



Minutes of the Council Meeting of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation

Monday 19th and Friday 23rd August 2002, Sheraton Hotel, Pretoria, South Africa

Present:

Häckel Hans, Germany, President
Angus Linellyn, South Africa
Annersfors Claes Herman, Sweden
Carlson Leif, Sweden
Füller Imre, Hungary
Germann Emanuel, Switzerland
Grunnet Soren, Denmark
Grunnet Steen, Denmark
Haralson Robert, USA
Holmquist Bruce, Canada
Kreilinger Josef, Germany
Latimer Grant, New Zealand
Marshall Ian, Australia
Massmann Peter, South Africa
McCarthy Brian, Canada
Pichler Richard, Austria
Pumberger Rudolf, Austria
Rohlin Bertil, Sweden
Röhrmoser Georg, Germany
Schleppi Yves, Switzerland, Secretary General
Speers Peter, Australia
Spur Marjan, Slovenia
Stefler Jozsef, Hungary
Stürzer Franz, Germany
Thöni Christina, Switzerland, General headquarters
Thornhill John, United Kingdom
Tijerina Wolf Saul Emerson, Mexico
Toth Roza, Hungary
Trehella Roger, United Kingdom
Valentin Hugo, Italy

Agenda

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 2. Ascertainment of the countries present and the quorum
 3. Acceptance of the minutes of the Council Meeting of August 10, 2000
 4. Deliberations of the sub-committees
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 - „*Breed Publicity and Promotion*“, chairman Richard Pichler
 - „*Technical*“, chairman Georg Röhrmoser
 - „*Beef production*“, chairman Peter Speers
 - „*Simbrah*“, chairman Peter Massmann
 5. Report by the President about the activity since August 10, 2000
 6. Proposals for the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents and the General Secretary
 7. Last information on the 14th World Simmental-Fleckvieh Congress
 8. Report about the state of arrangements for the 15th World Simmental Congress in Denmark and Sweden in 2004
 9. Date and place of the next Meetings and Congresses
 10. Other business, wishes and suggestions
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Deliberations

1. Greeting and opening of the meeting

Hans Häckel opens the meeting. He is pleased to be back in South Africa after 6 years. Unfortunately, several countries cannot participate in the congress because of their financial problems. P. Massmann has to leave the meeting earlier, so point 7 of the agenda will be discussed between points 3 and 4. Points 4.5 will be discussed between points 4.1 and 4.2.

2. Ascertainment of the countries present and the quorum

The delegates of 17 countries are present. The delegates of 3 other countries will arrive later. The quorum is formed.

3. Acceptance of the minutes of the Council Meeting of August 10, 2000

The minutes of the Council Meeting of August 10, 2000 in Ireland are accepted without any comments.

7. Last information on the 14th World Simmental-Fleckvieh Congress

Mr Angus, President of the Simmental-Fleckvieh Association of Southern Africa, cordially welcomes the participants of the Congress. It is a pleasure for him to receive us in the name of the breeders of South Africa and Namibia. He wishes us a pleasant stay. The Congress had to be organized in a hurry because of the retreat of Australia. On the occasion of this Congress, a cattle-show has been organized with 43 breeders and approximately 400 animals. He wishes that the balance between milk and beef can be maintained in the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation.

Peter John, responsible for the excursions, gives some information about the course of the Congress.

4. Deliberations of the sub-committees

4.1 Budget and Membership (Emanuel Germann)

Germann: Hans Häckel and Barry Bennett have announced their resignation from the Council and the sub-committee „Budget and Membership“. As replacement, the sub-committee suggests Franz Stürzer (Germany) and Roger Trehwella (United Kingdom). These suggestions are accepted by the Council. The accounts 2000 and 2001 are distributed. According to Emanuel Germann, it is not the aim of the World Federation to save money. Unfortunately, our activity has been reduced because of the foot and mouth disease. The sub-committee has discussed about the use of the money. It has been accepted that the Presidents of the sub-committees „Budget and Membership“ and „Beef Production“ can decide about the use of the fund which is destined for beef researches.

4.5 Simbrah (Peter Massmann)

Angus: 34 breeds of cattle are represented in South Africa. The most important are Brahman, Simmental and Bonsmara. The Federation counts 261 Simmental and 74 Simbrah breeders. During the last 5 years the number of Simbrah has increased 15% per year. Today, we count approximately 30'000 Simmental cattle and 14'000 Simbrah.

