

Questionnaire 2 Report

Introduction

On 19 May 2009, questionnaires were prepared by the IYA2009 Secretariat and posted on www.astronomy2009.org. E-mails were then sent to approximately 140 national and 50 organisational nodes, requesting their assistance in completing the forms. The purpose was to gauge thoughts and opinions on several IYA2009 Secretariat related topics, to help recognise both strengths and areas for improvement.

This report will summarise the replies gathered. Key statistics will be provided as graphs, although they should be taken within the context of all replies, provided in the appendix. Qualitative answers were also collected, and at times examples will be given in the text, reproduced exactly as written. References may also be given to an earlier report, which was produced and is available here:

http://www.astronomy2009.org/static/archives/documents/pdf/SPoCs_questionnaire_report.pdf

All 142 nodes were contacted, but only 44 completed questionnaires were returned to the IYA2009 Secretariat for analysis. Thanks must be given to those who did use the forms, but overall it is a disappointing statistic that closely mirrors the previous information-gathering initiative, when 54 replies were received.

This is perhaps due to the high level number of the activities that the SPoCs are carrying out, which gives them little time to dedicate to reporting activities. The 44 replies have been compiled to form the foundation of this report. Overall responses have been encouraging, particularly with regard to opinions about the work of the Secretariat. There are, of course, many suggestions for areas which can be improved, ranging from the official website to available resources.



1. Organising committees

The first question related to national committees. The majority of respondents, 84%, confirmed that their countries do have such a committee. These individuals were then asked the number of people constituting their groups. The results are shown in figure one.

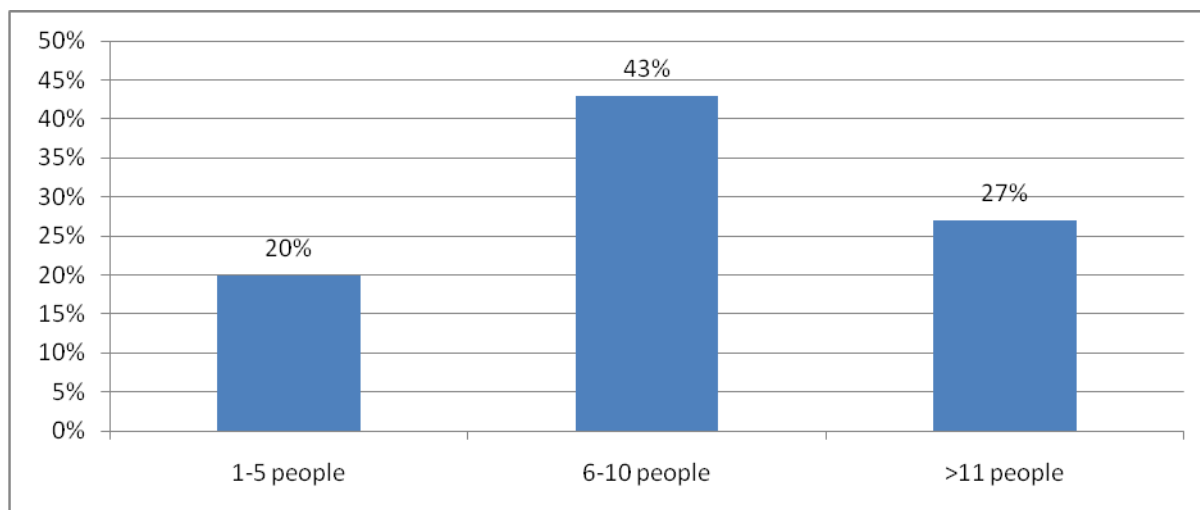


Figure one: numbers of individuals making up the various organising committees.

2. E-mail newsletters

Next, SPoCs (Single Points of Contact) were asked a series of questions relating to the e-mail newsletters. A summary of responses is provided in figure two.

No respondents stated that the newsletters are of no use, contain too little information, are not sent frequently enough, contain irrelevant information, or use language which is too complicated. Over 80% of respondents state that the amount of information is good, the frequency is good, and the language level is good. Of course, this means that there is room for improvement, but such high figures are a positive point worthy of note.

The qualitative answers contain are almost universally positive. One particularly significant suggestion for improvement was provided:

Morocco: *I would like to receive the same e-mail newsletter but in French, because I spend much time to understand the text. We are francophone people. Our site web is presented in French and Arabic. We would like to translate it in English but we can't. In my opinion, it will be better to send all information in two languages French and English. or it will be better to have two mailing lists one for the people talking French and the second for the people talking English. Thank you*

Multi-lingual updates were suggested in the previous report, but the logistical issues with implementing such a feature are significant, especially given the Secretariat's small size. A possible solution is to emphasise the value of translations to the national nodes, so that they may organise this aspect themselves.

