

ICBEN Business Meeting

Wednesday, June 21 2023, 18:00

Room 'Danube', Hotel Crowne Plaza, Belgrade, Serbia

Invitees:

Officers:	Mark Brink (President), Dirk Schreckenberg (Vice-President), Charlotte Clark (Secretary), Mathias Basner (Past President)		
Team chairs and co-chairs:	1	NIHL	Ravi Reddy, Sofie Fredriksson
	2	COM	Sarah Verhulst
	3	NONAUD	Elise van Kempen, Kerstin Persson Waye
	4	COGN	John E. Marsh, Sabine Schlittmeier
	5	SLEEP	Michael Smith, Jorunn Evandt
	6	ANNOY	Thu Lan Nguyen, Jördis Wothge
	7	LOWFREQ	Norm Broner, Kristina Erdélyi
	8	COMB	Mikael Ögren, Adrian Fuente
	9	POL	Benjamin Fenech, Sabine Janssen
Members at large:	Anthony Brammer, Irene van Kamp, Lex Brown, Peter Lercher, Truls Gjestland		
Past presidents:	Barbara Griefahn, Stephen Stansfeld, Soames Job		
Other:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local organizing committee representative (Goran Belojevic) - Bidders for execution of the next congress - Candidates for officer positions 		

Agenda:

Topic	Who?
Welcome and apologies for absences	Mark Brink
Minutes of the last meeting	Charlotte Clark
Matters arising from the minutes	All
Report on past ICBEN activities	Mark Brink
Election of officers for the term 2023-2026 Mark steps back as president which means a new president will be elected. The other two positions (vice president, secretary) need to be filled anew and/or the current office holders need to be confirmed. Elections are by majority, with a runoff round if none of the candidates gets absolute majority in the first round. Mark will briefly introduce the candidates, who will then be given the opportunity to present themselves. The voting order is: president, vice president, secretary.	Mark Brink
Confirmation of (new) team chairs for the term 2023-2026	Mark Brink, with team chairs and co-chairs
Report on 2023 conference in Belgrade by local organizers (Goran): Info on number of participants,	Goran Belojevic

countries present, finances, problems and successes etc. (such information well serves the following congress organizers)	
ISAR archive: Discussion and clearance of the General Terms and Conditions (GTC) document	Mark Brink and Dirk Schreckenber
ICBEN website recent updates, contact info policy	Mark Brink
New definition of noise The issue of whether ICBEN should adopt an official definition of noise (e.g. "noise is unwanted and/or harmful sound") in its constitution fostered an intensive discussion during the last two business meetings, but no decision has been taken since. This agenda point is for clarifying if the discussion is to be revived and ICBEN eventually able to reach a final conclusion.	Charlotte Clark
ICBEN Congress 2026 In the best case, one or two bidders will already have prepared bids for carrying out the next congress. If not, this agenda point should help identify potential venues for 2026.	Candidates, All
Any Other Business	All

Minutes:

Attendees:

Barbara Griefahn, Stephen Stansfeld, Truls Gjestland, Sabine Janssen, Kerstin Persson Waye, Mette Sorensen, Ravi Reddy, Mikael Ögren, Charlotte Clark, Mark Brink, Mathias Basner, Goran Belojevic, David Welch, Elise van Kempen, Sophie Fredriksson, Dick Schreckenber, Lex Brown, Ben Fenech, Michael Smith, Kristina Erdélyi, Zorana J Andersen.

Apologies:

Norm Broner, Soames Job, Thu Lan Nguyen, Sarah Verhulst.

Prior to the meeting, Mette Sorensen and Zorana Andersen presented a bid for hosting ICBEN 2026 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

1. Welcome

Mark Brink gave an overview of the aims of the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

No comments on the minutes of the last meeting were received.

3. Report on past ICBEN activities

Mark Brink gave an overview of activities of the ICBEN officers leading up to the Belgrade 2023 Congress.

Mark Brink remains webmaster for the ICBEN website. The website was discussed, along with ambitions to revise content and improve the presentation. Mark Brink asked if anyone may take over the webmaster position: the new elected officers can investigate this issue further.

The website had included email addresses of the Officers. However, this had resulted in a large amount of fraudulent email activity, so these details have now been removed, except for the ICBEN Secretary.

Mark Brink gave an overview of the creation of the ISAR project (ICBEN Socio-Acoustic Survey Archive.)

David Welch presented proposals to create some videos and promotional videos of ICBEN Teams. Suggested interviewing Team Chairs/Co-chairs, highlighting current work and trends.

Michael Smith highlighted the lack of events at ICBEN 2023 for younger researchers. There has been requests for these types of events during the congress. Such events would also help to improve communication within and between teams. These ideas should be taken forward to ICBEN 2026.

