

Annual Report 2010



International Peat Society
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Annual Report 2010
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Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management



Edited by Donal Clarke and Jack Rieley

Secretary General's Review

2010 – The Year of the Peatland Strategy

In October 2010, the IPS finalised the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management together with the members of the Society and a large number of other stakeholders involved in peat and peatland matters. The final editing session took place in Amsterdam in October at which the about thirty participants agreed on final adjustments.

There are three reasons why the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management is so important. The first one is that people should undertake peatland management according to the principles and within the framework of 'Wise Use of Mires and Peatlands' by safeguarding their environmental, social and economic functions and respecting their local, regional and global values. The second purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that high conservation value peatlands are identified and conserved, 'utilised' peatlands are managed responsibly; and drained, degraded or otherwise irreversibly changed peatlands are rehabilitated to restore as many ecological and landscape functions as possible. Finally, the Strategy should provide those involved in or responsible for peatland management with strategic objectives and actions for implementation.

The Strategy is directed to everyone responsible for or involved in the management of peatlands, or in

the peat supply chain, and is applicable to all types of peatland under every use. It should be applied in every country in which this biological, hydrological and landscape resource is found or in which peat products are processed or used.

The strategy is also of wider application to certification, conservation, restoration and after-use. All of the uses of peatlands and peat require their own specific guidelines for practical implementation, a task which is being undertaken now that the Strategy has been adopted.

It took nearly two years and plenty of communication to prepare the Strategy. I would like to thank all stakeholders and participants for their activity during this process. Particularly IPS is grateful to Mr Donal Clarke, President of the IPS, and Dr Jack Rieley, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the IPS, for their remarkable input in chairing with diplomacy all sessions and putting together all points of views. Their input finally led into a comprehensive and practical Strategy providing a good and valuable platform for all actors in the field of peat and peatlands.

The largest event for IPS in 2010 was the IPS Convention in Jyväskylä in June which was attended by about 100 scientists and representatives of the peat industry and non-government organisations. The meeting contained also two seminars on peat technology and after-use of cut-over peatlands as well as varied excursions on these topics.



The Assembly heard presentations of the applications to host the International Peat Congress 2016, from the Latvian and Malaysian National Committees. Following that, the National Representatives voted by secret ballot to follow the proposal of the Executive Board to organise the Congress in Kuching, Malaysia. Just to mention, the next International Peat Congress will be held in 2012 in Stockholm, Sweden.

Secretary General Jaakko Silpola during the technical field trip around Central Finland in June 2010. Photo: Susann Warnecke

The IPS Award of Excellence 2010 was conferred on Mr Gerald Schmilewski from Germany for his outstanding contributions to peat and peatland activities, especially bringing industry and science together for many years already. The Award was handed over at the Annual Assembly in Jyväskylä on 16 June.

IPS has started a process to redesign its website to allow further interactions between members and to show more up-to-date information on current peat and peatland matters and research papers. The new pages will also contain all major publications of IPS of previous years, starting with the Congress proceedings, and an interactive IPS membership database. It is planned to launch the new website in February 2011.

The Profit and Loss Account of the IPS shows a surplus of EUR 17,000 (2009: 13,600) for the financial year 2010. This is mainly due to the income of the project to create a Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management. The results of the International Peat Congress in Tullamore 2008 are being used during the years until the next Congress.

The total income of the IPS was EUR 185,300 (EUR 207,400), with expenditure amounting to EUR 167,800 (EUR 193,200). Bad debts amounted to EUR 15,000 (EUR 31,400) and the depreciation to EUR 500 (EUR 580). Assets and liabilities increased to EUR 187,700 (EUR 165,800).

I want to thank all IPS members and stakeholders, the members of our Executive Board and Scientific Advisory Board, the National Committees, Commissions and Working Groups for good and fruitful cooperation during the year of review.

The staff of the IPS once again has done very important work for the IPS and for peat and peatlands. Thank you very much.

Jaakko Silpola
Secretary General of the IPS



Some of the participants of the after-use excursion in Finland in June, organised by the IPS together with our Finnish National Committee. Photo: Heikki Autio

Report of the Executive Board

Administration

Annual Assembly of National Representatives

The 14th Annual Assembly of National Representatives of the International Peat Society was held in Jyväskylä, Finland on 16 June 2010. The Assembly was attended by fifteen representatives of the National Committees of Canada, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Latvia, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the USA. Additionally, thirty one observers were present.

The Assembly adopted the balance sheet, the Annual Report and the Auditor's Report for 2009, and approved the plan of activities, budget, affiliation and membership fees for 2010 as well as the interim budget and membership fees 2011. Arto Saarinen from Deloitte & Touche Oy was elected as auditor and that firm was authorised to nominate a substitute auditor for the IPS.

The Assembly elected Valerijs Kozlovs from Latvia, Erki Niitlaan from Estonia and Lech Szajdak from Poland to the Executive Board for 2010-2014 in place of the retired members. Jutta Zeitz was re-elected to the Executive Board for the period 2010-2012 and Valerijs Kozlovs for 2010-2014. As, according to the Statutes, the terms of offices have to be staggered, the holder of the shorter period was determined by drawing lots. Paul Short was elected 2nd Vice President of the IPS until 2012 and he will also be member of the Scientific Advisory Board.

The Assembly heard presentations of the applications to host the International Peat Congress 2016, the Latvian and Malaysian National Committees. Following that, the National Representatives voted by secret ballot to follow the proposal of the Executive Board to organise the Congress in Kuching, Malaysia.

The year started with an Executive Board meeting in the hometown of IPS on 24-25 February. Photo: Susann Warnecke

With a view to the long-term development of IPS, the Annual Assembly decided to increase the maximum number of permanent members of the Executive Board from 2-6 to 2-8 and change Article 4 of the Statutes accordingly. In addition, the Assembly suggested to review the Statutes and Internal Regulations of IPS to make proceedings more fair and transparent and to benefit the IPS as an international non-government association.

It was decided to hold the Annual Assembly 2011 on invitation of the Canadian National Committee in Québec, Canada on 14 June. The Assembly also noticed that Hartmut Falkenberg and Ansis Snore were given honorary membership of the IPS. The tradition of holding a Round Table Discussion for National Committee Representatives was continued in Jyväskylä. The next election of Executive Board members is scheduled for 2012.

Meetings of the Executive Board

The IPS Executive Board held five meetings in 2010: in Jyväskylä, Finland on 24-25 February, by email on 19 March-6 April, in Jyväskylä on 15 and 16 June and in Amsterdam, the Netherlands on 9-10 October. The decisions of these meetings were communicated in Peat News, Peatlands International and by email shortly after the meetings as "decision summaries in a nutshell". Basically, the IPS Executive Board dealt in 2010, in addition to regular administrative issues, mainly with coordinating the Strategy for Responsible



Peatland Management process, reworked the Strategy and Activity Plan of the IPS 2010-2012 and prepared the International Peat Congresses 2012 and 2016.

Members of the Executive Board

According to the Statutes of the IPS, the Executive Board consists of the President, the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents and from two to eight ordinary members. The members of the Executive Board at the end of 2010 and their terms of office were:

President	
Donal Clarke, Ireland	2008-2012
1st Vice President	
Björn Hånell, Sweden	2008-2012
2nd Vice President	
Paul Short, Canada	2010-2012
Ordinary members	
Satu Helynen, Finland	2008-2012
Jutta Zeitz, Germany	2010-2012
Valerijs Kozlovs, Latvia	2010-2014
Erki Niitlaan, Estonia	2010-2014
Lech Szajdak, Poland	2010-2014

The term of office of Håkan Bjur ended with the Annual Assembly in June. Jutta Zeitz and



Valerijs Kozlovs were re-elected to the Board. Erki Niitlaan and Lech Szajdak are new Executive Board members as of 16 June.

Meetings of the Scientific Advisory Board

The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) consists of the IPS Commission Chairs and the 2nd Vice President of IPS. It provides the Society with advice and information on matters of scientific, technical and cultural importance, drawing upon the pool of knowledge available in the Commissions and elsewhere and promoting and disseminating research results. The SAB operates between Congresses but elects its Chair and Secretary each year by secret ballot; it meets normally twice a year in association with other IPS meetings.

The Scientific Advisory Board met twice in 2010, in June in Jyväskylä, Finland and in November by email. Recommendations made by the SAB were regularly communicated to and considered by the Executive Board. The November 2009 meeting of the SAB elected Prof. Jack Rieley from the United Kingdom as Chair and Dr. Catherine Farrell from Ireland as Secretary, these positions were confirmed in 2010.

Members of the Scientific Advisory Board

Chairman:
Jack Rieley, United Kingdom

Secretary:
Catherine Farrell, Ireland

Members: Chairs of Commissions I-IX
I Lars Lundin, Sweden
II Gerald Schmilewski, Germany
III Lech Szajdak, Poland
IV Jürgen Schoenherr, Germany
V Catherine Farrell, Ireland
VI Riitta Korhonen, Finland
VII Hannu Hökkä, Finland
VIII Michiel Gerding, the Netherlands
IX Jack Rieley, United Kingdom

Members of the IPS

As of 31 December 2010, the IPS membership comprised a total of 1450 (2009: 1,412) members in 36 (29) countries. Altogether, fluctuation within IPS is quite large, about 122 members have joined and 84 left our Society in the course of 2010.

Some of our guests took the chance to participate in a short husky sledge dog tour - which was quite an adventure with minus 30 degrees outside temperature. Photo: Jaakko Silpola

The membership database is updated continuously through information from the National Committees and by direct contacts. New members are regularly published in Peatlands International and all IPS members are encouraged to ask their friends and colleagues to join the IPS. In 2010, a special page was added to the IPS website which allows direct joining of IPS from members without a National Committee by paying the annual membership fee.

All National Committees are encouraged to further promote the student membership category within their country and to quickly announce membership updates to the IPS Secretariat.

National Committees

The IPS is represented by 19 (2009: 19) National Committees with a total of 1,413 (1,384) members, of which 15 operate in Europe, two in North America, and two in Southeast Asia. A complete list can be found in the appendices. In 2010, the membership of Belarus and Ukraine remained suspended until membership fees are paid.

Members in Countries Without a National Committee

As of 31 December 2010, the IPS had 29 (2009: 23) individual and 7 (5) corporate members in 17 (10) countries without National Committees. The complete list is contained in the appendices.

