

Welcome to the IPS General Assembly 2021!

Please mute your microphones :)

6 May 2021

IPS General Assembly 2021



Agenda

1. Opening of the Assembly
2. Report from the President on IPS activities in the previous four years, Marko Pomerants
3. Report from the Acting Secretary General on future plans of the Society, Susann Warnecke
4. Introduction of Commission Chairs
5. Honours
6. Closing of the Assembly

15:30 Annual Assembly of National Representatives, observers welcome!





IPS activities in the previous four years

2017 - 2020

Presented by Marko Pomerants,
IPS President

2017

„Last but not least, I want to especially encourage our young IPS researchers, scientists and company representatives to grab the available opportunities to engage in IPS work with facts, figures and continued enthusiasm.

This kind of work is essential in order to bring balance to the understanding of peatlands.“

Gerald Schmilewski
IPS President 2016-2020

6 May 2021



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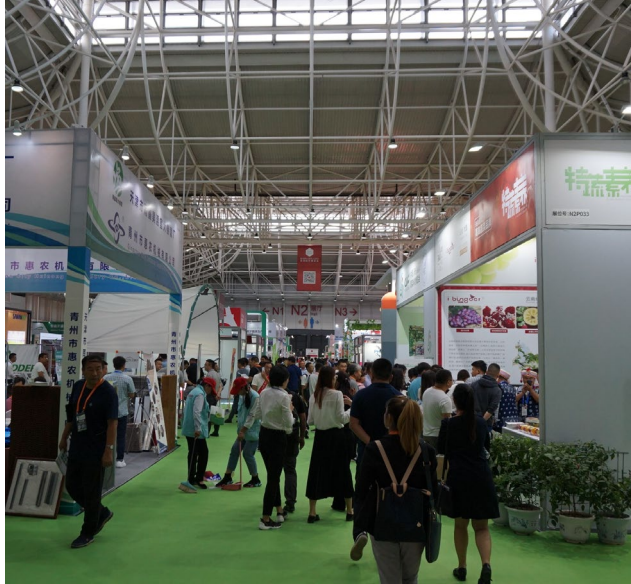
2018

„The Executive Board has put much time and effort in 2018 into recruiting the first full-time Secretary General for the IPS.

Success was achieved in the autumn, and Dr Gilbert Ludwig started work on 1 January 2019.“

Gerald Schmilewski
IPS President 2016-2020





2019

„Peatland restoration and phase-out of peat extraction are among those options, as researchers and governments increasingly identify peatlands as ideal targets for stopping emissions on one side, and even building up carbon on the other.“

Gilbert Ludwig
Secretary General
January 2019 - February 2021



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2020

„During the first two months, the IPS still carried out its tasks in the usual manner, preparing for the International Peatland Congress, together with the Estonian National Committee, planning future meetings, working together with partners and members and strengthening the funding for the Society both for 2020 and for subsequent years.“

Gilbert Ludwig
Secretary General
January 2019 - February 2021

6 May 2021

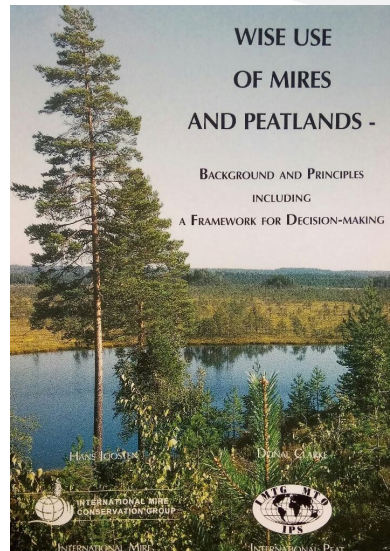
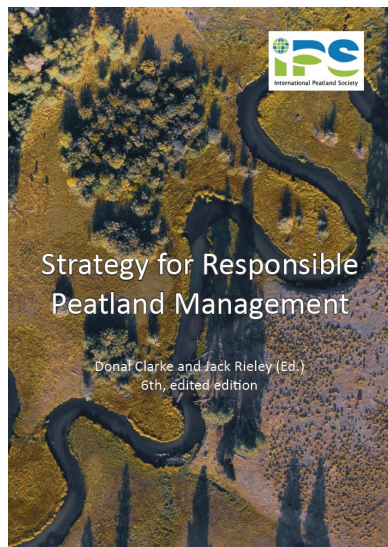
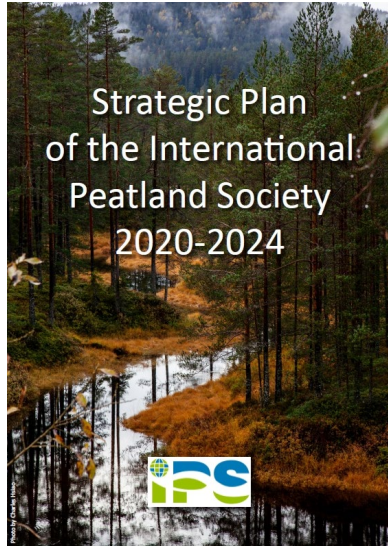