Speers: In Australia, the development of Simbrah was satisfactory over the last 15 years.

Haralson: In the USA, the number of Simbrah is constant. He is optimistic about the future of Simbrah in North and Central America.

Massmann reads out a letter from Mrs Maryna Erasmus, President of the Simmental Federation in Zimbabwe. She describes the strained situation in her country. Every day, breeders have to deal with the confiscation of land. The economy is in a strong recession. The beef production is in a crisis. The herds have to be kept under observance every night to protect them against vandalism. There are only 10 Simmental breeders left.

Angus asks the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation to send a support letter to Zimbabwe. This suggestion is accepted with applause. Massmann has invited Mrs Erasmus to the banquet. But her participation is really uncertain. In case she participates in the banquet, the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation hands her over a diploma.

Haralson will contact the government of his country to exert political pressure on Zimbabwe. He asks the representatives of the other countries to do the same thing.

Pichler inquires whether the Simbrah are homogeneous in the different countries.

The breeding aim is adapted to the demand of the local market, Massmann replies. The composition of blood can be very different. According to the conditions, a Brahman-Simmental mixture of 1/4 – 3/4 or 3/8 – 5/8 is demanded.

In Haralson's opinion, the breeding aim can be reached by crossing pure blood animals or already crossed animals with each other, as long as the demands of the market are respected.

4.2 Breed Publicity and Promotion (Richard Pichler)

1. Greeting and ascertainment of those present

Members of the sub-committee: Richard Pichler, Robert Haralson, Federico Leiva, Peter Massmann, Richard Rusnak, Peter Speers and John Young. Rusnak is excused. John Thornhill (United Kingdom) is suggested as a substitute for Young, who resigned. Fraga (Uruguay) is suggested as additional member. Both suggestions are accepted.

2. Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of August 9, 2000

The minutes are accepted without any comments.

3. Reports about Simmental-Fleckvieh cattle in full member countries

The position of the Simmental-Fleckvieh breed in the member countries is written down in a report which Pichler hands out. Each representative summarizes the situation in his country.

In **Austria**, 79% of cattle belong to the Fleckvieh breed. There is an active exchange of genetics with the neighbouring countries, above all with Bavaria. Austria maintains privileged contacts to countries in the east of Europe.

In **Mexico**, there are crossings with German Fleckvieh and American and Canadian Simmental cattle. The main emphasis in selection is put on beef production and calving ease. Fleckbra is a crossing of Fleckvieh and Brahman. Approximately 5% are dual purpose cattle.

In **Italy**, the number of cattle of all breeds is decreasing, but Fleckvieh sticks to approximately 350'000 animals. Most of them are dual purpose cattle. Some of them are sold as beef cattle in the south of Italy. Between the 6th and the 12th month of life, the daily weight gain of bulls amounts to 1'480 gram. Sporadically, Fleckvieh is used to improve the milk level of Holstein herds. Italy will join the Austrian-German pool for breeding value estimation.

This spring, a very nice cattle show with purebred Simmental took place in **Switzerland**. Franz Stürzer and Hans Häckel could convince themselves personally of the genetic standard. The number of purebred Simmental is no longer very large. Above all, they appear in the mountain region. The natural mating service still plays an important role. The prices of milk and beef are decreasing.

In 2002, the breed celebrates its 30th anniversary in **Denmark** under good conditions.

The number of inseminations with Simmental increases. Mainly, they imported dehorned genetics. Therefore, more than 40% of the calves are born hornless today. At the centre for progeny testing, bulls have an average daily weight gain of 2'000 gram. The Simmental Federation counts 240 members. For the next Congress in 2004, a cattle show with 150 animals will be organized.

In **Sweden**, the Simmental are mainly kept as a beef breed. Recently, dual purpose cattle were imported from Bavaria. In the herd book, approximately 3'000 purebred animals are registered. But there are approximately 160'000 crossed animals with Simmental blood in the whole country. For the breeding value estimation, a new BLUP animal model has been introduced.