IPS Award of Excellence

The IPS Award of Excellence 2010 was conferred on Mr. Gerald Schmilewski from Germany for his outstanding contributions to peat and peatland activities, especially bringing industry and science together for many years already. The Award was handed over at the Annual Assembly in Jyväskylä on 16 June by the IPS Secretary General.

The IPS Award of Excellence was launched in 2005 and is annually conferred on a member of the International Peat Society for a distinguished contribution in any sector of peatland activities. The Award comprises a framed scroll and a cash prize of EUR 1,000.

The second Executive Board meeting of the year was held in connection with the IPS Convention in Jyväskylä on 15 June 2010. Photo: Susann Warnecke

Honorary Members

Honorary membership is conferred by the Executive Board on persons nominated by National Committees who have made outstanding contributions to the IPS and to international cooperation on peatlands and peat. In 2010, the IPS had the following Honorary Members:

Honorary President

Mr. R. Allan Robertson, UK

Honorary Members

Mr. F. Baranyai, Hungary
Dr. A. K. Dergunov, Russia
Dr. R.S. Farnham, USA
Mr. Hartmut Falkenberg, Germany
Mr. Henk van de Griendt, Netherlands
Mr. Donald N. Grubich, USA
Mr. Gerry Hood, Canada
Mr. Paddy Hughes, Ireland
Prof.dr.hab. Piotr Ilnicki, Poland
Acad. Ivan I. Lishtvan, Belarus
Prof. Markku Mäkelä, Finland
Dr. Thomas Malterer, USA
Mr. P. McEville, Ireland
Mr. H.M.S. Miller, Ireland
Dr. Yrjö Pessi, Finland
Mr. Reidar Pettersson, Sweden
Mr. Ansis Snore, Latvia
Mr. B.N. Sokolov, Russia
Mr. Raimo Sopo, Finland
Mr. Ted E. Tibbetts, Canada
Dr. András Tóth, Hungary

We congratulate Mr. Hartmut Falkenberg and Mr. Ansis Snore on becoming new IPS Honorary Members in 2010.



With great sadness we noticed that founding member Prof. Dr. Gerd Lüttig had passed away on 16 July 2010.

The IPS Secretariat

The Secretariat of the IPS has been located in Jyväskylä, Finland since January 1992. The current address is Vapaudenkatu 12, 40100 Jyväskylä, Finland.

The Secretariat is managed by Mr. Jaakko Silpola, M. Sc. (Agriculture and Forestry), MBA, who has held the post of IPS Secretary General since November 2004. Communications Manager Ms. Susann Warnecke (Bankkauffrau, Diplom-Kauffrau FH), has been working for the IPS since January 2002. Mrs. Birgit Hyyryläinen, Office Manager of the Association of Finnish Peat Industries, is

responsible for the financial accounting of the IPS.

Cooperation

The IPS cooperates with the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS), the International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG), the Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS), the European Peat and Growing Media Association (EPAGMA), the Ramsar Convention and the Global Peatland Initiative (GPI).

Economic Survey

The Profit and Loss Account of the IPS shows a surplus of EUR 17,000 (2009: 13,600) for the financial year 2010. This is mainly due to the income of the project to create a Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management. The results of the

International Peat Congress in Tullamore 2008 are used during the years until the next Congress.

The total income of the IPS was EUR 185,300 (EUR 207,400), with expenditure amounting to EUR 167,800 (EUR 193,200). Bad debts amounted to EUR EUR 15,000 (EUR 31,400) and the depreciation to EUR 500 (EUR 580). Assets and liabilities increased to EUR 187,700 (EUR 165,800).

Audit

The accounts and financial statements of the International Peat Society were audited by the Authorised Public Accountant Arto Saarinen from Deloitte & Touche Oy, an Authorised Public Accounting Firm.

Representatives of fifteen National Committees attended the IPS Annual Assembly 2010, among others István Szabó from Hungary, Riitta Korhonen from Finland, Pat Byrne from Ireland, Lulie Melling from Malaysia, Guus van Berckel from the Netherlands, Marie Kofod-Hansen from Sweden, Gerfried Caspers from Germany, Erki Niitlaan from Estonia, Jack Rieley from the United Kingdom, Paul Short from Canada, Renars Kudras from Latvia and Laurent Largent from France (left to right). Photo: Susann Warnecke



Principal Operations

Congresses, symposia and other events

The largest event for IPS in 2010 was the IPS Convention in Jyväskylä in June which was attended by about 100 scientists and representatives of the peat industry and non-government organisations. The meeting contained also two seminars on peat technology and after-use of cut-over peatlands as well as varied excursions on these topics. A more detailed report on the event and illustrated summaries of the presentations were published in *Peatlands International* 1/2010 and 2/2010, the majority of slides is also available at the IPS website. The meetings for the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management were actively attended by IPS key persons and other stakeholders. In addition, a broad variety of meetings, symposia and field trips were organised by the National Committees of IPS in their own countries. The next International Peat Congress will be held in 2012 in Stockholm, Sweden. Further information can be obtained from the national reports in the appendices.

Workshops and meetings

Workshops for the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management were held in Jyväskylä in June and Amsterdam in October 2010. Regular Commission meetings were scheduled for the IPS Convention in Jyväskylä, also in June. In addition, Commission II met in Amsterdam in October 2010.

Other activities of the IPS Secretariat

In October 2010, the IPS finalised the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management together with the members of the Society and a large number of other stakeholders involved in peat and peatland matters. The final editing session took place in October in Amsterdam at which the about thirty participants agreed on final adjustments, to be incorporated by the editorial team. Consultations had been carried out in 2010 mainly by email. The Strategy is the first part of a possible peatland

certification scheme and will be further developed in 2011.

The book "Peatlands and Climate Change" continued to be the most significant product of the IPS. By December 2010, 433 copies of the book were sold, most of them via the IPS online shop. In addition, the books "Finland-Fenland", "Wise Use of Mires and Peatlands" and proceedings of the Growing Media symposia were very popular. Climate change, carbon fluxes, sustainability and fire management were the burning issues with respect to peatland management in the public view, IPS is regularly following Google News and Scholar alerts on these topics.

Publications and Internet

Scientific Journal

The joint scientific journal of IPS and IMCG, "Mires and Peat" was launched as an online publication in 2006, freely accessible to all those interested in peat, peatland and mire research. The editor is Dr. Olivia Bragg, supported by an enlarged Editorial Board. In 2010, Volumes 6-7 of *Mires and Peat* were published with 7 and 9 articles. The Journal can be accessed free of charge at www.mires-and-peat.net. A report of the Editor is attached to this Annual Report. All issues of the former *International Peat Journal*, the last issue of which was published in 2004, can still be ordered from the IPS Secretariat for EUR 16 including mailing.



The IPS Convention meetings and seminars were attended by almost 100 experts from peatland science and the peat industry. Photo: Susann Warnecke

Peatlands International

Peatlands International is the half-yearly magazine for members of the IPS. Secretary General Jaakko Silpola is editor-in-chief, supported by Communications Manager Susann Warnecke. Peatlands International 1/2010, dealing with peat technology and after-use of cut-over peatlands, was published and distributed to all IPS members in June 2010, in connection to the Annual Assembly and together with the Annual Report 2009. Peatlands International 2/2010 was published in January 2011 together with the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management. Peatlands International is supported by an Editorial Board, the members of which are:

Paul Short, Canada
Juhani Päivänen, Finland
Michael Trepel, Germany
Catherine Farrell, Ireland
Lech Szajdak, Poland
Anne Jelle Schilstra, the Netherlands
Marie-Kofod Hansen, Sweden
Allan Robertson, United Kingdom
Tom Malterer, USA

Special attention will be paid in the coming years to the quality and language of articles submitted, to the editing timetable and the decreasing number of advertisements. All previous issues of Peatlands International since 2004, all article headlines and further information on the magazine and a media kit are available at the IPS website and can still be ordered from the IPS Secretariat. All members of the IPS receive Peatlands International for free, either directly from the IPS Secretariat or their National Committee.



Peat News

Peat News, the electronic newsletter of the IPS, is sent out monthly by email to all members of the Society. The latest issue as well as a list of topics covered during 2002-2010 can also be read at the IPS website. In 2010, 12 issues were distributed, each to approximately 1,300 members. Orders for Peat News can be directed to susann.warnecke@peatsociety.org. All IPS members are authorised to receive Peat News by email. Since 2005, the newsletter has been distributed in PDF format and all advertisers in Peatlands International have been mentioned as official supporters of Peat News.

IPS Website

IPS has started a process to redesign its website to allow further interactions between members and to show more up-to-date information on current peat and peatland matters and research papers. The new pages will also contain all major publications of IPS of previous years, starting with the Congress proceedings, and an interactive IPS membership database. It is planned to launch the new website in spring 2011.

Online shop

The IPS online shop, opened in 2005, remains a very popular tool for scientists, students, developers, booksellers and other persons ordering books from the IPS. Buyers can browse all publications online, fill their shopping basket and pay immediately by credit card or later on by bank transfer. This has made orders much quicker and easier to handle for the IPS Secretariat. Due to high service fees we accept cheque payments only in exceptional cases for payments over EUR 500 and to be agreed beforehand with the IPS staff.

Social Media

In October IPS created its own "fan page" at Facebook to quickly distribute news and event information to its membership and beyond. By 31 December, the page had 64 followers, about two thirds of which were not yet IPS members.

Commissions

In 2010, numerous activities were planned and carried out by the nine IPS Commissions. Their reports can be found in the appendices. All Commission Chairs are members of the IPS Scientific Advisory Board.

Members of the IPS

	Individual members	Industrial Corporate Members	Research Institutes, Universities	Government al Institutes	Honorary Members	Students	TOTAL
Canada	9	41	1	2	4	2	59
Czech Republic	15	1	0	0	0	0	16
Estonia	0	33	1	2	0	0	36
Finland	373	3	0	2	10	0	388
France	4	11	0	0	0	0	15
Germany	259	56	4	3	11	30	363
Hungary	16	1	1	1	2	0	21
Indonesia	102	0	0	0	0	0	102
Ireland	35	3	0	1	3	0	42
Latvia	2	24	0	0	4	0	30
Lithuania	1	16	0	0	0	0	17
Malaysia	46	0	1	0	0	0	47
The Netherlands	59	13	2	3	3	0	80
Norway	4	5	1	0	0	0	10
Poland	0	3	26	0	1	0	30
Russia	7	33	5	0	2	0	47
Sweden	23	26	0	0	1	0	50
United Kingdom	22	2	0	2	1	0	27
USA	23	5	2	0	3	0	33
31 December 2010	1000	276	44	16	45	32	1413
31 December 2009	998	254	43	15	45	29	1384
31 December 2008	832	269	50	12	45	30	1238
31 December 2007	857	259	52	16	43	28	1255
31 December 2006	829	264	45	11	40	32	1221
31 December 2005	883	257	46	11	36	0	1234

Table 1: Members of IPS National Committees.

