

## Summary of the Third Meeting of the IAG EC 2011-2015

Place: Singapore, Resorts World Convention Centre, Basement 2, Sagittarius Room

Time: Wednesday, August 15, 2012, 14:00-18:00

**Attendees (voting):** Ch. Rizos (IAG President), H. Schuh (IAG Vice-President), H. Drewes (IAG Secretary General), M. Sideris (Immediate IAG Past President), T. van Dam (President Commission 1), U. Marti (President Commission 2), R. Gross (President Commission 3), A. Kealy (stand-in for D. Grejner-Brzezinska, President Commission 4), T. Herring, R. Neilan (Representatives of the Services), J. Adam (President of COB)

**Attendees (non-voting):** N. Sneeuw (President of ICCT), H. Hornik (IAG Assistant Secretary)

**Guests:** J. Dawson (Chair of SC 1.3e), S. Lynn Choy (Chair of WG 4.5.2), J. Wickert (LOC Scientific Assembly 2013)

**Regrets:** D. Grejner-Brzezinska (President Commission 4), H. Kutterer (Chair of GGOS), R. Barzaghi (Representative of Services), C. Brunini and R. Wonnacott (Members at Large)

### Summary of Agenda Items:

#### 1. Welcome and adoption of agenda

*Chris Rizos* welcomed the members of the IAG Executive Committee (11 out of 15 voting members, 2 non-voting members and 3 guests). The meeting took place on occasion of the AOGS – AGU (WPGM) Joint Assembly in Singapore, 13 to 17 August 2012. The agenda had been distributed previously by e-mail and on the IAG Office Homepage. It was unanimously adopted after the inclusion of some additional marginal topics.

#### 2. Report of Commissions

*T. van Dam* reported on the activities of Commission 1 since December, 2011, especially the completion of the terms of reference of various SC's, JSG's and JWG's. The Commission 1 Website <<http://iag.uni.lu>> has been completed by the terms of reference, structure, programme of activities, news and links to sub-commissions. This work will be continued whenever useful. Any contributions are highly welcome. On occasion of the EGU 2012, meetings of SC 1.4 (Interaction of Celestial and Terrestrial Reference Frames), JWG 1.1 (Tie vectors and local ties to support integration of techniques), and JSG 0.4 (Coordinate systems in numerical weather models) took place. The GGFC (Global Geophysical Fluids Centre) held a workshop. An EGU Session was dedicated to "The next International Terrestrial Reference Frame and an update on geocentre motions". Moreover, SC 1.3a (Regional Reference Frame for Europe) held its 2012 EUREF Symposium in Paris, and SC 1.3e (Regional Reference Frame Asia-Pacific) was engaged in workshops and conferences in Rome, Bangkok and the Philippines. SC 1.3b (Regional Reference Frame for Central and South America) will hold its SIRGAS Meeting in Concepción, Chile, in October 2012. JWG 1.1, SC 1.4 and JSG 0.4 are planning splinter meetings together with the GGFC at the AGU 2012. A Commission 1 Workshop 2014 in Luxembourg is under preparation. The Proceedings of the REFAG2010 Symposium are being published in the Springer IAG-Series, an internet version will be available soon at <<http://www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+geography/book/978-3-642-32997-5>>.

*U Marti* explained the structure and activities of Commission 2. The contribution to the Geodesist's Handbook has been delivered in early 2012. A considerable number of meetings and conferences (co-)organised by components of Commission 2 has been held or will be held in 2012 and the following years. He mentioned in particular the GGHS 2012 (Gravity, Geoid and

Height Systems) in Venice, October 9-12 2012 where Commission 2 took the organisational lead. The conference will have 8 sessions; 162 abstracts have been received. He emphasised the progress to develop a precise gravity geoid for Antarctica. The coverage by terrestrial and airborne gravity data could significantly be improved and the data sets are stored. This work is done within various initiatives, however good efforts are yielded in particular by international cooperation which is meanwhile well established and maintained. With financial support of the IUGG Grants Programme, an initiative of *H. Abd-Elmotaal* for the “Detailed geoid model for Africa” could be started in mid 2012 in cooperation with IASPEI.

As an introduction to the Commission 3 report, *R. Gross* presented the main duties of the Commission and its various components. He then informed that the 17th International Symposium on Earth Tides will not take place in September 2012 in Cairo as previously announced, but it will be held in Warsaw, 15.-19.04.2013. He mentioned several other meetings (co-)organised by Commission 3, e.g. the International Symposia “Space Geodesy and Earth System”, Shanghai, 18.-21.08.2012, and “Reconciling observations and models of elastic and viscoelastic deformation due to ice mass change”, Ilulissat/Greenland, 30.05.-02.06.2013, as well as the “16th General Assembly of WEGENER”, Strasbourg, 17.-20.09.2012. The Webpage of Commission 3 will be set up in the near future.

