

Summary of the IAG Executive Committee Sessions

Hermann Drewes (Secretary General) • **Helmut Hornik** (Assistant Secretary)

Place: Prague Congress Centre, Prague, Czech Republic
Time: June 23, 08:30-15:00, June 26, 18:00-20:00 and
June 29, 18:00-20:00, 2015

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 (Comm. 1 President), U. Marti (Comm. 2 President), R. Gross (Comm. 3 President), D. Brzezinska (Comm. 4 President), J. Adám (COB President), H. Kutterer (GGOS Chair), R. Barzaghi, T. Herring, R. Neilan (Repres. of the Services).

Regrets: C. Brunini, R. Wonnacott (Members at Large)

Non-voting: N. Sneeuw (ICCT President), H. Hornik (Assistant Secretary).

Guests: R. Klees (JoG Editor in Chief), P. Willis (Assist. Editor IAG Symposia Series), F. Kuglitsch (IUGG Exec. Secretary), A. Kealy (Comm. 4 Vice President).

Summary of Agenda Items

Session I: Tuesday, June 23, 2015, 08:30 – 15:00

1 Welcome and adoption of agenda

Ch. Rizos, welcomed the members of the IAG Executive Committee (11 out of 15 voting members, 2 non-voting members, and 4 guests). The agenda had been distributed by e-mail and was adopted unanimously. Minutes of the previous EC meeting were available on the IAG Office Homepage.

2 IUGG2015 organisational issues

H. Drewes presented the detailed time schedule and the session arrangements of the IAG activities during the upcoming General Assembly. In total, 4231 participants attended the General Assembly, 534 scientists presented 573 papers (11.8% of all Assembly papers) at the IAG sessions.

3 Agenda of Council meetings, June 24 and June 30

The IAG Council meetings were held on June 24 and 30. The EC is invited to participate in these meetings as the Council has the function of the parliament of the IAG and to supervise the activities of the IAG EC and the IAG components. *Ch. Rizos* added the necessity to demonstrate that the activities of the IAG comprise much more than organizing conferences but also inducing actions and contacts between scientists and inter-relations in particular.

4 Agenda of Opening and Closing Sessions

H. Drewes explained that the IUGG Opening Session will take place on June 23 at 16:30; everybody was invited. The IAG Opening Session was scheduled for June 25, 18:00 – 20:00 in the Panorama Hall. The agenda comprised mainly

- Reports of the President and Secretary General;
- Highlight reports of the IAG Commissions, ICCT, COB, GGOS, Services' representatives;
- Presentation of the Levallois Medal;
- Presentation of the IAG Young Authors Awards;
- Presentation of the Guy Bomford Prize followed by the Guy Bomford Prize Lecture.

Subsequently to the Opening Session the participants were invited to the IAG Reception, and to the IAG Dinner which took place on June 28. *H. Drewes* thanked *P. Holota* for organising these events.

The IAG Closing Session was scheduled for July 1, 13:30 – 15:00 in the Conference Hall with the main topics

- Reports of the IAG Symposia conveners;
- Presentation of the IAG Resolutions;
- Presentation of the new IAG Fellows;
- Inaugural Speech of the new IAG President (*H. Schuh*).

The IUGG Closing Ceremony followed at 16:30 in the Congress Hall.

5 IAG Financial Summary 2011 – 2014

H. Drewes presented an overview on the receipts and expenditures within the period 2011 – 2015. A major part was spent for travel awards to young scientists to participate in symposia and workshops. For the present IUGG General Assembly nearly 700 applications were submitted to the IUGG, 51 of those to the IAG. Moreover a considerable amount was needed for buying a bulk of the IAG Assembly Proceedings in the IAG Symposia Series and the Geodesist's Handbook. He informed that joint projects of at least two Associations can be supported by the IUGG. At present there are two IAG projects: 'Detailed Geoid for Africa' together with IASPEI and "Monitoring crustal deformation and the ionosphere by GPS in the Caribbean" together with IAGA and IASPEI.