In **Canada**, the popularity of a breed is measured with the quantity of cows which are kept in studs. The main emphasis in the breeding program is put on breeding traits, good calving ease and carcass quality. There are neither dual purpose Simmental nor Simbrah. There is a red and a black line. The most popular crossing at the moment is Angus x Simmental. The percentage of black cattle increases as a result of this, even though the red variant of Angus (= Red Angus) is sometimes used for the crossing.

In **Germany**, there are approximately 4 million Fleckvieh cattle, which means approximately 30% of the national population. There are also 15'000 Simmental animals for beef production. At the moment, Germany is developing a common total merit index together with Austria and Italy. This spring, a national show took place in Alsfeld.

In **New Zealand**, cattle is grazing the whole year. There are 4 million cows altogether. The Simmental are in a stage of development.

In the **United Kingdom**, there are 1.9 million dairy cows and 1.7 million suckling cows. In beef suckler herds crossbreeding is predominant. In a running comparison experiment with different suckler breeds – which is supported by the fund „Beef“ of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation – the Simmental are in an enviable position. The British more often fatten bulls than bullocks. They feel a bit disadvantaged by the politics in the European Union which supports more often the fattening of bullocks.

In the **USA**, the market has given signals that the animals are too small. The breeding plan has been adapted. The beef quality is the central focus of the breeding program. During distinguished research projects, plenty of data was collected, also about DNA-markers, in collaboration with Australia.

In **Australia**, the number of cattle had to be reduced because of a big drought. The Simmental are mainly used for crossings. 5 or 10 years ago, the animals were too big. Therefore, selection was adapted to breeding early mature animals. Today, the main emphasis is calving ease. The technical collaboration with the USA is successful. The carcasses are measured with ultrasound.

4. Reports about Simmental-Fleckvieh cattle in associate countries

Peter Speers had contacts with **China**. In this country, there are approximately 30'000 Simmental cattle. There is a big potential for development for this breed. In **Indonesia**, there are also efforts to promote crossings with Simmental cattle. Robert Haralson adds that the USA helped to found a national organization in **Costa Rica**. We could motivate Costa Rica to become an associate member of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation. Central America is a fruitful region for the development of the Simmental breed.

5. Taking contact with countries associated with the federation as observers

Under point 4.5 of the agenda, we reported about the situation in Zimbabwe. Hans Häckel and Georg Röhrmoser were in Columbia in June. The low seems to be overcome. Today, there are 20 breeders while not long ago, there were only 7. Simmental cattle could also be used as dual purpose breed. We hope Columbia will become a full member country again. The president Umberto Ramirez presents his greetings. Nobody has any information about Sambia.

6. Reports about Simmental-Fleckvieh genetics in Holstein-Friesian regions

Positive reactions were expressed under point 4.2.3 of the agenda. Roger Trehwella wishes to know more about the situation in France. Georg Röhrmoser answers that the French tried to settle the Montbéliarde breed in Italy, Austria and Germany. Now, they are trying the same in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Israel. To sum up, Richard Pichler emphasizes that our Simmental-Fleckvieh has merits for beef and milk production in dairy cattle herds.

7. Homepage of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation

Each country is asked to check whether the information about the own country on the web-page www.worldsimmentalfed.com is corrected. It is urgent to inform the General secretariat about additional information. Since the last Congress, two new headings have been created. The first one supports the exchange of trainees beyond the national borders. The second one offers links to private farms.

8. and 9. Promotion articles

Christina Thöni presents proposals for a new pocketknife and watches. The idea to integrate a pocketknife into the assortment is accepted. The brown-red coloured knife is chosen. Richard Pichler proposes a new model of a desk-watch. Georg Röhrmoser suggests to concentrate on a limited number of articles. Several delegates prefer to have a small group of selected people choose the assortment. It is absurd to let the delegates of all countries discuss about the colour of a knife!

10. Simmental-Fleckvieh for ecological production

Richard Pichler distributes a paper and informs that in Austria, the ecological production is increasing very much. The breeders need a breed which is adapted to their production system. The same trend is also observed in Poland and Sweden. Jozsef Stefler also noticed an interest in Hungary.

11. Presentation of the WSFF at international events

Richard Pichler reminds that in Ireland, we discussed the introduction of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation at international events. Austria has made efforts in this matter. Robert Haralson wishes to distribute little brochures in countries visited.

