in Dhaka in 2009. Only three countries, Australia, China and Singapore had contributed chapters. If the book is to be published by Springer, he would require at least three additional chapters by the end of December 2010. There was commitment by Korea (KAST), Academy of Sciences Malaysia and the Science Society of Thailand to contribute this material by the deadline. Prof Lambeck



remarked that if the chapters were not received by the due date then the project should be terminated and chapters produced to date made available on the FASAS website.

Prof Subramanian indicated that Springer had been selected as the publisher due to its extensive reach and international reputation.

6.0 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer, Prof M R Jisnuson Svasti spoke to the report, noting that the current FASAS Secretariat hosted in Australia had received USD 61,002.81, or AUD 71,239.92, from the previous FASAS Secretariat in Malaysia. Membership subscriptions as at 15 September 2010 had been received from nine members totaling AUD 7,261.19. The Australian Academy of Science was required by law to keep of FASAS account in Australian dollars and the total amount in the FASAS account as at 30 September 2010 stood at AUD 78,501.11.

Prof Naiyyum Choudhury (Bangladesh)noted that the conversion of Australian dollar to US dollars in the financial report was incorrect. The correct amount should be USD 77,434.07. (Attachment 3.)

7.0 REPORT ON PROJECTS

Prof Lambeck circulated a paper (**Attachment 4**) regarding the *Primary Connections* workshop that was to have been held in Singapore in June 2010. He noted that the workshop did not go ahead due to the reduced number of registrations. He was however hopeful that it could be re-scheduled to take place in Australia in 2011.

Prof Lambeck sought input from members regarding the low level of registrations. Some members indicated that the deadlines were too tight. Prof Ramanatahn remarked that nominations needed to be sought from government departments and that Academies could do this in their respective countries. Prof Omar Rahman (Malaysia) thought that if the workshop was held in Australia there would be a better response.

Prof Soon Ting Kueh (Malaysia) mentioned that the main projects for FASAS in the last 6 years had been those related to science education. He had been the focal point person for FASAS and AASA in relation to the InterAcademy Panel (IAP) activities on science education and had produced reports on his attendance at these events. A copy of Prof Soon's report on the IAP-IOC/GAC Committee Meeting, held in Chile in January 2010, is at **Attachment 5**.

Prof Lambeck thanks Prof Soon for his commitment and contributions as Director of Projects for FASAS.



There was a discussion about improving communications between the FASAS Secretariat and members. Prof Lambeck indicated that in future information regarding FASAS would be sent to those attending the meeting in Seoul, Presidents of Academies and Societies and Foreign Secretaries or Secretaries General, plus any other FASAS dedicated person in each of the member organisations.

The FASAS Secretariat also indicated that it will send reminder notices to members when their feedback and comments are sought. The FASAS website would also be used extensively to disseminate information and a Members Only page will be considered by the Secretariat.

8.0 FUTURE DIRECTIONS OF FASAS

Prof Lambeck reiterated the advantage of having a single Asian science grouping in line with what the IAP has been seeking for some time from AASA and FASAS. A good example of how this could work was the Latin American group IANAS (InterAmerican Network of Academies of Sciences), that was an effective organization in the region and had an excellent working relationship with IAP.

Members provided positive feedback on the potential merger of FASAS and AASA, as long as the present representatives from science societies were not disenfranchised, and that where currently a country had more than one representative this multiple membership would continue. For example, currently, FASAS allowed academies and associations of science from the same country to be members, as was the case of Korea and Malaysia. It was hoped that this would continue at least for those members of FASAS and AASA. If similar cases arose in the future for other countries, this matter could be handled on a case by case basis.

It was also noted that as all academies and societies of science have a remit to conduct science promotion and science education and that this would remain a focus of a new organisation.

Prof Lambeck sought and obtained the authority from those present for him to explore the merger issue with Prof Park, President of AASA, subject to a satisfactory membership solution being achieved.

9.0 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Prof Choudhury requested clarification on the election process for the President-Elect. Prof Rahman noted that as President of FASAS in 2009 he sought nominations for various Executive positions. Only one name, that of Prof Svasti of Thailand, had been put forward for the position of President-Elect. Two countries had also been



nominated (Korea and Bangladesh) for this vacancy with no names attached to them. Korea had indicated that it did not want to be nominated. Prof Rahman had emailed members on 24 December 2009 with his recommendations, including that Prof Svasti be endorsed as President-Elect and sought comments. None were received.

