

PEAT NEWS



No 11/2007, 29 November 2007

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL PEAT SOCIETY

The International Peat Society (IPS) is an international, non-governmental and non-profit organization of scientific, industrial and regulatory stakeholders. It is dedicated to fostering the advancement, exchange and communication of scientific, technical and social knowledge and understanding for the wise use of peatlands and peat.

/// IPS New Logo!



International Peat Society | IMG MTO

The International Peat Society has a new logo. There were several basic requirements for the design of the new IPS logo. The first purpose was to retain logo recognition – so that everyone would immediately note “This is IPS”. The second intention was to underline the importance of IPS as technical and nature expert organization – the logo should maintain comprehensiveness. The design of the new logo was also expected to be plain, simple, modern, but timeless and softer than the previous logo. The logo was supposed to be global, nature- and people-oriented as well.

The IPS Executive Board decided that the new logo should contain the name of the International Peat Society as whole and the English, German and Russian abbreviation IPS should be presented, as is the case in the old logo. The new logo should be printable and recognizable without further editing in color and black/white. It must easily be useable for different kind of publications. One could say the new logo of IPS meets all of those expectations very well.

The logo is designed by advertising agency Zeniitti Oy from Jyväskylä, Finland, motivated by the IPS logo competition.”

IPS National Committees and Commissions or other organizations authorized to use the IPS logo should update it. In order to get the new IPS logo file, please contact Ms Carolin Winter at the IPS Secretariat: carolin.winter@peatsociety.org

/// Nominations for IPS Executive Board Members

IPS National Committees are invited to make proposals for 2nd Vice President and for IPS Executive Board Members whose four-year-term is over. Please send nominations with a letter of proposal and CV to the IPS Secretariat at latest by 13 February 2008. The time table is binding. The IPS Secretariat will copy the proposals for the National Committees, which will select new members for the IPS Executive Board in the Annual Assembly in Tullamore, 13 June 2008.

The IPS Executive Board is chaired by the President of the Society and is responsible to the Annual Assembly for the management of the Society. It comprises the 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents and 2-6 ordinary members. The term of office of the Executive Board members is four years. Executive Board members are eligible for re-election. To reflect the balance of industry and science IPS stands for, Executive Board members come from both areas. Further emphasis is laid on a cultural and geographical balance.

The current status of the IPS Board Members is as follows:

NAME	STATUS
President Dr. Markku Mäkelä FINLAND	The new President shall be nominated by the Irish National Committee.
1st Vice President Mr. Donal Clarke IRELAND	The 1st Vice President shall be nominated by the Swedish National Committee.
2nd Vice President Prof. Dr. hab Tomasz Brandyk POLAND	Nominations for the post of the 2nd Vice President shall be submitted by all National Committees.
Other Board members:	
Mr. Håkan Bjur SWEDEN	He has been nominated for the period of 2006-2010.
Mr. Dimitriy Gogin RUSSIA	He has been nominated for the period of 2004-2008. Applications for this seat shall be submitted by all National Committees.
Mr. Gerry Hood CANADA	He has been nominated for the period of 2004-2008. Applications for this seat shall be submitted by all National Committees.
Mr. Valerijs Kozlovs LATVIA	He has been nominated for the period of 2006-2010.
Dr. Jack Rielej UNITED KINGDOM	He has been nominated for the period of 2004-2008. Applications for this seat shall be submitted by all National Committees.
Prof. Dr. Jutta Zeitz GERMANY	She has been nominated for the period of 2006-2010.