6 Proposal for members of the Audit Committee TBD by the Council

According to the IAG Bylaws, the EC may propose candidates for the Audit Committee to examine the IAG accounts for the past period. The final nomination of the committee members is assigned to the IAG Council. *D. Blitzkow*, Brazil, *K. Heki*, Japan, and *M. Poutanen*, Finland, were suggested for the Committee. The proposal will be submitted to the Council meeting on June 24.

7 Nomination of members of the IAG Resolution Committee

At present two drafts for IAG resolutions were submitted concerning

- Definition and realisation of an International Height Reference System, and
- Establishment of a Global Absolute Gravity Reference System.

Three drafts for IUGG resolutions concerning the IAG were submitted, namely

- Future Satellite Gravity Mission Constellation,
- Global Geodetic Reference Frame, and
- Real-Time GNSS Augmentation of the Tsunami Early Warning System.

A Resolution Committee has to be established by the IAG Council to collect proposals and to examine the IAG resolutions. According to the IAG Bylaws, the EC may propose candidates. *R. Barzaghi*, *R. Gross* (chair) and *P. Willis* were elected to form the Committee.

H. Drewes presented then the draft resolutions for the IAG and those for the IUGG concerning the IAG. Some wording was changed by the Executive Committee.

8 Levallois Medal, Guy Bomford Prize, Young Authors Award, new IAG Fellows

H. Drewes informed that there are three IAG Awards. The details may be read in the IAG Bylaws.

- Levallois Medal: The Levallois Medal 2015 is given to *R. Rummel*, Munich, Germany, in particular for his merits as principal investigator for the satellite mission "Gravity Field and Steady-State Ocean Circulation Explorer" (GOCE) launched in 2009.
- Guy Bomford Prize: The 2015 Guy Bomford Prize is given to *Y. Tanaka*, Tokyo, Japan in particular for his recent contributions in the field of geodynamics, regional tectonics, and glacial isostatic adjustment. His work has opened new interdisciplinary research.
- IAG Young Authors Award: For the best publication in the Journal of Geodesy *K. Sośnica*, Bern, Switzerland, was elected by the EC for 2013, and *A. Santamaría Gómez*, La Rochelle, France, for 2014.

9 Results of IAG Officers elections

The chair of the Nominating Committee (NC), *M. Sideris*, gave a detailed overview on the nomination process. The NC was appointed in spring 2014, consisting of *S. R. C. de Freitas*, Brazil, *Y. Fukuda*, Japan, *B. Heck*, Germany, and *M. G. Sideris*, Canada. In August 2014, a letter with a "Call for Nominations for IAG Officers 2015-2019" was sent to the electoral register according to Delegates of IAG Adhering Bodies, IAG Officers, Fellows, and members. The elected positions are the IAG President, Vice President, Secretary General, Presidents of Commissions (4), Service Representatives (3), Members at Large (2), and the President of the COB.

A total of 55 names were nominated for all positions. The elected officers to the IAG Executive Committee for the period 2015-2019 are:

- President: *H. Schuh*, Germany;
- Vice-President: *Z. Altamimi*, France;
- Secretary General: *H. Drewes*, Germany;
- President of the COB: *J. Ádám*, Hungary;
- President of Commission 1: *G. Blewitt*, USA;
- President of Commission 2: *R. Pail*, Germany;
- President of Commission 3: *M. Hashimoto*, Japan;
- President of Commission 4: *M. Santos*, Canada;
- Members-at-Large 1: *L. Combrinck*, South Africa;
- Members-at-Large 2: *M. C. Pacino*, Argentina;
- Service Representative 1: *R. Neilan*, USA;
- Service Representative 2: *R. Barzaghi*, Italy;
- Service Representative 3: *A. Nothnagel*, Germany.

In order to balance the geographical distribution of the EC members, *M. Sideris* proposed that the Members-at-Large get elected after the election of the other officers.

