

## Summary of the Fourth Meeting of the IAG EC 2015-2019

**Place:** Vienna, Austria, Vienna University of Technology, Gusshausstr. 27-29, 3rd floor

**Time:** Friday, April 28, 2017, 09:00 – 18:00

**Attendees (voting):** H. Schuh (IAG President), Z. Altamimi (IAG Vice President), H. Drewes (Secretary General), J. Boehm (Vice President of Commission 1; on behalf of the President of Commission 1 during agenda item 2), R. Pail (President of Commission 2), M. Hashimoto (President of Commission 3), M. Santos (President of Commission 4), P. Novák (President of ICC on Theory), J. Adam (President of COB), A. Nothnagel (Representative of the Services), L. Combrinck (Member at Large)

**Attendees (non-voting):** G. Beutler (IAG Past President, 2003-2007), M. Sideris (IAG Past President, 2007-2011), F. Kuglitsch (Assistant Secretary General, minute taker)

**Guest:** J. Kusche (Editor in Chief, Journal of Geodesy)

**Regrets:** C. Rizos (IAG Immediate Past President), G. Blewitt (President of Commission 1), H. Kutterer (Chair of GGOS), R. Barzaghi, R. Neilan (Representatives of the Services), M.C. Pacino (Member at Large)

### Summary of Agenda Items:

#### 1. Welcome and adoption of agenda

The 4<sup>th</sup> IAG EC Meeting in the term 2015-2019 took place on 28 April 2017, at the Vienna University of Technology, Department of Geodesy and Geoinformation, in Vienna, Austria, during the last day of the EGU General Assembly 2017. The agenda was distributed previously by email and was unanimously adopted. *H. Schuh*, the President of the IAG, welcomed the members of the IAG Executive Committee (10 out of 16 voting members, 3 non-voting members and 1 guest), introduced *M. Sideris*, IAG Past President and current IUGG President, and mentioned that also *G. Beutler*, IAG Past President and moderator of the IAG Retreat 2016, is expected to join this EC Meeting later (agenda item 12). The EC Members approved the minutes of the third EC Meeting in Potsdam, Germany, 25 April 2016.

#### 2. Reports of the Commissions

On behalf of *G. Blewitt*, *J. Boehm* gave the presentation about **Commission 1**. He reported about the work of the four Sub-commissions. He further mentioned that the next meeting on Reference Frames for Applications in Geosciences (REFAG) will take place during the COSPAR Assembly in July 2018, in Pasadena, CA, USA. Referring to the wish of dissolving WG 1.2.1, Offset Detection in Geodetic Coordinate Time Series (chaired by *S. Williams*), *H. Drewes* mentioned that, according to IAG Bylaw 12, Study and Working Groups can be terminated by the Executive Committee. If IAG does not receive a Working Group report for the first two years, the Working Group should be dissolved in Kobe, Japan. A new Working Group can be established at any time.

*R. Pail* gave the presentation about **Commission 2**. He reported about the work of the six Sub-commissions. He further reported about GGHS-2016, a joint meeting with IGFS, which was organized from 19 to 23 September 2016, in Thessaloniki, Greece. He presented a proposal for two new Working Groups: (1) JWG 2.2.2: The 1 cm geoid experiment; joint with ISG, IGFS; chaired by *Y.M. Wang*, and (2) JWG 2.2: Validation of combined gravity model EGM2020; joint with IGFS; chaired by *S. Bettadpur*. The EC approved unanimously to install these JWGs.

*M. Hashimoto* gave the presentation about **Commission 3**. He reported about the work of the five Sub-commissions. *H. Schuh* noted that he was contacted concerning the establishment of an Inter-Association Working Group on Volcano Geodesy. *M. Hashimoto* noted that Sub-commission 3.2 could be interested to develop this. *H. Schuh* offered to ask *P. Fernandez* for a 1-page proposal on this initiative. *H. Drewes* suggested installing an Inter-Association Working Group on earthquakes with IASPEI in Kobe. *H. Schuh* concluded that the one or two new Inter-Association Working Groups should be established in Kobe.

