7/94/3 General Support Requested by Member Societies



Over the last 18 months a general problem has been emerging in increasing requests for financial support from member societies. The meeting of these requests is rationed effectively by our system of instruments - generally one request is met each year.

However, as I say, requests are mounting and they tend to fall into two classes - the first for payment of travelling expenses for eminent speakers coming from one country to another and the second for registration fees and travelling expenses for people from Central and Eastern Europe to attend meetings in the West. More requests arrive than can be met out of current budgets. Moreover it is not in general desirable to switch money from one budget heading to another. This suggests the availability of a sum of money for grants which is not specifically earmarked.

It is for consideration by Council therefore whether any additional general budget for such purposes should be made available to be administered by the Executive Committee. Any grants would only be made for events to be organised by organs of EURO such as the Working Groups, or for EURO-sponsored events such as ESI's, and mini conferences. Special consideration would be given to the needs of students. Whatever sum, if any were agreed, principals of fairness would have to apply. So it would probably be necessary for there to be say a six month period for the receipt of applications by the Secretary of EURO to compete for money to be disbursed during the subsequent calendar year. Moreover this would constitute the total of monies available for such support over and above the normal instruments. One might begin by suggesting a modest sum of 5,000 SF.

Maurice Shutler 16 June 1994