AUT Proposal to ISC IRs  HOSTING AN ISC PLENARY MEETING

IR annex 6

10 Registration Fee

The amount of the registration fee must be clearly stated in the proposal as must the exact details of what will be provided within the registration fee. .......

**Add:** Information must be provided on the cost of access to the meeting rooms to attend the meetings only, without taking advantage of any service included in the accommodation package.

**Rationale:**

It needs to be clear when the plenary is voted to be at any place away from Lausanne, if a delegate or ISC official can participate in the meetings only and under which conditions.

In most plenary invitation files until 2017 a “conference fee” (aka registration fee/ entry fee without accommodation) of around 300€ was included.

In the recent years (after 2017) it was apparently assumed that common sense prevails and someone who does not take advantage of the full accommodation package, has to pay for what is consumed.

But from the 2024 example this seemed to be a wrong assumption. The 900$ Registration fee was added to 2024 plenary financial conditions as a surprise, one week before the registration deadline.

And of course it is desired that as many as possible participants take the full package in order to get a good deal with the hotel.

It is understood that all participants need to contribute to the common (shared) costs of meeting rooms, conference support, electronic equipment, coffee break and meals (if included).
Additional remarks:
It also needs to be considered that there may be some (few) ISC c’tee members or other officials who only want to contribute with their work to selected closed or open meetings without consuming any meals or using the hotel package.

A strict application of “Unregistered persons will not be granted access to the conference area, meeting rooms, meals or attendee amenities.” (2024 plenary bulletin page 6) i.e. no access without a payment of 900 $ should not happen. The host has to be aware already when the calculation and negotiation is done, that some exceptions may be authorized (e.g. by ISC President)

Of course this shall not be a backdoor for full time participating delegates who want to avoid any registration fee payment (and leave the shared cost to the others), therefore a reasonable “conference fee” as in the past needs to be set already together with the proposal to host and before delegates vote on a certain plenary host.

It is up to the host to calculate a reasonable amount for this conference fee (e.g. the difference between accompanying persons without access to the meeting and full package could be an indication about the financial value/ shared cost of the conference attendance.
Or the full package cost minus 5 times the fee for extra nights (which is equal to the value of hotel nights) could also be a base for calculation.
But in none such example one can come close to 900$ without sleeping at the offered hotel rooms.