

INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR THE
PROTECTION OF NATURE

ESTABLISHED AT FONTAINEBLEAU
5 OCTOBER 1948



RUE MONTOYER, 42, BRUSSELS (BELGIUM)

FOREWORD

The delegates assembled at Fontainebleau do not claim to have inaugurated International Nature Protection. The idea has been in being for a long time, and I think I shall not be

justified in giving it only the name of Paul Sarrasin

A first Conference was held at Brunnen (Switzerland) in 1946, and, in accordance with the intentions of its organizers, recommended that the subject should be studied and discussed again

In 1947, again at Brunnen, a more important Conference was convened, the delegates being authorized this time, either officially or unofficially, to draft a text of agreement. The

INTERNATIONAL UNION
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The International Union for the Protection of Nature was
established at Bern, 1948.

Thursday, 30 September. — Morning Plenary Session.

Address of welcome to the delegates by Mr. M. Dirant in
the name of the French Minister of National Education.



Committee was composed of ten representatives of the following countries : Belgium, Brazil, France, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States.

The Financial Committee was made up of twelve members chosen from the following delegation :
[REDACTED]

important decisions of the morning was the adoption of a Preamble to the Constitution in which a very clear definition of the present-day meaning of Nature Protection was given. Several articles were discussed. Finally, at 1.45 p.m., the Constitution was adopted subject to later improvements of style in both French and English versions. Two restricted Committees were appointed to deal with the task of this final drafting which kept them busy all the afternoon and evening of Monday, 4 October, and all morning of Tuesday, October 5.

Signature of the Constitution.

The Constitution was officially signed at 3 p.m. on *Tuesday, 5 October*. The authentic text is given below with the list of signatories.

The First General Assembly of the International Union for

... immediately afterwards

Wednesday 6 October was devoted to a meeting of the

the International Office for the Protection of Nature and of various Dutch organizations dedicated to the same ideal. Mr. VAN TIENHOVEN took his seat at the Chairman's right, thanked the Assembly for its token of appreciation and wished the Union a long and fruitful career.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

II. — EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM.

a) Significance of the Symposium.

It is essential first to place this Symposium in the setting intended for it by its promoters.

Ever since the General Assembly at Mexico City, Unesco has considered the preparations for the Technical Conference — already twice mentioned above — to be convened in the United States in 1949. For this it was necessary to assemble

Second Meeting. -- 2 October, 1948, 3.30 p.m.

Subject : The Scientific Management of Wild Life (Economic aspects of nature protection).

Chairman : Mr. JULIAN HUXLEY.

Speakers : Mr. I. GABRIELSON (U.S.A.); Mr. W. VOGT (U.S.A.).

Third Meeting. — 4 October, 1948, 4.30 p.m.

Subject : Big Game Protection in Africa.


Chairman : Mr. ROGER HEIM.

Speakers : Mr. R. MALBRANT and Mr. A. URBAIN (France);
Captain KEITH CALDWELL (U.K.).

Fourth Meeting. — 5 October, 1948, 10 a.m.

Subject : Definitions of National Parks and Nature Reserves

secondly, to prepare a draft agenda for the Technical Conference on the Protection of Nature, which Unesco proposes to convene between 17 and 25 June, 1949. This Technical Conference will be held in the same place and in close association with the United Nations Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Natural Resources (Unscour), which is scheduled to take place from 20 May to 17 June, 1949.



Executive Board (of the IUPN). The members of the Technical Symposium have suggested :

(a) That a resolution should be adopted congratulating the Economic and Social Council on having convened the United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Natural Resources which will make an important contribution to international peace;

(b) That the Fontainebleau Conference should recommend

2. Preparation of a World Convention to serve as a basis for future international cooperation in the field of the « Protection of Nature », and to assist in the development of national legislation by the countries participating in it

fundamental object, on which we are all agreed, but which constitutes, so to speak, the dramatic aspect of your mission. You must draw up a constructive and progressive programme which will make it possible gradually to utilize our experience and its results as they develop. But we also have to move quickly, for we are running a race with mankind as a whole and, if we are slow in taking vital decisions, we may finally lose the battle.

