

**International Association for Consumer Law  
Association Internationale de Droit de la Consommation**

Minutes of Meeting of General Assembly Held in Cape Town 13 April 2007

Chair: Iain Ramsay (President)

Secretary: Geraint Howells (Board member)

Approx 40 members present

**1. President's Report.**

The IACL had supported several regional conferences in Lancaster, Malta, London and the conferences of the European Coalition for Responsible Credit. The President had represented the Association at the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brazilian Consumer Code. Claudia Lima Marques had made proposals on private international law in the Inter-American Region. It might be for future discussion if the IACL should take policy stances on law reform matters.

The list serve continues to be a central feature and its use is encouraged, although ideally direct use should be made rather than requesting President to post notices.

The IACL was to be associated with the International Handbook of Consumer Law and Policy to be published by Edward Elgar and edited by Geraint Howells, Iain Ramsay and Thomas Wilhelmsson.

The possibilities for publishing the papers from this conference would be discussed with organisers. The 2003 Athens conference papers were to be published imminently.

Membership is activated by signing on to list serve. Currently this hosts 150 members from 30 countries. There was a need to update membership list on internet and to identify gaps e.g. Russia, China.

**2. Board Members**

The Board will during the period 2007-2009 consist of the following members:

Thomas Wilhelmsson (President) University of Helsinki,  
Sothi Rachagan (Vice-President)  
Allen Zysblat, Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Gail Pearson, University of Sydney  
Geraint Howells, Lancaster University,  
Peter Rott, Bremen University,  
Christine Riefa, Brunel University  
Tsuneo Matsumoto, Hitosubashi Univeristy,

James Nehf, University of Indiana,  
Claudia Liam-Marques, Federal University of Porto Alegre,  
Gabriel Stiglitz LA Palat Univeristy,  
Michelle Kelly, Unisa,  
Felicia Monye, University of Nigeria  
Monika Józson, Sapientia-Hungarian University of Transylvania (Romania)  
Iain Ramsay, Kent University

Thomas Wilhelmsson thanked Iain Ramsay for his efforts as President.  
Next President-elect would be voted in 2009.

### **3. Dissolution of the Belgium Association**

The association has its seat in Belgium as a previous president had been based there and association registration was needed for financial reasons as we had collected fees. We no longer collect fees and the decision made in Peru to disband the formal association was supported. This would now be actioned.

On a proposal from the Board it was unanimously agreed to confirm the decision taken by the General Assembly in its previous meeting in Lima, Peru in 2005 to dissolve the association.

The association does not possess any property or have any liabilities.

### **4. 2009 Conference**

Possible options discussed were Montreal or India. Montreal would be advantageous from the perspective of bilingualism and there had been a generous offer from Prof. Thierry Bourgoignie to host the event. India would allow us to engage with a new community with an expanding interest in consumerism. Gail Pearson offered to investigate options in India, The President would take soundings and make a proposal to the board in the coming months. We would try to involve more French speakers in the next conference.

### **5. AOB**

Udo Reifner made an announcement of the activities of the European Coalition for Responsible Credit.

Iain Ramsay  
Professor  
Osgoode Hall University, Toronto

Geraint Howells  
Professor  
Lancaster University, UK