	Individual Members	Corporate Members	Students	TOTAL
Bangladesh	1	0	0	1
Belarus	1	0	0	1
Belgium	2	2	0	4
Burundi	0	1	0	1
Chile	0	1	0	1
Denmark	2	1	0	3
India	1	0	0	1
Italy	4	0	0	4
Japan	9	1	0	10
Pakistan	1	0	0	1
Romania	1	0	0	1
Serbia	1	0	0	1
Singapore	0	0	1	1
Slovenia	1	0	0	1
South Korea	0	1	0	1
Spain	4	0	0	4
Taiwan ROC	1	0	0	1
31 December 2010	29	7	1	37
31 December 2009	23	5	0	28
31 December 2008	28	6	0	34
31 December 2007	26	4	0	30
31 December 2006	34	6	2	42
31 December 2005	40	4	0	44

Table 2: IPS members in countries without National Committees.

Table 3: Development of the IPS membership from 2005 to 2010.

	December 2010	December 2009	December 2008	December 2007	December 2006	December 2005	Balance
NC members	1413	1384	1238	1255	1221	1234	29
NoNC members	37	28	34	30	42	44	9
	1450	1412	1272	1285	1263	1278	38

IPS National Committees

As of 31 December 2010, the International Peat Society had National Committees in the following countries:

CANADA

Chairperson: Jean-Yves Daigle
Secretary: Paul Short

CZECH REPUBLIC

Chairperson: Karel Brezina

ESTONIA

Chairperson: Erki Niitlaan

FINLAND

Chairperson: Riitta Korhonen
Secretary: Leila Korpela

FRANCE

Chairperson: Michel Ecobichon
Secretary: Laurent Largent

GERMANY

Chairperson: Gerfried Caspers
Secretary: Jörn Kasch

HUNGARY

Chairperson: István Szábo
Secretary: Julianna Balász

INDONESIA

Chairperson: Bambang Setiadi

IRELAND

Chairperson: Catherine O'Connell
Secretary: Pat Fitzgerald

LATVIA

Chairperson: Valerijs Kozlovs
Secretary: Ilze Ozola

LITHUANIA

Chairperson: Juozas Daukantas
Secretary: Giedrius Kavaliauskas

MALAYSIA

Chairperson: James Mamit
Secretary: Lulie Melling

THE NETHERLANDS

Chairperson: Guus van Berckel
Secretary: Anne Jelle Schilstra

NORWAY

Chairperson: Magnus Valen-Sendstad
Secretary: Trond Haraldsen

POLAND

Chairperson: Andrzej Lachacz
Secretary: Pawel Sowinski

RUSSIA

Chairperson: Vladislav Pakhomov
Secretary: Ilya Tverdomed

SWEDEN

Chairperson: Lena Dahlman
Secretary: Marie Kofod-Hansen

UNITED KINGDOM

Chairperson: Allan Robertson
Secretary: Jack Rieley

USA

Chairperson: Don Grubich
Secretary: Thomas J. Malterer

IPS Commissions and Working Groups

As of 31 December 2010, the International Peat Society had the following Commissions and Working Groups (WG):

COMMISSION I

Survey, stratigraphy, classification and conservation of peatlands

Chair: Lars Lundin, Sweden

Vice Chair: Maria Strack, Canada

Peatland Geology Working Group

Coordinators: Mall Orru, Estonia

Kimmo Virtanen, Finland

Peatland Ecology Working Group

Coordinator: Mati Ilomets, Estonia

Peatland Hydrology Working Group

Coordinator: Elve Lode, Estonia/Sweden

COMMISSION II

Industrial utilisation of peat and peatlands for horticulture, energy, environmental protection and other purposes

Chair: Gerald Schmilewski, Germany

Secretary: Pat Fitzgerald, Ireland

Energy Peat Working Group

Horticultural Peat Working Group

COMMISSION III

Utilisation of peat and peatlands in agriculture

Chair: Lech Szajdak, Poland

COMMISSION IV

Chemical, physical and biological characteristics of peat

Chair: Jürgen Schoenherr, Germany

COMMISSION V

After-use of cut-over and disturbed peatlands

Chair: Catherine Farrell, Ireland

Sphagnum Biomass Cultivation

Forest Plantation on Cutover Peatlands

Coordinators: Lasse Aro, Finland; Florence Renou-Wilson, Ireland

Cloudberry production in peatlands

Coordinators: Line Lapointe, Kristine Knaess, Canada; Heli Pirinen, Finland; Kaare Rapp, Norway

COMMISSION VI

Peat balneology, medicine and therapeutics

Chair: Riitta Korhonen, Finland

COMMISSION VII

Ecology and management of forested peatlands

Chair: Hannu Hökkä, Finland

COMMISSION VIII

Cultural aspects of peat and peatlands

Chair: Michiel Gerding, the Netherlands

COMMISSION IX

Tropical peatlands

Chair: Jack Rieley, United Kingdom

Standing Committee on Peatlands and Climate Change

Reports of Commissions

Commission I: Survey, Stratigraphy, Classification and Conservation Chair: Lars Lundin

Scope

The IPS Commission I embraces inventory, stratigraphy and conservation of peatlands. Included in this context are ecology, geology, hydrology, biology and terminology. Peat formation is also an issue. Each of these subjects could constitute a working group. The perspective is to achieve new activities within the working groups, while keeping in mind collaboration with other Commissions.

State

The Commission addresses all IPS members interested in Commission I activities. Traditionally there have been members from 13 countries; Belarus, Canada, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, the Netherlands, Norway, Ireland, Russia, Sweden, United Kingdom and USA. An invitation was sent out from the IPS Secretariat for all IPS members to sign up in Commissions. Replies showed for Commission I 69 names from 17 countries having interest. There has also been a start of Working Groups (WG); Geology, Ecology and Hydrology. However, activities in the groups have been small during 2010.

At the quadrennial meeting 2008 in Tullamore a vice chairman was elected and this is Assistant Professor Maria Strack, Department of Geography, University of Calgary, Canada; mstrack@ucalgary.ca, www.geog.ucalgary.ca/index.cfm?page=people&style=2&this=332.

Activities and Plans

The priorities of the Commission I remain with Inventory, Stratigraphy and Conservation of mires and peatlands with special relation to the working groups.

Two Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) meetings have been held; Jyväskylä, Finland on 14-18 June in conjunction with the IPS Convention and Annual Assembly, and two Conferences related on Peat Technology and After-use of Peatlands, where also the cooperation on Wise After-Use of Peatlands; Rehabilitation and Restoration was included. The second SAB meeting was carried out by e-mail during 15-19 November. Issues addressed at the meeting were the IPS Strategy on Responsible Peatland Management, plans for a new Commission on Climate Change, the IPS website, the Journal Mires and Peat, Best Practice Guidelines for After-use of Cutaway Peatlands and IPC 2012.

The Commission Chair participated in a Swedish peat conference on "Peatlands – an important resource; How to manage these lands?" arranged in December 2010 by the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry in cooperation with the Swedish Peat Research Foundation and IPC 2012.

As current activities, the Commission I participates in the initiative on Wise After-Use of Peatlands; Rehabilitation and Restoration. In connection to this, a restoration excursion was carried out in Finland in 2010. The Commission I is also active in the planning of IPC 2012 as organiser and in the



One special highlight of the Jyväskylä Convention was the boat trip on Lake Päijänne. Photo: Susann Warnecke

scientific commission. Further, it follows current issues in relation to increasing need for biofuel and consequences of peat use for climate change with reporting to IPCC and preservation of biodiversity with connections to IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature). There are connections also to IMCG. In relation to hydrology, intentions are on ongoing initiatives for reference sites in an international network. The arrangements of activities and meetings beyond conferences and other co-arrangements are still rather problematic to carry out due to lack of financing.

Commission II: Industrial Utilisation of Peat and Peatlands for Horticulture, Energy, Environmental Protection and Other Purposes Chair: Gerald Schmilewski

Peat production and peat use for horticultural and energy purposes comprise the main subjects of activity of Commission II.

Discussions at and between Commission II meetings on peat production, environmental issues, peat replacement, life cycle assessments (LCAs), organisation of symposia and work on the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management (SRPM) have been some of the main topics for our Commission in 2010. The work conducted by the Commission and other achievements made during 2010 are summarised below.

Commission II meeting in Jyväskylä, 15 June 2010

- All represented 10 countries reported on their annual peat production which was poor in some countries due to wet weather conditions
- The latest version of the IPS Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management was recognised as a much improved document and excellent compromise between the different stakeholders. Commission II accepted the draft.
- The Commission had invited Paul Short, President of the Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association to give an update on the LCAs that the organisation was engaged in.
- Reports on the Anti-Peat Campaigns in the United Kingdom and Germany were given by Jack Rieley and Gerald Schmilewski, respectively.

In Jyväskylä, the National Representatives decided that Malaysia will host the International Peat Congress 2016. Photo: Susann Warnecke

All delegates to the Commission meeting are gratefully thanked for their engagement and contributions.

7th Symposium on “Peat in Horticulture” in Amsterdam on 11 October

This symposium focused on “Life in Growing Media” and was a joint event organised by Commission II and the Dutch National Committee of IPS. The symposium was also recognised by the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) with which Commission II has kept close relationship in these last years. More than 120 participants from 19 countries were welcomed. It was the first ever expert meeting focusing on the various aspects of the biology of growing media. Presentations were given on topics i.e. saprophytic fungi, microbial properties of peat, suppressive properties of peat, self-heating of peat, mycorrhizal fungi, microbial enrichment, entomopathogenic fungi, black fungus gnats and nematodes in growing media. The Commission II Chair edited the proceedings of the event.

International Symposium on Responsible Peatland Management and Growing Media Production, Québec, 15-17 June 2011

This will be a joint event of IPS Commissions II and V and supported by the International



Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS). The Commission II Chair was able to attend a meeting of the Organising and Scientific Committees of the symposium early October 2010. A number of important side events and workshops are scheduled, including the next Commission II meeting.