**III. — TEXT OF THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATURE.**

PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS the term « Protection of Nature » may be defined as the preservation of the entire world biotic community, or man's natural resources

Fontainebleau have hereby established a union known as the « International Union for the Protection of Nature », hereinafter referred to as the Union, and have agreed as follows :

ARTICLE I.

Objects.

1. The Union shall encourage and facilitate co-operation between functional organizations concerned

3. In addition the following shall be admitted to the Union after the present Constitution has come into force :

(a) Governments which shall notify the Secretary-General of their adhesion to the Constitution;

(b) Public services, organizations, institutions and associations mentioned in Article II, 1, b, c and d, on recommendation of the Executive

D. — *Procedure.*

5. The General Assembly shall meet every second year in ordinary session, and at each session the location of the next session shall be determined by it.

6. At each session the General Assembly shall elect its President and other officers

7. The General Assembly shall, and, when it is not in session, the Executive Board shall be empowered to, appoint special committees and such other subordinate bodies as may be necessary for achieving its objects.

8. The General Assembly shall make its own by-laws.

ARTICLE V.

Executive Board.

A. — *Composition.*

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the President of the General Assembly and not fewer than eight and not more than fourteen members

C. — *Voting.*

9. Decisions of the Executive Board shall be made by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of an equal vote the Chairman shall have the deciding vote.

D. — *Procedure.*

10. The Executive Board shall meet in ordinary session at least once a year and may meet in special session, if necessary, and when convened by its Chairman. The latter shall convene a special session of the Executive Board if requested to do so by a majority of its members.

11. The Executive Board shall make its own by-laws.

ARTICLE VI.

Secretariat.

1. The Secretariat shall consist of a Secretary-General and such staff as may be required.

2. The Secretary-General shall be appointed by the General Assembly upon nomination by the Executive Board on such terms as the General Assembly shall approve, and he shall be eligible for re-appointment. Appointment or re-appointment of the Secretary-General shall require two-thirds of the votes cast.

3. The Secretary-General or his representative shall be present without power to vote at the meetings of the General Assembly, of the Executive Board and of all committees of the Union.

4. The Secretary-General shall appoint the staff of the Secretariat in accordance with the staff regulations approved by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE VIII.

1. The members of the Union shall be asked to report every two years upon their activities and progress in the field of the « Protection of Nature » according to the form suggested by the Secretary-General.

ARTICLE IX.

Finance.

1. The budget of the Union shall be divided into :

(a) —> Exp. administrative budget

ARTICLE XII.

Legal capacity.

1. The Executive Board may take such action as it considers desirable to give the Union legal capacity in the countries in which it operates that may be necessary for the fulfilment of its objects.

~~The Union shall be represented in each country with which it operates by~~

ARTICLE XIII.

Interpretation.

1. Any question or dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the present Constitution which is not settled by negotiation or by the General Assembly shall be referred for decision to an appropriate arbitrator. The decision of the arbitrator shall be binding on all members of the Union.

ARTICLE XIV.

Amendments.

The present document shall be deposited in the Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the French Government.

In confirmation whereof, the delegates of Governments and Organizations mentioned below, having been invited to the Conference and taking part in its deliberations, have duly signed this document with reservation regarding final approval.

GOVERNMENTS.