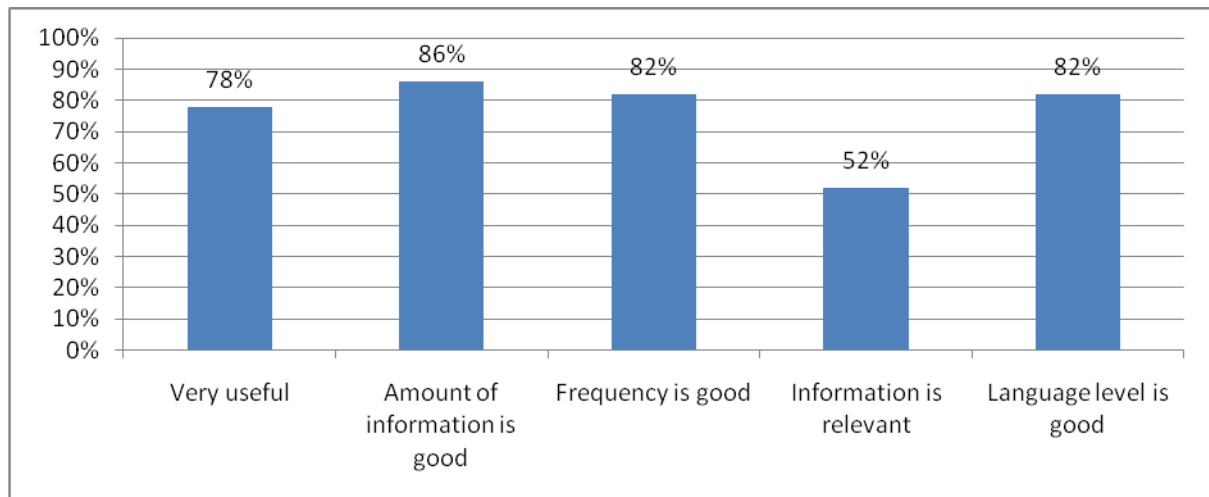


Figure two: opinions on the e-mail newsletters.

3. IYA2009 website

Opinions on the IYA2009 website (www.astronomy2009.org) were positive, interestingly more-so than in the previous report. This could be due to the fact that this time respondents were commenting on the new version of the site, as opposed to the old one which was the case before. If so, this is a good sign that the redesigned website is an improvement.

The main negative point relates to the navigation, with 7% of recipients stating that it is “difficult”. This closely matches with the previous answers, so it is an ongoing concern.

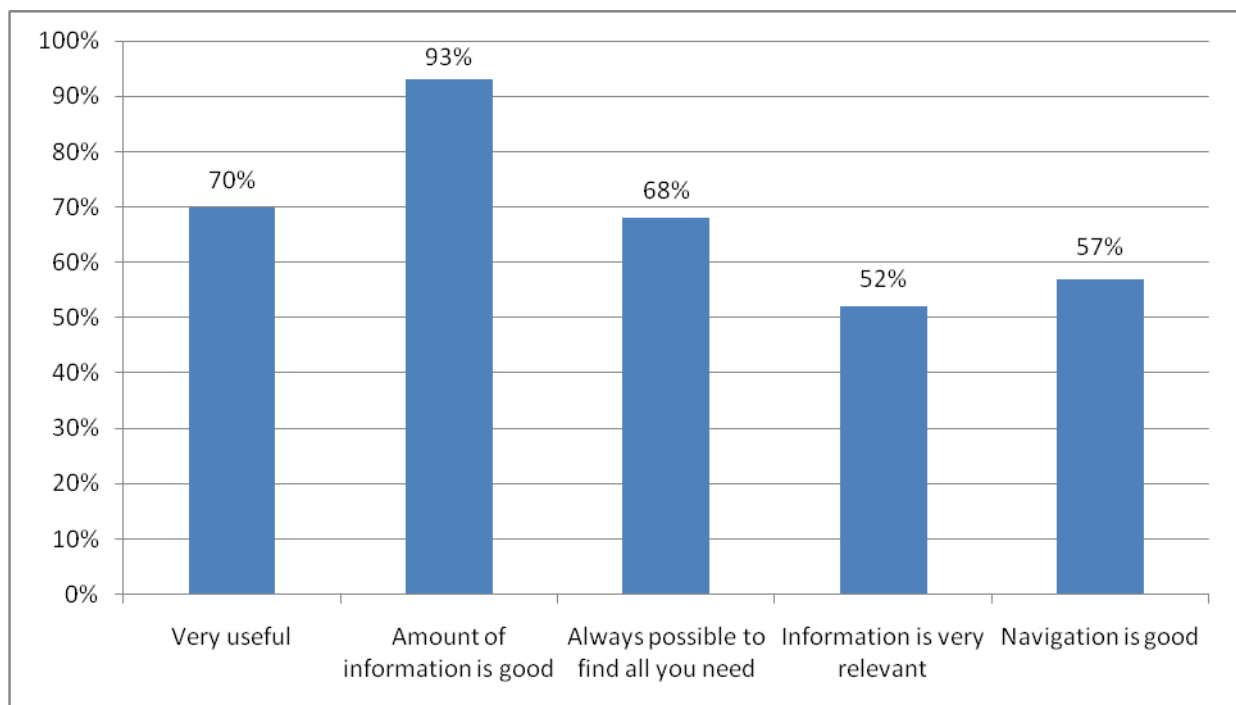


Figure three: opinions on the IYA2009 website.

Regarding qualitative answers, navigation also cropped up:

Greece: *Navigation might need some improvement to locate stuff that does not fit specifically in categories. Maybe an additional left menu with quick links. In general most of the info is properly placed and SPoCs can find it fast. SPoCs are updated in conjunction with the e-mail updates. The Press should be queried to see if they can find what they need.*

Time permitting, navigation is certainly the one area of the website which has been flagged as requiring additional attention.

4. IYA2009 meetings

Question three related to IYA2009 meetings. Figure four shows that over half of respondents have attended meetings. This is an increase on the last report's results, natural given the longer time span.

A high 75% are planning to attend future meetings, with 64% believing that there should be more get-togethers. These statistics serve to highlight the importance of the IYA2009 network for national and organisational nodes.