10 Report on the review of the IAG Statutes and Bylaws (Cassinis Committee)

On behalf of the Cassinis Committee, *M. Sideris* presented viewgraphs with all the paragraphs of the IAG Statutes and Bylaws to be changed. He emphasised that this update was necessary in order to make it more clear and consistent, and to adapt it to the present situation. He reviewed the major updates in detail. The texts will be discussed in the IAG Council in its first session; the final approval will be made after eventual changes in the second session.

11 Status of IAG Report 2011 – 2015 (Travaux de l'AIG 2011 – 2015)

H. Drewes presented an overview of the current volume of the IAG Reports 2011-2015 (Travaux de l'AIG Vol. 39) and emphasised the importance to publish detailed reports of all IAG components in order to inform the geodetic community and as documentation for the future. It is now online (<http://iag.dgfi.tum.de/index.php?id=329>); and hardcopies are available on request.

12 Reports and recommendations of the Commissions

H. Drewes explained that recommendations for the future should be made. Close contacts between old and new presidents are necessary to guarantee continuous activities.

- Commission 1 “Reference Frames”: *T. van Dam* outlined the activities of the Sub-commissions and Working Groups mentioning the most important publications and the organised symposia and workshops. As a general recommendation for the future work she called on the geodetic community to facilitate more inter-technique and modelling discussions.

- Commission 2 “Gravity Field”: After presenting the research work, *U. Marti* proposed to publish no longer printed proceedings of small conferences under the current conditions. Finally he presented proposals for two IAG Resolutions “International Height Reference System” and “International Gravity Reference System”.
- Commission 3 “Earth Rotation and Geodynamics”: *R. Gross* reported on the activities of Sub-commissions and Working Groups, especially the past and future symposia. For the future he proposed a Sub-commission on “Vertical motion of the Earth’s crust and sea level change”.
- Commission 4 “Positioning and Applications”: *D. Grejner-Brzezinska* reported about numerous meetings. For the future she suggested to split SC4.3 into two subjects – one related to the troposphere and the other one to the ionosphere. Moreover a new SC for ionosphere study and modelling should be established.

13 Report and recommendations of the ICCT

N. Sneeuw summarised the activities of the 9 ICCT Joint Study Groups. A remarkable event was the Hotine-Marussi Symposium, Rome 2013 “in honour of Fernando Sansò” for his long involvement in the organisation and his leadership role in Theoretical Geodesy. For the future he suggested the ICCT to be re-structured from a temporary to a permanent IAG component with full rights in the EC.

14 Appointment of the ICCT President for 2015 – 2019

According to the present Bylaws, the new ICCT President has to be appointed by the IAG EC. *N. Sneeuw* proposed to nominate the present ICCT Vice-President *P. Novák*, Czech Republic. After a short discussion the EC accepted unanimously the proposal.

15 Report and recommendations of the Services’ representatives

R. Barzaghi presented the activities of the gravity field related Services, i.e. IGFS, BGI, ISG, ICGEM, ICET and IDEMS. He mentioned the Symposium GGHS, Venice, Italy, 2012 and the IGFS General Assembly, Shanghai, China, 2014. A project for detailed geoid estimation in the Mediterranean (GEOMED II) was submitted to ESA. It is planned to merge the International Center for Earth Tides (ICET) with the Global Geodynamics Project (GGP) to an International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service (IGETS). The International Digital Elevation Model Service (IDEMS) is not active at present; there are proposals to revive it.

16 Adoption of the International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service (IGETS) & new ToR of the IDS

H. Drewes presented a letter of *J. P. Boy*, EOST/IPGS, Strasbourg, France, to establish the new IGETS. The draft ToR were discussed. *H. Schuh* said that for years a net of super-conducting gravimeters has been installed, so this activity should receive the best organisational support. The EC unanimously adopted the proposal. *H. Drewes* presented then the revised ToR of the IDS. After a short discussion they were unanimously adopted.

17 Status of the IAG Services Assessment

H. Drewes mentioned that all comments of the ISA Team to answers of the Services on a distributed questionnaire have been collected and merged together into each one file which was sent to the individual Services. From some Services a response was received. *Ch. Rizos* emphasised to contact these Services once more. *H. Schuh* proposed that the presently acting ISA Team chaired by *Ch. Rizos* should continue its work at least for the next 6 – 9 months. He announced to formulate guidelines on how to proceed.