Commission II representation

As representative of IPS Commission II, the Chair was invited to give an oral presentation on “Quality parameters and use of growing media constituents in Germany and the EU” at the 45th Peat and Humus Day in Bad Zwischenahn, Germany. The Chair also represented the Commission with a similar oral presentation as above at a seminar entitled “Use and replacement of peat – responsible application of resources and climate change” in Fulda, Germany, organised by the German National Committee of IPS and the Bundesamt für Naturschutz (Federal Office for Nature Conservation).

Commission II supporting EPAGMA efforts

The European Peat and Growing Media Association (EPAGMA), is strongly engaged in pushing forward an EU regulation on growing media. This tedious work that will hopefully tear down trade barriers within the EU is strongly supported by Commission II. In this context several members of Commission II attended the EPAGMA Growing Media Forum on 5 May in Brussels.

Commission II also supports the work EPAGMA is conducting on LCAs for peat and other constituents, as the Commission will benefit from the outcome of the work.



Other business meetings

The Chair attended the SAB meeting in June in Jyväskylä and the November email SAB meeting. He also attended the 10 October Amsterdam meeting on the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management.

Commission III: Utilisation of Peat and Peatlands in Agriculture Chair: Lech Szajdak

During the course of the year, the Commission members dealt with problems of the agricultural use of peat and peatlands and published their results in numerous presentations and publications.

Conference activity

Commission III of the International Peat Society has been involved in the organisation of a scientific session on “Dehydrated and rewetted peatlands: hydrological, physical and chemical changes” (Division Soil System Sciences, Session SSS17) during the European Geosciences Union General Assembly, which took place in Vienna, Austria on 2-7 May 2010. The organisers of the session were: Lech W. Szajdak (convener), and co-conveners Teodoro Miano and Claudio Zaccone.

The authors/contributors of 29 abstracts submitted to the Organising Committee represented the following countries: Belarus, Finland, Greece, Italy, Poland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Russia, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine and United Kingdom. The abstracts showed wide aspects of dehydrated and rewetted organic soils, including peat, moorshes and sapropels. Selected papers were submitted to scientific international journals.

Several members of the Commission III attended the Polish-Belarusian Symposium on “Physical, chemical and biological processes in soils”. The symposium held

The technology excursion to Kekkilä Oy’s production plant, a heating station, peat production areas and other sights was very popular among our guests. Photo: Susann Warnecke

at Turew, near Czempin, Poland on 23-24 June 2010, was attended by 50 participants representing 13 Polish and Belarusian Scientific Institutes and Universities. A total of 53 papers was presented and discussed during three sessions. Lech W. Szajdak, Chair of Commission III, was Head of the Scientific and Organising Committee of this event. The monograph on "Physical, chemical and biological processes in soils" edited by L.W. Szajdak and A.V Karabanov was published as result of this conference. It is written in English. The monograph contains 53 papers on more than 600 pages. A number of papers, dealing with the behaviour and functions of organic matter, make a contribution to increasing agricultural production. Other papers discussed the biochemical transformation of organic matter, the characterisation of humic compounds, function of chemical compounds in the movements of water in soils and the impact of modern techniques on physical and chemical features in soils.

Commission III was also involved in the All Russian 7th Scientific School of Young Scientists with International Participation on "Mires and Biosphere" on 13-18 September 2010 in Tomsk, Russia. The school was hosted by the Tomsk State Pedagogical University. Lech W. Szajdak was a member of the Scientific Committee. The following topics were proposed: modern paludification landscape and the role of mires in the biosphere, biogeochemical processes of organic matter transformation in mire ecosystems, physico-chemical and biological properties of mires and directions of the utilisation of mire resources. Several members of this school participated in two excursions, to the Vasyugan Mire and the post-school tour to Gornyi Altaj.

Publishing activity

In 2010, a number of members of the Commission III carried out investigations, and their results were published in the following scientific journals: Chemistry and Ecology, Mires and Peat, Geoderma, Peatlands International, Biology and Biochemistry and others.

The after-use group spent two days on their trip to pristine peatlands, restoration, afforestation and rewetting sites. Photo: Susann Warnecke



In addition, several members of the Commission III were included in the monograph on "Mires and Peat". The excellent book was edited by Maris Klavinš. The monograph was published by the University of Latvia Press. It is written in English. The aim of this book is to sum up the existing research on peat and mires in Latvia and Poland and identify major prospective directions of research on these topics in the future. The hardback publication contains 214 pages and can be purchased at www.gramata24.lv or downloaded as PDF file from www.tiny.cc/qzm7d.

Plans

Commission III of the International Peat Society has been involved in planning a scientific conference on "Necessity of peatlands protection". The following topics are proposed for discussion: (i) Peatlands and forest areas, (ii) Protection of peatlands in agricultural and forestry landscape, (iii) Multifunction of peatlands. The Conference will offer an excellent opportunity for all scientists, policy makers, and industry representatives - to meet, share and discuss new knowledge and experience on all aspects of peat and forestry peatlands. The conference will be held on 1-2 September 2011 in Tlen, located in Bory Tucholskie, central Poland. More information about the conferences is available at www.isrl.poznan.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=78&Itemid=67&lang=en.

Conclusion

The Chair of the Commission III would like to express his gratitude towards the members who participated in the meetings and the people who have worked voluntarily for the Commission.

Commission V: After-use of Cut-over and Disturbed Peatlands

Chair: Catherine Farrell

Mission

To promote the wise use and management of peatlands, and restoration and rehabilitation practices after human use of the habitat or resources.

Goals

- To promote the best restoration and rehabilitation practices according to the residual peat substrate conditions and according to the biodiversity and preservation priorities of the country.
- To facilitate discussions on the development of self-imposed restoration and reclamation policies at each industrial company level.
- To encourage the development of field operations and site management that will reduce the impact on peatland environments.

Strategy on Responsible Peatland Management meetings and review, Brussels, October 2009 and Ireland 2010

The meetings were attended by the Chair of Commission V who participated in the discussions on the strategy document. The strategy document was finalised in Amsterdam 2010 and has been endorsed by Commission V as a positive management tool to be used in conjunction with existing legislation, policies and strategies at local, national and global levels.

www.peatsociety.org/index.php?id=235



Peatland Restoration Seminar and Workshop, Jyväskylä, Finland, June 2010

The workshop and meeting was organised by our Finnish colleagues with considerable input from Päivi Picken (Vapo Oy) and Hannu Salo (Association of Finnish Peat Industries). On Wednesday and Thursday (16 and 17 June) we had a range of presentations detailing the after-uses of industrial cutaway bogs in Finland, Sweden, Ireland and Canada (reed canary grass, wetlands, agriculture, forestry and berry cultivation) with other presentations on revegetation and restoration projects from Sweden, Indonesia and Estonia.

The seminar was followed by a very interesting excursion, where we visited pristine mires and peatlands in near-natural state and then industrial sites with active peat production and those that were re-instated for after-uses. It was organised to coincide with the Annual Assembly, EB and SAB meetings of the IPS and focus on the role of after-uses in the post-industrial use management of peatlands. The seminar presentations can be viewed at www.peatsociety.org/index.php?id=294.

Attendance of Society Ecological Restoration, Avignon, August 2010

There was a special session on peatland restoration at the Avignon meeting with exciting presentation from the UK, Australia, Estonia and Ireland. www.seravignon2010.org

Mullagh Bog Conservation and Restoration seminar and workshop, Ireland; October 2010

The Irish Peat Society is now on Facebook – sign up to see photos from our recent workshops.

www.facebook.com/pages/Irish-Peat-Society/190659956823

Publication of Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015

See www.bnm.ie to download a copy. The plan was launched by respected Irish wildlife film-maker Éamon de Buitléar in Tullamore on 19 November 2010.

The Baltic Peat Forum in Druskininkai, Lithuania was probably one of the largest peat events of 2010. Photo: Algimantas Sakalnykas

Future Events

At this point in time, there are a number of events for your diaries and these will be added to over the coming year. The main events are:

- IPS meetings in Stockholm in March 2011 (EB and SAB meetings) that will focus on the preparation for the International Peat Congress in 2012. www.ipc2012.se
- The International Symposium in Québec that will focus on Responsible Peatland Management and Growing Media Production (Québec City, Canada, 13-17 June, 2011).

This is a joint IPS symposium between Commission V (After-use) and Commission II (Industrial Use) and other partners. The last call for papers has been announced (November 2010) and abstracts due by 31 January 2011. www.peatlands2011.ulaval.ca

New websites

Check out: www.peatlands.by and www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org

Working Groups within Commission V

- Sphagnum Biomass Cultivation WG
- Working Group on Cloudberry Production on Peatlands WG
- Forest plantation on cutover peatlands WG

Commission VII: Ecology and Management of Forested Peatlands Chair: Hannu Hökkä

During 2010, the commission members received two information letters from the Chairperson by email.

A joint Nordic meeting on the peatland forest management was arranged in Honne, Norway on 13-15 September. Altogether 20 peatland forestry experts from Finland, Sweden and Norway enjoyed the field trip and seminar day. The meeting was funded by the SNS, the Nordic Forest Research Co-operation Committee.

The conference included a field trip to Zuvintas nature reserve in southwest Lithuania. Photo: Algimantas Sakalnykas



Commission VII's own Internet page was linked under the IPS web pages. It includes a brief description of what is peatland forestry, what are the key research issues, and how research is supporting sustainable use of peatland forest resources.

Several commission VII members from Finland have been involved in activities of COST action FP601 "Forest management and the water cycle". The action meeting was arranged on 6-7 September in Helsinki followed by a field trip to peatland forests in Hyytiälä surroundings. Several Commission members were involved in the meeting arrangements.

An English written book on peatland forest management is under preparation by Juhani Päivänen and Björn Hånell.

Commission VII: Cultural Aspects of Peat and Peatlands Chair: Michiel Gerding

On an international level so far there has been not much activity within the Commission. The chair participated in the discussions on the draft of the SPRM. An article for Peatlands International was submitted by the Chair on the relationship between peat extraction and the construction of waterways.

World Canals Conference

Preparations for the World Canals Conference 2011 which will take place in the city of Groningen in the Netherlands on 19-23 September are well under way. A call for papers is available at www.worldcanalsconference2011.nl. In the North of the

Netherlands and the adjoining German areas there are canal systems which are closely linked to the peat extraction in the past. They were built from the 17th century onwards to drain the bogs and to transport the peat.

During the last 60 years these canals have lost their function as a means of transport. Part of the canal system has been filled in and bridges and locks have been removed. In the last decade the remaining waterways are being revitalised for touristic and economic purposes. Derelict stretches of canals are under reconstruction to create an interlinked canal network again. Large investments are being made.

