



### **3. Report of the fourth General Assembly of the European Association for Population Studies, Milan (Italy), 6 September 1995**

The fourth General Assembly of EAPS convened on 6 September 1995 in Milan (Italy) during the European Population Conference 1995 (4-8 September). Approximately 80 members attended this Assembly.

#### **3.1. Opening EAPS Council President Charlotte Höhn**

opened this fourth General Assembly at 18.40 hours, welcoming all participating members. She explicitly stated that an Assembly is only accessible to EAPS-members, including of course those who recently joined EAPS.

Regarding the only topic on the agenda of the Fourth General Assembly i.e. the proposal to change the By-Laws, the President explained that for procedure reasons (given in Article 5 of the By-Laws and elaborated upon in the convocation to the Assembly) two separate General Assemblies had to be convened in order to make sure that the proposed changes in the By-Laws should become effective as soon as possible and hopefully during the Milan conference. The Council's proposal to act in this way did not meet with any negative response from the membership.

#### **3.2. Proposal to change the EAPS By-Laws**

The President re-iterated the background of the Council's proposal to change the By-Laws with respect to the item of Council elections. At present the By-Laws prescribe that elections may only take place if quorums of one-third of the members are present at the General Assembly. In practice this quorum is impossible to reach, as was shown at the Jyväskylä and Paris Assemblies. In addition, elections by secret ballot, either at the General Assembly or by postal ballot, are rather superfluous (and costly) if no alternative candidates to the proposed slate of the Nominating Committee are put forward (as was also the case in previous elections).

The President reminded the General Assembly that the proposed amendment was communicated to the membership through the Newsletter in 1994 and again through the convocation for the current Assembly in 1995. Since on either occasion no negative reaction from the membership has been received, the Council is confident that it reflects the opinion of the membership. Having started this, the floor was opened for discussion, but none of the members present took this opportunity. Consequently the proposal was put to the vote and accepted by acclamation. The President thanked the General Assembly for its support on this matter.

**3.3. Closing** The President closed the Fourth General Assembly, noting that the new By-Laws would be published in the EAPS Newsletter.