18 Report and recommendations of GGOS and adoption of the new GGOS ToR

H. Kutterer presented the status of the GGOS development and the new ToR. The GGOS Consortium has to be elected; the proposals are expected till end of July 2015. *H. Schuh* emphasised that the re-organisation should now be completed and the practical work be started. *R. Gross* remarked that GGOS could probably accomplish a minor part of all its tasks; in fact the whole work only can be done within a co-operation of all groups within the IAG.

19 Appointment of the GGOS Chair for 2015 – 2019

According to the IAG Bylaws (§ 15.d), the GGOS Chair is appointed by the IAG EC in consultation with GGOS CB. *Ch. Rizos* informed that *H. Kutterer* has announced to be ready for a second term. Thus he proposed to nominate him again. *T. Herring* seconded and the EC unanimously accepted the proposal. It was proposed to bring up new issues into the concept of GGOS. The new EC should reflect on this topic and formulate it for its next meetings.

20 Report of the COB

J. Adam mentioned in particular the maintenance of the IAG Website and the IAG Newsletter. Again he invited all colleagues to contribute permanently in every matter in

order to enable the COB to generate the output to the IAG community but also to the community interested in geoscience in general as actual as possible.

21 Report of the Journal of Geodesy Editor-in-Chief

R. Klees reported on the development of the JoG in the recent period. The JoG has proved to be one of the most successful journals in geo-sciences. He presented viewgraphs showing the excellent position of the JoG, e.g. related to the impact factor, the authors' satisfaction, the number of submissions, the internationality of the authors. The time span between the submission of articles and final publication could be decreased. *R. Klees* mentioned that the JoG has become a member of COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics). The statistics of downloaded articles shows that the readers are also very interested in reading articles on "old fashioned themes".

22 Proposal of the new Board of Editors of Journal of Geodesy by the present Board

R. Klees presented a proposal for the new Editorial Board. *J. Kusche*, Germany, was nominated as the new Editor-in-Chief. For some Board positions experts are still to be found. *H. Drewes* remarked that the majority of papers dealing with earthquake induced displacements and related themes are mostly published in geophysical journals. The attractiveness of the JoG for such articles could probably be improved if a specialist in this field would be member of the Editorial Board.

23 Report of the Assistant Editor of IAG Symposia Series

P. Willis informed that 6 volumes in the IAG Symposia Series have been published in the recent period, 5 others are in progress. As achievements he mentioned the installation of a Springer submission website, the generally improved review process, and more international participation concerning both authors and reviewers and in particular the changed publication procedures from volume-to-volume to paper-to-paper with DOI. The EC discussed the delay of publication and expressed the opinion that 3 months between submission and publication should be sufficient and 6 months at the maximum.

Session II: Friday, June 26, 2015, 18:00 – 20:00

24 Proposal for an (electronic) series of IAG proceedings (not as strictly reviewed)

The topic was shifted to the new EC 2015-2019.

25 Report on developing countries

H. Drewes presented the report on activities in Latin America and the Caribbean compiled by *C. Brunini*. The majority of the work was in context with the tasks described in IAG SC 1.3b “Reference Frames for Central and South America” as well as SC 2.4b “Geoid and Gravity Field in South America”. The report also highlights the transfer of TIGO (Transportable Integrated Geodetic Observatory) from Concepcion, Chile to La Plata, Argentina, now named AGGO (Argentina – German Geodetic Observatory). The German Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie (BKG) is still supporting the operating considerably, but in future Argentina should operate the system self-employed.

26 Report on JBGIS (FIG, ISPRS, ...)

Ch. Rizos as the chair of the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies (JBGIS) gave a report. Previously JBGIS represented more a loose “club” of geo-orientated institutions. However, at the meeting 2013 in Potsdam, Germany, it was decided to come to definite actions in particular using the much knowledge besides of geodesy assembled in JBGIS. *H. Schuh* proposed to nominate *Ch. Rizos* again as the IAG delegate in JBGIS. *H. Drewes* seconded, and the EC unanimously accepted the proposal.