*M. Santos* gave the presentation about **Commission 4**. He reported about the Commission 4 Symposium which was organized in Wroclaw, Poland, in September 2016, the preparations for IAG-IASPEI 2017 and IUGG 2019, connections with IGS and others. He further presented a proposal for a new Study Group, SG 4.4.2: Modernized GNSS for Crustal Motions; chaired by *J. Geng*. *H. Schuh* highlighted the importance of clarifying the responsibilities of Commission 4 and IGS to avoid too much overlap. He further noted that a new GGOS Focus Area on Geodetic Space Weather Research was established. *H. Drewes* mentioned that the membership of the proposed new Study Group has to be better balanced including the involvement of more people from Europe, Latin America and Asia. *H. Schuh* suggested *M. Santos* clarifying together with *P. Novák* whether the new Study Group should be part of Commission 4 or part of ICCT. A final decision should be made in Kobe.

### **3. Report of the Inter-Commission Committee on Theory**

*P. Novák* reported about the current status of all 13 study groups within ICCT, the ICCT website, the proceedings of the Hotine-Marussi 2013 Symposium and the outlook for ICCT activities from 2017 to 2019. He criticized that the proceedings of the Hotine-Marussi 2013 Symposium were only published in June 2016. *M. Sideris* noted that there are many activities going on within IUGG dealing with space weather issues. Establishing links to e.g., IAGA should be considered. *H. Drewes* supported the idea of having more Joint Study and Working Groups with other Associations, e.g., IAPSO for detecting sea level changes.

### **4. Report of the Communication and Outreach Branch**

*J. Adam* reported about current COB activities including the IAG website, the IAG newsletter, GIM International, Geodesists' Handbook, Social Media and others. He underlined the need to get regularly news/input for the IAG website, newsletter and social media.

### **5. Status of GGOS Chair appointment**

*M. Sideris* reported that an IUGG Review Panel concluded restarting the election process from the very beginning with setting up a new Nominating Committee and by following a strict time line. *H. Schuh* mentioned that the IAG Bylaws should be revised as suggested by the Review Panel, and that the IUGG electronic voting system should be used for election. He suggested (i) the IAG Bureau becoming the Nominating Committee, (ii) defining a deadline for nominations, (iii) the call for nominations being open for IAG EC and GGOS CB members, (iv) the Nominating Committee selecting up to four candidates and getting an absolute majority for the GGOS Chair, (v) the GGOS CB discussing the top candidates. GGOS CB cannot add new candidates but can propose a justified removal of some candidates. (vi) placing the remaining candidates in a ballot for electronic voting, (vii) asking the IAG EC members to vote the GGOS Chair, and (viii) the IAG President deciding by flipping a coin in case of a tie. The EC unanimously approved the suggested procedure.

## **6. Report of GGOS**

*H. Schuh*, on behalf of *H. Kutterer*, presented the report of GGOS. He reported about recent developments in GGOS, the GGOS Days 2016 in Cambridge, MA, USA, and the Overarching Strategic Focus Areas of GGOS. *M. Sideris* noted that GGOS is currently not recognized by GEO, however GGOS has one vote in the GEO plenary. He suggested GGOS becoming a programme partner of GEO and having a member in the GEO Programme Board. *H. Schuh* and *H. Drewes* agreed to inform the new GGOS Chair about the GEO issue.

## **7. Reports of the Services**

The EC approved revised ToR of the International Digital Elevation Model Service (IDEMS). *A. Nothnagel* reported about the Services BIPM, IERS, IVS, and PSMSL. *H. Drewes* suggested PSMSL collaborating with IGS TIGA (Tide Gauge Benchmark Monitoring WG). *H. Schuh* and *R. Pail*, on behalf of *R. Barzaghi*, presented the report of the International Gravity Field Services (IGFS). *J. Adam* noted that IAG is not mentioned in the International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service (IGETS) ToR. No report was available from *R. Neilan*. *H. Schuh* and *R. Pail* reported that COST-G continues the activities of the H2020 project European Gravity Service for Improved Emergency Management (EGSIEM) which aims to determine a combined gravity field model. The EC discussed whether COST-G should become a new service or a product center within IGFS. The majority of the EC (7 out of 10 EC members eligible to vote) supported the idea of a product center within IGFS.

## **8. Reports from developing countries**

*L. Combrinck* presented recent developments in Geodesy in Africa, Antarctica and the Arctic, such as the installation of new antennas and stations.

No report was available from *M.C. Pacino* who could not attend the meeting.

## **9. Status of the Journal of Geodesy**

*J. Kusche* reported about the status and role of the Journal of Geodesy as a scientific journal and the new journal data policy. He suggested replacing *C. Brunini*, who retired as an Editorial Board Member, by *M. Hernandez-Pajares*. The EC approved it unanimously.

