

# STATUTES AND BYE-LAWS

Ratified by  
IUGS Council, August 11, 2000, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
and November 15, 2002, postal and electronic ballot  
and by IUGS Council, August 20, 2004, Florence, Italy

## STATUTES

### PREAMBLE

The International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) was founded in Paris 10 March 1961. It is a member of the International Council of Science (ICSU), having become affiliated with that organization 28 September 1961, when its original statutes were ratified. IUGS' statutes were first accepted by the Constitutive Assembly of IUGS 9 March 1961, and amended by the Council during the 22nd International Geological Congress (IGC) in New Delhi 15 December 1964, the 23rd IGC in Prague 20 August 1968, the 24th IGC in Montreal 22 August 1972, the 25th IGC in Sydney 24 August 1976, the 26th IGC in Paris 15 July 1980, the 29th IGC in Kyoto 28 August 1992, the 30th IGC in Beijing 9 August 1996, and the 31<sup>st</sup> IGC in Rio de Janeiro 11 August 2000, after the Strategic Plan had been approved by the Council, and during the 32<sup>nd</sup> IGC in Florence 20 August 2004 where the merger of both Councils of IUGS and the International Geological Congress and the integration of both, IUGS and IGC, were determined.

Articles 3, 25, and 40-42 were ratified by the Council of the 26th IGC in Paris 12 July 1980. Article 5 was ratified by the Council of 27th IGC in Moscow 4 August, 1984. Article 11, the value of unit of contributions was raised to US \$ 400 by the Council of the 28th IGC in Washington, D.C. 15 July 1989. Several articles were ratified by the Council of the 29th IGC in Kyoto 28 August 1992. Articles 2 (quorum), 8, 30, and 31 (term of office of Vice-Presidents) were ratified by the Council of the 30th IGC in Beijing 9 August 1996. Several articles were ratified by the Council of the 31<sup>st</sup> IGC in Rio de Janeiro 11 August 2000. In accordance with the approved Strategic Plan and Article 11, the value of the unit of contributions was raised to US \$ 420. The Union maintains by special agreements cooperation with other scientific unions which are members of ICSU, other non-governmental organizations, and inter-governmental organizations, such as UNESCO.

### DEFINITIONS

The organizations referred to in the statutes and bye-laws are defined as follows:

(a) Adhering Organization is a representative body, such as a national committee for geology or a national academy of sciences, designated by the appropriate authority to represent in the Union the geological scientists of a country or of a geographically defined area.

(b) Council is the governing body of the Union and the International Geological Congress.

(c) Executive Committee comprises the officers of the Union elected by the Council to carry out the administration of the Union from the close of an ordinary session until the close of the next under the general direction of the Council.

(d) Bureau comprises those officers (President, Secretary General, and Treasurer) of the Union responsible for its day-to-day operations.

(e) Committees are bodies appointed by the Executive Committee to advise it on finances, publications, and any other matters related to Union affairs.

(f) Nominating Committee is the body elected by the Council to recommend a slate of candidates for officers of the Union.

(g) Commissions and their Subcommissions are bodies of expert scientists appointed to coordinate long-term international cooperative investigations to establish standards in appropriate fields, and to encourage international cooperation in the advancement of knowledge in various disciplines and problems in the geological sciences.

(h) Affiliated organizations are international, non-governmental, scientific, autonomous organizations which have obtained affiliation with the Union for the representation of scientific interests and, through the Union in the International Council for Science, for collaboration in arranging scientific meetings, and for planning and undertaking activities of mutual interest.

(i) International Council for Science (ICSU) is an international, non-governmental, non-profit-making, scientific organization. It is composed of autonomous international scientific unions representing various disciplines of the natural sciences as well as national academies or other scientific organizations and having as its purpose the development of international cooperation in scientific activities.

(j) International Geological Congress is the scientific forum of the Union.