4.3 Technical (Georg Röhrmoser)

1. Greeting and ascertainment of those present

Members of the sub-committee: Georg Röhrmoser, Barry Bennett, Emanuel Germann, Roger Joly, Peter Massmann, Jozsef Stefler, Peter Speers and Roger Trehwella. Bennett and Joly are absent.

2. Appointment of a new member of the sub-committee, replacement of Barry Bennett

Barry Bennett and Roger Joly are not at disposal any more and have to be replaced. Röhrmoser contacted Vignon, who is Joly's successor in France. Vignon signalled to Röhrmoser that he agrees to become a member of the Technical sub-committee. McCarty announces that Canada does not claim the seat which is free after Bennett's resignation. Speers therefore suggests Saul Tijerina Wolf from Mexico. Both candidates are elected unanimously and we wish them much satisfaction in their job.

3. Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on August 9, 2000

The minutes are accepted without any comment.

4. Technical view

The first subject is the checks of pedigrees. In numerous countries, the blood group determination is replaced by the typing of DNA-markers. In the European Union, the legislation changed on January 1st, 2001 and now, it is possible to use DNA-markers. Each participant is asked to describe the situation in his own country.

In **Germany**, AI-bulls are typed now. From January 2003, the blood group determination is abolished. In **Hungary**, DNA-typing is technically practicable. The bulls are already typed for the DNA-markers, but the final decision is still due. In the **United Kingdom**, DNA-typing was already standard before the adaption of the European legislation. The question is therefore how to use the information of the marker. In the **USA**, the complete new genetics are DNA-typed. In **Sweden**, only DNA-typing is used today. In **Australia**, they changed to DNA-typing 7 years ago. For imports of embryos, the DNA-typing of the parents is necessary. **Austria** is on the same level as **Germany**. The bull dams are typed with both methods. In **Mexico**, there are 4 laboratories which are able to analyse DNA-markers. The government exerts pressure so that DNA-typing becomes the only method in 1 or 2 years. In **Italy**, the transition to DNA-typing took already place. **Italy** is pleased by the fact that Germany and Austria will do the same. In **Switzerland**, DNA-typing established itself as the standard method. Blood typing is only used occasionally. In **Denmark**, DNA-typing is generally spread likewise. With imported animals the blood groups are still accepted. In **Canada**, DNA-markers have been introduced only some years ago. Röhrmoser concludes from this statement of all members that this point should no longer be obstacle to the exchange. Speers wonders whether all countries use the ISAC standards. Pichler knows that in Göttingen, **Germany**, an ISAC-Meeting took place last week. But he does not know the results yet. Up to now, ISAC had a standard with 9 markers.

Röhrmoser directs the discussion on the use of MAS (= marker assisted selection; marker-supported selection) in the breeding value estimation. Where do we stand? In **Germany**, projects are under way. Different markers were isolated, especially one for the fat content of the milk. It is not clear yet whether this information is to be used for the breeding value estimation. In **Austria**, there is also a project under way in co-operation with **Germany** and **Italy**. The goal is to find QTL (=quantitative trait loci) for milk production with monitoring of the fitness traits. Röhrmoser asks how the hereditary abnormalities are handled. Are they entered on the pedigree certificate? In **Germany**, the breeding organizations begin to register them, although there are no real problems with the Simmental-Fleckvieh breed. In **Switzerland**, attributes like *TL can be added to the name of Red Holstein animals. Fortunately, no comparable illness is known with the Simmental. In the **USA**, translocations are registered and also entered in the pedigree. In case of suspicion, an analysis can be arranged. In **Australia**, translocations are likewise attentively pursued. Valentin reminds that this topic was already treated at a previous meeting of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation.

Mutual sucking represents a problem, but it is not sure that it is genetically conditioned. Röhrmoser concludes that fortunately the Simmental breed is largely exempted from hereditary abnormalities. But if an illness emerges, it must be in our interest to have transparency. The consumers have the right to require it.

4.4 Beef Production (Peter Speers)

1. Greeting and ascertainment of those present

Members of the sub-committee: Peter Speers, Barry Bennett, Alan Fraga, Steen Grunnet, Robert Haralson, Peter Massmann, Alice Mullen, Georg Röhrmoser, Eduardo Rosenberg, Lars Svensson and Roger Trehwella.