The Statues of IPS, Article 4, Executive Board:

- The Society shall be managed by the Executive Board which shall consist of the chairman, who is called the President of the Society, of the 1st and 2nd Vice President and of 2 to 6 permanent members.
- The Secretary General of the IPS will also be the secretary of the Executive Board.
- The term of office of the President and Vice-Presidents shall be the four years between International Peat Congresses. The term of office of the permanent members of the Executive Board shall be four years so that 50 % of the members will change every two years. If a member is replaced during his or her term of office, the new member will be appointed for the balance of the term. Executive Board members shall be eligible for re-election, subject to the restrictions on the re-election of the Presidency contained in Article 5.
- The Executive Board shall assemble by invitation of the President or, if he cannot act, by invitation of a Vice President or two (2) Executive Board members.
- The Executive Board shall have a quorum when at least half of its members are present. The quorum shall not be constituted unless the President or one of the Vice Presidents is present.
- All decisions will be made on a simple majority basis. In the event of votes being equal, the President will be entitled to a casting vote except in the case of an election, where a tie will be decided by drawing lots. In the voting every Executive Board member has one vote.

The Statues of IPS, Article 5, Presidency:

- The President and the Vice Presidents of the Society shall be nominated by the Annual Assembly of national representatives which shall be held in the year of the quadrennial International Peat Congress.
- The term of office of the President and of the Vice Presidents shall be four (4) years. With the unanimous approval of the Annual Assembly of national representatives, the term of office of the President can be extended by one more quadrennial period.
- In the event that the President is unable to remain in office during the term of his/her appointment, the 1st Vice President will preside over the Society until the next regular meeting of the Annual Assembly, at which a new President will be appointed for the balance of the term of office.

Some quotations from the IPS Internal Regulations, Nominations and appointments of IPS Executive Board members:

2.6. The Society shall be managed by the Executive Board, which shall consist of the President, the 1st and 2nd Vice President and 2 to 6 ordinary members.

2.7. The number of ordinary members can be changed by the decision of the Annual Assembly within the limits set by the Statutes and taking into account the system of rotation of the ordinary members.

2.8. So as to safeguard an equitable distribution of national representation, there can be only one ordinary member from any one National Committee on the Executive Board at any given time. When circumstances offer no alternative, the President and 1st Vice President can be from the same National Committee as one ordinary member. Nominations for the Executive Board must come from the National Committees at least four months prior to the Annual Assembly and the nominee must be an IPS member residing in that country in which the National Committee is located. When proposing a candidate for the Executive Board, the National Committee shall take into account that the nominee shall ensure that his travel expenses are covered.

2.9. The President shall be nominated by the National Committee that organises the quadrennial International Peat Congress in the beginning of the period of the Presidency, and the 1st Vice President shall be nominated by the National Committee, which will organise the next quadrennial International Peat Congress. The 2nd Vice President is elected by the Annual Assembly of national representatives by secret ballot (simple majority) for a period of 4 years and is eligible for re-election. Applications for the post of the 2nd Vice President shall be submitted by the National Committees at least four months prior to the Annual Assembly to the Executive Board via the IPS Secretariat.

More information: www.peatsociety.org/user_files/files/internalregulations2007.pdf (Section II)

⚡ Nominations for IPS Commission Chairs – New checked timetable

IPS members are invited to make nominations for IPS Commission Chairs. The nominations must be supported by at least two IPS members. Therefore the nominations can be done also by National Committees or Commissions themselves. Compared to previous Peat News announcements nominations can be given longer time: Please send your nominations with a letter of proposal and CV to the IPS Secretariat so that they can be received latest by 4th of June 2008. After that nominations can be given straight to Secretary General in the International Peat Congress 2008 in Tullamore latest by Wednesday morning 11th of June. This timetable allows also Commissions to handle the issue and make nominations in their meetings Tuesday 10th of June.

The Executive Board appoints the Chairperson of each Commission in its meeting during the Congress. Appointees shall be introduced to the IPS General Assembly of Members during last Congress day, Friday 13th of June 2008.