There were further discussions about how communication is managed within ICBEN. The new elected officers should investigate how we can sign up new members and improve inter-team dialogue, making better use of technology. There is also a need to diversify, and to include LMICs; North American representation is important and has been waning.

There was discussion of the Team Structures. Barbara Griefahn has called for the naming of the teams to revert to 'International Noise Teams'. Kerstin Persson Waye discussed that there were very few attendees in the Team 2 meeting, and that we might consider merging Team 2 with either Team 1 or Team 4. The new officers should discuss this further in the next couple of months with Janina Fels and Lily Wang to workshop ideas around Team 2.

Barbara Griefahn raised the issue of Team 7 and Team 8 being exposure rather than effect focused, where ICBEN is effect focused. Kristina Erdélyi discussed Team 7, highlighting that it is a small field, which is often misrepresented in the media. Kristina highlighted the lack of conferences covering this issue, which she has found challenging as an early career researcher and would prefer that Team 7 remain as it is. The new officers should workshop ideas around Team 7 as well.

4. Election of officers for the term 2023-2026

There were 18 members presented who could vote. Mark Brink abstained from all votes.

The results of the elections are below:

Election of officers for the term 2023-2026

- Charlotte Clark elected President
- David Welch elected Vice President
- Michael Smith elected Secretary

New Team Chairs/Co-Chairs

Team chairs and co-chairs:	1	NIHL	Sofie Fredriksson, Alessandra Samelli
	2	COM	Nicola Prodi; position open
	3	NONAUD	Danielle Vienneau, Hui Ma
	4	COGN	Jessica Massonnie, Jenni Radun
	5	SLEEP	Susanne Bartels, position open
	6	ANNOY	Thu Lan Nguyen, Jonathan Rathsam
	7	LOWFREQ	Norm Broner, Kristina Erdélyi
	8	COMB	Jenny Selander, Adriana Lacerda
	9	POL	Benjamin Fenech, Sabine Janssen

Newly elected Members at Large (in addition to those already appointed)

- Kerstin Persson Waye
- Elise van Kempen
- Dirk Schreckenber

The new officers should follow up with Anthony Brammer to see if he still wishes to remain a member at large.

5. ICBEN 2023 Congress Report

Goran Belojevic gave an overview of the ICBEN 2023 congress.

- Equal gender split of attendees 67/67
- 134 participants – 24 students; mainly from Europe
- 100 were presenting authors
- Few attendees from Africa.
- Team 3 and Team 6 have greatest number of sessions
- Budget – 1,434 Euros profit.

The officers congratulated Goran Belojevic on a hugely successful congress and for all this and his team's hard work. The congress has been a great success.

6. ISAR Archive

Mark Brink gave an overview, following on from his presentation during the Congress, on work to date on the ISAR Archive.

Barbara Griefahn discussed that it wasn't possible to vote on the use of 'ICBEN' in relation to the Archive, as ICBEN doesn't exist as a legal entity. It is a collection of people working together to improve quality of the data. Some members would prefer that the Archive did not use ICBEN in its title, whereas others were supportive.

There was lively discussion about the Archive.

In conclusion, Mathias Basner summarised that:

- 1) everyone agrees it is a good idea to have an archive publicly available so that it can be used for research;
 - 2) everyone agrees Mark Brink/Dirk Schreckenber and others have done a tremendous amount of work getting it to this stage:
 - 3) that there are still many details to clarify and discuss before it can get support from the ICBEN officers and be hosted online; and
 - 4) that discussions will be continued after the Congress with Team 6 and ICBEN members to further discuss any concerns about responsibilities and legal issues and to find a way forward.
- Dirk Schreckenber agreed that they recognised the concerns and would work constructively to see if they can make the Archive work in a separate meeting.

7. Definition of Noise

Charlotte Clark reported that during the last meeting, the vote on adopting the Fink definition of noise reached 65%, just 2% short of the 67% majority required.

Ben Fenech informed the group that the American Public Health Association have adopted this definition.

Lex Brown stated that he felt the group should have acted on this last time, and that IC BEN had failed to take the lead. IC BEN supported policy is important with policy makers.

David Welch highlighted that it isn't the only definition, and that it might be too narrow, not including masking/statistical descriptions of noise.

Mathias Basner stated that it would at least be a broader definition that IC BEN had before.

Mark Brink proposed we should put this definition into our constitution and highlighted that at present the constitution doesn't include a definition of noise.

The vote to add this definition to the constitution was unanimous. New officers will add this to the IC BEN website and link to the open access paper. It will also need to be added via amendment to the constitution.

8. IC BEN 2026

Alongside Copenhagen, there two other potential bids for IC BEN 2026.

- Lily Wang – Nebraska
- Norm Broner – Jerusalem

All three bidders are to be contacted by the new officers, and asked to send a bid, including costs. The executive will then decide on the outcome.

9. AOB:

n.a.