Naturpark Moor. A German-Dutch initiative

The Dutch nature reserve Bargerveen and the adjoining peat areas in the German Emsland will be linked together and, once the German peat extraction activities are over, be transformed into one large cross border reservation. Large scale rewetting will be one of the main features. Touristic and recreational goals go hand in hand with this development.

Tractatus de Turffis

Recently, the grand old man of the IPS Henk van de Griendt has taken the initiative to publish a translation from Latin of the seventeenth century publication on peat from Martinus Schoock Tractatus de Turffis (1658). It is the oldest publication dedicated specifically to peat.

Commission IX: Tropical Peatlands Chair: Jack Rieley

This has been a relatively quiet year for Commission IX. Members are spread around the world and few have provided information on their activities. Fire, fortunately, was less of a hazard this year owing to the shorter dry season and consistent heavy rain.

IPS Convention 2010

At the IPS Annual Convention that was held in Jyväskylä, Finland from 14-18 June 2010 there were too few members of Commission X in attendance to hold a formal meeting. At the Annual Assembly of National Representatives of IPS held on 16 June 2010 it was decided that the International Peat Congress in 2016 will be held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia. This is a momentous decision since it will be the first time that the IPC has been held in a tropical country. It also means, under the current IPS Statutes, that the Malaysian National Committee of IPS will nominate the 1st Vice President for 2012-2016 who will possibly become IPS President for the period 2016-2020. We look forward to a fantastic Congress in 2016 and welcome all IPS members and colleagues to Kuching.

IPS Convention 2011

This will be held in Québec Canada on from 13-16 June 2011, followed by excursions and a workshop on Sphagnum farming. A meeting of Commission IX can be held on Tuesday 14 June if sufficient members attend.

14th International Peat Congress 2012

This will be held in the City Conference Centre, Stockholm, Sweden from 3-8 June 2012. There will be a Session devoted to tropical peatlands and peat with the following preliminary titles:

- Inventory, survey and monitoring
- Land use change and impacts of fire
- Cultural and socio-economic aspects

There is also scope to include papers on tropical peatland in other sessions on climate change, ecology and management of forested peatlands, agriculture and chemical, physical



The Baltic Peat Forum 2010 took place at an impressive spa hotel in Druskininkai. Photo: Susann Warnecke

and biological characteristics of peat. Further information is available at: www.ipc2012.se

International meeting on tropical biodiversity and conservation

This important meeting on tropical biodiversity was held in Bali, Indonesia on 19-23 July 2010 organised by the Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation (ATBC) and hosted by the Indonesian Institute of Sciences Research Centre for Biology and the University of Indonesia Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Further information can be found at <http://atbc2010.org>

At the end of the conference a declaration was issued giving “Unequivocal Support for Recent Forest-Conservation Initiatives in Indonesia” some of which applies to peatland. Further information can be found at <http://atbc2010.org/html/declaration.html>. In particular, “whereas, the rapid destruction and degradation of forests, peat swamps, wetlands, and other habitats is also a major source of atmospheric carbon emissions, contributing significantly to global warming and climatic change” the declaration:

- Heartily commends H. E. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono for his innovative and forward-thinking efforts to promote forest conservation, combat illegal logging, and improve forest monitoring and governance in Indonesia, which have led to illegal logging reportedly declining by 50-75% since 2002; and
- Congratulates the Government of Indonesia on the agreement initiated by H. E. President Yudhoyono and the Government of Norway to reduce dangerous carbon emissions by funding up to \$1 billion in forest-conservation and monitoring initiatives, thereby complementing ongoing efforts to slow deforestation and strengthen protected areas in the country; and
- Respectfully urges the Indonesian government to implement and maintain the planned two- year moratorium on issuance of new permits for timber, oil palm, and other plantation concessions; to implement this planned

Rewetting remained an important issue for IPS this year, here at an abandoned peatland in Lithuania. Photo: Susann Warnecke



moratorium immediately; and to ensure that any further expansion of plantations is restricted to lands without standing forests; and

- Respectfully requests that all concessions to clear natural forest issued prior to the moratorium be carefully re-evaluated for their biodiversity and carbon values; and
- Strongly recommends that the Indonesian government reinstate the 2007 ban on clearing of peat forests that was rescinded in 2009, because of the high carbon-storage value of these wetlands; and
- Respectfully urges the Indonesian government to renew and strengthen its efforts to combat destructive forest fires, which increased by 59% between 2008 and 2009.

Wild Fire and Carbon Management in Peat Forest In Indonesia

This is a five year project funded by the Japanese Science and Technology Agency (JST) and Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), based in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. This project, recognising the large amount of carbon stored in peatland in Indonesia and that recent accelerating peatland development are emitting substantial amounts of carbon to the atmosphere, aims to contribute to mitigating climate change through establishing:

1. A system for detecting and controlling wildfire
2. A system for evaluating carbon stock
3. A system for carbon management and
4. A system for education and training.

Further information can be obtained from: www.census.hokudai.ac.jp/newsletter.

Reports of National Committees

Canada

Governance

Increasing concerns related to climate change, carbon management and wetland conservation have been the catalyst for governments throughout Canada to investigate new policies, strategies and legislation.

In Alberta peatlands are directly being considered in the development of the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan, as well as the Wetland Policy (draft). The regulatory process for leasing and allocation of peat for horticultural uses is being amended. Considerable effort is also being given by the oil sands industry in the restoration and reclamation of wetlands.

Manitoba has initiated discussions on a future boreal peatland strategy. A one day State of Knowledge Workshop, sponsored by Ducks Unlimited Canada, The Canadian Boreal Forest Initiative and the Manitoba government was held in Winnipeg on 29 November 2010. It was emphasised that this is only a first step in a longer process involving many stakeholders.



Québec's government has been in discussions with industry over the revamping of the current legislation which governs the regulation and management of the peat industry.

Federally, work has continued on the improvement in measurement and reporting of GHG's from horticultural peat harvesting operations. Efforts are underway to improve the partnership between the industry and Environment of Canada to improve the measurement and management of peatlands.

Research

The work of the Industrial Research Chair for peatland management has continued under the NSERC program. This year marked the 10th year of work on the Bois des Bel research bog. The results are currently being analyzed and reports are anticipated early in 2011. Fen and wet meadow restoration at Bic Saint-Fabien has also been underway. Interest in research work on sphagnum farming and its commercialisation was maintained.

A natural disturbance impact on peatlands has continued through the NSERC supported research of Dr. Merritt Turetsky and Dr. Mike Waddington entitled "The effects of drought on the vulnerability of forested peatlands to wildfires".

An important conference entitled Reclamation and Restoration of Boreal Peatlands and Forest Ecosystems: Toward a Sustainable Future was held in Edmonton Alberta on 25-27 March. The sessions were well attended by the research community, energy industry, forestry, government and the peat industry. Special thanks to the Organising committee for a successful event, including Dr. Dale Vitt, Dr. Kel Wieder, Dr. Lee Foote, Dr. Jagtar Bhatti, Leonie Nadeau, and Dr. Line Rochefort.

Planning for the International Symposium on Responsible Peatland Management and Growing Media Production, to be held in Québec City, Québec, Canada on 13-17 June 2011 was ongoing. www.peatlands2011.ulaval.ca

In October, the Secretary General and Communications Manager travelled to Helsinki to meet the new representatives of the IPS Russian National Committee. Photo: Susann Warnecke

Industry

The harvest year was a combination of good early and mid season results, especially in Eastern Canada, followed by a much reduced harvest volume in late summer and fall. The overall result was in general, comparable to last year which was average to below average.

Prices over the year reflected both the seasonal supply variance and the slow economy in the US, our principle market. In midsummer prices were extremely competitive given the good harvest volumes. Later in the year prices were adjusted to reflect a balance between the slower harvest and demand.

Companies remained conservative in their business activities reflecting the challenges faced by a rising Canadian dollar and the economic events in the United States. The industry maintained its focus on the sustainability initiatives.

Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) of California, the independent agency that has worked with the peat industry, government regulators and the scientific research community completed the VeriFlora® - Responsibly Managed Peatland certification. The certification is the first peatland management certification system globally. A number of Canadian producers (Berger Peat Moss, Fafard et Frères, Premier Horticulture) have been independently audited under the system and have achieved certification. www.veriflora.com

An Environmental Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) was carried out. The industry is conducting an upgrade to the Environmental LCA as well as conducting a Socio/Economic LCA during 2011. The Québec peat industry has strengthened its activities through the Québec Peat Association (APTHQ). New Brunswick activities of the New Brunswick Peat Producer Association (NBPPA) have continued to provide support to that Provinces interests.

Nationally the Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association (CSPMA) has engaged in increased communications initiatives to promote certification, sustainable resource allocation and responsible management of peatlands. Members have

The final meeting for the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management was held in Amsterdam on 10 October. Photo: Susann Warnecke

participated in active session at the Semi Annual and Annual meetings were presentations on emerging sustainable resource issues (carbon management, natural disturbances) and business challenges (economic forecast and business insurance issues) were highlighted. Dr. Jean-Yves Daigle was recognised as an Honorary Member of the Association for his excellent support and service to the industry at this year's Annual meeting.

Finland

The activities of Finnish Peatland Society - Suoseura in the year 2010 concentrated mostly on three occasions. Big effort of the members of Suoseura as well as the Organising Executive Board was at work with the preparation of the National Strategy of Mires and Peatlands of Finland. Traditionally two regular annual meetings for members; the spring and autumn meetings, were arranged with oral presentations and a seminar about current topics concerning mires and peatlands. At the spring meeting, the topic of the presentations was "The environmental effects of peatland forestry".

In connection to the autumn meeting, a seminar entitled "Finnish Peatland Society and International Peat Society (IPS): Review to the strategies of peatland and mire management" was arranged. The meetings and seminars were open to anyone interested, without any attending fees. More information is available at www.suoseura.fi.

Meetings and seminars

Annual spring meeting, 16 March 2010 Helsinki, 14 attendants, followed by lectures:

- Ph.D. Riitta Väänänen, Phosphorus retention in forest soils and the functioning of buffer zones



used in forestry in Finland (based on her Ph.D. work) www.metla.fi/dissertationes

- Ph.D. student Paavo Oja (Helsinki University), Greenhouse gas emissions of peatlands drained for forestry in Finland-based on (Metla's) measurements on forested peatland sample plot network.