*H. Schuh* suggested strengthening the publication of review papers and mentioning them in the Journal of Geodesy guidelines. Further, he noted that the Journal of Geodesy is the journal of the IAG, and therefore should cover all topics targeted by IAG. *J. Kusche* noted for covering all topics (e.g., engineering geodesy) additional members to the Editorial Board might be needed. He further noted that sometimes it happens that reviewers see fundamental mistakes only in the revised version of a paper and have to reject it then.

## **10. Young Authors Awards 2015 and 2016**

*H. Drewes* presented the candidates for the Young Authors Awards 2015 and 2016 proposed by *J. Kusche*, Editor in Chief, Journal of Geodesy. He then invited the 10 IAG members (eligible to vote) to vote for one 2015 and one 2016 awardee. *R. Barzaghi* submitted his votes by email. In total, 11 people were eligible to vote. After voting, *H. Drewes* stated that *Xingxing Li* and *Olga Didova* were elected the Young Author Awardees 2015 and 2016, respectively. The awards will be handed over at the Kobe Assembly.

## **11. Status of the IAG Symposia Series**

*H. Drewes* explained the current status of the IAG Symposia Series. He summarized the proposals (i) to change from a book version (hardcopy) to a digital online version, and (ii) to rename the “IAG Symposia Series” to “IAG Topical Series”. A draft new contract from Springer is now available to be signed by *H. Schuh*. *H. Schuh* noted that the publication process will be much faster and probably slightly cheaper; however, the access will not be open access (as too expensive). Single papers can still be published open access if the author pays for it. *J. Freymueller*, Editor in Chief, IAG Symposia Series, could not attend the EC meeting, however, submitted his report on the status of the Series after the meeting.

## **12. IAG strategy discussion**

*G. Beutler*, moderator of the IAG Retreat 2016, reported that the IAG Structure 2017 should basically remain the same, and proposed minor modifications, undisputed action items and options for major modifications following some visions. *H. Schuh* suggested (i) not going too much into strategy discussion today, but instead, (ii) organizing a longer (e.g., 3 hours) meeting during the IAG-IASPEI Assembly in Kobe on the IAG strategy. The EC agreed that the suggested “Minor Modifications” require some changes to the IAG Bylaws and therefore should be forwarded to the Cassinis Committee. The EC agreed on the following action items:

- installing a Task Force of 4-5 people dealing with the development of an implementation plan of how to attract young scientists (e.g., by a network of young scientists, letting young scientists organize sessions, giving new prizes). The Task Force should present a proposal in Kobe to be realized before the IUGG General Assembly 2019 in Montreal, Canada.
- asking the officers of the IUGG Union Commission on Planetary Sciences (UCPS) who will organize a symposium in Berlin, Germany from 3-5 July 2017, whether it makes sense to develop a IAG Project on Planetary Geodesy (Option #1).
- asking *J. Flury* (Chair of JWG 2.1: Relativistic Geodesy: First steps towards a new geodetic technique) whether his topic should be expanded to an IAG Project (Option #3).

*R. Pail* suggested adding another Option #4 related to consistency issues of a future GGRF (with some link to Option #2 to be further discussed in Kobe. *H. Schuh* concluded that it would be good having more options for IAG Projects to present in Kobe.

## **13. IAG/IASPEI Scientific Assembly, Kobe, Japan, 2017-07-30 to 2017-08-04**

*H. Drewes* reported about major deadlines, facilities, schedules of IAG and Joint Symposia. He explained that according to IAG Bylaws, a reduced registration fee shall be offered for individual members. As the IAG/IASPEI Scientific Assembly is a joint assembly, this cannot be offered. The EC agreed giving a one-year free IAG membership instead of a reduced registration fee. The EC also agreed not giving best oral presentation and best poster awards.

## **14. IAG Reports 2015-2017 (Travaux de l’AIG Vol. 40)**

*H. Drewes* highlighted the deadlines related to the submission and revision of the IAG Reports 2015-2017 and asked the Presidents/Chairs to keep the deadlines.

## **15. Revision of the IAG Statutes and Bylaws**

*H. Schuh* mentioned that the EC has to decide about the members of the Cassinis Committee, and that there is the tradition that the past IAG President becomes Chair of the Committee. In Potsdam 2016, *C. Rizos* was appointed Chair. The EC appointed five additional candidates.

