

# AOKF CONGRESS



Photo: Delegates at the AOKF Congress

**The AOKF Congress was attended by representatives from Chinese Taipei, India, Hong Kong China, Australia and New Zealand.**

After discussion concerning the future format of the IKF it was decided to still elect officers of AOKF for 4 years but review the situation after two years.

It was announced at the meeting by Bird that she wished only to do the role

of Secretary General and not combine her role with that of finance. A proposition was put to the meeting that a separate Finance Officer should be appointed. Although it meant that most of the posts would be from Asia, because Rob Smith was not there and could not be contacted due to him being on holiday, the Finance Officer proposed to the meeting, and elected, was from Asia.

*Elected:*

- President—M C Gupta (IND)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President—Bob Johnson (AUS)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President—  
Esther Kuo-Chin Han (TPE)
- Sec. General—Fang-Yi Hsieh (TPE)
- Finance Off.—Warman Cheng (HKG)
- Joint Sec.Gen.—Rob Smith (NZL) ★  
(★elected in his absence).

*Tournaments:*

- 2004 Senior Tournament in 1<sup>st</sup> week

in October  
2005 Youth Tournament

New Zealand and Japan were mentioned as venues with Chinese Taipei also willing to act as reserve. The AOKF prefers events going to new countries if possible. No information had been received from Indonesia despite being asked.

Proposal for AOKF delegate to the new IKF Council:

Until the AOKF knows in full detail what is required the President would not allow a proposal to be made. He told the meeting that the new style IKF may not be passed and then they would have wasted their effort. However, a candidate was available should the necessity arise.

Not discussed at the Congress, but may well be changed, is the age for Youth Championships. Since they hold events every two years and the Youth event that is used as a qualifier for WC is the year before WC, then the age may be lowered to 22 so that the same cohort of players who made the qualification are eligible for WC.

Graham Crafter

## IKF budgets and Projects

At July 1999 at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Adelaide, Australia the ambitious Development and Promotion Plan 1999–2003 was approved. The targets include the extension of the number of affiliated IKF countries (40), a quality increase in the playing level (at least four A countries), a revival of the less active countries, etc.

The Development and Promotion Committee (DPC) is responsible for the delivery of this project and will give their report in November 2003 at the AGM in Rotterdam. To reach the goals the IKF have specialists and (limited) funds to support the countries. For the year 2002 the budget amounted to Euro 55,600. The associations send their projected plans to the IKF office and the DPC allocates the money. How was the money spent?

One of the spearheads is more korfball countries. For the introduction of our sport in Brazil, Ireland, Rumania and Sweden IKF invested Euro 6,200. The money was spent on promotion materials, equipment, introduction sessions and meetings.

For promotion activities and clinics in the

young or re-starting korfball countries the IKF paid out about Euro 5,000.

The USA and Hong Kong were on top of the list and we hope that the activities will result in strong korfball associations.

Many important promotion projects took place in C countries. The introduction of korfball in schools and universities, clinics for coaches and players, media activities and promotion materials were the main items.

The famous summer camps in Poland, the youth projects in New Zealand and the IKF contribution of equipment for the new hall in Orjol show that the IKF supports various types of projects. The total amount for the C countries was about Euro 11,200.

The seven B-countries (Australia, Chinese Taipei, Czech Republic, Germany, Great Britain, Portugal and South Africa) have a special responsibility. They have to close the gap between themselves and the A countries of Belgium and the Netherlands. One of the goals is to have four A countries in 2003! In the opinion of the DPC these countries need to do their promotion activities without IKF funds at present. The first priority is an

increase in the playing level. The B countries are expected to take over the activities of the A countries and develop korfball in their neighbouring countries.

The B countries Project in 2002 included the introduction and promotion of korfball in Universities and the continuation of school projects as well as running courses and clinics for coaches, referees and the National teams. The seven B countries participated with a team and/or coaches in the Master Coaching Clinic in Eindhoven, the Netherlands.

The subsidy for the B countries amounted to Euro 36,800.

The Swan Fund, Belgium and the Netherlands also made funds and specialists available for our projects.

We expect that the amounts for some B countries will be reduced to enable us to invest more in C countries and in very young countries. The DPC vision for the period 2003–2007 will be available for the congress in November and will need the approval of the AGM.

Henk Welmers