After extensive discussions it was decided to defer the endorsement of Prof Svasti as President-Elect and go out again to members seeking re nominations. This situation arose from a failure in communication between members and the then President and was in no way a reflection on the actions of Prof Rahman or the appropriateness of Prof Svasti as candidate. Since the meeting Prof Svasti has written to the President indicating that he would like to withdraw from candidacy for the position of President-Elect of FASAS due to other work commitments.

As the meeting had to end at 4pm due to other social arrangements made by the host organisation, the President closed the meeting at 4:10pm and the issue of other matters and venue for the next FASAS meeting were not discussed.

The President undertook to get back to members on these matters as soon as possible.



2010 Council Meeting of the Federation of Asian Scientific Academies and Societies (FASAS)

3-6pm, Thursday 21 October 2010

ATTENDEES

Science Council of Asia

Professor Batbold Enkhtuvshin: President

Professor Yoichi Muraoka: Secretary General

Australian Academy of Science

Professor Kurt Lambeck: Immediate Past President, FASAS President

Ms Nancy Pritchard: Manager International Programs

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences

Professor M Shamsher Ali: President

Professor Dr Naiyyum Choudhury: Secretary

Chinese Academy of Sciences

Professor Dr Jinghai Li: Vice President, AASA President

Indian National Science Academy

Professor Jitendra P Khurana: Distinguished Fellow

National Academy of Science Korea

Professor Hyuk-uk Kim

Academy of Sciences Malaysia

Professor Dr Soon Ting Keuh: FASAS Director of Projects

Professor Dr Omar Abdul Rahman: FASAS Immediate Past President



Malaysian Scientific Academy

Professor Dr Khairul Anuar Abdullah: Immediate Past President

Pakistan Academy of Sciences: FASAS Editor of Publications

Dr G A Miana

Dr Zabta Khan Shinwari

National Academy of Science and Technology Philippines

Academician Ceferino L Follosco

Professor Evelyn Mae Tescon-Mendoza

Singapore National Academy of Science

Professor Subramaniam Ramanathan

National Academy of Science Sri Lanka

Professor Sunethra Atukorala: Immediate Past President

Dr Locana Gunaratna: President

Science Society of **Thailand**

Mrs Tipaporn Limpaseni: Vice-President

Professor M R Jisnuson Svasti: President, FASAS Treasurer and President Elect

FEDERATION OF ASIAN SCIENTIFIC ACADEMIES AND SOCIETIES (FASAS) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE For the period 15 July to 30 September 2010

			AUD
Funds received from Malaysia			\$71,239.92
<u>Income</u>			
Subscriptions Royal Society of New Zealand Chinese Academy of Sciences Bangladesh Academy of Science Academy of Science Malaysia Singapore National Academy of Sciences Korean Acadmey of Science & Technology Science Society Thailand National Academy of Science and Technology (Philippines) Australian Academy of Science	15/07/2010 29/07/2010 9/08/2010 12/08/2010 3/09/2010 6/09/2010 17/09/2010 20/09/2010 22/09/2010		\$ 541.53 538.21 523.34 502.82 503.79 503.36 488.63 486.59 3,172.92 \$ 7,261.19
Expenditure			
Net surplus (deficit) for the period Net surplus / (deficit) as at 30 September 2010			\$ 7,261.19 \$78,501.11
		USD	\$79,582.86
Note: 1 USD = AUD 1.01378			7.0,002.00
Australian Academy of Science contribution Administration costs - July 2010 Administration costs - August 2010 Administration costs - September 2010	31/07/2010 31/08/2010 30/09/2010	**AUD \$ 519.02 2,528.47 803.15 \$ 3,850.64	<u>.</u>

Robert Lara Finance Manager Australian Academy of Science

FEDERATION OF ASIAN SCIENTIFIC ACADEMIES AND SOCIETIES (FASAS) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD 1 JAN TO 30 APRIL 2010

			MYR	MYR
Balance b/f				202,817.49
INCOME				
Date Cheque No	Debit/Credit			
Administration	Advice No.			
02-02-10		KAST	1,751.00	
				1,751.00
Subscriptions				-
19-01-10 28-04-10		INDIAN ACADEMY MALAYSIAN SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION (2008 & 2009)	3,191.79 3,200.00	
Total Income				6,391.79
				209,209.28
12-02-10 30-04-10		FASAS WEBSITE UPDATES PUBLICATION ON FASAS-MTSF SCIENCE EDUCATION BOOKLET		150.00 7,750.00
Total Expenditure				7,900.00
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) - Bal	ance b/f to 2010)		201,309.28
Note: 1 USD : MYR 3.30			USD	61,002.81

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ROSM NIZA ABDUI RAHMAN Accounts Officer Academy of Sciences Malaysia



FASAS report October 2010

Report to FASAS on "Primary Connections: Linking Science with literacy" 2010 workshop for the Asian region.

