
Panel discussion organized by the Korean Mathematical Society

Challenges and Difficulties for Mathematicians in Asia

Panelists: Presidents of the mathematical societies in

Australia, Cambodia, China, Japan, Korea,

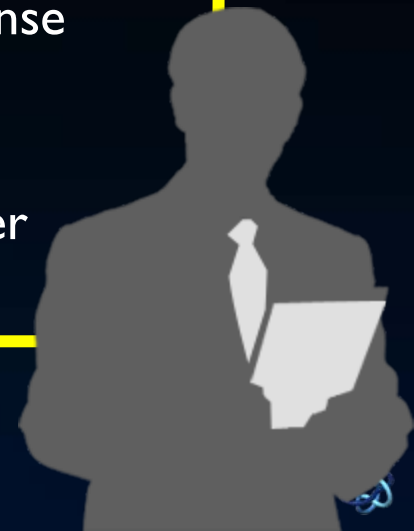
Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam

Program

1. **Welcome Address** by KMS President
2. **Introduction** by the moderator
3. **Introduction of the 10 math societies** For each panelist, 3 minute presentation & 1 minute Q&A
4. **Discussion**, starting with 3 questions from the moderator

Introduction

- The idea of this panel discussion was motivated by the efforts for Seoul ICM 2014 and the need for more collaborations among Asia-Pacific countries
- The ICM efforts in Korea was motivated by the recent rapid development of Korean mathematics, which has been frequently featured in the press, and is well-recognized by the government, and is gaining respect from industry in Korea
- The momentum, if fueled by a Korea ICM, is to have an immense social impact resulting in harmonious interaction among mathematical community, government and industry in Korea
- The current momentum can be best utilized if it is used sooner than later



The KMS offers to invite 1,000 mathematicians in developing countries to Korea

- ❖ Some KMS members have enjoyed the benefits of the IMU assistance program to travel to ICMs in the 70's and 80's
- ❖ Such assistance not only benefited the recipients of the travel assistance but also the students and young researchers with whom the recipients of the assistance shared the excitement and experience gained from ICMs
- ❖ The KMS and its members fully acknowledge the gracious and friendly support received from the international math community, and hope more countries can share in the benefits
- ❖ This program was inspired by the Travel Assistance Program for 500 East European Mathematicians organized by the 1998 Berlin ICM organizers

ICM Satellite Conferences

- Growing number of satellite conferences have been held right before & right after ICM.
 - 2002 Beijing ICM: 47
 - 2006 Madrid ICM: 60 (37 in Spain)
- Should plan for about 60 satellite conferences in Korea and other Countries.
- Some measures have to be taken to expedite collaborated preparation.
- **Active organizational efforts by Asian mathematical community is crucial**



Introduction of 10 mathematical societies

**Australia, Cambodia, China, Japan,
Korea,
Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand,
Vietnam**

Discussion

- The 3 European ICMs held in the period of 1994~2006 contributed to greater collaborative activities within Europe and concerted efforts to help less developed countries.
- **Q I:** Will it be possible to have something similar to happen in Asia? What should be done to take advantage of ICMs in Asia?

Discussion

- EMS (European Mathematical Society) has been accelerating its activities. It holds ECM (European Congress of Mathematics) every 4 years, and awards EMS Prize for young mathematicians from & within Europe.
- **Q2:** Is it possible to create comparable joint activities in Asia-Pacific region?

Discussion

- Within the framework of IMU (International Mathematical Union), Asia is scarcely represented. Its most important committee, IMU EC (Executive Committee), has 11 members of whom only one is from Asia.
- **Q3:** What can be done to remedy the situation?

See you in Seoul
in 2014!