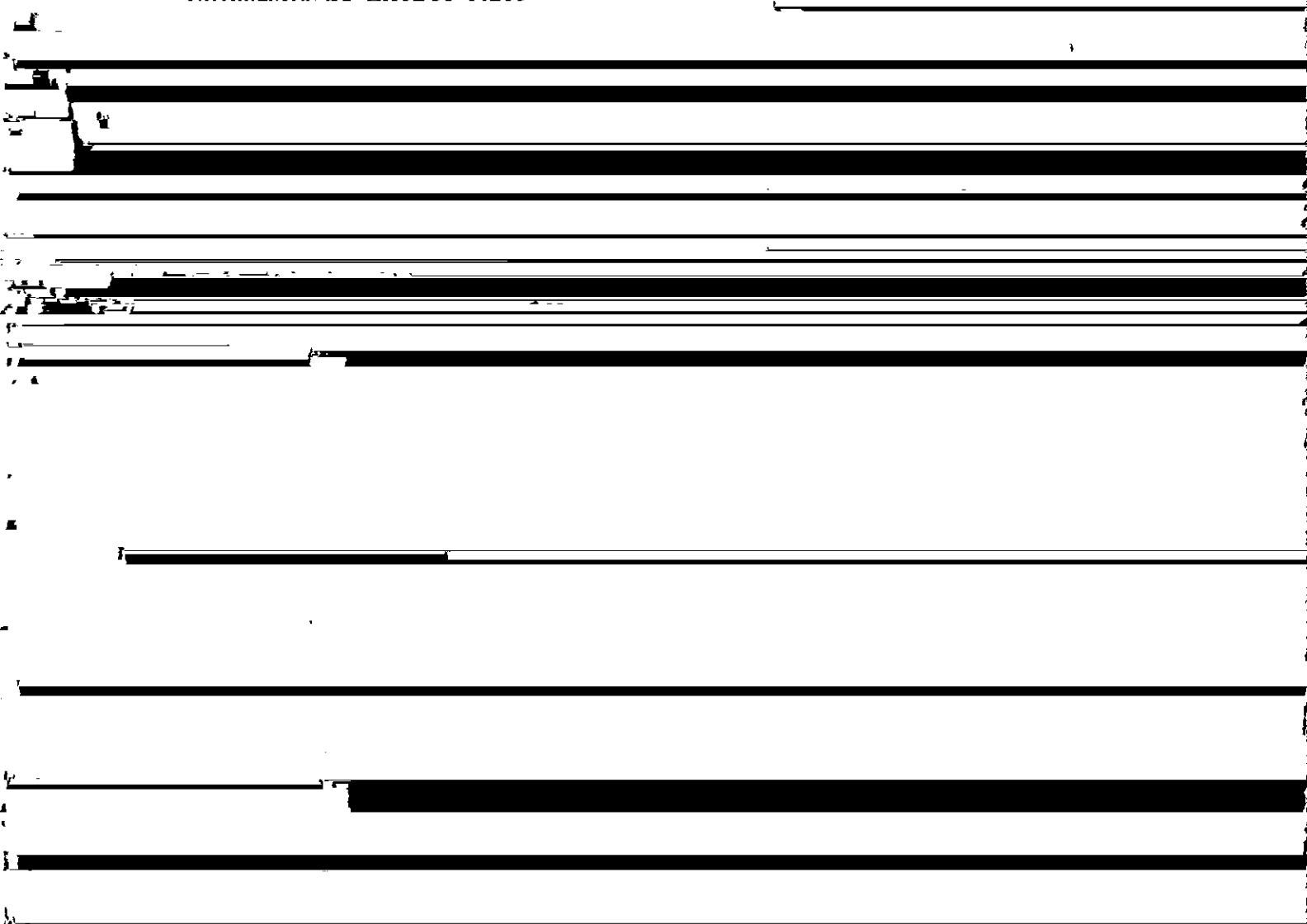
Argentina.
Austria.
Belgium.
Brazil.
Dominican Republic.
Egypt.
France.
India.
Italy.

Luxemburg.
Netherlands.
Norway.
Panama.
Poland.
Siam.
Switzerland.
Syria.
Venezuela.

VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

Argentina.

International Labour Office



Canada.

Service de Biogéographie de l'Université de Montréal.
Société Canadienne d'Histoire Naturelle.

Denmark.

Naturfredningraadet.
Danmarks Naturfredningsforening.