A workshop on "Primary Connections: Linking Science with literacy" was planned for Singapore in July 2010 with the Australian Academy of Science (AAS) as the lead Academy and the Federation of Asian Scientific Academies and Societies (FASAS) and the Association of Academies of Science in Asia (ASSA) as supporting organizations. Seed funding was granted from the Inter Academy Panel,

The program was not delivered due to insufficient workshop registrations being received by an extended due date for applications. In total, 9 applications were received by the extended closing date. A further 12 applications were received after the extended closing date. Applications were received from Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia, Bangladesh, China and Singapore. Subsequently, the Malaysian Ministry of Education indicated interest in sending two delegates to a three day training workshop on "Primary Connections" in Australia in October 2010 and there is also interest from Thailand.

The intent of the workshop was to foster collaboration with participants from countries of the Asian region to establish partnerships that would assist countries in the design, development or adaptation of Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSE) programs. Specifically, the workshop was designed for decision makers and trainers in education to help them become familiar with the "Primary Connections" program in order for them to evaluate its applicability for their own situations.

The then President of the Australian Academy, Professor Lambeck, Professor Leo Tan, and Professor Subramaniam Ramanathan of the Singapore National Academy of Science undertook preliminary planning meetings, including liaison with the Science Centre Singapore as the potential venue. FASAS and ASSA members assisted with disseminating information and application flyers to their networks, and liaising with Ministries of Education and Higher Education Institutions in the region.

We are aware that there is still interest in conducting a "Primary Connections" workshop in the Asian region and identifying the reasons for the low registration numbers would be of useful prior to planning a further event.

Shelley Peers
Project Director, Primary Connections Project
Australian Academy of Science
shelley.peers@science.org.au

Report of the meeting of the IAP program for science education GAC (Global Activities Committee), held at the Hotel Bonaparte, Santiago, January 9th 2010

Present:

(*GAC members*) Dr. Jorge Allende (University of Chili, Chilean Academy of Sciences), Dr. Hubert Dyasi (TERC), Dr. Guillermo Fernandez de la Garza (Fundacion INNOVEC), Dr. Wynne Harlen (University of Bristol, UK), Dr. Pierre Léna (Academy of Science of France), Dr. José Lozano (Academy of Science of Colombia), Dr. Pat Rowell (University of Alberta, Canada), Dr. Elly Sabiiti (Makerere University, Uganda), Dr. Soon Ting Kueh (Institut Kimia Malasia)

(*Visitors*) Dr. Rosa Deves, Dr. Alice Pedregosa (University of Provence, France), Dr. Denis Goodrum (Australian Academy of Science), Dr. Derek Bell (Wellcome Trust, UK), Kyle DeMars Johnson (NSRC, Washington), Dr. Norma Nudelman (Argentine Academy of Sciences), Dr. Rosa Cardosa University of Peru), Sally Goetz Shuler (Director, NSRC, Washington).

Apologies: Dr. Wei Yu

(In attendance) Patricia Droguett Flores

1. Welcome and Introductions

In welcoming everyone to the meeting, Dr. Allende stated two main functions of the Global Activities Committee (GAC): to assist the development of science education in the Regions through coordinating exchange of information and sharing of experiences; and to generate global activities relevant to all Regions. In the case of the global activities, Dr. Allende cited the earlier focus on evaluation, followed by the work on the professional develop of teachers and the current focus on introducing Inquiry-based Science Education (IBSE) at the secondary school level. Planning the conference on this last subject was a main item of the meeting.

2. Report of previous meeting

The notes of the meeting help in Amsterdam, February 9th and 10th, 2090 were approved.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

It was noted that Dr. Harlen would report on the Science Education Programme to the IAP General Assembly in London on January 15th as Dr. Allende was unable to travel on account of the many activities in Chile for the celebration of its 200 years of Independence.

The distribution of the summary report on professional development was discussed. 1000 copies of the 3000 printed remained in Paris. Dr. Soon offered to distribute 30 copies to FASAS focal points, and Dr. Sabiiti 15 to NASAC members.

In relation to the evaluation project, the completion of the work in Chile was noted. Proposed work in Argentina has not been taken forward as the funding for this had been used for running a workshop instead. However, there remained interest in evaluation in Argentina is funding could be found.

