

The International Peat Society (IPS) is a non-governmental, non-profit multidisciplinary organisation of scientific, industrial and regulatory members both individual and institutional. The mission of the IPS is to bring people and organisations together to foster the advancement, exchange and communication of scientific, technical and social knowledge and understanding for the wise use of peatlands and peat.

## Stockholm Calling – International Peat Congress 2012!

Probably you have already registered for the International Peat Congress on **3 - 8 June 2012** in Stockholm. If not, you should consider this major conference very soon, as hotel rooms and excursion seats are filling up very quickly now. Please visit [www.ipc2012.se](http://www.ipc2012.se) for a detailed list of sessions, for the excursions and the interesting social programme.



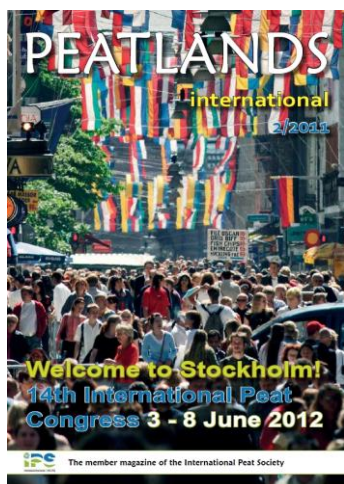
More than **400 persons from 29 countries** have already registered for this major conference. The programme consists of more than 400 oral and poster presentations, 15 parallel mid-conference tours on all possible peat topics, one pre-congress excursion for students and one for peat producers, as well as two different tours after the Congress trip to Northern Sweden. All possible mire and peat topics will be covered, from growing media, horticulture and energy use to agricultural applications, pristine mire research, bog rehabilitation, tropical peatlands, balneology, culture and climate issues.

Stockholm is a beautiful city in summer, and surely some 700 peat and peatland experts in one venue are enough reason to buy flight tickets and to hop over! Go to [www.ipc2012.se](http://www.ipc2012.se), get familiar with all possibilities and sign up still today. If you want, you can “join” the event also online and share with your colleagues: <https://www.facebook.com/events/165861211452>.

All registration options can be seen at [www.ipc2012.se/?id\\_item=177](http://www.ipc2012.se/?id_item=177). The registration fees include all sessions, lunches and coffee during breaks, the icebreaking party, a welcoming reception, yoga classes and different workshops and meetings during the six days of the event. To convert SEK in Euro, divide by 9. The mid conference excursions and the conference dinner can be booked separately. Participants from e.g. China, Belarus, Indonesia, Philippines, Ukraine and most African

countries are entitled to lower rates. Information on Swedish VAT refund for companies and universities is available at [www.ipc2012.se/?id\\_item=773](http://www.ipc2012.se/?id_item=773) and [www.tiny.cc/H76e2b](http://www.tiny.cc/H76e2b).

## Deadline extended: Peatlands International 1/2012



All peat and peatland researchers and professionals are welcome to submit articles on their work, upcoming or past events and other interesting peat-related topics to Peatlands International, the magazine of the IPS. Please compose your text in MS Word and send it together with photos and other illustrations by **30 March** at the latest to Susann Warnecke, [ips@peatsociety.org](mailto:ips@peatsociety.org). **We especially invite those who have oral or poster presentations at the Congress to write easy-to-read and illustrated introductions into their topic for our magazine!** Also additional advertisements are very welcome, the latest Media Kit can be found at the website below. More information is available at [www.peatsociety.org/publications/peatlands-international](http://www.peatsociety.org/publications/peatlands-international).

### *Instructions for Authors*

Please write your text in Arial pt. 10 single row without additional formatting (no indents, full cap sections etc.) on max 2-4 pages. You should also insert captions for the illustrations and the names of their copyright holders as well as full author contact details at the end of the document. All illustrations must be submitted as separate jpg, tif or pdf files. Images imbedded in Word or Power Point cannot be edited. The Editors reserve their right to choose and edit submissions.

## Candidates for the IPS Executive Board 2012

The Annual Assembly of the International Peat Society will elect a new Executive Board during the International Peat Congress in Stockholm on **8 June 2012**. Each of the 17 IPS National Committees has the right to send one official representative to the Assembly, and each representative has one vote at the Assembly. National Committees that have not paid their membership fees or are not present in Stockholm, as well as individual and corporate members of the IPS cannot vote. All National Committees will be provided with CVs of the candidates in April/May.

