

Minutes of the IAG Council Meeting at the IAG-IASPEI Scientific Assembly 2017

Place: Kobe International Conference Center, Room 401

Time: July 31, 18:00-20:00

Agenda

- 18:00 Welcome and adoption of agenda
- 18:05 Organizational issues of the Scientific Assembly 2017
- 18:20 Scientific program breakdown
- 18:35 Mid-term Report on IAG activities 2015-2017
- 18:50 IAG Strategy Document and international activities
- 19:30 Revision of IAG Statutes and Bylaws
- 19:45 Any other business
- 20:00 Adjourn

Participants

IAG National Delegates (*representatives): Australia (*Chris Rizos), Austria (Johannes Böhm), China (Yamin Dang, *Shuanggen Yin), Czech Republic (Pavel Novak), Finland (Markku Poutanen), France (*Marie-Francoise Lalancette), Germany (Jürgen Müller), Greece (*George Vergos), India (Virendra M. Tiwari), Israel (Gilad Even-Tzur), Italy (Mattia Crespi), Japan (Kosuke Heki), New Zealand (Matt Amos), Poland (Aleksander Brzezinski), Sweden (*Martin Lidberg), Switzerland (*Alain Geiger), Turkey (Osman Atila Akabali), USA (*Jeffrey Freymueller)

IAG Executive Committee (*guests*): Harald Schuh (IAG President), Zuheir Altamimi (IAG Vice President), Hermann Drewes (IAG Secretary General), *Robert Heinkelmann* (*guest, minute taker*)

Minutes

1. Welcome and adoption of agenda

The IAG Council Meeting 2017 took place on 31 July 2017, at the Kobe International Conference Center, in Kobe, Japan, on the occasion of the IAG-IASPEI Scientific Assembly 2017. The agenda was distributed previously by email and was unanimously adopted.

H. Schuh, the President of the IAG, welcomed the participants of the IAG Council Meeting.

2. Organisational issues of the Scientific Assembly 2017

H. Drewes, the IAG Secretary General, welcomed the participants and mentioned that most organisational issues were already presented during the Opening Ceremony. He explained that the poster sessions are organized in another building (Chamber of Commerce and Industry) on the other side of the street.

3. Scientific programme breakdown

H. Drewes noted that this topic was already covered during the Opening Ceremony.

4. Mid-term Report on IAG activities 2015-2017

H. Drewes mentioned that the mid-term reports on IAG Activities 2015-2017 (Travaux) can be found on the IAG office website (<https://iag.dgfi.tum.de/> under IAG Publications, Reports). Further comments from the Council Members are very much appreciated. Printed versions of the final Travaux can be received on request.

5. IAG Strategy Document and international activities

H. Schuh gave a presentation about, international activities, IUGG issues, and the IAG Strategy Document. *He* reported about a discussion on IUGG membership, the IUGG governance, news in the IUGG structure and the Statutes and By-Laws, IUGG within ICSU and other recent IUGG activities. Further, *he* reported about the IAG Strategy Document, which was prepared by *G. Beutler*. The document says that the basic structure of IAG incl. the four commissions, the ICCT and GGOS should remain the same. In addition, it says that Inter-Commission Committees (ICCs; e.g., under two or more Commissions) and Projects (e.g., under one Commission; also lasting longer than 4 years) could be established. Suggestions for topics should come from the geodetic scientists. *H. Schuh* further discussed the visions and ideas for ICCs, which were identified. *He* noted that Planetary Geodesy should be covered by the newly established IUGG Union Commission on Planetary Sciences (UCPS) and not by IAG.

J. Müller noted that there could be more information and ideas about how to implement the Strategy Document (e.g., how to attract early-career scientists; ranking the visions). *He* suggested incl. an early-career scientist to the IAG EC who reaches out to interested early-career scientists.

A. Geiger noted the importance of including Marine Geodesy as an Option (#4) for an ICC, and possibly later for an IAG-IAPSO Inter-Association Activity, in the Strategy Document.

H. Drewes asked the IAG Council to give further comments on the IAG Strategy Document after this meeting.

H. Schuh concluded that the IAG Strategy Document will be finalized in the next months, endorsed by the EC in 2017, and approved by the Council during the IUGG General Assembly 2019 in Montreal, Canada, at the latest. The implementation of the Strategy Document should start as soon as possible. *He* noted that one or two Members at Large could be added to the EC in order to improve the geographical balance, however, it would be preferred getting more nominations for IAG officers from the countries instead of increasing the number of EC members.

6. Revision of IAG Statutes and Bylaws

C. Rizos, Chair of the Cassinis Committee, presented his report on the revision of the IAG Statutes and Bylaws. *He* reported about the structure and tasks of the committee and explained the working procedure of the committee from getting ideas (e.g., from the Strategy Document) and proposals (e.g., from the Chinese National Committee) for changes until having the final revisions of the Statutes and Bylaws ready.

H. Drewes explained the difference between Statutes (general law) and the Bylaws (explanatory notes). *H. Schuh* noted that sometimes it might be better (e.g., when it comes to awards) adding an amendment instead of changing the Statutes and Bylaws itself.

7. Any other business

H. Drewes explained that the reason for not giving a reduction of 10% to the IAG individual members on the registration fee for the IAG-IASPEI Scientific Assembly was the fact that it is a joint assembly. However, all IAG members who attended the IAG-IASPEI Scientific Assembly will get free extension of their IAG membership by one year.

8. Adjourn

H. Schuh thanked the participants for their contributions and closed the session at 20:00.

Respectfully submitted
R. Heinkelmann, minute taker
H. Drewes, Secretary General