Finland.

Finnish League for the Protection of Nature.

France.

Académie des Sciences.
Académie d'Agriculture.
Association des Naturalistes de la Vallée du Loing.
Club Alpin Français.
Fédération Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelles.
Institut Français d'Afrique Noire.
Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle.
Société Botanique de France.
Société Géologique de France.
Société Mycologique de France.
Touring Club de France.
Société de Biogéographie.
Société Nationale d'Acclimatation.
Société des Amis de la Forêt de Fontainebleau.
Société des Sciences Naturelles du Maroc.
Société Préhistorique de France.

Italy.

« Amici del Paesaggio ».
Movimento Italiano Protezione della Natura.
Parco Nazionale del Gran Paradiso.
Associazione Nazionale per i Paesaggi ed i Monumenti Pittoreschi
d'Italia.

Luxemburg.

Commission des Sites et Monuments Nationaux.
Ligue Luxembourgeoise pour la Protection des Oiseaux.
Musée d'Histoire Naturelle.

Netherlands.

Poland.

Copernicus Society of Naturalists.
Forestry Association.
League for the Protection of Nature.
Polish Geological Society.
Polish Tatra Society.
Polish Zoological Society.

Sweden.

Svenska Naturskyddsföreningen.

Switzerland.

Association de Propagande pour la Protection des Oiseaux..
Club Alpin Suisse.

Union Suisse pour la Protection de la Nature

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Messrs. J. CÉLÉRIER.

Netherlands :

United Nations	Messrs. L. GROS.
UNESCO	P. AUGER.
	C. EUSTHATIADES.
	J. MUSSARD.
	J. B. REID.
	Miss EILEEN SAM.
Pan American Union	Messrs. W. VOGT.
International Committee for Bird Preservation	B. BENZON.
	Miss P. BARCLAY-SMITH.
International Council of Scientific Unions.	Messrs. P. VAYSSIÈRE.
International Union of Biological Sciences	P. VAYSSIÈRE.
International Office for the Protection of Nature	P. G. VAN TIENHOVEN.

Recteur
de l'École Supérieure des Mines,
Al. Mickiewicza, 30,
Cracovie (Pologne).

Mr. HENRI HUMBERT,
Professeur au Muséum National
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57, rue Cuvier,
Paris 7^e (France).

Mr. VICTOR VAN STRAELEN,
Président
de l'Institut des Parcs Nationaux
du Congo Belge,
21, rue Montoyer,
Bruxelles (Belgique).

Dr. J. K. VAN DER HAAGEN,
Ministerie van Onderwijs, Kunsten
en Wetenschappen,
's-Gravenhage (Nederland).

Director
del Museo de Historia Natural
Javier Prado,
Avenida Arenales Cuadra, 12,
Lima (Pérou).

Prof. RENZO VIDESOTT,
Parco Nazionale del Gran Paradiso,
Corso Svizzera, 19,
Torino (Italia).

Dr. WILLIAM VOGT,
Chief, Conservation Section
Pan-American Union,
Washington D.C. (U.S.A.).

Dr. JOSE YEPES,
Professeur
à l'Université de Buenos-Aires,
Av. Directorio, 2980,
Buenos-Aires (Argentine).

Secretary-General :

