

**INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES
59th EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
INCOMING MEMBERS**

August 13, 2008, 9:30-12:30 am
Lillestrøm, Norway
IUGS Office (Bergen Room)

Participants:

Zhang Hongren (Past President) ZH
William Cavazza (Treasurer) WC
Peter Bobrowsky (Secretary General) PB
Jacques Charvet (Vice President) JC
Ochir Gerel (Vice President) OG
Ezzoura Errami (Councillor) EE
Colin Simpson (Councillor) CS
Mikhail Fedonkin (Councillor) MF
Marta Mantovani (Councillor) MM
Elena Dentec (Permanent Secretariat) ED
Anne Liinamaa-Dehls (Permanent Secretariat) AD

Regrets:

Alberto Riccardi (President) AR
Sampat Kumar Tandor (Councillor) ST
Wesley Hill (Councillor) WH
David Huntley (Assistant to SG) DH

Meeting started 9:39 am

1. Opening by the Past President

ZH opened the meeting and expressed his appreciation to the participants for their willingness to take on EC roles.

2. Presentation of New EC members

Secretary General welcomed new and ongoing members of the EC and invited them to introduce themselves.

Zhang Hongren (Past President) is a retired scientist with research interests in environment and groundwater. He was recently elected a member of the advisory board for the Deutsche Bank.

William Cavazza (Treasurer) is a sedimentary basin analyst, academic and industrial scientist. He has been involved in IGCP as a board member and chair, and served on the organizing committee of the 32nd IGC in Florence.

Peter Bobrowsky (Secretary General) is a Senior Scientist in Natural Hazards at the Geological Survey of Canada in Ottawa. This is now his 2nd term as Secretary General of IUGS.

Jacques Charvet (Vice President) is retired but remains an Emeritus Professor, which means he is still active in research in tectonics and geodynamics. He is Past President of the French NC of Geology and has served as an IGCP co-leader.

Ochir Gerel (Vice President) does research in the area of petrology and mineral resources, copper and rare minerals as well as dealing with environmental issues. She is currently professor and Head of Dept. of Geology at the Mongolian University of Science & Technology, Ulaanbaatar. Also she is Director of Geoscience Center at MUST. She has a long history in IGCP, and with several IUGS Affiliated organizations; including, AGID, IAGC and IAGOD.

Ezzoura (Zohra) Errami (Councillor) – She is a professor at Chouaib Doukkali University, El Jadida and President of the African Association of Women Geologists. Her research and teaching are within structural geology.

Colin Simpson (Councillor) is retired having served as a geologist for 33 years including several years as the Chief of the Environmental Geoscience and Groundwater Division in the Australian Geological Survey Organisation. For 17 years he has served on the Committees of two IUGS Commissions (Cogeoenvironment, and GEM). Adjunct Professor University of Canberra (2003-2004).

Mikhail Fedonkin (Councillor) is employed at the Paleontological Institute at the Russian Academy of Sciences and is a member of the Russian Academy of Science. He has a long history with IGCP, having been a member of the IGCP Scientific Board and a project co-leader. His primary interest is in the Precambrian and evolution.

Marta Mantovani (Councillor), member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, is employed at the Institute of Astronomy, Geophysics and Atmospheric Sciences of São Paulo University (where she acted also as Vice-Director), her background is in geophysics, tectonics and geochemistry. Acted in ILP scientific projects as Brazilian leader (having also acted as Chairman of ILP National Committees) and in IAVCEI scientific projects (having also acted as member of IAVCEI Executive Committee). Has served for the last 2 years as IUGS Councillor.

Elena Dantec and Anne Liinamaa-Dehls both serve the Permanent Secretariat based in Trondheim. Anne will serve one more year, and will be located at the Geological Survey of Alberta working about 60%, Elena will be working about 50% on IUGS matters.

David Huntley (Assistant to the Secretary General) is a terrain mapping specialist formerly employed with the GSC and now working for the private firm Jacques Whitford Ltd. in Calgary. He compiles the IUGS annual report and writes minutes for the Executive Committee meeting.

3. President's Address

Alberto Riccardi was unable to attend but submitted this Presidential Address in his absence.