(k) IGC Committee is the permanent committee in IUGS dealing with IGC matters. It consists of the President and the Secretary General of the ongoing Organizing Committee; the President of the immediate past IGC session; the President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer of IUGS; and the Secretary Generals of the three immediate past IGC sessions. The President and the Secretary General of the Preparatory Committee may be invited as observers. Up to three congress organizing experts may be invited as non-voting experts. The Committee prepares the agenda for the Council meetings regarding IGC matters. It is co-chaired by the President of IUGS and by the President of the immediate past session of IGC or the President's representative.

(l) Organizing Committee is the body appointed by the appropriate Authority in the host country or group of countries for the forthcoming Session of the Congress. The term of office of an Organizing Committee shall be from the termination of the period of office of its predecessor until one year after the closure of the Session for which it was appointed.

(m) Preparatory Committee is the body appointed by the appropriate Authority in the host country or group of countries for the next but one Session of the Congress, if decided by the Council eight years in advance of the Session. It shall become the

Organizing Committee after the termination of the period of office of the previous Organizing Committee.

## **STATUTES**

### **Definition of the Union**

1. The International Union of Geological Sciences, hereinafter called the Union, is an international scientific, non-governmental, non-political, and non-profit-making organization.

### **Domicile of the Union**

2. The Council decides on the location of the legal domicile of the Union<sup>1</sup>. The Executive Committee may provisionally change the legal domicile, for practical reasons, between Council sessions. Such a measure must be immediately reported to the Adhering Organizations and submitted for ratification by the Council at its next session.

### **Aims and objectives**

3. The aims of the Union are to unite the global geological community in (a) promoting development of the earth sciences through the support of broad-based scientific studies relevant to the entire earth-system, (b) applying the results of these and other studies to preserving Earth's natural environment, using all natural resources wisely, and improving the prosperity of nations and the quality of human life, and (c) strengthening public awareness of geology and promoting geological education in the widest sense.

4. The Union adheres to the International Council for Science (ICSU) and maintains close contacts with other scientific unions adhering to ICSU as well as with other non-governmental and inter-governmental scientific institutions, such as UNESCO, in order to participate in long-term scientific programmes and projects.

### **Membership**

5. Geological scientists from each country, or defined geographical areas within which they are largely supported from internal sources, may become members of the Union through an Adhering Organization designated by the proper authority to represent them, provided the organization can be listed under a name that will avoid any misunderstanding about the territory represented.

6. The geological scientists of two or more countries or areas may adhere to the Union through a single organization, if they so desire. No community of scientists may be represented in the Union by more than one Adhering Organization.

7. Applications for membership in the Union shall be decided upon by the Council, on the advice of the Executive Committee. Applicant adhering organizations may be given provisional membership by the Executive Committee subject to ratification by the Council.

8. There shall be different financial categories of membership in the Union as codified in article 12. Each adhering organization shall pay annually a subscription according

to its category of membership. The organization shall, in conjunction with its written application for membership in the Union, specify in which category it proposes to adhere. The category may subsequently be changed upon written agreement between the organization and the Union, represented by the Executive Committee. The adhering organization will pay annual dues for the year it is granted provisional membership and thereafter.

9. Associate status, renewable each year, may be granted to individual persons, or private or public institutions upon an uncommitted annual payment of a subscription not less than the fixed minimum. Associates are entitled to receive all Union activity information normally circulated to adhering organizations. Associates shall not have voting rights at Council meetings, but may participate in Union activities and meetings if invited.

### **Fiscal Policy**

10. The fiscal year of the Union is the calendar year.

11. The business of the Union shall be carried on without the purposes of financial gain for any individuals or adhering organizations.

12. The Union shall acquire revenue through subscriptions from adhering organizations according to their financial category of membership as shown in the following table:

Category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Unit of Contribution	1	2	4	7	12	20	35	70

The Council on 11 August 2000 in accordance with article 12 set the value of unit of contribution at US \$ 420 in 2001 and US \$ 440 in 2002. From 2003 the unit of contribution will follow the inflation rate based on the US Consumer Price Index (CPI).

13. The Union shall have an income from each IGC, based on an amount negotiated with each Organizing Committee and included in the registration fee.