Mr. JEAN-PAUL HARROY,

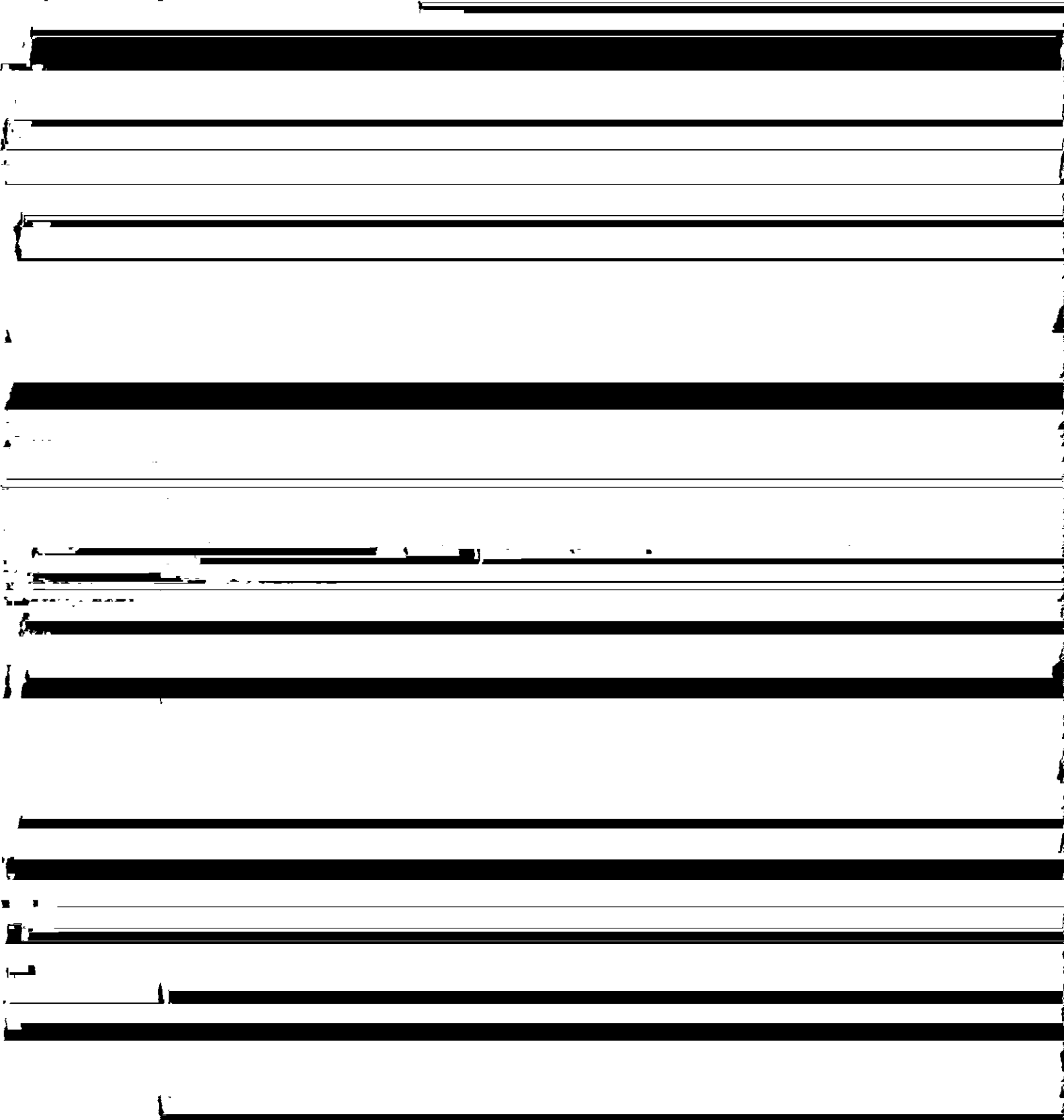
Secrétaire Général de l'Institut pour la Recherche Scientifique
en Afrique Centrale,
42, rue Montoyer,
Bruxelles (Belgique).

VI. — FINANCING OF THE UNION.

This was one of the most difficult and delicate problems which the Fontainebleau Conference had to face: Two equally pressing necessities led them to an obvious deadlock. On the

The operative budget on the contrary cannot and should not be fixed beforehand. Its figure is determined by the sum of subscription rates after deducting the expenditure of the

hopes that those whose resources permit will be generous enough to contribute much more than the share assigned to them by the Financial Committee. But, on the other hand, it is expected that some members' contributions will have to remain below the figures quoted, either because their country has suffered from the war or because their existing commit



Another immediate task, also an urgent one, was the

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