My ideas on what I see as the most important priorities for our action within IUGS during the next four years were exposed in my presentation to the IUGS Council on August 10th, 2008, and will not need to be repeated here. What is important to stress is that we have many challenges ahead and that in order to be successful and improve the standing of the IUGS in all internal and external fronts we need not only to work hard but to work together as a team. As expressed in the motto used in my presentation to the Council, from now onwards: Facts and not words! and, as said by a 20th Century statesman, Facts are better than dreams!

4. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved.

5. Actions arising from the Council Meeting

PB reviewed the major decisions and actions taken by Council:

--One new adhering body was approved: Tajikistan (now 120)

--The merged version of Statutes and Bylaws was rejected

--New Affiliated Organizations approved: BGS, CCOP, SGF, GSI

--The Council voted in the members of the new IUGS Executive Committee

--South Africa was chosen to host the 35th IGC in 2016

--The rotational of the International Geological Congress should be considered further

--The Council ratified the leadership of the IUGS Commissions

--The Harrison Award was granted to Wolfgang Eder

EC Actions arising from the decisions of the 2nd IUGS-IGC Joint Council

ACTION 1: EC will establish a new Task Group to revise the current IUGS Statutes.

ACTION 2: PB to notify the Balkan Geophysical Society (BGS), the Coordinating Committee for Geosciences Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP), the Geological Society of France (GSF) and the Geological Society of India (GSI) that their applications for affiliated status to IUGS have been ratified by Council.

ACTION 3: On behalf of the Secretary General, the IUGS Secretariat should contact all newly elected Commission officers and offer them our congratulations.

ACTION 4: The entire EC should begin to consider suggestions for other forms of recognition that could be bestowed to IUGS related individuals (Currently the Harrison Award is the only IUGS award).

ACTION 5: The IUGS Secretariat to send application forms to all organizations who expressed interest in applying to IUGS.

Independent Commission for Mines and Minerals interested in applying for membership on behalf of Kosovo. Also the Nepal Geological Society
<http://www.ngs.org.np>

6. Upcoming Events

PB explained that the Bureau meets several times a year, and all EC members are encouraged to attend when possible at their own expense. Each VP is entitled to attend one Bureau meeting at the expense of IUGS.

a) First Bureau meeting 20 October 2008 Maputo, Mozambique

b) ICSU Annual General Assembly: 21-24 October 2008, Maputo, Mozambique.

This will be preceded by a Bureau Meeting and a GeoUnions meeting, to ensure that the earth science groups within ICSU continue to work effectively. PB reminded the current EC that Uri Shamir was nominated by the GeoUnions to represent the Geo-Cluster in ICSU Executive Board.

c) IGCP Meeting: 19-20 of February (16-17 Bureau Meeting)

Traditionally when in Paris, the Bureau takes the opportunity to meet before the annual IGCP Meeting, along with Jean-Paul Cadet (CGMW) and members of the French National Committee.

7. Executive Committee obligations

PB reminded the participants that they were elected to the IUGS EC to serve in the best interest of the Earth Science community as a whole and not special interest groups. This involves commitment and hard work. Occasionally, IUGS' interests will not be in the best interest of their country. In this case, EC must be aware of issues of conflict of interest. PB pointed out that all EC members are spokespersons of IUGS and do not need prior permission to do so for any event. He encouraged the EC to use their IUGS title at meetings and try to represent IUGS as often as possible, at as many meetings as possible. The IUGS Secretariat encourages the EC to distribute and use the IUGS logo, as appropriate, but to ensure that the logos are not altered.

ACTION 6: IUGS Secretariat to send versions of the IUGS logo (ftp link etc.) to the new Executive Members.

See this link: ftp://ftp.ngu.no/pub/IUGS/IUGS_Graphics

It will take some time for the new EC to develop working relations. PB requested the EC to reply promptly to communications. Some are marked "FYI" which do not require response. Let people know if you will not be able to respond to e-mail (field work, travel).

Problem solving consumes most of the time of the Executive. Expect crises, difficult decisions over the next few years. Maintaining communication is essential.

PB distributed IUGS Materials (flyers, cards, ties, compasses etc.). He encouraged the EC to check the IUGS website regularly to learn the activities of the Union.