14. The Union may also acquire revenue from grants, contracts, royalties, donations, investments or recovery of costs for publications or meetings. The Union shall not assume debts exceeding the sum of its assets, promised grants or contributions, and expected membership subscriptions. Only the assets of the Union may be held liable for the Union's fiscal obligations.

15. All income of the Union shall be deposited in accounts authorized by the Bureau and ratified by the Executive Committee. Only officers of the Union and other persons so authorized by the Executive Committee may be signatories to contracts and disbursements. Any banking resolution in the name of the Union shall be worded to ensure that in case of death of the authorized signatory the funds revert automatically to the Union and do not become part of the estate of said authorized signatory.

16. Adhering organizations which have not paid their dues for more than two years will be placed on inactive status, if requested, to avoid further accumulation of unpaid dues. While on inactive status adhering organizations would not have voting rights at

Council meetings. Active status may be restored upon payment of dues for two past years.

### **Working structure of the Union**

17. All activities of the Union are controlled by the Council.

18. The administration of the Union is carried out by the Executive Committee, with the assistance of the Committees, under the general direction of the Council. Day-to-day operations are carried out by the Bureau.

19. In accordance with articles (j), (k), (l), and (m) the IGC is managed by the Organizing Committee in close cooperation with the IGC Committee concerning the general rules.

20. The scientific activities within the Union are carried out by the Commissions and their Subcommissions, Task Groups and Initiatives through projects or meetings arranged in collaboration with the affiliated organizations, the International Geological Congress, other non-governmental bodies, and inter-governmental bodies. Scientific tasks may also be entrusted to the Committees.

21. All officers of the Union and its Commissions serve in an individual capacity.

22. The Adhering Organizations represent the community of geologists in their country or area. They shall be informed and consulted by the Executive Committee on matters of general significance. They are encouraged to promote the Union's aims and objectives, to facilitate the participation of geologists in international projects, and to inform the Executive Committee on their structure and activity.

### **The Council**

23. The Council shall consist of

- (a) one representative of each adhering organization,
- (b) the Chairman or designated representative of each of the Commissions, without vote unless representing simultaneously an adhering organization, and
- (c) all members of the Executive Committee, without vote except as provided for in article 5.7. of the Statutes of the Congress. Representatives of the affiliated organizations, of the Organizing Committee of the Geological Congress and of related unions, shall be invited to attend meetings as non-voting participants.
- (d) Whenever a meeting of the Council during an IGC has IGC issues tabled on the agenda the appropriate authority in countries which are not members of IUGS shall be invited to send one delegate per adhering organization. However, notwithstanding the voting arrangements agreed generally for participation the Council, such delegates shall be entitled to vote on matters under IGC on the agenda.
- (e) Voting in the Council will be on the basis of one vote per adhering organization except in the case of financial matters and issues related to IGC where voting will be according to the IUGS membership categories.

24. The Council is chaired by the President of the Union or, in case of his/her incapacity or his/her inability to attend, by the Past President or by a Vice-President designated by the Council, upon recommendation from the Executive Committee.

25. In the event of an equal division of votes, the chairman shall cast the deciding vote.

26. Each adhering organization that is an active member as defined in article 16 has one vote, except as provided for in article 32. The vote of each adhering organization must be given by a representative appointed by that adhering organization.

27. The Council meets in ordinary sessions normally held every four years during a session of the International Geological Congress. The Council may also make decisions in extraordinary sessions or by postal or electronic communication on questions put to it by the Executive Committee or the IGC Committee through the Secretary General. Sessions of the Council shall be called by the President of the Union in consultation with the Executive Committee.

### **Powers and functions of the Council**

28. The Council elects the officers of the Union, after consultation with the Nominating Committee.

29. The Council has the power to institute any Commission that it deems necessary for the scientific work of the Union and to dissolve any Commission that it has instituted.

30. The Council appoints the Nominating Committee and any other groups it deems necessary to further its work.

31. The Council may accept affiliation of non-governmental international scientific organizations connected with the earth sciences. It can also dissolve the affiliation of such an organization to the Union.