The IPS Secretariat has received the following proposals for EB members from the IPS National Committees (in order of positions, and then alphabetically):

Name	National Committee	Proposed for the following positions:			
		President	1st Vice President	2nd Vice President	Ordinary Board member (2-6)
Björn Hånell	Sweden	X	X		X
Guus van Berckel	Germany/Netherlands		X	X	X
Lulie Melling	Malaysia		X	X	X
Jack Rieley	United Kingdom			X	X
Lech Szajdak	Poland			X	continues*
Donal Clarke	Ireland				X
Paul Short	Canada				X
Samu Valpola	Finland				X

The table above indicates for which positions each candidate has been nominated. The members of the Executive Board will be elected by secret ballot in the following order: First there will be the election of the IPS President, then 1st Vice President, then 2nd Vice President and after that the ordinary members. A person can only fulfil one position at a time, his nomination for “lower” posts thus ceases as soon as he/she is elected one of the Presidents. The following persons will **continue** their terms as ordinary Board members 2010-2014:

Erki Niitlaan	Estonia				continues
Valerijs Kozlovs	Latvia				continues
Lech Szajdak	Poland			X	continues*

\*Prof. Lech Szajdak will continue as ordinary Board member automatically in case he is not elected 2nd Vice President. In case Prof. Szajdak is elected 2nd Vice President, also his then vacant ordinary Board member position will be filled, but for the remaining period of 2012-2014.

**Please consider these options in the meetings of your National Committee now during spring and get ready for giving recommendations to the person that will represent your country in Stockholm. Strong players are needed in the coming years to bring IPS forward!**

*You can read the tables as follows:*

- 1) *For the election of the IPS President, there is only one candidate proposed: Prof. Björn Hånell.*
- 2) *For the 1st Vice President, there are three proposals: Björn Hånell, Guus van Berckel and Lulie Melling. At this stage the President is already elected – therefore the election of the 1st Vice President will be made between Guus van Berckel and Lulie Melling.*
- 3) *For the 2nd Vice President, four persons have applied. At this stage, the voting however happens between three persons: Guus van Berckel OR Lulie Melling (depending on who of them was already elected 1st Vice President), Jack Rieley and Lech Szajdak.*
- 4) *Finally, the Ordinary Board members will be elected. If the Annual Assembly has decided to fill all open positions, this will be three posts (or four posts, in case Prof. Szajdak is elected 2nd Vice President). At this stage, available for voting are all of the above who have not yet been elected to any of the President positions and Donal Clarke, Paul Short and Samu Valpola.*

Country representatives are asked to note especially:

- There can be max. 2-6 ordinary members on the Executive Board. It is thus the decision of the Annual Assembly how many posts are filled.
- The Second Vice President is at the same time member and contact person at the IPS Scientific Advisory Board, consisting of the IPS Commission Chairs.
- The Executive Board meets approximately 3-4 times a year for 2-3 days, and quick email access between meetings is essential. Travelling costs should be covered by the employee/organisation of the EB member whenever possible.
- The Executive Board members will be elected for the term 2012-2016, however in a way that half of the ordinary Board members change every second year. This is the reason why the possibly open post of Prof. Szajdak would be filled for the shorter term of 2012-2014 if he is elected 2nd Vice President.
- There is in any case one more candidate for the Executive Board than the max. number of open positions, meaning that one person will not be elected at all. Please consider carefully whom to give your votes. The Executive Board should be well-balanced between different countries and regions, age and gender, science and industry to reflect the broad membership of IPS.
- The positions of President are now elected independently from the host countries of the

quadrennial International Peat Congresses. However, when electing Executive Board members, national representatives should consider how important it is to have an Executive Board member from the National Committee that organises the next Congress.

- The positions on the Executive Board are not given to countries or National Committees, but personally to the EB candidates nominated by their National Committee. This means that in case an Executive Board member is not able to fulfil his position anymore, his position will be vacant until the next Annual Assembly where another Board member will be elected for his remaining term, possibly from another country.
- Only those National Committees that have paid their membership fees and are present are allowed to vote at the Annual Assembly.
- Each national representative (also Chairs and Secretaries) has to present a proxy that authorizes him to vote on behalf of his National Committee.

The full IPS Statutes and Internal Regulations can be downloaded at [www.peatsociety.org/about-us](http://www.peatsociety.org/about-us). More information on the current Executive Board and its members can be obtained at [www.peatsociety.org/about-us/executive-board](http://www.peatsociety.org/about-us/executive-board). You can find your National Committee's key persons and their contact details at [www.peatsociety.org/about-us/national-committees](http://www.peatsociety.org/about-us/national-committees).