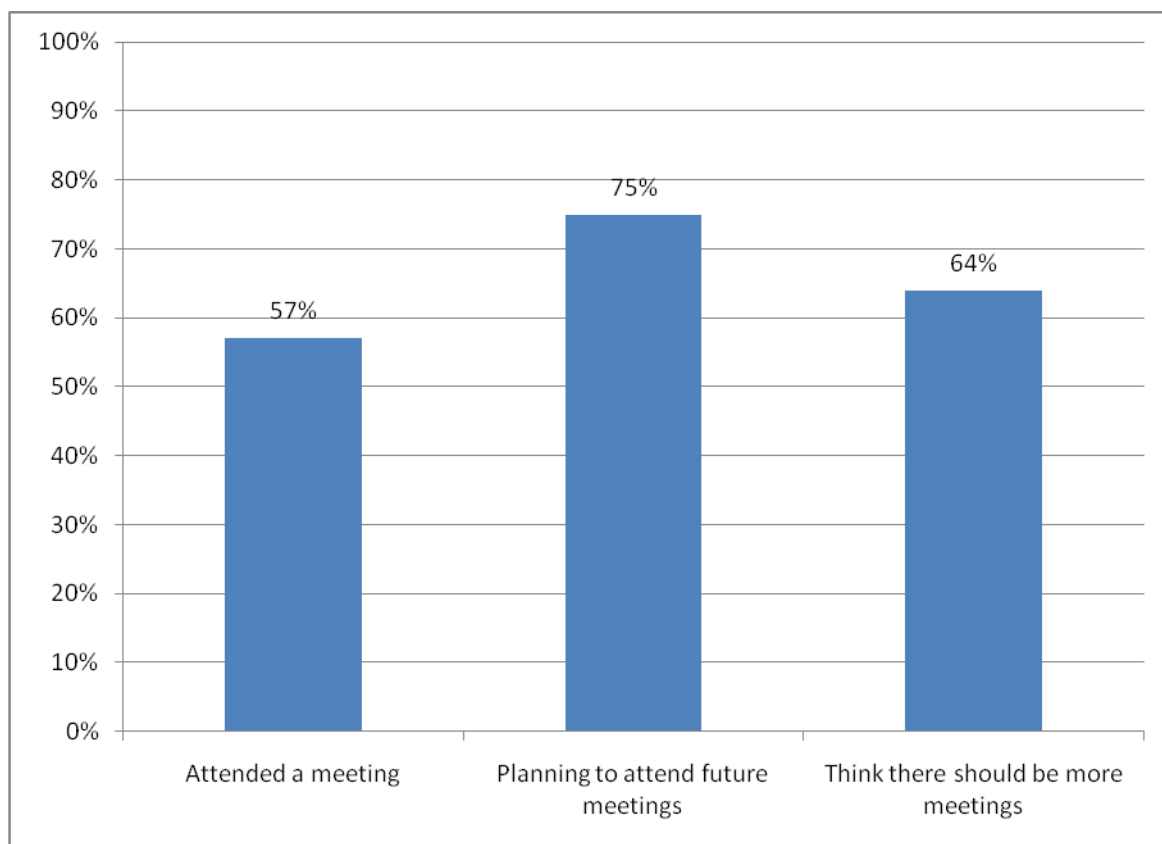


Figure four: attendance / thoughts on IYA2009 meetings.

5. IYA2009 resources

Next, SPoCs were asked to rank a series of IYA2009 resources as either “not useful”, “useful”, “very useful”, or “don’t know”. A sample of replies can be found in figure five.

The online shop received the lowest rating, with 23% of respondents stating that it is “not useful”. Going by these results, it is the area most in need of additional attention to improve its usefulness. DVDs and brochures fared well as evidenced by figure fire five.

Questionnaire recipients were given the opportunity to suggest additional materials that the Secretariat could produce to enhance the organisation and implementation of activities. Replies include:

Canada: *The IYA trailer has been an amazing success. I wish it were available, fully translated, in French and Spanish (the part translation French version is unacceptable for use in French Canada where language issues are quite sensitive). I use the trailer in all my presentations; in schools, I let it run through once, then I replay it, stopping and explaining images as we go. Many, many people who have heard me speak and seen the video always comment on how impressed they were with the video! Perhaps a few topical videos, very short (< 5 min each) would be a good educational tool to be used post IYA?*

UNAW: *I get the feeling that it would be more useful to have fewer resources but available in more languages.*

Once again, resources in additional languages appears to be of primary concern.

