

EDITORIAL AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUEST EDITORIAL

CAIRE – An Initiative of IAA for its Centenary

In 1995 the IAA celebrates its centenary. On occasion of the first hundred years the Scientific Committee of the organization of this International Congress of Actuaries has prepared the creation of a Centre for Research and Education on Actuarial Sciences.

In the september 1991 meeting in Brussels of the IAA Council this idea was put forward and the discussions were started on the meaning and usefulness of the creation of such a centre. During the Montreal IAA Council a working party consisting of Mr. W. Roberts (Chairman, Australia), Mr. W. Mac Ginnitie (U.S.A), Mr. J. Berthon (France), Mr. M. Murray (U.K.), Mr. M. Goovaerts (on behalf of the scientific committee of the 1995 Brussels I.C.A), Mr. W. Lenaerts (representative of the IAA Bureau) has been created. The Committee has been working on a mission statement for the centre and subsequently all vice presidents of the IAA Council have approved the idea and tasks of the 'International Centre for Actuarial Research and Education' CAIRE (Centre Actuariel International de Recherche et d'Enseignement).

The mission statement of CAIRE reads as follows:

The International Centre for Actuarial Research and Education is a scientific actuarial organization that generates, disseminates and applies knowledge about fundamental actuarial issues related to different aspects of insurance business, banking and finance, including planning and provision of pension benefits. It aims at the promotion of actuarial knowledge by means of basic research, applied research, training programs on a 'postgraduate level', at the collection of data with international relevance and at the unifying of different actuarial concepts.

It will facilitate researchers from different countries, and possibly different disciplines and perspectives, working together for a better understanding of important global actuarial issues. CAIRE is to interface between scientific research and potential users in the insurance, banking and finance industries, as well as government. Its operating strategy is to create 'learning partnerships' with universities and professional actuaries under the supervision of its Board. The linkage between theory and application is to be firm and interactive among the participating members.

The following tasks will be included:

- To provide an instrument to support advanced education and research for the actuarial discipline on a multinational basis.
- By research and advanced education, contribute to the role and purpose of the insurance, banking and finance industries, including the planning and provision of pensions benefits.

- To facilitate the organization, collection, comparison and dissemination of international actuarial information, data and statistics.
- To facilitate and support actuarial education in actuarially emerging countries.
- To bring together actuarial scientists in connection with different fields of endeavour by organizing specialized meetings and seminars on an international basis, of a type which is not currently sponsored by the IAA, ASTIN or AFIR, and where an important need and demand is seen to exist.
- To support actuarial teaching on the highest level.
- To bridge the gap that exists between actuaries of different cultures.
- To facilitate the linkage between research discovery and business application by making research results widely accessible.
- To facilitate the search for common international educational standards in actuarial work.
- To facilitate the development of a truly international actuarial profession.
- To facilitate the production of actuarial papers of international application.

From now on all necessary steps will be taken to get the Centre operational. In the near future some workshops will be organized and an Academic Council will be installed and some research will be started. The role of this Council is to provide appropriate advice and to facilitate contact between CAIRE and academic bodies and researchers. It will provide advice on research activities — their relevance and progress. It will seek to facilitate relevant new research, and to assist with upgrading the quality of actuarial education on an international basis.

In terms of structure, CAIRE is, essentially, a network and a facilitator. It is directed by two operational directors, one for research and one for education. To achieve its objectives, CAIRE will foster relationships with actuarial associations, governmental authorities, insurance companies, banks, universities, colleges, research centres and institutes on a worldwide basis.

As organizers of the 1995 IAA Congress we are very pleased to see that our initiative is gradually taking shape. It is our sincere wish that by starting this Centre at the occasion of the 100 year anniversary of IAA we can contribute to the prosperity and success of our actuarial profession.

W. LENAERTS
President I.C.A.

M. J. GOOVAERTS, J. JANSSEN
Operational Directors