Standing in for *D. Grejner-Brzezinska*, the Vice-President of Commission 4, *A. Kealy*, started the Commission 4 report presenting the structure. The six Sub-Commissions have been involved in numerous symposia, conferences, summer schools etc. in North America, Europe and Asia. A field test campaign of WG 4.1.1 (Ubiquitous positioning systems) was performed in Nottingham, UK, in May 2012. SG 0.2.1 (New technologies for disaster monitoring and management, joint with GGOS) is developing a taxonomy of sensor technology and a database for disasters. In the overview of a variety of upcoming events in North America, Australia and Europe, the “International Symposium on Space Geodesy and Earth System” in Shanghai 2012, the BeiDou/GNSS “Summer School on GNSS Frontier Technology” in Beijing 2012, and the “2<sup>nd</sup> Joint International Symposium on Deformation Monitoring” in Nottingham 2013 were highlighted.

As a general remark, *H. Drewes* pointed out that all IAG SC's, SG's and WG's have to report on their activities in the IAG Travaux which are published bi-annually on the occasion of IAG General and Scientific Assemblies. A circular will be sent out in the new year as a reminder for the 2013 report. If no report is delivered, the respective sub-component shall be dissolved. On behalf of the IAG COB, *J. Adam* asked all organisers of meetings to send the announcements for meetings as well as summary reports on these events to the COB in order to publish these on the IAG Website and in the IAG Newsletter.

### **3. Report of the ICCT**

*N. Sneeuw* announced that the proceedings of the 2009 Hotine-Marussi-Symposium have been published in January 2012. Since the IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne, altogether 9 Joint Study Groups (JSG) have been set up. A few of them are continuing previous activities with a new focus, but most are new. The actual structure of the ICCT is presented on the Website (<http://icct.kma.zcu.cz>). The next Hotine-Marussi Symposium is planned for 17-21.06.2013 in Rome, the LOC is chaired by *M. Crespi*.

### **4. Report of the GGOS**

Standing in for *H. Kutterer*, *R. Neilan* presented the GGOS status report as the acting Vice-Chair of the GGOS Coordinating Board. A detailed matrix was shown explaining the tasks and

subtasks, objectives and activities of GGOS together with the respective deadlines and responsible persons and institutions. All positions in the GGOS CB and Science Panel are now filled. The GGOS Coordinating Board held a meeting on 27.04.2012 in Vienna; a GGOS Strategic Retreat took place from 26 to 28 June, 2012 in Frankfurt. The GGOS Consortium will meet on 01.12.2012 in San Francisco, followed by another GGOS CB Meeting. The calendar of all GGOS activities will be regularly updated and submitted to the IAG COB to inform the scientific community. At the recent meeting in Frankfurt the goals for the next period were discussed within several Working Groups. As a particular problem to be dealt with in the next future, *R. Neilan* mentioned the adequate integration of gravity data with other data sets.

## **5. Report of the COB**

*J. Adam* reported on the work of the IAG Communication and Outreach Branch (COB). The IAG Newsletter is regularly sent to numerous addresses. Selected parts are also published in the JoG. The Website is continuously maintained. All colleagues were urged to provide new information for the Newsletter and the Website. Initially there was a plan to have a topic of the week on the IAG Homepage; now there is even a problem to have a monthly topic of the month. National Correspondents were asked to send information on national data centres, publication series, and educational establishments for the Geodesist's Handbook.

## **6. Report from the Services**

The report on the geometrical Services was presented by *R. Neilan*. It included summaries of the activities of IAS, IDS, IGS, ILRS. She mentioned in particular the problem of the IAS arising by the retirement of the chairperson. *H. Drewes* explained that two calls for the installation of an IAS Central Bureau had been released in the past, but there was no response. A problem of altimetry is the fact that the data collection is often done by groups outside of the IAG and these groups are not interested in making their data sets available via IAS. On the other hand it has to be stated that a reasonable use of the data, e.g. for sea level change, is only possible by analysing and combining different data sets. Therefore a CB taking care of the data collection and adequate provision is urgently required. The IAG should continue with attempts to find an institution which would be willing to run this CB.

*H. Schuh* reported on the IVS. He informed the EC that he will retire as the acting chair of the IVS by the end of 2012. A search for the successor has started.

The report on other Services (BIPM, IBS, IERS, PSMSL) was given by *T. Herring*. He complained that from some Services (BIPM, IBS, PSMSL) no information was delivered. Concerning the IBS, *H. Drewes* mentioned that the BKG is probably not able to continue this task. It was proposed to transfer the bibliography to the COB.