Future plans of the Society

Presented by Susann Warnecke,
Acting IPS Secretary General





Background

All documents at
www.peatlands.org

Based on the IPS Strategy and the
NGO Business Plan 2020- 2024

Endorsing the Strategy for Responsible Peatland
Management (SRPM) and the Wise Use concept

Considering environmental, economic and societal
aspects of peat and peatlands



Challenging environment

- Climate Change – peatlands play an important role as carbon store, and are a significant source and sink of greenhouse gases
- Peatland restoration increasingly popular, UN Decade of Restoration
- Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework
- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Tropical peatlands are of significant importance

However:

- Peat is still the most important raw material for growing media: food security, green cities, plant-based nutrition, afforestation
- There are still quality and quantity challenges in using alternatives
- Peat extraction is being reduced or phased out in many countries, with impacts on economy and society
- Generation & society change



How can IPS bring these
under one hat, considering
the interests of all of our
1700 members???

Our Values

Accountability and transparency

Professionalism & addressing members' needs

Positive communication & open dialogue

Impartially and evidence-based

Forging partnerships

Please participate!



Who is the IPS?



What do we do?

“The IPS serves all those involved in management of peatlands and peat through the acquisition, exchange, promotion, and communication of knowledge and experience, by means of communications, events and projects

which address key issues, including climate change, biodiversity, and the need for responsible use and restoration.”

IPS Mission



Strategic goal 1

To acquire, assess, exchange and disseminate

up-to-date information and knowledge:

publications, events, and peer-reviewed data.

Magazine, newsletter, scientific journal, conferences, website, webinars, and social media.



Strategic goal 2

To participate in scientific programmes and projects and communicate the results.

MERLIN project, projects of Commissions and National Committees.

Strategic goal 3

To improve governance of peatlands
through involvement with
International Conventions:
Ramsar, UNFCCC, FAO, CBD,
GPI & others.

COP and preparatory meetings,
review of draft documents.



Strategic goal 4

Strengthen services to members,
communication,
increase of membership
and funding.

Member survey, member
campaigns, core and
crowdfunding.





This year - 2021

16th International Peatland Congress

2nd World Peatlands Day on 2 June

Recruitment of new Secretary General

Coping with Covid-19

ISHS-IPS II International Symposium on
Growing Media in Ghent in August

Convention on Biological Diversity
COP 15 in Kunming in October

UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow in
November (Peatland Pavilion)