32. The Council determines, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the value of the unit of subscription referred to in article 12. In voting on this recommendation and on any revision of this article or of article 12, the Council assigns to each adhering organization a number of votes equal to its category of membership, which then are cast by its representative.

33. The Council shall decide invitations received to host the next and future IGC Sessions taking due account of a regional rotation system in order to ensure the global character of the Congress. The decision may be taken as early as 8 years in advance of the IGC date.

34. The Council determines matters referred to it by the IGC Committee, including matters brought to the attention of the IGC Committee by the Organizing Committee.

### **The Executive Committee**

35. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary General, the immediate Past President, the Treasurer, and four Councilors. A representative of the Organizing Committee of the following session of the IGC, and, if appropriate, a representative of the Preparatory Committee of the next but one IGC shall be invited to participate in meetings of the Executive Committee without vote. The outgoing Secretary General shall remain an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee as Past Secretary General for a period of one

year after the end of his/her term in office and may be invited to take part in further meetings of the Executive Committee on a consultative basis. Members of the Executive Committee may not concurrently hold office in the Commissions or be representatives of adhering organizations.

36. The President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer shall hold office from the end of the ordinary session of the Council at which they were elected to the end of the following ordinary session. The President is not eligible for re-election but shall serve for one term as Past President. The Secretary General and the Treasurer are eligible for re-election once only. The Vice-Presidents shall serve for a period of four years concurrent with the Bureau. They may however, accept a nomination for one additional term only, to the office of President or Secretary General or Treasurer. Four Councilors shall be elected, each to serve for a period of four years, but staggered in order to provide continuity: two take office immediately following election by the Council Meeting, two take office two years after the Council Meeting. Councilors shall not be eligible for re-election, but they may however, accept a nomination for one additional term only, to the office of President or Secretary General or Treasurer. In the event of the death or resignation of an elected officer prior to the end of his/her term, the Executive Committee may designate a deputy to act in his/her place until the completion of his/her term of office or, if more than one year remains of his/her term, arrange for his/her replacement according to the Nominating Committee procedures described in the bye-laws.

37. The Bureau shall consist of the President, Secretary General and Treasurer, and shall be responsible for day-to-day operations in accordance with these statutes and bye-laws.

38. The Executive Committee may act on behalf of the Council on matters of policy or financial commitment that are too urgent to await a decision by the Council through postal ballot or consultation but such actions must be notified to the Adhering Organizations and are subject to ratification by the Council.

39. The Executive Committee shall present a report on its activities including a financial statement on the current situation and an outlook for the following years, at each session of the Council and circulate promptly the full reports of all its meetings to the members of the Council.

40. The Executive Committee shall establish such Committees as are deemed necessary and appoint their members; it may also dissolve existing Committees.

### **The Nominating Committee**

41. At each ordinary session of the Council, a Nominating Committee shall be appointed consisting of seven members, not more than three of whom, including the Past President, shall be members of the concurrent Executive Committee. The Chairman of the Committee shall be appointed by the Council. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a list of candidates as office bearers for election at the succeeding ordinary session of the Council (in accordance with bye-laws 21, 22 and 23).

### **Other Committees**

42. Each Committee except the Organizing Committee and the Preparatory Committee of the IGCs shall consist of up to three members of the Executive

Committee and such other experts as the Executive Committee deems necessary for the work of the Committee. The term of office of the external experts shall be as for members of the Executive Committee. They shall be immediately eligible for re-appointment once only. They shall be eligible for the chairmanship of the respective Committees.

43. The Chairman of a Committee, if not an officer of the Union, shall be invited to attend the meetings of the Executive Committee when matters of importance to the Committee are to be discussed.

44. The Finance Committee shall make proposals each year on the annual budget for the Executive Committee's consideration, prepare long-term plans for the finances of the Union, and advise the Executive Committee on the management of funds and ways of improving the funding of the Union.

45. The Publications Committee shall review the publication policy of the Union and of its Commissions giving particular attention to the IUGS journal Episodes; shall examine all applications to the Executive Committee for funds involving publication, and advise on publication standards, methods and techniques in the presentation of geological results.