4. Reports from the Regions

FASAS (Federation of Asian Science Academies) and AASA (Association of Academies of Science of Asia)

Dr. Soon explained that FASAS has 16 members, 12 of whom were founding members at the start in 1984, with four (The Australian Academy of Sciences, The Royal Society of New Zealand Academy of Sciences Malaysia and The Korean Academy of Science and Technology) joining later. AASA, formed in 2000, has 21 members, some of whom are also members of FASA. Several are ex-USSR countries and are not very active in the association. A memorandum of understanding between FASAS and AASA had been signed in 2008 and the two bodies worked well together. Dr. Soon represents both in IAP.

The three main foci of combined work in science education are: Best Practices in Science Education; Science Teacher Education and Training; and Public Education and Awareness of Natural Disasters. Three conferences jointly organised by AASA and FASAS has been held: in Thailand in 2007, Ankara in 2008 and Dhaka in 2009. The latest developments were: to work with the Australian Academy of Sciences (AAS) on a "Primary Connections" Workshop to be held in Singapore from July 14-16, 2010; a proposal for a workshop with AAS on training science educators within the FASAS/AASA Science Education Programme.

Dr. Soon emphasised the challenge for introducing science education in Asia/Pacific, where Education is very much a state-controlled matter under Ministry of Education, the curriculum is decided by the Ministry and implementation is rigidly monitored, the system is examination oriented, teaching is teacher-centred, and classes are large (50). Some IBSE exists in a few countries (particularly Australia and Singapore) with the assistance of the academies and science centres/museums. In Malaysia a number of organisations are creating homegrown teaching kits and the Malaysian Academy of Sciences is compiling a booklet covering science subjects including physic, chemistry and biology. The booklet is expected to be circulated at the 2010 FASAS/AASA Science Education Conference.

NASAC (Network of African Science Academies)

Dr. Sabiiti, vice-president of the Ugandan Academy of Sciences and chair of the UNAS standing committee on science education, reported on events in Uganda where the academy works with the government to improve science education in schools and in the whole society. In 2008 the Ugandan Academy obtained funding from IAP to promote IBSE in other African countries, particularly South Africa, Uganda and Kenya. There was a workshop held in Kampala on 'Promoting good practice in science and technology education' at which the role of government in this endeavour was analysed and systems in science and technology education, especially for initial teacher education were discussed. Although intended to involve the three other countries, the workshop participants were almost entirely from Uganda. Dr. Sabiiti explained the challenging background to developments in African

education: the poor infrastructure, crowed curricula, limited resources and high student/teacher ratio. For IBSE there were only modules available at the primary level; nothing for lower or upper secondary education.

In discussion, Dr. Allende urged the involvement of African countries other than Uganda, emphasising that there was already some work in the Cameroon and Kenya to build upon. The NASAC focal point meeting in 2009 had been cancelled and there was a need to strengthen the network. Dr. Dyasi also noted that in the past there was pioneering work in the African Primary Science Project, which ought to be recalled and refreshed. Dr. Deves also offered help.

Europe

Dr Léna listed several reports on the state of science education in Europe, all urging the adoption of new teaching methods in order to reverse the trend away from interest in science among young people. He mentioned the commitment to change towards inquiry-based education in several countries. The European Commission has made 15 mEuros available for 2009-2012 in a new Framework Programme (FP7). Current projects include the Fibonacci project, a large project designed to spread the implementation of IBSE involving 22 countries and 12 academies, which is just starting.

Dr. Léna explained that following from the principle of subsidiarity in the EU, the EU has no power in relation to the conduct of education in its member countries but it can use funds to support research that is of relevance to all countries. ALLEA (All European Academies – a federation of national academies of 53 countries in 40 countries) coordinates information and activities and has made science education a priority. After an initial meeting in Grenoble in 2008 a European Network of Academies on Science Education had been formed to promote joint initiatives in science education and collaboration with other regions.

In relation to the proposal to the EU known as the SCOPE (Science Class Observation in Primary Education) Dr. Léna reported that the project proposal had been submitted in response to a call from the European Commission's International Dimension of Research on Science Education program. SCOPE proposes an international research and development involving IBSE programs in five partner countries: France, China, Chile, Colombia and Germany, and 10 associated countries. The proposal was unfortunately not considered because of a technical matter, but there were no other proposals deemed worth funding so the funds were not used. Dr. Léna suggested that IAP should propose to the EU ideas for FP 8 suitable for resubmission of the SCOPE project.

