An Extraordinary General Assembly was held immediately preceding the first session of the General Assembly on 1988 August 2 to amend the Statutes of the Union to permit the election of a President-Elect to the Executive Committee and to institute a new category of adherence to the Union - Associate National Member status for countries in the process of developing astronomical activity.

1. **Extension of the membership of the Executive Committee by the election of a President-Elect**

   The President proposed to the Extraordinary General Assembly that the membership of the Executive Committee be extended by the election of a President-Elect in order to ensure continuity in the presidential activities of the Union. It would be the expectation that the President-Elect would normally become the President of the Union at the next General Assembly following election as President-Elect.

   This proposal was accepted unanimously by the Extraordinary General Assembly.

2. **Establishment of a new category of adherence to the Union, Associate National Member**

   The President proposed to the Extraordinary General Assembly that a new category of adherence - Associate National Member - be established, allowing countries in which astronomical activities are developing to adhere to the Union. Associate National Members will be accepted into the Union for a maximum of nine years, at the end of which time they either become a full Member of, or resign from, the Union.

   This proposal was accepted unanimously by the Extraordinary General Assembly.

   The Extraordinary General Assembly gave its assent to the renumbering and rewording of affected Statutes in order to accommodate the above agreed provisions.