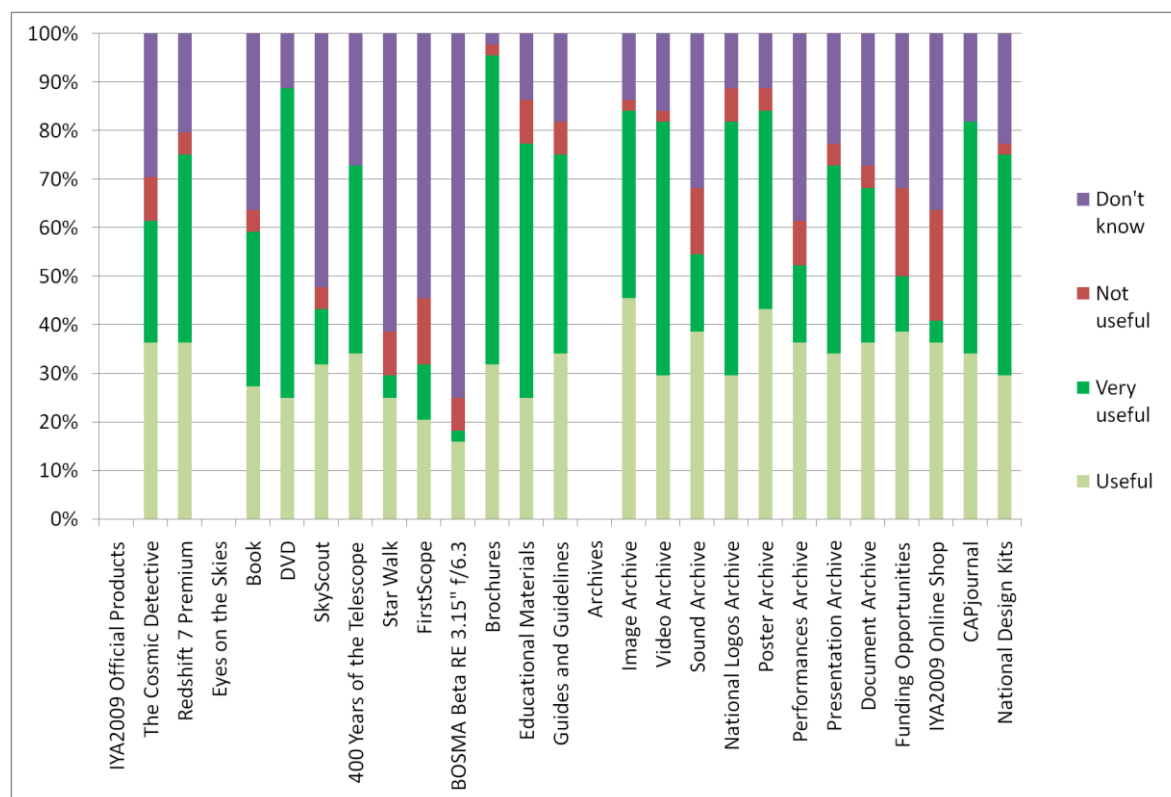


Figure five: thoughts on IYA2009 resources.

6. IYA2009 Secretariat

The Secretariat is always keen to gather opinions about its performance, in order to improve its efficiency and usefulness to SPoCs. Therefore, the final section of the questionnaire was dedicated to this aim.

83% of respondents believe the Secretariat to be “very effective”, while the other 17% decided that “effective” was more appropriate (see figure six). No replies were received in which “not effective” was selected. This is obviously good news for the Secretariat as it reinforces the previous report’s result.

The final question gave SPoCs an opportunity to suggest ways in which the Secretariat could improve its functionality. Ideas include:

Bahrain: *I think that by the end of the year all participating countries are requested to submit a report. The form of the report and the information included are to be planed by the secretariat.*

Iran: *We suggest you pay more attention to Right-to-Left languages such as Farsi (Persian) or Arabic. It seems that the brochures were designed specially for Left-to-Right languages!*

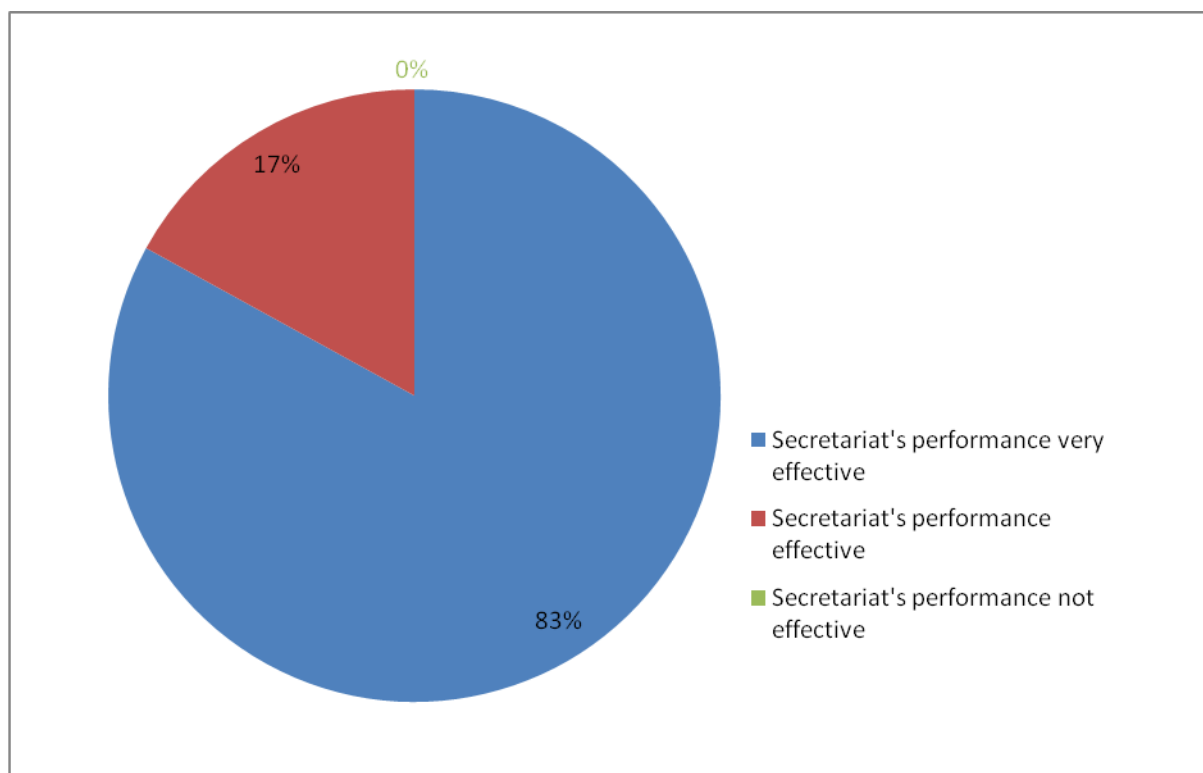


Figure six: opinions on the Secretariat’s performance.

Recommendations

The purpose of the questionnaire was to gauge opinion on the Secretariat's performance, and also to collate feedback on what can be done to improve the services offered.