IANAS (InterAmerican Network of Academies of Science)

Dr. Lozano recalled that IANAS was created in 2004, the initial members being Canada, the USA, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Chile and Colombia. Later Venezuela, Peru, Bolivia, Panama, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala and the Caribbean became members. He reported that there was some form of IBSE in all countries, influenced by either or both of the French programme or that of the National Sciences Resources Center in the US. Funding sources varied and included industry and governments. Dr. Lozano referred to the recent development in 2008/9 of the *IndagaLA* website, based on that of La main à la pâte, resulting from an agreement between the French Academy and the academies of Colombia, Argentina, Brazil and Chile.

In relation to funding, Dr Lozano noted that funding for IANAS from the OAS was uncertain as OAS was redefining priorities at the end of 2010. IANAS was now once more dependent on IAP funds. Although the amounts were relatively small, they helped to mobilise money from local sources. A proposal to ??? was being prepared .. Over all, Dr. Lozano described the network as gaining ground.

5. Comments on the Workshop

The Eurolatinamerican workshop was broadly considered to have been a success in meeting the aim of raising issues to be considered in the forthcoming conference on IBSE in secondary schools. The consensus was that the move of IBSE to secondary schools was of great importance. Reports of the discussion groups would be collated and used in developing a working paper as background for the conference.

6. IAP conference on IBSE in secondary schools

Funding for the conference was available from ALLEA, the IAP and the Wellcome Trust. The \$30K from IAP would be used for travel particularly of participants from developing countries. The ALLEA funds would cover meals and provide the conference secretariat.

After much discussion of venue and dates it was decided that the first option to be explored would be to hold the conference in York, England, at the National Science Learning Centre. Excellent facilities and accommodation were available there. The Centre was likely to be free at the mid-term break in October or if not, then towards the end of November, avoiding Thanksgiving. Dr. Bell agreed to find out the availability of the Centre. The aim was to have a two and a half day conference ending in a weekend. ALLEA would provide the secretariat for the conference.

The aim was to invite about 100 participants, between 5 and 10 from each Region. It was also proposed that participants should include representatives from teacher associations, industry, science education research, UNESCO, ICSU and the EU Commission.

The detailed planning of a draft programme was made the responsibility of a Europe-based planning group comprising Dr. Bell, Dr. Pedregosa, Dr. Klein (ALLEA) and Dr. Harlen. Various ideas for the programme were made. These included the assessment of students, the evaluation of implementation, the role of teachers, the balance of 'science for all' and 'science for future scientists', matters relating to changes in curriculum and changes in students from elementary to secondary phases of education.

It was agreed that the programme should be active, and possibly include small group reflection at the end of each day. It was suggested that inputs from participants and discussion of particular questions might precede presentations. Participants would be asked to provide brief written answers to some questions in advance. Suggested speakers included Dr. Paul Black, Dr. Goodman, Dr. Lidia Logan, Dr. Alperts, and, as an after dinner speaker, Bill Bryson.

Other business

There was no other business and the meeting ended at 1.30 pm. No date was set for the next meeting as this will possibly be held as part of the planned conference.



Federation of Asian Scientific Academies and Societies (FASAS)

Matters arising from the Minutes of the FASAS Council Meeting Held on 21 October 2010, Seoul, Korea

1. Project Director

Prof Lambeck to advice FASAS members on his selection of Project Director.

2. Publication on the Role of Science Academies in Science Promotion and Science Education.

Prof Subramanian Ramanathan requires at least an additional three chapters for this publication by the end of December 2010. There is a commitment from Korea (KAST), Academy of Sciences Malaysia and the Science Society of Thailand to contribute this material by the deadline. If chapters are not received by the due date the project will be terminated and chapters produced to date will be made available on the FASAS website.

3. Financial report

A new financial report with the correct US conversion is to be produced by the FASAS Secretariat and circulated to members.

4. Primary Connections workshop

FASAS Secretariat to keep members informed on progress regarding funding for a re-scheduled *Primary Connections* workshops to be held in Australia in 2011.

5. Communications between FASAS Secretariat and Members

Commitment undertaken by the Secretariat to better communicate with members via email and the FASAS website. Also, commitment on part of the FASAS members to provide input and comments in a timely manner when these are sought.

6. Future directions of FASAS

Prof Lambeck to explore the merger/alignment issue with President of AASA, subject to a satisfactory membership solution being achieved.

7. Executive Committee

FASAS President to go out again to members seeking re-nominations for various positions.