## Finnish Peatland Society's Spring Seminar

Suoseura ry, the Finnish National Committee of IPS is inviting its members and all others interested to its spring annual meeting and a seminar on "New knowledge on peatland gas balances and their influence factors". Both events are held at the Forest Research Institute (Metla) in Vantaa on **26 March 2012**. The seminar will include presentations of Aleksi Lehtonen (Metla) on emissions of ditched mires in the GHG inventory, by Paavo Ojanen (Helsinki University, Metla) on the evaluation of ditched forest peatlands as carbon sinks or sources, Heikki Simola (University of Eastern Finland) on new carbon measures at old peat inventory measure points of the Geological Survey of Finland, Annalea Lohila (Finnish Meteorological Institute) on peatland GHG balances and radiance on pristine and ditched peatlands, Kari Minkkinen (Helsinki University) on lessons learned on carbon balances of forested ditched peatlands, and Anu Hynninen on the use of wetland buffer areas in reducing nitrogen transport from forested catchments: retention capacity, emissions of N<sub>2</sub>O and CH<sub>4</sub> and vegetation composition dynamics. The seminar is held in Finnish. More info can soon be found at [www.suoseura.fi](http://www.suoseura.fi) and registrations can be sent to leila.korpela (at) metla.fi.

## 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Marseille, France

The 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum was held in Marseille, France on **12 - 17 March 2012**. The world's largest meeting about water, taking place every three years since 1997, mobilises creativity, innovation, competence and know-how in favour of water. It gathers all stakeholders around today's local, regional and global issues into a common framework of goals and concrete targets to reach. The goal of the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum is to tackle water challenges and to bring water high on all political agendas. To achieve this, the thematic process commission has developed 12 priorities to work as well as three conditions of success. The Forum innovates with a platform of solutions for all to consult and contribute to, a roadmap to achieve concrete commitments, involving experts and decision-makers from different sectors and regions of the world, a new commission, "Grassroots & Citizenship", to involve and mobilise civil society and a strengthening of the political process especially through significant contributions and commitments from parliamentarians and local and regional authorities from around the world. The event represents more than 180 countries with over 800 speakers and some 25 000 participants in 250 sessions and panels and about 100 grassroots & citizenship events. More information can be found at [www.worldwaterforum6.org](http://www.worldwaterforum6.org).

## Consultant needed for UNFCCC Study on GHG Emissions

The UNFCCC Secretariat plans to engage the services of a consultant for preparing a technical report on assessment of GHG emissions from soil resulting from land-use conversion. The terms of reference for the consultancy, along with related documents, can be obtained from the IPS Secretariat or the IPCC. The time now available for the consultancy is: First part by **25 May 2012**, second part by **5 June 2012**, including the following tasks, among others:

- *Analyze AM\_REV\_0229 “Revision of AM0036 to include fuel switch to biomass from dedicated plantations” and ACM0017 “Production of biodiesel for use as fuel” with respect to establishment and cultivation of dedicated plantations and identify activities allowed by the methodology that might potentially lead to significant emissions of soil organic carbon (SOC) and other GHGs, separately in case of mineral soils and in case of organic soils (presented in tabular form with explanations, if any, inside and/or below the table);*
- *Perform literature survey related to GHG emissions resulting from activities identified in para (i), and analyse relevant data available from literature, including, but not limited to, relevant IPCC, FAO, ICRAF documents;*
- *Assess for each of the activities identified in para (i), in the light of the analysis mentioned in para (ii), whether approaches for accounting of possible GHG emissions from soil contained in AM\_REV\_0229 “Revision of AM0036 to include fuel switch to biomass from dedicated plantations” and ACM0017 “Production of biodiesel for use as fuel”, are adequate, precise and/or conservative.*

*The consultant should have advanced university degrees in forestry, agriculture, soil science, or related fields; at least 10 years of experience working in issues related to soil organic carbon; research competence demonstrated by record of publications; good analytical and drafting skills; good working knowledge in English; be free from any interest that might cause him/her to act in other than an impartial and non-discriminatory manner.*

More information can be obtained from: Mr. Panna Siyag, Standards Setting Unit, Sustainable Development Mechanisms Programme, Bonn, Germany, Phone +49 228 815 1028, email: psiyag (at) nfccc.int, web: cdm.unfccc.int.