46. The Committee for Research Directions is entrusted with the task to identify new scientific fields of particular interest to the Union.

47. The IGC Committee is the permanent committee in IUGS dealing with IGC matters.

### **Commissions of the Union**

48. The Council shall establish as it deems appropriate such Commissions and Subcommissions as are required to study any particular geological field, methodology, or problem.

49. The Executive Committee shall appoint a temporary Chairman and Vice-Chairman of each newly formed Commission or Subcommission and its initial members until the Commission or Subcommission can elect its own officers and members. Officers of existing commissions shall be elected by Commission members and their election approved by the Executive Committee and ratified by Council. They shall remain in office until the end of the following International Geological Congress and be immediately eligible for re-appointment once only, or twice if their initial appointment was made between the installation of new Executive Committees. Vacancies among the Chairmen shall be automatically filled by a Vice-Chairman until a new Chairman is elected.

50. Commissions shall submit to the Executive Committee annual written progress, financial, and administrative reports on their work, encompassing also the work of their Subcommission(s). They shall submit comprehensive reports, including a summary of scientific results, to the Council three months prior to each ordinary session of the Council.

### **The International Geological Congress**

51. The International Geological Congress is the scientific forum of the Union.

52. The statutes of the IGC will enter into force immediately after adoption by the Council and the General Assembly of the IGC and the Council of IUGS on 20 August 2004 in Florence, Italy. The Council and the General Assembly of the IGC, if they individually and both approve these revised statutes shall cease to exist after the close of the respective meetings of the Council and General Assembly of the IGC.

### **Affiliated Organizations**

53. Active international or multinational scientific organizations may apply for affiliated status, if they are willing to support the aims and objectives of the Union. Applications are considered by the Executive Committee. Approval of an application is subject to ratification by the Council.

54. As appropriate, affiliated organizations shall be supported by the Union in matters of international and interdisciplinary cooperation. The Union may give, within the limits set by a fair distribution of its resources, financial support to the activities of affiliated organizations.

55. The Council, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, may dissolve the affiliation of an organization which has been inactive for a period of over two years.

### **Entry into force of, and amendments for statutes and bye-laws**

56. These statutes and bye-laws and subsequent amendments of them shall come into force at the close of the session at which they received the approval of the Council by at least a two thirds vote at an ordinary session at which there is a quorum, as defined in the bye-law 2. Article 12 shall be voted on separately, as provided in article 32. The English text shall be considered authoritative in the interpretation of these statutes.

57. The Council may consider amendments to the statutes and adopt changes by a two thirds vote when a quorum is represented, provided that proposed amendments have been circulated to members of the Council at least three months in advance. Amendments affecting the International Geological Congress should follow the same regulations, but considering the different voting system.

58. Amendments to the bye-laws may be made by a majority vote when a quorum is represented, provided that the proposed amendments shall have been circulated to members of the Council at least three months in advance.

### **Dissolution of the Union and future of the IGC**

59. The Union may be dissolved at a session of the Council at which the representatives of at least one-half of its Adhering Organizations are present, with the approval of three-fourths of the members voting. On dissolution, the assets of the Union shall be transferred to the International Council for Science to finance work in disciplines related to the aims and objectives of the Union.

60. Where a session of the Council has approved the dissolution of the Union it shall also determine the future arrangements, if any, for the IGC. In circumstances where

the Council fails to provide such a determination the IGC Committee shall make representations to ICSU concerning its future.

## **BYE-LAWS**

### **PREAMBLE**

The first bye-laws of the Union were accepted by the Council in Rome 14 October, 1963, and amended by the Council in Prague 20 August 1968, in Sydney 24 August 1976, in Kyoto 28 August 1992, in Beijing 9 August 1996, and in Rio de Janeiro 11 August 2000. The present bye-laws were adopted by the Council in Florence 20 August 2004.