2. Appointment of a new member of the sub-committee (replacement of Barry Bennett)

As a substitute for Barry Bennett, Canada suggests Bruce Holmquist. Sweden suggests to replace Lars Svensson by Claes Herman Annersfors. These suggestions are accepted. Speers reminds that the working group is open for everybody who wants to become a member of the sub-committee.

3. Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on August 9, 2000

The minutes are accepted without any comments.

4. Business referring to the last meeting

This point is not treated.

5. Meat of Italian bulls (short report from Mr Piasentier)

Mr Piasentier will hold a lecture on this topic at the Members' Meeting.

6. Eating quality of the meat

Speers asks all the delegates to make a statement for mutual information. In the **United Kingdom**, the system EUROP with 5 beefiness classes is applied. The fat cover is considered likewise. Both the Simmental bulls as well as the heifers are well-known for their above average meat quality. Researches showed that factors like stress and cooling of the carcass affect the organoleptic characteristics of the meat. It is not clear whether the quality can be improved by selection. In **Germany**, the carcasses are likewise classified according to the system EUROP. During the progeny test, an important amount of data is collected concerning the meat quality, but these data are not used in breeding, because the meat quality is not honoured on the market. In **Canada**, a project was launched, in order to relate ultrasound measurements with the carcass cutting. 5 \$ are paid for collecting the data. In **Denmark**, the system EUROP is applied likewise. The

prices are so deep that the bulls are slaughtered at a very young age. The system applied in **Switzerland**, is comparable with the European one, CH-TAX. In **Mexico**, a system copied from the USDA system was initialized, but it was stopped. In **Austria**, the experiences are comparable with those of Germany. Pichler distributes a paper of J.J. Frickh on this subject. In **Sweden**, there is nothing special to mention. In the **USA**, the carcasses and the fat cover in the slaughterhouses have already been judged for several years. The pressure to improve the quality increases. The Simmental breeders officiate as pioneers for the identification of the cattle, which fulfils the quality requirements very well. In the feedlots and slaughterhouses, data are collected for the evaluation of criteria such as shear force. There are projects under way for the search for DNA-markers. In **Australia**, researches are undertaken concerning the meat quality. Speers distributes a paper about the effect of the gene Genestar on the marbling of the meat and comments the document.

7. Carcass evaluation in different countries

This item was treated under point 6 of the agenda.

8. Exchange of data between the countries concerning beef performance and breeding value

How can we standardize and exchange data between the countries? Perhaps we will have a supranational evaluation soon. Australia uses BreedPlan. This program evaluates the data of the different breeds. Hungary uses this program, too. The United Kingdom plans to do the same.

9. Progress in the identification of positive carcass traits

This item was treated under point 6 of the agenda.

10. Standardization of beef performance recording in different countries

This item was treated under point 6 of the agenda.

11. Other business

Unfortunately, there was not time enough to treat this item of the agenda.

5. Report by the President about the activity since August 10, 2000

The report by the president is distributed. No one gives a comment about the report.

6. Proposals for the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents and the General Secretary

Hans Häckel announces that he is now 75 years old and that it's time for him to retire. As a substitute he suggests Peter Massmann. Massmann is a founding member of the World Federation. He was Vice-President and already organized 3 Congresses. Grunnet regrets that Häckel does not want to go on with his mandate. He suggests Robert Haralson, the 1st Vice-President as new President. Almost every member of the Committee expresses his opinion on to these two proposals. The opinions diverge a lot and the result of a vote is uncertain. Röhrmoser proposes to postpone the vote until Members' Meeting because Peter Massmann had to leave the meeting prematurely. Häckel suggests to have an extra Council Meeting on Friday, 23rd August before the opening of the Members' Meeting to follow up a decision. Pichler supports this suggestion because he would like to get in touch with the countries, he represents. With 14 out of 19 votes, the Council postpones the vote to Friday, 23rd August. Speers wishes that the two candidates make a short presentation of their goals. McCarty remarks that according to the constitutions, a country can represent no more than 2 additional countries.