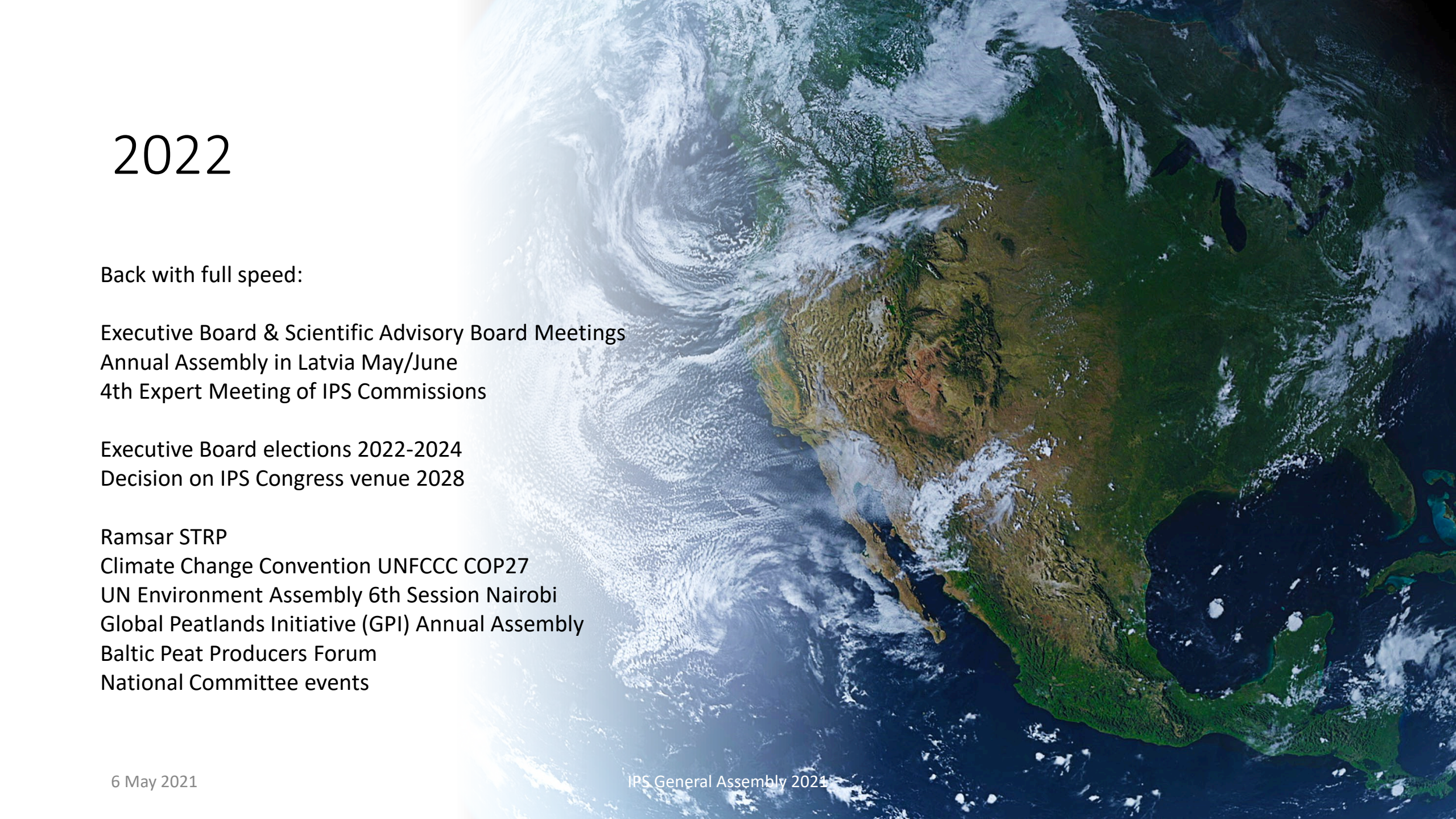
Webinars and face-to-face meetings

2nd Edition of Peatlands and
Climate Change book

Peatlands International, Peatland Snippets,
website and social media

Eight Allan Robertson Grants for Research
Students and Young Professionals

2022

A satellite-style image of the Earth, showing the Americas and the Atlantic Ocean. The image is oriented vertically, with North America on the right side and the Atlantic Ocean on the left. The landmasses are shown in shades of green and brown, while the oceans are dark blue. There are white clouds scattered across the scene, particularly over the Atlantic.

Back with full speed:

Executive Board & Scientific Advisory Board Meetings
Annual Assembly in Latvia May/June
4th Expert Meeting of IPS Commissions

Executive Board elections 2022-2024
Decision on IPS Congress venue 2028

Ramsar STRP
Climate Change Convention UNFCCC COP27
UN Environment Assembly 6th Session Nairobi
Global Peatlands Initiative (GPI) Annual Assembly
Baltic Peat Producers Forum
National Committee events

However...

To carry out these tasks, IPS needs reliable, predictable and sufficient funding!

This is currently possible only by membership fees and industry contributions.

For more details, attend our Annual Assembly at 15:30 hrs. Thank you!



Introduction of Commission Chairs

- Peatlands and Economy: Ingrida Krigere
- Peatlands and Environment: Bernd Hofer
- Peatlands and Society: Marie Kofod-Hansen

Wanted: Vice Chairs and Expert Group coordinators,
see Peatland Snippets 5.2021 for details.



Honours

Special thanks to all who attended our Congress, all who had to cope with Covid-19, and especially all who support the IPS.
Honorary member nominations can be sent to the Secretariat.

Next: Annual Assembly
of National Representatives,
observers welcome!



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