In the absence of *R. Barzaghi*, *T. Herring* presented his report on the Gravity Services. There were detailed presentations of the IGFS, BGI, IGeS, ICGEM, ICET and IDEMS. It was stated that many institutions, even public organisations, do not deliver their gravimetric data to the BGI. Therefore everyone should help to convince them to provide such data.

## **7. Report from developing countries**

There was no report, because none of the Members at Large were present.

## **8. Report from IUGG and ICSU**

*H. Drewes* explained that IUGG is funding specific common projects of at least two Associations within periods of two years. At present, the IAG submitted proposals for a project on the African geoid as the lead applicant in cooperation with IASPEI, and a project on deformation and ionosphere in the Caribbean together with IASPEI (lead) and IAGA. The EC was asked to continuously visit the IUGG Homepage, where also the annual IAG reports are published. IAG is involved in several Committees of ISCU (e.g. COSPAR, CODATA) and in the World Data System (WDS) <<http://www.icsu-wds.org/>>, which is the new integration of FAGS and the former WDC. Representatives are delegated by the IUGG. *R. Neilan* was nominated by the IAG.

## **9. IAG 150 years celebrations**

*C. Rizos* invited all members of the EC to promote the 150 years celebration of IAG. *H. Drewes* informed that the three countries Saxony, Austria, Prussia (now Brandenburg) which participated in the first meeting in 1862 for establishing the Central European Arc Measurement as the forerunner of IAG have already made, or will make, their own celebrations.

*J. Ádám* presented various examples of tokens, stickers, tags, key rings etc. to be distributed before and during IAG Scientific Assembly / 150 Year Celebration. The EC selected several of them to be produced in a sufficient number for the event. A number of these objects should be sent to the IAG National Delegates.

## **10. IAG Scientific Assembly, Potsdam, 2013-09-01 to 2013-09-06**

On behalf of the LOC, *J. Wickert* reported on the status of the preparations of the IAG Scientific Assembly 2013 according to a meeting of the LOC held on 5 March 2012, and he presented the Homepage ([www.iag2013.org](http://www.iag2013.org)). The meeting will take place in the Dorint Hotel, Potsdam, which accommodates up to 800 participants. The sessions will start on Monday morning, September 2, and the opening session will be held in the afternoon. There will be a "Historical Day" on Wednesday afternoon at the GFZ campus with a session of oral presentations, followed by guided walks and a barbeque. The session should be limited to two hours. The regular registration fee ranges from 360 EUR (early bird) to 480 (on-site). IAG members and students will receive reductions of 10% or 30%, respectively. The details of the scientific programme are urgently required from the SOC. The deadline for abstracts is planned for 30 April.

*H. Drewes* informed on the "Historical Committee", which is formed by the Past IAG Presidents chaired by *I. I. Mueller*. The proposal for the "Historical Session" comprises:

1. Early History (1861/1864 – 1917), the Baeyer-Helmert Era,
2. The Years of the World Wars and Aftermath (1917 – 1959),
3. The Space Age and IAG's Response to Its Challenges (1960 – ...)

The Website <<http://www.iag2013.org>> has urgently to be completed, in particular the time table and the agenda for the scientific sessions. This work is up to the Scientific Committee (Chair: *Ch. Rizos*).

## **11. Report of the Cassinis Committee**

*M. Sideris* repeated his invitation to read critically the IAG Statutes and Bylaws and to collect all ideas for its revision. All proposals may be submitted by the forum in the IAG Homepage. They will be presented and discussed in detail in Potsdam.

## **12. Any other business**

*H. Drewes* presented the list of IAG sponsored Symposia and other upcoming meetings (see also IAG and IAG Office Homepages). The publication of the proceedings of the IAG sessions on the occasion of the 2011 IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne are well in hand. The new Geodesist's Handbook 2012 will be published as usual as a volume of the JoG and is in print. It will be online at <<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs00190-012-0584-1>> as free access or at <[http://iag.dgfi.badw.de/fileadmin/handbook\\_2012/Handbook\\_2012.pdf](http://iag.dgfi.badw.de/fileadmin/handbook_2012/Handbook_2012.pdf)>. A frequently updated version is to be available from the IAG Homepage.

## **13. Next IAG EC meeting**

The EC decided to hold the next meeting on Sunday, April 7, 2013, on occasion of the EGU General Assembly (07.-12.04.2013) in Vienna.

## **14. Adjourn**

*Ch. Rizos* thanked the participants for their contributions and closed the session at 18:00.

Respectfully submitted  
H. Drewes, Secretary General  
H. Hornik, Assistant Secretary