

**INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
54th EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
INGOING MEMBERS**

August 27, 2014, 9:00-11:00 am

Florence, Italy

IUGS Office

**Attendees:**

**Executive Committee**

Prof. Zhang Hongren (ZH), President  
Dr. Peter Bobrowsky (PB), Secretary General  
Dr. Antonio Brambati (AB), Treasurer  
Prof. Ed F. J. de Mulder (ED), Past President  
Dr. Werner R. Janoschek (WJ), Past Secretary General  
Prof. Sylvi Haldorsen (SH), Vice President  
Dr. Eldridge M. Moores (EM), Vice President  
Prof. Jean-Paul Cadet (J-PC), Councilor  
Prof. Alberto C. Riccardi (AR), Councilor  
Prof. Ryo Matsumoto (RM), Councilor  
Dr. Gabi Schneider (GS), Councilor

**Observers**

Dr. John Aaron, Webmaster  
Dr. Tadashi Sato, Past Vice President

**Secretariat**

Hanne Refsdal  
Anne Liinamaa-Dehls

**1. Opening by the Past President**

ED welcomed incoming Executive Members to the meeting. He thanked the outgoing Executive Committee for their cooperation in the last term and looks forward to his role as Past President of IUGS.

**2. Presentation of New EC members**

ED introduced the new Executive Members and continuing Executive Members.

**3. President's Address**

ZH expressed that he looks forward to working with the new IUGS Executive Committee and that he will begin by studying and examining all aspects of the Union. He pronounced his aim to serve the entire international geological community in his new role. He expected that past bureau members will have some more responsibilities. ZH turned the chairmanship of the meeting to Peter Bobrowsky (PB).

**4. Approval of Agenda**

PB requested the EC for approval of the Agenda of the 54<sup>th</sup> Executive Meeting.

**Approved: Agenda for the 54th Meeting of the Executive Committee  
of the International Union of Geological Sciences.**

## **5. Actions arising from the Council Meeting**

ED summarized some of the major decisions and actions taken by Council:

- Four new adhering bodies were approved: Slovenia, Peru, Albania and Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- The Council of IGC and IUGS were merged;
- Action: The Council urged the EC to streamline as soon as possible the Statutes of both, the IGC and IUGS, to harmonize IGC matters with IUGS operations;
- Three new affiliated organizations were approved: International Geoscience Education Organization (IGEO); Geologische Vereinigung (GV) and International Consortium on Landslides (ICL). The application for affiliation of the CCOP is pending upon a minor change in the IUGS statutes;
- The Council voted in the members of the new IUGS Executive Committee;
- Oslo (Norway) was chosen to host the 33rd IGC in 2008 and Brisbane (Australia) was chosen to host for 2012;
- The rotation of the International Geological Congress has been postponed;
- The IUGS Mid-Term Vision and Strategic Action Plan was approved. This plan will serve to provide directions for the incoming EC members, from which they may wish to deviate as long as the intention of the plan is maintained;
- The Council ratified the leadership of the IUGS Commissions;
- The Council approved IUGS Statutes changes;
- The Harrison Award was granted to Hanne Refsdal and John Aaron

## **6. Upcoming Events**

### **a. GeoUnions Meeting in Boulder, 31 August 2004**

PB reported that the past Secretary General will attend the GeoUnion meeting of IGU, IUSS, IUGS and IUGG (sister organizations of ICSU) on 31 August in Boulder Colorado. Amongst the items to be discussed at this meeting are whether ISPRS should be formally incorporated into the GeoUnions consortium; changes in the ICSU statutes; GeoUnion partnership in “the Year” and replacement of Robin Brett as common representative to the ICSU Executive Board as he has served two terms already.

### **b. World Conference of Disaster Reduction (WCRD) in Kobe (Japan), 18-22 January 2005**

PB reported that in 1994 the WCDR presented a position paper entitled “Yokohama Strategy” which now required updating. In addition IUGS applied as NGO to ISDR so that it can be formally represented at the meeting. PB had represented the International Consortium on Landslides (ICL) at the 2004 meeting. IUGS had been invited to a preparatory meeting in Geneva, 11-12 October, but will not participate in the follow-up meeting because the same input could be made without attendance. PB and ED might attend independent of IUGS. Following the Kobe event, a new position paper will be drafted where the interests all countries and IUGS can be presented. There maybe the possibility of an IUGS-Planet Earth exhibition in Kobe, but more information is required.

c. ICSU Regional Meeting for Africa (Zimbabwe in October)  
ICSU decided to create regional offices (four ICSU Regional Offices located in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Arab world, Asia, and Latin America or the Caribbean). The first ICSU Regional Meeting for Africa will be in October 2004, and Gabi Schneider will represent IUGS.