Tasks and Areas of Responsibility:

Adhering Organizations: PB confirmed Alberto Riccardi's view that there was insufficient reporting by many of the IUGS Adhering Organizations, but that the situation could be improved. IUGS should encourage its national committees to be active with IUGS. Jacques Charvet will be in charge of this Task Group.

Affiliated Organizations: These are non-paying, non-voting IUGS related bodies that occasionally seek funding from IUGS. IUGS would like regular visibility in their journals, links to their websites, etc. Ochir Gerel will be in charge of a Task Group to deal with affiliated organizations to ensure our visibility and improve collaboration.

ACTION 7: JC and OG to create ToR for the two Task Groups on Adhering Organizations and Affiliated Organizations, respectively.

ACTION 8: IUGS Secretariat to forward a few examples of ToR to JC and OG.

International Year of Planet Earth: IUGS has initiated this group. This became an independent body funded by IUGS. IUGS does not manage IYPE: it moves parallel to the Union. Councillor Errami has been requested to evaluate and monitor the relationship between IUGS and the IYPE Committees.

E-bulletins: The E-bulletin should follow a format similar to that of IUSS. Colin Simpson agreed to accept this responsibility.

ACTION 9: CS to draft the next E-bulletin as soon as possible, which include highlights of the 33IGC and outcome of the IUGS-IGC joint Council Meeting.

IGCP: Misha Fedonkin was assigned the responsibility to interact with the IGCP projects. Specifically, he is to ensure that each IGCP project has active and complete

websites, IUGS logos and Union properly promoted, books to be published through the GSL and each IGCP project should publish annually in Episodes.

Inactive Members: Marta Mantovani will begin researching the problem of inactive members in IUGS, to determine why countries do not become active.

ACTION 10: IUGS Secretariat to send the current list of Inactive members and their contacts to MM.

Episodes: Both the GSI and USNC for IUGS have offered to assume publication responsibilities of the journal. These groups are both concerned with the low level of funding available from IUGS for supporting publication (currently only 23,000 USD). PB maintained that this allocation could not be increased.

ACTION 11: Secretary General to thank Episodes staff and the Chinese Government for their many years of support.

ACTION 12: ZH will be responsible for the transition of Episodes from the China to another hosting country. ZH will forward a copy of the current MoU to the two bidding groups.

ACTION 13: EC will organize an ARC of Episodes. Secretary General to coordinate this with ZH.

AR will be contacting all EC members with an expanded explanation of his expectations regarding their roles and responsibilities.

8. International Year of the Planet Earth

ZH announced the decision of the IYPE Board: If IYPE is to continue beyond 2009, then it must continue as another body. Currently IYPE is registered in the State of Delaware, USA. The purpose of the Board is to isolate the financial responsibility. IUGS has invited a lawyer to deal with IYPE matters (IUGS liability), however there had been no final response to date.

ACTION 14: Secretary General will officially inform IYPE that ZH is no longer the representative on the IYPE Board.

SG referred the EC to the IYPE and IUGS statutes, both available on their websites. ZH pointed out that the IYPE and UNESCO have VETO power. PB pointed out that the past EC approved a tentative budget in Japan, which stipulated that if IYPE has a working budget over 300,000 USD, 40,000 would go to IGCP. IUGS should follow up on this decision, and if appropriate IUGS or UNESCO may need to use their VETO power.

9. Topics

Expected topics to deal with in the next 4 years include: Statutes and Byelaws, Commissions, UNESCO (IGCP, GeoParks -IUGS role, IYPE)

Statutes and Byelaws were revised but not approved.

10. Place and date of 60th Executive Committee Meeting

Sydney, Australia (11-15 January 2009).

Point of arrival and departure will be Sydney. CS will make arrangements for the 60th EC meeting and will seek sponsorship for a 2 or 3 day field trip that would start in Sydney on the 16th. The initial idea for a trip to Brisbane to view the congress site will not be undertaken in 2009 but later. CS to discuss with the Australian 34IGC Committee whether they can arrange, and fund, air transport for 20 people to travel from Sydney to Brisbane to view the congress site in 2010 or 2011.

11. Other Business

JC asked about proposition of new Commissions – ad hoc

PB distributed IUGS Material

ZH will be thanked during the closing ceremonies.

Meeting adjourned 12.30 pm

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

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