



IFAC

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**International Federation
of Automatic Control**

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Five International Associations met to coordinate their activities

At the invitation of IFAC, leading representatives of AICA (International Association for Analog Computation), IFAC (International Federation of Automatic Control), IFIP (International Federation for Information Processing), IFORS (International Federation for Operational Research) and IMEKO (International Measurement Confederation) met at UNESCO headquarters in Paris on June 2 and 3, 1970 to discuss future ways and means of coordinating their activities.

The meeting of the delegates from the five Associations followed many months of preparatory work in which they had clarified their positions in their main fields of activity and in border fields in which the joining of forces may lead to multiple results.

The delegates agreed with the opening words of Prof. V. Broida, President of IFAC (Paris), that in addition of reduced duplication on the international scene in the adjoining disciplines covered by the five international associations represented, certain "white areas" not covered heretofore by any of them could be dealt with in the future in a much more concerted manner.

After electing as its Chairman Prof. V. Broida, as its Co-Chairman Prof. H. Zemanek, Vice President of IFIP (Vienna), and as its Honorary Secretary Assoc. Prof. Gy. Striker, Secretary General of IMEKO (Budapest), the Coordinating Committee deliberated for two days, with representatives of UNESCO participating as observers.

The Committee accepted a Closing Statement, recommending to the constituent associations to form a permanent body: the "Five International Associations Coordinating Committee" (FIACC), with the aim of coordinating their public activities, such as Congresses, Colloquia, Seminars and Publications, as well as in the fields of Education, Terminology, etc.

It is recommended, that the Honorary Secretary of FIACC shall collect information about all such activities of the constituent associations and distribute same to facilitate a voluntary coordination in the simplest possible manner.

At a yearly meeting FIACC shall review the progress of this growing cooperation and coordination between the five associations and formulate further recommendations concerning the scope and range of their activities on a strictly advisory basis.

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These and other recommendations of the Committee will come into full force after the five constituent associations have approved them in a constitutional manner.

The Executive Council of the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), at its meeting on June 5 and 6, has not only unanimously ratified these recommendations but actually taken concrete steps towards establishing joint sponsorship with other international associations of several events planned for 1970-72. It is hoped, that the establishment of FIACC will be fully ratified also by all the other associations before the end of this year. Secretarial duties meanwhile are carried out provisionally by the Honorary Secretary Dr. Gy. Striker, Budapest 5, POB 457.

Management Control and Related Multi-level System Control, USSR 1971

The symposium, sponsored by the IFAC Technical Committee on Systems Engineering and co-sponsored by the International Federation of Operational Research Societies, will be held at Baku, USSR, from September 28 to October 1, 1971. The organization is in the hands of the USSR National Committee on Automatic Control which is the IFAC National Member for the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

Papers are invited in the following fields:

- General management system theory
- System analysis and management efficiency criteria selection
- Forecasting, planning and decision making
- Methods of data acquisition, storage and processing in management systems
- Case histories of large-scale management systems.

Offers of papers together with a preliminary abstract in English (200 to 300 words) should reach the Organizing Committee before September 15, 1970.

Full papers should, as far as possible, be written in either English or Russian. Advance preprints in these two languages will be made available. Simultaneous translation will be provided at the meeting.

Potential authors and prospective attendees should write to the

USSR National Committee on Automatic Control,
Profsoyuznaya ul. 81,
Moscow V-485/USSR.

UNIDO wants correspondents

The Industrial Information Section of UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) provides practical assistance to developing countries by answering without charge their inquiries on problems related to industries. This service receives inquiries at the rate of 1 000 a year and has built for that purpose a network of correspondents.

Some of these inquiries concerned automatic control problems applied to industrial processes.

Specialists in automatic control who are willing to join this information network, are invited to get in touch with Mr. V. Pavlov, Industrial Inquiry Service, Industrial Information Section UNIDO, Felderhaus, Rathausplatz 2, A-1010 Vienna, with indication of the special field for which they could give information.

Identification and Process Parameter Estimation

On this subject a symposium was held in Prague in June 1970 under the sponsorship of the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC) and organized by the Institute of Information Theory and

Revised List of IFAC Symposia 1971

(to replace the list published in Bulletin No. 54)

Automation, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. This second symposium on the subject dealt with the results of the period of the last three years, and the participants were especially interested in the methodical approaches to the problems, permitting direct application in practice.

The complete English text of the survey paper of Prof. P. Eykhoff (The Netherlands) and Prof. K. J. Åström (Sweden) as well as the complete text of all 72 papers of authors from 20 countries, delivered at this symposium, have been published as preprints in two volumes (a total of 750 pages), comprising the following topics:

1. General problems
2. Distribution-free methods
3. Statistical error criteria
4. Stochastic approximation and learning technique
5. Self-adjusting models
6. Adaptive control
7. Special input signals
8. Nonlinear systems
9. Accuracy of identification
10. State estimation
11. Applications

There are still copies of the preprints available. The price is 20.00 U.S. Dollars per copy (volumes I and II). Orders may be sent to Academia, Publishing House of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, Vodičkova 40, Prague 2, together with a cheque.

Subject	Date	Place
Higher Education in Automatic Control (Workshop) Participation at the Workshop is open by invitation only	March, 15 - 17	Dresden (German Dem. Rep.)
Automation and Instrumentation in the paper, rubber and plastics industries ("PRP-Automation")	May 24 - 28	Brussels (Belgium)
Digital Computer Applications to Process Control	June, 2 - 5	Helsinki (Finland)
The Control of Distributed Parameter Systems	June, 21 - 23	Banff (Canada)
Fluidics	June 28 - July 2	Prague (Czechoslovakia)
The Operator, Engineer and Systems Management Interface with the Process Control Computer	August, 3 - 6	Lafayette, Ind. (USA)
Digital Simulation of Continuous Processes	September, 6 - 10	Budapest (Hungary)
Automatic Control in Space	September, 6 - 10	Dubrovnik (Yugoslavia)
Automatic Control and Computers in the Medical Field	September, (2nd half)	Brussels (Belgium)
Management Control and related multi-level System Control	Sept. 28 - Oct. 1	Baku (USSR)
Multivariable Control Systems	October, 11 - 13	Düsseldorf (Fed. Rep. Germany)

Some of the symposia are cosponsored by other international federations.