### **The Council**

1. Each adhering organization shall inform the Secretary General in writing of the names and addresses of its representative on the Council and his/her deputy, and also of any change in its representation. Concerning matters of the IGC the proper organization of a country or region not being a member of IUGS may nominate a representative the same way.
2. Decisions of the Council shall be made only when the session constitutes a quorum consisting of representatives of one third of its adhering organizations with vote, and then shall be taken by a majority of those voting, except as provided in articles 32 and 57 of the statutes and IGC matters.
3. Ordinary sessions of the Council shall normally be held during the sessions of the International Geological Congress. Sessions may be called on such other occasions as the Executive Committee deems appropriate. The Secretary General shall communicate the place and date of the Council session to the adhering organizations and the other members of the Council at least four months before the date of the meeting.
4. The President is obliged to summon a session of the Council at the written request of one fifth of the members of the Council eligible to vote.
5. Decisions by postal ballot may be taken by the Council only after the opinions of the members have been solicited three months before the ballot is closed. Decisions by electronic ballot may be taken by the Council only after the opinions of the members have been solicited one month before the ballot is closed. A quorum in a postal or in an electronic ballot shall constitute a response from one third of the Council members eligible to vote. If a quorum is not obtained on a given ballot, the Executive Committee may act upon the matter subject to subsequent ratification by the Council.
6. The proposed agenda of a session of the Council shall be communicated by the Secretary General to all members of the Council and representatives of affiliated organizations at least three months before the first day of the session. Any question not placed on the agenda at least one month before the meeting cannot be discussed unless a proposal to that effect be approved by at least two thirds of those present and voting, provided that the session represents a quorum of the Union's membership.

7. Additional resolutions from the Executive Committee, the IGC Committee, adhering organizations, Commissions, and affiliated organizations should reach the Secretary General at least two months before the session at which they are to be considered. After receiving them, the Secretary General shall promptly distribute them to the members of the Council and representatives of affiliated organizations.

### **Powers and functions of the Council**

8. At its sessions, the Council reviews and takes appropriate actions on the Executive Committee's report on the administration of the Union for the period since the previous Council session.

9. At its sessions, the Council examines and takes appropriate actions on the accounts for the period since the previous Council session and, if the accounts are in order discharges the Treasurer of liability.

10. The Council may in the form of special documents adopt regulations and rules of procedure for its own administration, for the administration of the Executive Committee, for the IGC Committee, for the application for funds and their allocation, and for the affiliation of other international organizations. The Council may adopt instructions for the work and responsibilities of the officers of the Union. The Council may adopt regulations and instructions for any additional field of activity as it deems necessary.

### **The Executive Committee**

11. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year with a minimum of three months' notice. Five members shall constitute a quorum. Urgent business between the meetings shall be transacted by consultation among members.

12. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint any temporary committee or group that it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its work.

13. If at the end of any year a member or provisional member Adhering Organization has not paid its subscription, the Executive Committee has the right to cancel the membership of the Adhering Organization on twelve months' notice, or in the case of real financial difficulties, transfer it to inactive status (see statutes, Article 9). Inactive status shall not last longer than three years. Active status is recovered by paying two outstanding annual subscription fees. An Adhering Organization that loses or cancels its membership shall forfeit all rights that it may have had in the Union.

14. At its mid-term session, normally two years after the preceding Council session, the Executive Committee shall meet with representatives of the Commissions of the Union to review their activities and receive their recommendations concerning changes that may be needed in their terms of reference or in the scientific directions being pursued by the Union.

15. The Executive Committee, subject to ratification by the Council, may make agreements with other non-governmental international organizations as well as with inter-governmental organizations regarding joint projects and programmes.

### **The Officers**

16. The President controls the implementation of the general policy of the Union, as established by the Council. The President represents the Union in its relations with other institutions and with the geological community. In particular, the President or his/her designee shall represent the Union and its affiliated organizations at meetings of the General Assembly and the General Committee of ICSU. Prior to important meetings with ICSU and other organizations, the representative of the Union at such meetings, shall invite comments and suggestions from the Executive Committee and, if time permits, from the Council and the affiliated organizations on important issues. The President may delegate certain tasks to other members of the Executive Committee.