IPS Internal Regulations, Section IV, Commissions:

- 4.1. The basic functions of the IPS, such as international collaboration, undertaking of joint projects, organisation of symposia and workshops shall be carried out by Commissions.
- 4.2. The Executive Board shall take decisions on the establishment and discontinuation of the Commissions as well as their scope of activities.
- 4.3. The Executive Board appoints the Chairperson of each Commission either by the proposal of the Commission concerned or by its own initiative, in the year of a quadrennial International Peat Congress. If a Chairperson resigns earlier, a new Chairperson is appointed by the Executive Board for the remainder of the term of office either by the proposal of the Commission concerned or by its own initiative.
- 4.4. In the year of a Quadrennial Congress, the IPS Secretariat shall invite nominations for the position of Chair of the Commissions. This invitation shall be published in Peat News. Each nomination must be supported by at least two IPS members.
- 4.5. The term of office of the Commission Chairpersons is four (4) years, and they are eligible for one re-election. Appointees shall be introduced to the General Assembly of Members. The Annual Assembly shall receive written reports from Commission Chairmen on present and future activities. Commission Annual reports shall be published in the Annual Report, Peatlands International and on the IPS website. They shall be submitted to the IPS Secretariat at least 3 months prior to the Annual Assembly.
- 4.6. All Commission Chairpersons shall be members of a Scientific Advisory Board chaired by the 2nd Vice President of IPS. The Scientific Advisory Board shall assemble twice annually.
- 4.7. Each Commission Chairperson may establish a Steering Committee the function of which is to organise and streamline the business of the Commission under the leadership of the Chairperson and following the general guidance from the Executive Board. The Chairperson can decide the number of members of the Steering Committee on recommendation of a general meeting of Commission members.

The main activities of the International Peat Society are conducted through its eight Commissions that act as subject groups within specific fields. Since November 2004, the Chairs of the Commissions form the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) of IPS, which is chaired by the 2nd Vice President of IPS. IPS Commissions are the following:

Commission I	Survey, Stratigraphy, Classification and Conservation of peatlands
Commission II	Industrial Utilisation of Peat and Peatlands, for Energy, Horticulture, Environmental Protection and Other Purposes
Commission III	Utilisation of Peat and Peatlands in Agriculture
Commission IV	Chemical, Physical and Biological Characteristics of Peat
Commission V	After-use of Cut-over and Disturbed Peatlands
Commission VI	Peat Balneology, Medicine and Therapeutics
Commission VII	Ecology and Management on Forested Peatlands
Commission VIII	Cultural Aspects of Peat and Peatlands

Internal Regulations : www.peatsociety.org/user_files/files/internalregulations2007.pdf

/// Call for Papers: Peatlands International 1/2008

The next issue of Peatlands International, the member magazine of IPS, will be published in International Peat Congress June 2008. We warmly welcome your research reports, reviews of conferences and similar events, announcements and in-depth stories about all issues related to peat and peatlands. If you would like to be among the authors of Peatlands International 1/2008, please contact Ms Carolin Winter at the IPS Secretariat as soon as possible, announcing the topic and length of your article. All contributions should be submitted to carolin.winter@peatsociety.org by **15 February 2008**. Please write your text in MS Word, font Arial 10 pt with single line spacing and without additional formatting. Photos or graphics should be sent separately as high resolution jpg, tif, eps, psd, or pdf files. Please also remember to submit captions for all illustrations as well as the names of their copyright holders (photographers). To speed up the editing process, we ask all authors to have their papers checked by a native English speaker before submission, wherever possible. The Editorial Board of Peatlands International reserves the right to select, edit and shorten papers, if necessary.

Peatlands International with 3.000 copies is also a remarkable tool for advertisers. Corporate and institutional members of IPS are invited to place their advertisements in the magazine. Please submit your advertisements by 29 February 2008. More information on Peatlands International and the current Media Kit of the magazine can be found at www.peatsociety.org/index.php?id=55.

/// Peatlands International 2/2007 presents Special about Tropical Peatlands

Peatlands International 2/2007, the member magazine of IPS, will come out in December with a 25 pages special about tropical peatlands. Among other topics it will deal with fires, restoration, water management, fibre and palm oil plantations and give an overview of topical peatlands worldwide. Peatlands International is sent in approximately 3,000 copies twice annually to all IPS members by post. Additionally, Peatlands International is distributed to a number of other stakeholders in peat and peatlands. The magazine consists of about 50-60 pages with background reports on peat and peatlands, reviews of conferences and books; it publishes research findings, business reports and internal information on the IPS.