The most commonly occurring topic when suggestions were requested relates to language. The Secretariat operates in English, and the website and resources reflect this. Many national and organisational nodes would appreciate additional languages being taken into consideration. This would undoubtedly be beneficial, although the logistical element is problematic. The Secretariat itself does not have the capacity to translate all materials into multiple languages. The option exists to, as one suggestion asks, create fewer resources but in more languages. Another potential solution is for the Secretariat to either manage or encourage teams of translators who can perform these duties. Although there is no obvious answer to the issue, the questionnaires highlight the importance of implementing a better system.

The IYA2009 website section flagged some interesting points. While the relevance and quality of content are highly regarded, the navigation was cited as problematic. Taken in conjunction with similar sentiments from the previous report, it is fair to say that efforts should be made to modify the site. Changing the structure is one idea, and may ease navigation issues. It is a fundamental part of the website itself, and high quality resources are of limited use if they are too difficult to locate. Linking with the previous recommendation, having the website available in multiple languages would assist in the dissemination of content to many nodes, although this would be a considerable task to undertake.

The online shop was alone in receiving a high percentage of negative feedback. It would appear that its usefulness is in question, and so if possible should be improved. More items available or offering different services are initial ideas, but asking for specific suggestions from SPoCs would result in a more focussed strategy.

Interaction between nodes was mentioned by several respondents as an area that would benefit from additional work. The need for meetings is seen as high, and there is potential in the Secretariat organising, encouraging, and advertising to a greater extent. Increased facilitation between common-language nodes is also an idea with merit, as this would assist with the language issue while building bridges between nations and strengthening the IYA2009 network.

Appendix

1. General information

do you have national committee?	yes	37	no	4	
if yes, how many people	1-5	9	6-10	19	>11
					10

2. Communication

2.1 Electronic/E-mail Newsletter

Usefulness	very useful	35	useful	9	not useful	
Amount of information	too much	6	good	38	too little	
Frequency	too often	8	good	36	not often enough	
Relevance of information	very relevant	21	relevant	23	not relevant	
Language level	simple	8	good	36	complicated	

2.2 IYA2009 website

Usefulness	very useful	31	useful	13	not useful	
Amount of information	too much	3	good	41	too little	
Can you find all you need?	always	30	sometimes	14	never	
Relevance of information	very relevant	23	relevant	21	not relevant	
Navigation	simple	16	good	25	difficult	3

2.2.1 IYA2009 website features

Usefulness	very useful	23	useful	21	not useful	
Amount of information	too much	3	good	41	too little	
Relevance of information	very relevant	16	relevant	28	not relevant	

2.2.1 IYA2009 website updates

Usefulness	very useful	20	useful	24	not useful	
Amount of information	too much	4	good	39	too little	1
Relevance of information	very relevant	17	relevant	27	not relevant	

2.3 IYA2009 Info Packs (sent by post)

Usefulness	very useful	29	useful	12	not useful	3
Amount of information	too much	5	good	35	too little	4
Relevance of information	very relevant	17	relevant	26	not relevant	1

3. IYA2009 meetings

Have you attended any of these meetings?	Yes	25	No	19
Do you plan to attend any of the next meetings?	Yes	33	No	11
Do you think we should have more meetings?	Yes	28	No	16

4. Resources

	Not useful	Useful	Very useful	Don't know
IYA2009 Official Products				
The Cosmic Detective	4	16	11	13
Redshift 7 Premium	2	16	17	9
Eyes on the Skies				
Book	2	12	14	16
DVD		11	28	5
SkyScout	2	14	5	23
400 Years of the Telescope		15	17	12
Star Walk	4	11	2	27
FirstScope	6	9	5	24
BOSMA Beta RE 3.15" f/6.3	3	7	1	33
Brochures	1	14	28	1
Educational Materials	4	11	23	6
Guides and Guidelines	3	15	18	8
Archives				
Image Archive	1	20	17	6
Video Archive	1	13	23	7
Sound Archive	6	17	7	14
National Logos Archive	3	13	23	5
Poster Archive	2	19	18	5
Performances Archive	4	16	7	17
Presentation Archive	2	15	17	10
Document Archive	2	16	14	12
Funding Opportunities	8	17	5	14
IYA2009 Online Shop	10	16	2	16
Communicating Astronomy with the Public Journal		15	21	8
National Design Kits	1	13	20	10

Do find them easy to adapt to your language and needs?	Yes	41	No	3
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5. Secretariat's performance

Do you consider the Secretariat ...	very effective	35	effective	7
		83%		17%

Would you like to comment on the electronic/e-mail newsletter?

Morocco: I would like to receive the same e-mail newsletter but in French, because I spend much time to understand the text. We are francophone people. Our site web is presented in French and Arabic. We would like to translate it in English but we can't. In my opinion, it will be better to send all information in two languages French and English. or it will be better to have two mailing lists one for the people talking French and the second for the people talking English. Thank you

Philippines: The electronic newsletter is a very useful means in which SPOCs like me can be informed of the new developments about IYA2009 at a glance.

Malta: I receive it twice every time

Canada: I circulate it to all the list servers of differing IYA enthusiast groups (amateur organizations, individual clubs, science centres, university and college teachers, etc.) and add to it brief news notes specific to Canada.

Greece: Just excellent!

Nepal: It is very important for every one interested in Astronomy keep up thanks to you.

Colombia: It is very useful and interesting

China-Nanjing: Electronic newsletters are very important and useful for all

Honduras: It is very useful

Syria: The electronic newsletter was just a PERFECT way of communicating with us as SPOC

Kenya: The communication is often simple and elaborate. The secretariat keeps us update all the time. They deserve a pat on the back!

Would you like to comment on the website?

Morocco: The same commentary like the e.mail Newsletter

Canada: I would appreciate access to blank templates (powerpoint, logos, etc.) in other languages
without national node identifications, specifically French and Spanish.