Annual autumn meeting, 25 November 2010, House of Estates, Helsinki (60 attendants)

The seminar started at 10.00 am and the topics of the morning were:

- Welcoming words - Riitta Korhonen, Chair of the Finnish Peatland Society
- Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management - Donal Clarke, President of the IPS
- What is IPS? Björn Hånell, IPS First Vice President
- Review of the Strategy for Finnish Peatland and Mire Management - Jaana Kaipainen, Secretary General of the Working Group, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

The morning session ended with the presentation of Björn Hånell "Towards the next Peat Congress in Stockholm 2012". The topics of the afternoon concerned the activities of the Finnish Peatland Society in different IPS Commissions and the Commissions were presented. The seminar ended with the Annual Assembly of the Finnish Peatland Society.

Excursions

Suoseura was partly responsible for arranging the two days field trips during the IPS Convention 2010 in Jyväskylä, Finland, 14-18 June. Instead of the traditional autumn excursion, the members of Suoseura were offered the possibility to attend

the Field trips on Peat Technology and After-Use of Peatlands on 17-18 June 2010 in the vicinity of Jyväskylä and Tampere area. Especially, the after-use field trip was popular among the members of Suoseura as well as the members of IPS' other National Committees.

Publications

In 2010, the Finnish Peatland Society published the 61st volume of the quarterly journal of SUO (Mires and Peat), with altogether 94 pages and 450 reprints. Since 2005 all scientific articles of Suo are also published on our website: www.suoseura.fi/Suo.

Activities in IPS and in its Commissions

In addition to the IPS excursions in June, Suoseura arranged, together with IPS Commission VI, a Balneological Symposium of IPS in Kurikka, Finland, 2-4 September. The Symposium was called the "Round Table on the Use of Peat in Balneology, Medicine and Therapy". There were altogether 20 participants from Germany, Estonia and Finland. A short report on this conference can be read in Peatlands International 2/2010. Many of the members of Finnish Peatland Society took an active part in reviewing and commenting the final version of the IPS Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management.

Lithuania

Several important events were carried out by the Association "Lietuviškos durpės" in 2010. A General Meeting of the Association members was held in the beginning of March. Due to the economic crisis, two companies left the Association

in the beginning of the year. Therefore the association did not receive planned revenue and, in the beginning of the year, the association started with extra activities when preparing for organisation of a traditional Baltic Peat Forum. The Association had 13 members in 2010.

During the course of the year, urgent problems of the peat industry and actions planned were tackled at the



Also the Executive Board of IPS met in Amsterdam, on 9 October. Photo: Susann Warnecke

Association Board meetings which were convened every quarter. On 31 May, Eugenijus Strašinskas, the General Director of the peat company “Ežerelio durpes“, was honoured on his 60th anniversary and awarded with the medal of the famous Lithuanian peat industry worker and scientist Prof. Jurgis Vidmantas, issued by the Association.

On the Governmental level of the Republic of Lithuania, the Association took part in meetings together with associations of other industries, which were attended by the Government, the Parliament members and other executives of the country. There were active attempts to include peat into a Governmental program on the national development of the use of energy from renewable sources for 2010-2020, so that the share of renewable energy sources would reach 23% of the country’s total energy consumption in 2020 and peat as slowly renewable raw material would be used in biomass fuel. Yet, due to the concept of “biomass” included into the Directive 2009/28/EB of the European Parliament and of the Council dated 23 April 2009, peat was recognised as natural material of biological origin, and we did not succeed to it being included into the Governmental energy program.

With the above situation, possibilities for fuel peat usage in the energy sector are very limited. Another issue solved with the Association’s efforts was the decision of the government to treat the peat industry as a branch of the agricultural industry when it comes to employment during the seasonal work period. Employees of peat extraction companies were allowed to work up to 12 hours per day during this period without violating the stated annual total working time calculation. The decision enables peat companies to reduce hiring unprepared labourers from the labour exchange during the working season.

A great deal of effort was required for work in the Parliament regarding a proposal of Sejm to increase the tax on peat resources 5.32 times, though the tax has already been increased before coming into force as of 1 January 2010. So far, an agreement was reached that the tax

Over 120 participants attended the symposium on “Life in Growing Media” in Amsterdam on 11 October. Photo: Susann Warnecke

draft proposed is not well-grounded and requires additional analysis. Members of the Peat Producers Association are concerned about future discussions regarding the tax increase, having in mind that with the country’s budget deficit it is hard to discuss with state institutions even with the help of arguments. Therefore, the Association started preparing an exhaustive study of the peat industry in Lithuania, which is expected to contribute to providing more arguments to the Parliament.

The Baltic Peat Forum held on 2-4 September in Druskininkai under the subject “Alternative Usage of Peat” was the most important event in the Association’s activity in 2010. The Forum received great interest from participants; as about 190 people from Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Germany, the Netherlands, Belarus, Israel, the Czech Republic, Finland and other countries took part in it. According to the participants, this Forum was the most numerous in terms of the number of guests.

Eleven presentations were delivered during the Forum. Participants also had an opportunity to see a fen under restoration. All presentations can be found at www.asocdurpes.lt. We provoke interest in many foreign companies to support the Forum organisation, some of them subsequently expressed a wish to become members of the Lithuanian Peat Producers Association, such as Dutch company Sloopweg Macchinefabriek. You can find more information about the Association, its members and events in our updated website www.asocdurpes.lt.

Malaysia

The Malaysian Peat Society (MPS) was officially registered with the Registrar of Society Malaysia under the governance of Rules and Constitution



of Persatuan Gambut Malaysia (Malaysian Peat Society). The Management Committee of the MPS in the period of 2009-2011 consists of the President Dr. James Dawos Mamin, Vice-President Mr. Ho Kian Sin, Secretary-General Mr. Frederick Haili Teck, Treasurer-General Dr. Lulie Melling and Assistant Treasurer-General Mr. Sulim Lumong.

The Society held its two committee meetings on 4 September and 17 December 2010 to discuss various issues pertaining to the formation of the society. The meetings discussed the formation of the Society's bank account, appointment of a panel of lawyers, internal and external auditors and a membership recruitment exercise plan. During the meeting, it was agreed upon that those who attended the pro-tem committee meeting be accepted as the immediate members of MPS and a membership drive will proceed immediately. The next Annual General Meeting of MPS was tentatively fixed on 26 March.

One of the highlighted events of the year was MPS winning the bidding to host the International Peat Congress 2016 in Malaysia. The bidding event was held in Jyväskylä, Finland on 16 June 2010 and the winning bid was a credit to the collaborative efforts of MPS and Sarawak Convention Bureau

A very successful seminar to introduce the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management was held in Helsinki at the House of Estates on 25 November 2010. Photo: Susann Warnecke

(SCB). The President of MPS shall become the chair of IPS if MPS resume the chair country to head IPS. Therefore, Dr. Lulie Melling shall be elected as President of MPS during the same tenure because she is a candidate to be President in 2016 IPS.

In November, a 2-day workshop on Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for oil palm cultivation on peat was co-organised with the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) in Sibul, Sarawak. The workshop was organised to address the issues relating to oil palm development on peat because focus has been placed on the sustainability of plantation crops developed on peatlands. New emerging issues have been raised in relation to peatland management including the need to prevent peatland fires and also the issues of carbon storage and climate change. A sustainable and wise use of these peatlands is essential in order to ensure that sufficient areas still remain to carry out their vital natural resources functions while satisfying the essential requirements of present and future generations.

The Netherlands

Leo Schipper, who last year stepped down as President of the Dutch National Committee was awarded with the honorary membership of our Veengenootschap at the 2010 annual general meeting. His stimulating interest so eloquently formulated in all aspects of peat, its use and its



people were herewith symbolically recognised, by his successor, Guus van Berckel.

We are proud that Gerald Schmilewski, nominated by the Veengenootschap with support from the DGMT (German Peat Society) and the RHP Foundation was awarded the “IPS Award of Excellence 2010”, formerly the “Wim Tonnis Peat Award”. Among many other things, Gerald was the stimulating force behind the successful series of “Peat in Horticulture” symposia, in the first years together with Wim Tonnis. This year, the sixth symposium with the title “Life in Growing Media” was held as usual the day before the opening of the Amsterdam Horti Fair. About 120 people attended this very interesting symposium.

Incidents have made clear that old-fashioned hands-on knowledge about peat and peat dikes is disappearing. The Netherlands National Committee is preparing a course to preserve this knowledge for professionals in, for example, landscape maintenance and water regulating bodies. The Dutch Board has joined a similar DGMT course to find out the German way of disseminating this knowledge. Related to this is the initiative for the Board to brainstorm with organisations like Wetlands International and experts from the Agricultural University Wageningen in areas of potential mutual interest. Interest is growing, as also can be seen in the attendance of our annual meeting where Dr. Geert van Wirdum and Dr. Piet Cleveringa presented most interesting lectures on the subject peat, dikes and safety. The subject will remain vital to the Netherlands in the centuries to come.

The Dutch government has organised Stakeholder Meetings on Sustainable Trade in Peat and Peat Products, with the aim of gaining thorough insight into practices in the peat supply chain and the potential to increase its sustainability. From a global context point of view, the project is also looking at the relevance of peat use by the horticulture sector for the total availability and use of peat in the world and the influence of the use and degradation of peat lands on the climate and vice versa. Experts from the peat industry, universities and government attended. The final report will be ready in the first part of next year.

A small press conference for the Finnish media was also part of the programme. Photo: Susann Warnecke

Poland

Members of the Polish National Committee of IPS met twice this year. An annual assembly was held on 10 February. During this meeting, the Chairpersons of Commissions presented reports on activities during the previous year. After discussion, the action plan for 2010 was accepted. The second meeting was held on 27 October. It was decided to organise a peat symposium in 2011. Another theme discussed was to prepare a book describing activities of the Polish National Committee and its Commissions. The idea is to cover the whole history of our organisation and the main point is to describe various activities performed during the last decade.

As the Polish National Committee assembles mainly scientists from 24 universities and research institutes, the activities are focused on research. The members are active in many fields related to peat properties and peatlands utilisation and protection. During the last year many important research projects were carried out by the Polish IPS members. The results obtained were published in many international and local journals.