8. Report about the state of arrangements for the 15th World Simmental Congress in Denmark and Sweden in 2004

Steen Grunnet and Claes Herman Annersfors as representative of Denmark and Sweden invite the representatives of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation to participate in the next Congress, which will take place from 21st to 30th June 2004. The organizing countries aim to arrange an instructive and attractive program.

9. Date and place of the next Meetings and Congresses

Three countries applied already for the organization of the Congress in 2006: Australia, Great Britain and Canada. Saul Emerson Tijerina Wolf adds the candidacy of Mexico. Häckel is happy about the interest in the organization of the Congress 2006. Trehwella assures the meeting that Great Britain will have solved its sanitary problems (BSE, foot and mouth disease) till then. The trip after the conferences would lead to Scotland. For a long time, McCarty would have liked to organize a Congress in Canada. For 2006, a cattle show is planned. The provisional program includes the visit of farms near Calgary. Speers regrets that Australia could not organize the Congress 2002 and he would like to apologize for it by organizing the congress 2006. Haralson invites the Council to hold the meeting in 2003 in the USA. He suggests a meeting in Montana. Haralson's suggestion is approved unanimously: *The meeting of the Council in 2003 will take place in Montana in the United States. The delegates vote on the organization of the Congress 2006: Canada wins with 10 votes.*

10. Other business, wishes and suggestions

Häckel thanks for the support to him during the 2 years of his presidency. During his mandate, he committed himself to the Simmental-Fleckvieh breed and for a good comradeship between the breeders and the conductors of the different countries.

Continuation of the meeting on August 23rd, 2002

As arranged on Monday, 19th August 2002, the Council Meeting continues on Friday, 23rd August (see point 6). Häckel recalls the situation. On Monday, Peter Massmann was no longer present when point 6 was discussed. We had two suggestions for the presidency: Robert Haralson and Peter Massmann. Peter Massmann thanks the delegates for their confidence. In the past days, he discussed with his African colleagues in order to find the best solution for the Simmental breed. What is good for the Simmental breed is also good for him. His desire is that the two directions milk and beef continue to coexist in the World Federation. He therefore renounces the post of president. Valentin recognizes Massmann's unselfishness. Numerous representatives honour Massmann. Massmann having renounced, Haralson will be presented as the only candidate to the Members' Meeting. Haralson knows that the breeding politic of the USA is not undisputed. The acceptance of black Simmental in the herd book is not unanimous. But the most important is that the Simmental, Fleckvieh or Simbrah breeder can profit from a breed which is adapted to his needs. The Simmental, Fleckvieh and Simbrah breeders form a large world-wide family. Häckel: Together with the president, two vice-presidents must be suggested as well. If Robert Haralson is elected president, we only have one vice-president left, Eduardo Rosenberg. Häckel informs that Rosenberg is available for a further term of office if it is necessary. But he would not be unhappy if he could retire from this function. Trehwella suggests Peter Massmann as a vice-president. Massmann renounces. German suggests Franz Stürzer. Haralson suggests Peter Speers.

Franz Stürzer is elected 1st vice-president unanimously and Peter Speers 2nd vice-president. Häckel: We also have to find a new Secretary General. Yves Schleppe will leave the Swiss Simmental and Red & White Association and will be at disposal no longer. As a substitute for him, Germann suggests Andreas Bigler. Bigler was born in 1969, is conscientious and he has a degree in agricultural sciences. His native language is German and he has good

knowledge of French and English. Schleppe takes the opportunity, to thank the Council for the confidence and the good atmosphere in the World Federation. Haralson thanks Schleppe and supports Germanns suggestion.

Andreas Bigler is elected Secretary General of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation. Häckel reminds that the Members' Meeting must formally ask a revision of the constitution. Our organization would have to be renamed World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation (Fédération Mondiale Simmental-Fleckvieh / Welt Simmental-Fleckvieh Vereinigung / Federación Simmental-Fleckvieh Mundial). The Council had already recommended this change at its meeting in Ireland in 2000. Röhrmoser suggests that the constitution be printed again because there have been several changes since the last edition was printed. Besides there is no translation into Spanish. This constitution could be published on internet. Pichler suggests putting the joining to ICAR on the agenda of the next meeting. Speers suggests that at the next meeting, the Council should discuss about the article 10 of the constitution saying that the president must have been vice-president before.

For the minutes

Yves Schleppe

01.12.2002 ysc