/// Book WISE USE OF MIRES AND PEATLANDS available as PDF

The book *Wise Use of Mires and Peatlands – Backgrounds and Principles including a Framework for Decision-makers* (WUMP) edited by Donal Clarke and Hans Joosten in 2002, is available now as PDF on the IPS website at <http://peatsociety.org/index.php?id=40>

The aim of the book is to highlight the nature of peatlands and identify problems resulting from their use. It provides guidelines for all stakeholders interested in peatland management, how to approach the peatland issue in a rational way, making wise decisions on their future utilisation to the benefit of all of us.

/// Call for Nominations: The Wim Tonnis Peat Award 2008

The IPS Secretariat invites all IPS members to submit their proposals for the Wim Tonnis Peat Award 2008. Your nomination should be sent to the IPS Secretariat by 31 January 2008.

The Wim Tonnis Peat Award 2008 will be conferred in June 2008 at the IPS Annual Assembly in Tullamore, Ireland, during the International Peat Congress.

More information: <http://www.peatsociety.org/index.php?id=103> and

http://www.peatsociety.org/user_files/files/internalregulations2007.pdf (Section XI)

/// Upcoming IPS events

- **IPS Executive Board Meeting**, Brussels, Belgium, around 13 - 16 March 2008, final timetable still open
- **13th International Peat Congress: After Wise Use - The Future of Peatlands**
Tullamore, Ireland, 8 - 14 June 2008, More info: www.ipcireland2008.com

For further upcoming IPS events please visit <http://peatsociety.org/index.php?id=47>.

/// Other events

- **COP 13 and COP/MOP 3, Conference of the Parties (COP), Thirteenth session and Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP), Third session**, Bali, Indonesia, 3 - 14 December 2007,
More: www.unfccc.int
- **Growtech Eurasia 2007: 6th International Horticulture, Agriculture, Floriculture and Technologies Fair**, Antalya, Turkey, 6 - 9 December 2007
More info: <http://www.growtecheurasia.com/en/>
- **International Green Week**, Berlin, Germany, 18 -27 January 2008,
More info: http://www1.messe-berlin.de/vip8_1/website/MesseBerlin/htdocs/www.gruenewoche.de/index_e.html
- **IPM Essen, International Plant Fair**, Essen, Germany, 24 -27 January 2008
More info: <http://www.ipm-messe.de/?lang=en>
- **11th Ukraine International Agriculture and Horticulture Exhibition**
Kiev, Ukraine, 12 -14 February 2008, More info: www.bto-exhibitions.nl
- **First Symposium on Horticulture in Europe**
Vienna, Austria, 17 - 20 February 2008, More info: www.she2008.eu
- **World Floral Expo 2008**, Florida, USA, 4 - 6 March 2008, More info: www.hpp.nl
- **World Sustainable Energy Days 2008**
Wels, Austria, 5 - 7 March 2008, Deadline for the submission of abstracts is 10 October 2007, More info: <http://www.wsed.at/wsed/index.php?id=217&L=1>
- **Hortec 2008**, Nairobi, Kenya, 12 - 14 March 2008, More info: www.hpp.nl
- **First International Symposium on Woody Ornamentals of the Temperate Zone**
Pruhonice (near Prague), Czech Republic, 26 - 30 May 2008
More info: www.woodyornamentals.cz
- **International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG), Permafrost Peatlands and Climate Meetings and Excursion in Yakutia**, More info: www.imcg.net
- **International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG) Excursion, Scientific Symposium and General Assembly Georgia/Armenia**, 27 August - 11 September 2008
More info: www.imcg.net
- **EnergiaForum 2008 new!**
Tampere, Finland, 28 - 30 October 2008
More info: www.energia.fi

For further upcoming peat-related events please visit <http://peatsociety.org/index.php?id=77>