The members of the Executive Board of the Polish National Committee participated in many meetings and scientific events where various aspects of peat and peatlands were raised. For example, Polish IPS members were active at General Assembly of European Geosciences Union in Vienna, Austria on 2-7 May, where Prof. Lech Szajdak was a co-organiser of one session – SSS17 – „Dehydrated and rewetted peatlands: hydrological, physical and chemical changes”. Also five persons took part in the 7th Scientific School on Bogs and Biosphere in Tomsk, Russia during 13-19 September and



afterwards participated in the field trip in Gornyi Altai. The Polish participants are very grateful to Prof. Lidia I. Inisheva and the organising committee from Tomsk State Pedagogical University, Dr. M. V. Shurova from Gorno-Altai Research Institute of Agriculture and the staff members of Gorno-Altai State University for this splendid and well prepared scientific event.

At the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn lectures open to the general public were delivered. Prof. W. Mioduszewski spoken on "Extreme natural events – droughts and floods". The hydrological role of peatlands is frequently underestimated, therefore the consequences of floods may be of catastrophic dimension. Prof. K. Lipka covered two themes "Functions of wetlands" and "Peatlands in the Orawsko-Nowotarska Basin". Raised peat bogs located in this sub-Carpathian region are at risk due to human activities.

United Kingdom

Again, this year's activities have focussed on consolidating the UK IPS membership through the UK Peat Society. We lost some members through retirement but gained a few to compensate. We maintain a mix of individual and corporate members.

It was not possible to hold a meeting of members this year owing to lack of interest and absence of another meeting onto which we could have grafted ours.

Peat and peatlands have been in focus in the UK during the last year with the IUCN Peatland Programme conference in Durham on "Investing in Peatlands: the Climate Challenge" that was attended by 250 peatland scientists and managers.

The IUCN UK Committee is holding their next conference in Stirling on 20-22 June 2011 and, if possible, a meeting of the UK Peat Society will be held there.

The new UK Government Natural Environment Minister, Richard Benyon, has called for the elimination of peat from the amateur gardeners market by 2020 and its use by all gardeners, growers and procurers by 2030. This was the policy of the previous Government.

This UK Government has opened consultation on proposals for a new policy to reduce the horticultural use of peat in England. This ends on 11 March 2011. More information can be found at: www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/peat/index.htm.

*More information on the
IPS is available at
www.peatociety.org*



IPS President Donal Clarke and First Vice President Björn Hånell as well as former President and IPS Honorary Member Markku Mäkelä took the chance to introduce IPS activities to the mainly Finnish audience. Photo: Susann Warnecke

The IPS-IMCG Scientific Online Journal Mires and Peat

The 2010 publication rate of Mires and Peat, expressed in numbers of articles and pages published during the year, has previously been exceeded only once (in 2008). The new articles are spread over three volumes:

The 'regular' Volume 6 (2010) contains the same number of articles as Volume 5 (2009), and five fewer pages. The last two papers of Special Volume 4 Wind Farms on Peatland were completed and published, and Volume 4 was closed in May. A new Special Volume 7 "A Review of Protocols in Peat Palaeoenvironmental Studies" opened in June, now contains six articles, and will continue into 2011.

Readership continued to increase; but possibly at a slower rate than in previous years, especially during the second half of 2010. Nonetheless, the highest-ever number of visits to the journal's website in a single month (6,460) was logged in May, and the number of page impressions in a month exceeded 10,000 for the first time in October. The accumulated number of visits since the journal was launched had reached 173,319 by 31 December 2010. Due to a change in policy by our web provider, it has been possible to obtain download statistics for the 18 most popular articles only; but these are encouraging in that 'download rate per day online' has increased for eleven of these articles, remained the same for two, and declined for only three.

The core editorial team still comprises of six people (Editor, Deputy Editor, three Assistant Editors and Web Administrator), and all have contributed regularly to different aspects of manuscript management and

Suoseura, the Finnish National Committee of the IPS, presented its impressive range of national and international activities, here Hannu Salo, Leila Korpela and Chair Riitta Korhonen (from left). Photo: Susann Warnecke

other journal activities throughout the year. The backlog of unprocessed manuscripts is now much reduced.

There is no conclusive news about either the evaluation by Thomson Reuters Web of Science or the proposal to join the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) scheme, but both initiatives have been rejuvenated.

Material published

Mires and Peat published 15 articles (159 pages) by authors from eleven countries during 2010. Two articles were added to Special Volume 4 (2008–2010) Wind Farms on Peatland, which now contains ten papers (129 pages) from Spain, the UK and Ireland (Table 1) and was closed in May.

Volume 6 (2010) contains seven articles (78 pages) by authors from nine countries, and was closed on 31 December 2010. Most authors are from western





Looking forward to an exciting IPS year 2011! Photo: István Szabó

Editorial activity

All three Assistant Editors have contributed regularly to manuscript management during 2010. Prof. R.S. Clymo has helped with a number of the manuscripts processed, and was principal editor for two of the articles published in Volume 6. Dr. Richard Payne has assisted with Volume 7, and visited Israel during the year to organise contributions

for his proposed special volume on Peatland of the Hula Valley (manuscripts are now being submitted). Derrick Lai has prepared initial layouts for all of the articles published in Volume 7 (and drawn attention to a number of mistakes in these supposedly 'publication-ready' manuscripts), in addition to researching new books and commissioning selected reviews of which one (A.J. Baird et al. (eds.) *Carbon Cycling in Northern Peatlands*) has been published. Prof. Jack Rieley (Deputy Editor) has continued to provide a range of helpful and constructive inputs.

The total number of manuscripts submitted during 2010 was 225 (Manuscripts 81 to 102 inclusive). By the end of December, eight of these had been published; one was ready to be published on 1 January 2011; six had been accepted subject to satisfactory revision by authors; and seven were at earlier stages of the evaluation process.

A significant milestone reached during the year was submission of the 100th manuscript received by *Mires and Peat*. Of Manuscripts 1–100, 66 have been accepted for publication (57 published by 31 December 2010), 27 have been rejected, and decisions are yet to be made on seven. This gives a publication rate of around 70% (66–73%) (i.e. rejection rate ca 30% (27–34%)).

The minimum and maximum times from submission to publication of individual papers during 2010 were both records. Ignoring Article 7.00 (Foreword for Special Volume, which was not peer reviewed), total processing times ranged from 44 days for Article 7.02 to 1,028 days for Article 6.05, which was originally submitted in January 2008 and has been revised several times since. Over the lifetime of the journal, the average processing time per

Europe (France, Germany, The Netherlands, UK); the other countries represented are Argentina, Canada, Estonia, Poland and South Africa.

An enquiry received in April 2010 resulted in Volume 7, which opened on 1 June and will continue into 2011. This Special Volume is entitled "A Review of Protocols in Peat Palaeoenvironmental Studies" (Guest Editors François De Vleeschouwer, Paul Hughes, Jonathan Nichols and Frank Chambers). It currently contains a Foreword and six articles (46 pages) and adds Sweden and USA to the list of 2010 author nationalities. One book review was received and published.

Readership

The number of visits to the journal's web site per month showed a less distinct rising trend than in previous years, fluctuating between ca 5,000 (the level reached by the end of 2009) and ca 6,500. Nonetheless, new monthly maxima were achieved during 2010 for both visits (6,460 in May) and page impressions (10,353 in October). Up to 31 December 2010, the total number of visits to the web site since the journal went online was 173,319 and the total number of page impressions was 282,081.

Overall, the most popular contribution is still Article 1.01, which has now been downloaded 6,010 times in total (1,630 times in 2010); but the most popular during 2010 was Article 3.02 (2,782 downloads)⁴. The 18 most frequently consulted articles are spread fairly evenly and proportionally across all volumes except Volume 2 (contains only one).

manuscript has generally fluctuated around 200 days.

Despite painstaking evaluation, language editing and encouragement to authors, most of the material submitted for the proposed special volume on Physiological, Biochemical and Biological Properties of Peat (Manuscripts 66–78) could not be brought up to an acceptable standard for publication in *Mires and Peat* and, consequently, this volume has been cancelled. However, one of the articles has been published as Article 6.06 and we are still working with authors on the development of two more. Our revisions of manuscripts that were eventually rejected have been returned to authors, in the hope that they will be able to publish in more local journals or re-use the material in future publications.

Written interim reports on progress of the journal were prepared for the IMCG Main Board, the IPS Executive Board and Scientific Advisory Board. The IPS Secretariat organised an entry about the journal in *Peat News* No. 7/2010.

As reported previously, evaluation of the journal for Thomson Reuters Web of Science was requested on 13 January 2009, as a step towards the goal of eventually acquiring an 'impact factor' (IF)⁶. The Editor received notification when the 2010 IFs were released but *Mires and Peat* was not amongst the journals listed. It seems that the initial submission, which was made via a web form, may have been partially overlooked. The Editor has now made email contact via Thomson Reuters helpdesk, with the result that the first phase of the evaluation - an assessment of our 'timeliness of publication' - will be carried out on the basis of two retrospective volumes plus Volume 8 (2011).

Members of the Editorial Board (and others) have continued to be stalwart in providing reviews, and are thanked for all of their contributions. The names of Editorial Board members again feature in the list of authors for 2010, and all are asked to continue publishing (and encouraging their associates to publish) in *Mires and Peat* when possible. The value of citing *Mires and Peat* articles in papers that are destined for other peer-reviewed journals is again strongly underlined, because citations form the basis of the Impact Factor (IF) computation.

Members of all relevant IPS/IMCG Boards are asked to continue to bear in mind the availability of *Mires and Peat* as a versatile publication medium for high-quality original material arising from any sponsored scientific meetings or other publishing initiatives. Special Volume 7 provides an example of how the journal's format can lend itself to realising innovative publishing ideas conceived at meetings,

with fast turn-around of manuscripts and immediate global exposure of each one soon as it becomes ready for publication.

Future plans

The first article of Volume 8 (2011) was published on 1 January 2011. Twelve more manuscripts are in hand as potential material for this volume, as well as four for Volume 7 and at least one for the Special Volume on Peatland of the Hula Valley. Five of the manuscripts in hand have been conditionally accepted for publication and are currently being revised with or by authors; the remainder are new submissions or likely to require substantial development before they can be fully reviewed. Thus, as always, new high-quality manuscripts are needed.