17. The Secretary General shall: (a) serve as secretary of the Council, Executive Committee and Bureau; arrange for meetings of these bodies; prepare and distribute promptly the agenda and the minutes of all their meetings; (b) manage the affairs of the Union, attend to correspondence, and preserve the records; (c) circulate information related to the Union to adhering organizations; (d) prepare the reports on the Union's activities, and in particular, at least three months before an ordinary session of the Council, forward to all adhering organizations a report on the administration of the Union since the previous ordinary session of the Council and present a summary of this to the Council; (e) perform such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the Council, Executive Committee or Bureau.

18. The Treasurer shall manage the financial affairs of the Union and maintain an overview of all accounts, including those held by other officers, constituent bodies and projects. He/she shall a) receive and disburse funds, in accordance with budgets and procedures approved by the Executive Committee; b) keep accounts for the handling of operational and reserve funds; c) prepare an annual report and financial statement; d) prepare and submit the fiscal documents as may be required; e) maintain contact with ICSU, UNESCO and other organizations concerning financial aspects of contracts; f) advise the Executive Committee on financial implications of the Union activities.

19. The Vice-Presidents shall be responsible for a particular activity of IUGS (i.e.: IGC, joint programs with UNESCO, proposal policy, affiliated organizations, etc.) as decided by the Executive Committee. It would be desirable that they attend, in addition to the Executive Committee meeting, at least one Bureau meeting each year.

20. The Councilors contribute essentially to the work of the Executive Committee. In addition, the President may entrust them with special tasks, such as representing the Union in a certain geographical area or disciplinary field, or of giving particular attention to the activities of certain Commissions or affiliated organizations.

### **The Nominating Committee**

21. The Committee shall invite the adhering organizations, Commissions and affiliated organizations to submit proposals for candidates for each office within the Executive Committee during its next term. The Committee may also nominate candidates not proposed by these organizations.

22. The Committee shall evaluate the merits of all persons proposed as candidates for each office within the Executive Committee, and select a nominee for each office, bearing in mind geographical and disciplinary balance, personal proficiency in the

geological sciences, and experience in the administration of scientific organizations. The Committee shall then submit its list to the President of the Union who shall forward it to the members of the Council three months before elections take place. Additional nominations for any office may be made to the President if supported in writing by five representatives to the Council and accompanied by curriculum vitae and assurance of the candidate's willingness to hold office and if submitted at least one month in advance of the election. Such nominations shall be circulated immediately to the Council by the Secretary General. Nominations cannot be made from the floor.

23. In proposing candidates for the offices of President, Treasurer and, especially, Secretary General, the Nominating Committee shall also ascertain the possible infrastructural support, forthcoming from international or national sources.

### **Commissions of the Union**

24. A Commission or a Subcommission is composed of a convenient number of geographically representative members, kept to the minimum consistent with the tasks with which it is charged.

25. Commissions may adopt regulations of their own, subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

26. Whenever appropriate, Commissions and Subcommissions are encouraged to organize meetings in their fields at sessions of the International Geological Congress and other major international meetings.

27. A Commission or Subcommission should issue the publications necessary for implementing its programmes and reporting on its results. Papers should be published in reputable journals, local or international, as appropriate. Publications of monographs, books and major reports should be undertaken in Consultation with the IUGS Committee for Publications, so that IUGS may gain maximum benefit, publicly and financially.

### **The International Geological Congress**

28. The International Geological Congress has its own Statutes which are in full accordance with the statutes and bye-laws of IUGS.

### **Affiliated Organizations**

29. A representative appointed by each affiliated organization and accredited by it to the Secretary General is entitled to take part in meetings of the Council, but without vote. The Executive Committee may invite representatives of the affiliated organizations to take part in other deliberations of mutual interest, and the affiliated organizations may take the initiative in proposing such deliberations.

30. Each affiliated organization is expected to submit to the Executive Committee annual reports on its activities. The Secretary General may distribute such reports within the Union as appropriate and practical.

### **Entry into force of bye-laws**

31. These bye-laws shall come into effect as provided in article 56 of the statutes.  
They may be amended as provided in article 58 of the statutes