**Action: WJ to check if IUGS can have a time slot at this ICSU Regional meeting.**

d. First Circular of the General Assembly of ICSU  
PB mentioned that 30 October was the deadline for revisions of the agenda for the 12 November meeting.

## **7. IUGS Grants**

ED read A. Berger's comments on the proposal for the Geo-cross-borders project led by J. Satkunas. Various comments from the evaluation committee were raised. Upon WJs suggestion, PB requested that the Executive Committee approve the Geo-cross-border project:

**The IUGS Executive Committee APPROVED the IUGS Grant Proposal for GEOCROSSBORDERS on the condition that Edward Derbyshire's comments be adopted.**

WJ reported that the next round of proposals for 2005 will be started in October 2004.

## **8. International Year of the Planet Earth**

ED presented the progress on the International Year of Planet Earth, noting that the Florence declaration was adopted by the joint IGC-IUGS Council. From here it would need to be approved by the UNESCO Executive Board meeting. Finally, it would proceed to the United Nations General Assembly. Once "the Year" was proclaimed, a professional organization would take over. ED requested approval for the members the Management Team:

Eduardo de Mulder (Chair)  
Edward Derbyshire (Chair Science Programme Committee)  
Ted Nield (Chair Outreach Programme Committee)  
Werner Janoschek (Treasurer and Representative IUGS)  
Wolfgang Eder (Representative UNESCO)  
Zhang Hongren (Representative People's Republic of China)  
Andrej Volkov (Representative Russian Federation)

EM acknowledged that this is an important event and stressed that a source of funding for the activity must be established. He asked who the current partners were. In reply, ED indicated that the Year had full support from IUSS, IUGG, IGU, UNESCO and ILP/SCL. USD \$70,000 has been promised as support by the partners for the remainder of 2004.

TS pointed out that some Partners perceive the Year as being too conceptual. He emphasized that concrete steps must be outlined; everyone must be kept informed, and the website must be updated.

ED indicated that the full Partners have all been invited to the meeting and have been given information.

PB requested the Executive Committee to approve the above proposed Management Team (MT) of the International Year of Planet Earth.

**The Executive Committee APPROVED the Management Team composition for the International Year of Planet Earth as presented at this meeting.**

ED pointed out that he will not receive direct support from his survey for this activity in the Year, but hopes that the EC could approach the survey to request the he will be supported. ED mentioned that he is willing to continue as Chairman on the condition that he is given time by his Survey.

**Action: Executive Committee to approach TNO to request that de Mulder be granted time to engage in Planet Earth activities.**

With regards to funding, ED expressed that he would like to see more Partner organizations in the USA. Expenditures to date include 6000 Euro per brochure. USNC has provided moral support. If major US organizations would become partners, a US representative would have a seat on the MT.

Once the Year is taken over by a professional body, ED estimated that roughly 1 million USD would be required for each of the ten themes. The King of Thailand has offered funds through the IUSS if a Day of Soils would be proclaimed through the International Year of Planet Earth. A development committee will be established to approach sponsors.

## **9. Statutes**

PB outlined the history of the Statutes changes and thanked TS for getting the Union to this stage. The EC has been charged by Council to work on the Statutes so a committee needs to be appointed. WJ noted that the new Statutes must combine two entities: IUGS and IGC; hence, it is concluded that the new statutes committee should include two members from the current IGC Committee as well as two members of the IUGS Executive Committee (EM and WJ were suggested). In addition, this group should include *(two members of the IUGS National Committees and)* one independent to act as chair. Various suggestions were given by the EC including: Umberto Cordani, Charles Groat, a member of the 34 IGC (Australia), Niel Williams and Glen Caldwell.

**Action: The PB to inform Boriani as co-chair of the IGC Committee that the new Statutes Committee will include IUGS EC members and invite him on behalf of the IGC to propose two members to the Statutes Committee.**

## **10. Place and date of 55th Executive Committee Meeting**

ZH invited the EC to meet in China. PB thanked ZH for the kind offer. The venue will be discussed at a later date.

## **11. Other Business**

The EC discussed matters pertaining to the Bureau meeting. PB pointed out that the Bureau meetings are open to all EC members, although these tend to be primarily day-to-day work meetings. Primarily, attendees pay for their own expenses, but expenses will be covered for each vice president to attend one meeting per year.

IUGS Secretariat  
Feb 10, 2005