Greece: Navigation might need some improvement to locate stuff that does not fit specifically in categories. Maybe an additional left menu with quick links. In general most of the info is properly placed and SPoCs can find it fast. SPoCs are updated in conjunction with the e-mail updates. The Press should be queried to see if they can find what they need.

Nepal: Good work

UNAWA: Sometimes it feels a little like the website promotes the IYA2009 specifically, a little bit at the expense of astronomy itself. I wish it would also publish the great exciting news in astronomy, e.g. the big telescopes that are coming up or the space telescopes that make astronomy such a dynamic field in a period of economic gloom. Good news in astronomy alongside new IYA products and projects would be nice to see.

Hungary: I feel sometimes that resources are too much hidden. E.g. I know that the Florence museum made possible to use their pictures free but it is hard to find them.

Colombia: It's very easy and it brings all information we need

Puerto Rico: web pages always have room for improvement, as soon as there is too much information it becomes difficult for a new person to use.

Honduras: I would like to find National Statements (like Congress in Spain, Culture Ministers) in one single place.

Syria: I would like to comment on the amount of the information. Ok it is not too little, but I can not say that it is good either. I think that the articles on projects, news, and updated should be more detailed.

Kenya: Well managed

Would you like to comment on the website updates?

Morocco: I propose to create a place in the IYA2009 where you put the typical Astronomical Conference slides of every country to exchange between members . The same for the picture of astronomical object

Greece: Excellent. Nicely "packed" and really "loaded"

Nepal: thanks for updating time to time

UNAWA: My favourite feature of the IYA2009 website in general is the RSS feeds

Kenya: The updates are prompt and spot-on

Would you like to comment on the Info Packs?

Bahrain: They are very useful

Iran: We couldn't get too many of the packs. But the information was too good.

Canada: Our national team is highly dispersed geographically. One information pack to me as SPoC falls far short of the need.

Nepal: you should send more useful materials in Astronomy so that we could distribute all over our country

Hungary: I like those the best. We could use a lot of information from the packs which otherwise might not come to our eyes - at least for me it is not a daily practice to search through the whole website.

Colombia: I have only two between august/08 and today

Puerto Rico: would like to have more

Honduras: We can use and share them with colleagues, other institutions.

Syria: The Info Packs were indeed so useful and we could easily navigate between links to know just what is really up-to-date in IYA 2009.

What other forms of communication do you think would be useful?

Bahrain: Via email

Iran: Both of electronic post and surface post are useful.

Canada: I wish all the information were available for download so I could distribute information to the many people throughout Canada who could use it.

Nepal: DVD's , CD and posters

UNAWA: I am not sure why the online forums have such difficulty taking off. Such things are great for feedback.

Colombia: That's enough

Tunisia: Communication forms are good, but for us (French speaking) we found some difficulties, and we should translate all products.

Egypt: other countries programs

Puerto Rico: facilitate settings in which the nodes may interact

Kenya: The existing modes of communication are sufficient.

*What other products would you like the Secretariat to produce.
Can you give us some examples?*

Iran: I think you have done everything.

Canada: The IYA trailer has been an amazing success. I wish it were available, fully translated, in French and Spanish (the part translation French version is unacceptable for use in French Canada where language issues are quite sensitive). I use the trailer in all my presentations; in schools, I let it run through once, then I replay it, stopping and explaining images as we go. Many, many people who have heard me speak and seen the video always comment on how impressed they were with the video! Perhaps a few topical videos, very short (< 5 min each) would be a good educational tool to be used post IYA?

Greece: Generic media products would be much appreciated. Media clips like the Trailer could be used for TV/web broadcasting. They could be without titles but with the IYA logo as insert or at the corners like the ones used by producers to brand their media products and of course starting and end titles.

UNAWA: I get the feeling that it would be more useful to have fewer resources but available in more languages.

Uruguay: check this brochure in Spanish:

<http://astronomia2009.org.uy/aia/files/media/file/folletogalileo.pdf>

Puerto Rico: more help with evaluation mechanisms (sample forms came late)

Rwanda: Other resources which can may be produced: T-shirts, caps,...during regional meetings and national workshops.

Some resources mentioned above have not been received by the SpoC. If some copies are still available you can send them to me on my address.

I report also that you suggest the gallileoscope team to allow payment using bank account transfer when we don't have the credit card. I wrote them many times them but there is no reply.

Syria: We wanted to find design kits for all brochures and logos and other products so that we can adapt them to our language; these were not always available.

Would you like to comment on the work of the Secretariat?

In **Morocco**, we have some difficultiez financieres. For example the site web <http://www.raam.ma> costs for the RAAM 12 Euros every month. We have not any financial support. All conferences and Starry nigh that the RAAM have organised across the kingdom was free and the members of RAAM supported all depenses (Travel and living,...) So I would like to ask you if you can help us to continue to organise across Morocco some conference and StaryNigth. We have distributed some prospectus of the RAAM about the IYA2009. If you can help us to have more one to distribute for the large public. We have imprime 100 pieces for 60 Euros. Not enough for informations

Bahrain: The secretariat have performed an excellent job

Iran: It was really too much and very good

Philippines: The work of the Secretariat is highly commendable. The success of IYA2009 results largely to the coordination being done by the Secretariat.

Iraq: you are doing great :D

Canada: I appreciate the very rapid response time to queries you always provide. You folks are GREAT!!

Nepal: They are very effective people I would like to thank them thank you secretariat.

UNAWA: You're doing a great job given how few of you there are!

Russia: I would like to thank the Secretariat for its effective work, for its readiness to help and for its prompt, instructive, friendly and detailed replays on any question.