All mainstream academic journals now routinely assign a unique Digital Object Identifier (DOI) to every new article published. Adoption of this system by *Mires and Peat* would improve citation possibilities for our articles. Discussion in Tullamore (2008) determined that *Mires and Peat* should join the DOI scheme as a stand-alone publication (i.e. not under the umbrella of either IPS or IMCG); to be organised from the home country of the journal's web page (Germany); all papers already published to be given DOIs retrospectively. At that stage, IPS agreed in principal to cover the charge for the first batch of DOI numbers. The library of Hanover University has now been identified as the most appropriate and cost effective DOI Registration Agency for *Mires and Peat*. The minimum annual registration fee is €150, and this will allow us to assign up to 500 new DOIs per year. It is proposed that Michael Trepel should organise and administer our participation in this scheme, and the cost will be included in the budget requested for 2011.

If calculated at the beginning of 2009, the IF would be the average number of times that each of the 15 articles in Volumes 1 and 2 (2006 and 2007) was cited during 2008, in the 2,000+ journals scanned by Thomson. If *Mires and Peat* were to be evaluated at the next possible opportunity (i.e. during 2011), the IF would be calculated from 2010 citation rates for the 26 articles published during 2008 and 2009.

Please read *Mires and Peat*, submit your manuscripts to the Editor and promote the journal within your networks.

www.mires-and-peat.net

Expenses and revenue

INCOME STATEMENT

	Total 1.1.-31.12.2010		Budget 2010		Total 1.1.-31.12.2009	
ORDINARY OPERATIONS,						
PUBLICATIONS						
Income	10 450,00		9 000		13 220,50	
Expenses						
Staff expenses	0,00		0		0,00	
Other expenses	<u>-17 675,62</u>	<u>-7 225,62</u>	<u>-22 500</u>	<u>-13 500</u>	<u>-24 537,50</u>	<u>-11 317,00</u>
CONFERENCE						
Income	0,00		0		300,00	
Expenses						
Staff expenses	0,00		0		0,00	
Other expenses	<u>-428,65</u>	<u>-428,65</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0,00</u>	<u>300,00</u>
PROJECTS						
Income	1 615,00		0		46 096,16	
Expenses						
Staff expenses	0,00		0		0,00	
Other expenses	<u>-7 169,66</u>	<u>-5 554,66</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-33 522,71</u>	<u>12 573,45</u>
OTHER OPERATIONS						
Income	29 806,34		2 000		5 040,91	
Expenses						
Staff expenses	-38 911,63		-37 700		-33 932,86	
Depreciation of equipment	-500,00		-500		-583,26	
Other Expenses	<u>-88 410,77</u>	<u>-98 016,06</u>	<u>-66 350</u>	<u>-102 550</u>	<u>-71 432,21</u>	<u>-100 907,42</u>
SURPLUS / DEFICIT		-111 224,99		-116 050		-99 350,97
FUND RAISING						
Income	143 195,00		143 677		143 670,00	
Expenses	<u>-15 024,00</u>	<u>128 171,00</u>	<u>-27 000</u>	<u>116 677</u>	<u>-31 401,00</u>	<u>112 269,00</u>
SURPLUS / DEFICIT		16 946,01		627		12 918,03
INVESTMENTS AND FINANCIAL						
Income	21,73		500		732,44	
Expenses	<u>-16,39</u>	<u>5,34</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>0,00</u>	<u>732,44</u>
RESULT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		16 951,35		1 127		13 650,47
OTHER INCOME						
Income	0,00	0,00	0	0	0,00	0,00
Provisions and reserves		<u>0,00</u>		<u>-1 127</u>		<u>0,00</u>
SURPLUS OF THE PERIOD	Eur	16 951,35	Eur	0	Eur	13 650,47

Notes to the accounts

TOTAL INCOME AND EXPENCES	2010	2009
Total income	185 288,20	207 410,63
Total expenses	-167 836,85	-193 176,90
./. Depreciation	<u>-500,00</u>	<u>-583,26</u>
PROFIT(+) / LOSS (-) OF THE PERIOD	16 951,35	13 650,47
STAFF EXPENSES	1 person	1 person
Salaries with holiday pay	31 459,51	27 302,82
Pension insurance (TyeL)	5 248,87	4 639,68
Statutory social insurance contributions and other social security fees	<u>2 203,25</u>	<u>1 990,36</u>
	38 911,63	33 932,86
DEPRECIATION		
Equipment 1.1.	1 749,79	987,69
Acquisition 1.1.-31.12.	<u>0,00</u>	<u>1 345,36</u>
Subtotal	1 749,79	2 333,05
Depreciation 25%	<u>-500,00</u>	<u>-583,26</u>
VALUE OF THE EQUIPMENT AFTER DEPRECIATION	1 249,79	1 749,79
ACCRUED INCOME		
Health; goverment subsidy	342,50	70,00
Eläke-Fennia TyeL 2009	0,00	64,75
Sampo bank investment funds	<u>0,00</u>	<u>266,53</u>
	342,50	401,28
PROJECTS		
CCWG 2009 Book		
Income	0,00	150,00
Expenses	<u>0,00</u>	<u>-75,00</u>
	0,00	75,00
Global Peatland strategy		
Income	1 555,00	46 096,16
Expenses	<u>-5 742,66</u>	<u>-33 522,71</u>
	-4 187,66	12 573,45
RESERVATIONS		
Holiday pay reserve and social contibutions	4 083,60	3 712,85
Net Journal	0,00	0,00
Wump books	0,00	0,00
Tyel 2008	4,21	0,00
Paid twice NHBS (309-09)	<u>0,00</u>	<u>23,75</u>
	4 087,81	3 736,60

Balance sheet

	31.12.2010	31.12.2009
ASSETS		
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Tangible assets		
Machinery and equipment	1 249,79	1 749,79
Other shares and similar rights of ownership		
Participating interests	<u>84,09</u>	<u>84,09</u>
TOTAL	1 333,88	1 833,88
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors		
Trade debtors	7 144,50	5 898,69
Prepayments and accrued income	342,50	401,28
Other debtors	<u>73 731,40</u>	<u>35 091,40</u>
Cash in hand and at banks		
Bank accounts	105 154,57	122 533,14
Cash	<u>0,00</u>	<u>0,00</u>
TOTAL	<u>186 372,97</u>	<u>163 924,51</u>
ASSETS TOTAL	<u><u>€ 187 706,85</u></u>	<u><u>€ 165 758,39</u></u>
LIABILITES		
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Retained earnings/loss	151 627,18	137 976,71
Profit/loss for the financial year	<u>16 951,35</u>	<u>13 650,47</u>
TOTAL	168 578,53	151 627,18
CREDITORS		
Advances received	58,50	58,50
Trade creditors	14 455,00	9 908,58
Accruals and deferred income	4 087,81	3 736,60
Other creditors	<u>527,01</u>	<u>427,53</u>
TOTAL	<u>19 128,32</u>	<u>14 131,21</u>
LIABILITES TOTAL	<u><u>€ 187 706,85</u></u>	<u><u>€ 165 758,39</u></u>

List of Accounting Books Used

The following accounting books have been used during the financial year:

Balance Sheet Book,
Normal Ledger,
General Journal and
Fixed Assets Book.

Date and signatures



Date and Signatures

Stockholm, 9 March 2011

Donal Clarke
President

Björn Hånell
1st Vice-President

Paul Short
2nd Vice-President

Satu Helynen
Member

Valerijs Kozlovs
Member

Erki Niitlaan
Member

Lech Szajdak
Member

Jutta Zeitz
Member

Jaakko Sipilä
Secretary General

Auditor's Notation

Our auditor's report has been issued today.

In Jyväskylä on 30.3.2011

Deloitte & Touche Oy
Authorised Public Accounting Firm

Arto Saarinen
KHT

Auditor's statement

Deloitte.

Deloitte & Touche Oy
Puistokatu 2 B
40100 Jyväskylä

Puh: 020 755 5200
Fax: 020 755 5201
Y-tunnus: 0989771-5
Kotipaikka: Helsinki
www.deloitte.fi

(Translation)

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Kansainvälinen Turveyhdistys ry

We have audited the accounting records, the financial statements, the report of the Board of Directors and the administration of Kansainvälinen Turveyhdistys ry for the year ended 31 December, 2010. The financial statements comprise the balance sheet, the income statement and notes to the financial statements.

The responsibility of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors and the Managing Director are responsible for the preparation of financial statements and report of the Board of Directors that give a true and fair view in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the preparation of the financial statements and the report of the Board of Directors in Finland. The Board of Directors is responsible for the appropriate arrangement of the control of the company's accounts and finances, and shall see to it that the accounts of the company are in compliance with the law and that its financial affairs have been arranged in a reliable manner.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements and on the report of the Board of Directors based on our audit. The Auditing Act requires that we comply with the requirements of professional ethics. We conducted our audit in accordance with good auditing practice in Finland. Good auditing practice requires that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and the report of the Board of Directors are free from material misstatement, and whether the members of the Board of Directors and officials of the association are guilty of an act or negligence which may result in liability in damages towards the association or have violated the Association Act or the articles of association.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and the report of the Board of Directors. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements and report of the Board of Directors that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements and the report of the Board of Directors.

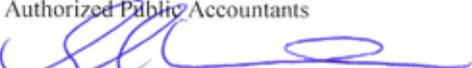
We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements and the report of the Board of Directors give a true and fair view of the financial performance and financial position of the association in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the preparation of the financial statements and the report of the Board of Directors in Finland. The information in the report of the Board of Directors is consistent with the information in the financial statements.

Jyväskylä, 30. March 2011

Deloitte & Touche Oy
Authorized Public Accountants


Arto Saarinen
APA

Peatlands in Balance

14th International Peat Congress
3 - 8 June 2012

more information
at www.ipc2012.se

Peatlands in Balance



14th International Peat Congress
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PEATART is an initiative of Dioni ten Busschen in cooperation with Sphagnum Products B.V.

Dioni has been a portrait painter for more than 25 years and was fascinated by peat during her visits to Estonian bogs in 2010. Lately she has been successful in developing a method to produce sculptures with peat. Dioni was a schoolmate of mine and we have stayed in contact.

At the 14th International Peat Congress an exhibition will be opened telling the imaginative story of the people of Soosaare, a small community in central Estonia. Stockholm will therefore have the first opportunity to show this new kind of art. Amongst the first products are sculptures of hands, busts and other parts of "bog bodies".



At the Congress you will have an opportunity to pose for a photo session if you would like to order your own bust made of peat. For Sphagnum Products B.V. the PEATART project is a new activity that can take a little bit more of my time since the sale of my Estonian peat company AS Kraver to the Belgium company Kalloveen BVBA who is the biggest importer of Estonian peat in Western Europe. For the coming years I will keep managing the company in Estonia.

The PEATART project Nick A. van de Griendt