

# International Association for Structural Control

S. F. Masri

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif., USA

**ABSTRACT:** An overview is given of recent world-wide developments in the structural control field that have lead to the formation during the 10WCEE of a provisional committee to prepare the bylaws of a new organization to be called the International Association for Structural Control.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In recognition of the world-wide growing interest in the general subject of structural control and related topics (e.g., "smart" structures and materials), it is felt that there is a need for an international organization to coordinate the myriad of multinational meetings, workshops, symposia, and conferences dealing with the subject of structural control that are proliferating at an increasing rate.

### 1.1 Background

Since many researchers interested in the field of structural control were planning to attend the Tenth World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (10WCEE), the convening of the 10WCEE offered a convenient opportunity for interested individuals to meet in an informal gathering to discuss the possibility of establishing an international organization called "*The International Association for Structural Control*" (IASC) patterned along the lines of existing organizations such as "*The International Association for Earthquake Engineering*" (IAEE) and "*The International Association for Wind Engineering*" (IAWE).

In view of the above, invitations were issued to prominent researchers in the structural control field by G. Housner on behalf of the U.S. Panel on Structural Control Research and the Japan Panel on Structural Response Control Research to attend an informal meeting which was held in conjunction with the 10WCEE at 19:30 on Tuesday, 21 July 1992. The meeting was open to any interested individual.

### 1.2 Convening of meeting

Approximately 40 people attended the informal meeting to discuss the establishment of IASC. The meeting was chaired by G. Housner who provided some background information about the motivation for the meeting by giving a quick review of the developments in the structural control field since the 9WCEE meeting in Tokyo/Kyoto. Housner also discussed the establishment of the U.S. Panel on Structural Control Research and gave some details about the U.S. activities in this area. He was followed by K. Kobori who provided similar information about recent developments in the field of structural control in Japan. F. Casciati reported on activities in Europe and several other speakers gave brief announcements on related activities in other parts of the world.

Following a brief discussion which stressed the importance of interpreting the subject of structural control in a broad sense to include the relevant topic of civil structures monitoring. It was quickly determined that the consensus of the attendees was to proceed with formal plans to establish IASC. Subsequently, S. Masri was asked to present the following overview of the proposed charter of IASC.

## 2 OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED IASC CHARTER

### 2.1 Objectives

The objective of the Association is to promote international cooperation among scientists and engineers in the field of hybrid (active/passive) structural control and monitoring through exchange of knowledge, ideas, and results of research and practical experience, as well as

through collaborative projects. The Association will accomplish its objectives by:

- (a) organizing conferences,
- (b) exchanging information,
- (c) extending technical cooperation, and
- (d) conducting collaborative projects.

## 2.2 Membership

The Association is composed of National Organizations of Structural Control. Individual members of affiliated National Organizations shall be deemed to be individual members of the Association. A National Organization is composed of members, individual or corporate, accepted into membership according to the statutes of that particular organization. Only one National Organization from a country shall become a member.

Each National Organization shall designate a Delegate and a Deputy Delegate to represent it in the Association. There shall be only one Delegate and Deputy Delegate from each National Organization. The term of office of the Delegate and Deputy Delegate shall be four years.

## 2.3 Administration

The authority of the Association shall be exercised through: (1) the General Assembly of Delegates, (2) the Executive Committee, and (3) the Secretary General.

1. General Assembly of Delegates. The General Assembly of Delegates shall be composed of all Delegates representing National Organizations affiliated with the Association. It elects officers of the association and selects the location of the next world conference. A session of the General Assembly of Delegates shall be held during each world conference.

2. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Directors (about 10), and the Secretary General. Some Directors shall be elected by the General Assembly of Delegates and the others shall be optionally selected by the Executive Committee, in order to improve the geographical distribution of the Directors. Not more than one Director shall be from one country.

3. The Secretary General shall be nominated by the National Organization of the country where the Central Office of the Association is located, and shall be confirmed by the Executive Committee. The term of service of the secretary General shall be at the pleasure of the Executive Committee, subject to reconfirmation at periodic intervals.

## 2.4 Finances

1. There shall be no dues nor assessments to member National Organizations of the Association.

2. Operating expenses of the Central Office of the Association shall be met by the National Organization of the country in which the Central Office is located.

3. Each National Organization shall be responsible for meeting its own expenses.

## 2.5 General

1. The Central Office of the Association shall be located in the country determined by the Executive Committee.

2. The official language of the Association shall be English.

3. Adoption of any amendment to the Statutes shall require two-thirds affirmative vote of the Delegates present at the session of the General Assembly of Delegates; or two-thirds affirmative vote of the Delegates by postal ballot.

## 3 PRELIMINARY PLANS

### 3.1 Provisional Steering Committee

The attendees approved the selection of the following individuals as members of the Provisional Steering Committee: F. Casciati, G. Housner, K. Kobori, and L. Xie. This committee will prepare a preliminary charter for IASC that will be subject to formal ratification at a future date.

### 3.2 International Workshop

An international workshop on structural control has been tentatively planned for meeting in December 1993 in Hawaii. This workshop will build on the accomplishments of several other national and bilateral workshops on similar topics that have been convened in the recent past.

It is expected that the statutes of IASC will be formally adopted during the forthcoming Hawaii meeting. National groups are encouraged to proceed with establishing national organizations for affiliation with IASC.

Inquires or suggestions regarding the topic under discussion should be sent to Professor S.F. Masri, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90089-2531, USA. FAX number: (213) 744-1426.