UK: Great job guys (and gals)

Uruguay: Congratulations!

Hungary: As before: I get always prompt, effective and helpful replies.

Colombia: I think the work secretariat is very complete and efficient. We have many friends in this committee

Tunisia: I didn't find any arrangement to buy galileoscopes. As public institution we can't pay either by card or by purchasing order

China-Nanjing: The work of the Secretariat is really great, and he contacts with so many peoples involved with all types of IYA stuffs. Thank you!

Puerto Rico: overall good

Rwanda: Well done. The secretariat is trying its best.

Lithuania: I would like to thank the Secretariat for their friendliness, professionalism and readiness to help us. Many thanks for your hard work!

Kenya: They have performed beyond expectations.

Would you like to suggest some ways in which we could improve our work?

Bahrain: I think that by the end of the year all participating countries are requested to submit a report. The form of the report and the information included are to be planned by the secretariat.

Iran: We suggest you pay more attention to Right-to-Left languages such as Farsi (Persian) or Arabic. It seems that the brochures were designed specially for Left-to-Right languages!

Canada: See earlier comments/requests. I would like to know how to get news items/URLs into the weekly news. I've sent some information (e.g., Canadian stamp issue) that I thought would appear in the weekly e-news, but they got shunted onto a page buried pretty deep on the IAU web page. Lots of nice materials have been produced in Canada that people can download from the internet. Overall I'm very satisfied and I recommended to the CASCA that they contribute financially once again to the IYA fund.

Nepal: You don't need any improvements

Hungary: You may ask the owners of the Official Products to give a hint at least about the shipping costs of the products to various destinations for different number of orders. That would help a lot for the small countries: if we know e.g. in advance that the shipping cost of one copy of the FirstScope is 10 times as much as the product itself (got the number from the company directly and it was not too fast) we would not advertise it. A small country like Hungary may not order a few thousand of anything, for which the shipping cost is much less. So such kind of information would be very helpful from the beginning.

Colombia: I think is not necessary other ways

Tunisia: the secretariat should intervene to resolve problems like that (galileoscopes).

Egypt: more help for SPOCs

Puerto Rico: facilitate interactions of nodes

Mongolia: Can you send us astronomy teaching materials by mail. We need original teaching materials in the universities of Mongolia.

Legacy

Morocco: During this year 2009 we have created 8 clubs of astronomy in the country. 4 of them were created in the schools in Khouribga, Settat, BenSlimane and FqihBenSaleh for the Scholars. We have organised a training of astronomy about the Constellations some Arabic Stories about the Big Deeper and the observation in of the Saturn and the Moon by telescopes and Binoculares. It was a large success between the large people and the students and the scholars. Every body was surprise after seeing these celeste objects by telescope. For the next University Year 2009-2010 we will create an astronomical Club in the Tanger University. We will organise a training of astronomy for the students of this University.

At Next November we will organise a staryNigth for the young people at the Rabat Observatory. We repair the large telescope of the Morocco with the help of an association of Hope of Groupe where there is some searcher and astronomers of the NASA. And we project to continuous our activités although the some difficulties of finances. If you can help us we will be recognise for you. Thank you so much and sorry for my English . You can visit our site web : <http://www.raam.ma>.

Bahrain: We have been active for the last 18 years to make astronomy a popular subject. Our activities include observations, exhibitions, public lectures, workshops, and conferences

Nicaragua: We will continue the activities of this year in the next years. I think the Activities of this year will become ordinary activities. We are planning for the next year to carry out: a. At least 8 conferences in our university -UNAN-about astronomy s topic; b. Course-Practices of Astronomy with Astrophysics directed to the teachers of elementary and high school. c. We will expect to receive at least 6000 students of high school in our observatory , like this year.

Portugal: This is one of the most important outputs of the national IYA2009: how to take advantage of the national network of institutions created during this year (until now, this network is composed by more than 350 partners) ? It's fundamental to do it but we still don't know how to do it. Anyway we are strongly work to find a good solution.

Iran: Our activities that will continue after 2009 are as follows:

1. Regional Messir and Sufi observational competitions
2. Astronomy Week and Astronomy Day ceremonies
3. Planning international sundials festival
4. Founding national observational sites in places with appropriate dark sky
5. National monthly astronomical gathering
6. Yalda (the last night of autumn) ceremonies

Philippines: We really plan to continue some of the IYA2009 activities after 2009. But first and foremost, the NOC plans to continue working for astronomy in the country by evolving to become the National Astronomy Committee that will oversee all the astronomical activities in the

Philippines. With the link made between the astronomical societies and the Galileoscopes that were distributed to various science high schools in the country, outreach activities and 100 hours of astronomy will be continued to allow us to promote astronomy particularly in the countryside.

Iraq: No, Unfortunately, the situation in Iraq is very difficult and it's not well adapted with scientific plans

Malta: We plan to keep the people who attended our activities interested in Astronomy and science by enrolling them in the astronomical society of Malta. We have also prepared a database of interested persons for future activities.

Through our project "Moon for all Mankind" we have forged links with astronomers in 45 countries and we hope to strengthen these.

Canada: Many - I'd be please to speak about them in Rio :-) Now I must prepare my next two IYA presentations.

Greece: Our vision is to use 2009 as a new starting point for communicating astronomy. Our effort is primarily targeted at using IYA for public's attention grabbing and utilising the opportunity to develop a long standing relationship with the community: Plans include continuing basic communication (lectures, star parties etc.) but also establishing a firm network of contacts and developing web and media channels of communication for the years to come.

Nepal: yes we are planning so many such activities in my country we are planning to do many star parties in remote areas as well as schools we are planning to train teacher (Science Teacher) around my country

Andorra: Following the success of school talks this year, we plan to continue with outreach activities in schools by establishing yearly talks at the 5th grade level in primary school (10- 11 years old), at the 3rd grade level in secondary school (13-14 years old) and at the graduation level (17-18 years old). We also plan to continue with a yearly program of public conferences and events to foster public awareness into astronomy and astrophysics.

UNAWA is actively looking for funds to continue beyond 2009 and being a cornerstone of the IYA2009 helps because we have had more countries join but sometimes people see us as a one-off thing. I really hope that all cornerstones are here to stay

Mozambique: Here we identify the obvious future plans, and at times ambitious ones:

- An introductory astronomy course will be introduced in the Physics Department at UEM for their 2nd year students in 2010 by dr. Cláudio Moisés Paulo. This will comprise of 2 hours of lectures a week for 16 weeks. The course will include subjects such as why astronomy is not astrology, how the seasons are related to the position of the sun and in the much bigger scale cosmology.
- Establish an Amateur Astronomical Society, hopefully run by the amateurs.
- Explore how Mozambique and the International Astronomical Union can co-operate, for example through the Commission 46 Teaching Astronomy for Development.

- Investigate further the history of astronomy in Mozambique, mainly pre-1900 and also the gap in the 20th century. We plan to contact the Lisbon Observatory who can provide some answers to this.
- Secure long term, or at least steady, funding.
- For ambitious long term projects, introduce further courses at the university, study the potential to establish an astronomical observatory and integrate astronomy into society fully.

Russia: It would be very useful to keep our activity after the 2009. However, I have no specific ideas by this moment

UK:

- 1 1,000 telescope for schools and links with local astronomical societies
- 2 'We Are Astronomers' full-dome, digital planetarium show
- 3 Twitter for astronomy in the UK
- 4 Astronomy now regular part of some science festivals that weren't before
- 5 Use of FETTU for specific major science festivals for the future
- 6 Plans for continuing are in-hand, funding from two sources

Uruguay:

a) Coordination between observatories (educational, research, amateurs). See:
<http://astronomia2009.org.uy/aia/observatorios/observatorios-en-uruguay/>

b) Olympiads of Astronomy (partly web-based).

See: <http://astronomia2009.org.uy/aia/olimp-237-ada-2008/olimp-237-adas-2009/>

c) UNAWE activities providing support to school teachers.

Armenia: Continuing educational activities, public lectures, visits to Byurakan Observatory, publication of materials.

Kasi: We don't have any concrete plans. However, some important activities should be continued.

AWB will have many programs and activities building on IYA2009 programs continuing beyond 2009, chief among them being continuation of the 100 Hours of Astronomy communication network that will augment AWB's existing community and serve as the foundation for international programs, both existing and in the planning stage .

Colombia: Colombian Astronomical Network (RAC) was founded since 1996 and it is working hardly each year. After 2009 we will continue our activities like the "Festival de Astronomía de Villa de Leyva", the biggest astronomy party in south America, and the National Astronomy meeting. And obviously many other activities including the GTTP in all the country.

Tunisia has been chosen among pilot project for UNAWE and we'll continue till evaluation in 2012.

Egypt: a lot, will be available on our website www.bibalex.org/psc regularly

Puerto Rico: The IYA2009PR team includes members of the PR Space Grant Consortium, Community leaders, Amateur Astronomers and they have expressed the desire to continue working with coordinated activities for the island.

Rwanda: Even though many activities will close with the running year 2009, it could be useful to maintain the website active at least for the first quarter of the year 2010, for various annual reports.

Lithuania: Yes, the Lithuanian astronomers are going to continue various activities of astronomy science popularization after 2009. At least twice per year we plan to organize the "Starry nights" at the Moletai Astronomical Observatory, where people will have an opportunity to attend the professional telescopes, look at the sky objects through amateur telescopes and listen the popular lectures, given by professional astronomers. To attract more public to the Moletai Astronomical Observatory the exhibitions of known Lithuanian artists will be arranged there. We also plan to continue the cycle of popular astronomy lectures in various regions of Lithuania. The members of amateur-astronomy club "Albireo" intend to organize the sidewalk astronomy events on the streets of main cities in Lithuania.

Saudi Arabia: definitely, we will continue our activities after 2009. We are planning to keep our Astronomical observations (Moon, stars, Sun.....) running. We will conduct talks to the public as well as field trips and will keep updating our site: <http://www.astronomy2009sa.org/>

Honduras: The 10 National Activities scheduled for 2009, will continue next year.

Sweden: national astronomy website will be continued after IYA2009. International teacher training program GTTO

Syria: Of course we have been working since the launch of our association in 2006 on popularizing astronomy among innocent people. IYA 2009 was a great opportunity for us to augment our work towards this purpose and it was a great experience to our team. Of course we are moving towards great steps in our country. For example:

1. We are currently working on establishing the first and only observatory in Syria. We are in planning phase right now and the work will start by the end of the year.
2. We are currently translating 'The Cosmic Detective' and we also plan to translate 'Lives of Galileo' and to publish other books in the following year.
3. Regarding developing astronomy in our country we are training a number of amateurs who are centered in other cities (rather than the capital) so that - after they are equipped with telescopes - they can popularize astronomy in all parts of Syria.

Kenya: Yes. The IYA activities provide the stimulus for our BSc Astronomy & Astrophysics degree programme to which kicks off in October 2009. We must therefore maintain the momentum.

Mongolia: There are many activities that we plan after IYA2009. For instance we will organize Second summer Astronomical school in Mongolia

Organize training course on "Teaching astronomy in secondary school"

To publish handouts , DVDs and CDs for education in Mongolian language

To have star parties among nomads and public using Galileo telescopes.