27 Reports on liaised bodies (ABLOS, IAU Comm. 19, GEO, ISO, UN)

The 2014 Annual Report on the activities of ABLOS was presented by *H. Drewes* and *Ch. Rizos*.

28 Appointment of IAG Representatives to Services, IUGG Commissions and Groups, and other bodies

H. Drewes showed the recent list of representatives in the liaised bodies ABLOS (Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea), IAU (International Astronomical Union) formerly Commission 19, now Commission A2, GEO (Group of Earth Observations), ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) and UN (United Nations). The EC discussed the nomination of new delegates. *Ch. Rizos* interjected that this topic should be a task of the new EC, thus it was decided to shift this topic to the new EC.

29 Venue of the IAG Scientific Assembly 2017 (Status report of applications)

H. Drewes informed that according to the IAG Bylaws it is up to the Council to decide on the venue of IAG Scientific

Assemblies. For the next one in 2017 only one application was submitted. The Geodetic Society of Japan invites to hold the Assembly from July 30 – August 4, 2017 in Kobe, Japan. It is planned to hold it together with IASPEI as a “Joint IAG-IASPEI Scientific Assembly”.

30 Any other business

There were no other items.

Session III: Monday, June 29, 2015, 18:00-20:00

31 Actual status report

Ch. Rizos summarised the EC meetings of June 23 and 26, and reported on the latest IUGG EC meeting (June 28) and IUGG Council meeting (June 29).

The IUGG Resolution Committee received 8 Resolutions, 3 of them submitted by the IAG: (1) Future Satellite Gravity and Magnetic Mission Constellations, (2) Global Geodetic Reference Frame, (3) Real-Time Augmentation of the Tsunami Early Warning System.

The IUGG Council also elected the new IUGG officers. *M. Sideris* was elected as the new IUGG President, *Ch. Rizos* as Bureau Member, *J. Krynski*, and *V. Tiwari*, Polish and Indian IAG Delegates, were elected members of the IUGG Finance Committee. The following IAG associates were elected IUGG Liaison Officers: *B. Richter* (CODATA), *G. Blewitt* (COSPAR), *R. Neilan* (WDS), *H. Drewes* (UN-GIS), *R. Biancale* and *C. Boucher* (CCTF), *L. Sánchez* (PAIGH), *C. Boucher* and *H. Kutterer* (GEO).

32 Approval of the new Board of Editors of the Journal of Geodesy (JoG)

According to the IAG Bylaws (§19), the current JoG Editorial Board appoints the new Board. The new Board nominates the new Editor-in-Chief for the next period. The appointments and the nomination have to be approved by the IAG Executive Committee. The nominated Board members are: *S. Bettadpur*, USA; *C. Brunini*, Argentina; *T. van Dam*, Luxembourg; *D. Dong*, China; *Y. Gao*, Canada; *T. Hobiger*, Sweden; *A. Hooper*, UK; *C. Huang*, China; *A. Jaeggi*, Switzerland; *W. Keller*, Germany; *M. King*, Australia; *Z. Malkin*, Russia; *B. Meyssignac*, France; *R. Riva*, The Netherlands; *W.-D. Schuh*, Germany; *I. Tziavos*, Greece; *S. Verhagen*, The Netherlands; *M. Vermeer*, Finland; *P. Wielgosz*, Poland; and *P. Xu*, Japan. The nominated Editor-in-Chief is *J. Kusche*, Germany. After a short discussion *H. Drewes* moved to approve the complete Board, the Editor-in-Chief. *C. Rizos* seconded, and it was unanimously adopted.

33 Approval of the Editor-in-Chief of the IAG Symposia Series and an assistant Editor in Chief

The Editor of the IAG Symposia Series was hitherto the IAG President *ex officio*. *Ch. Rizos* nominated *P. Willis* as the Assistant Editor. The new IAG Bylaws established an Editor-in-Chief and assistant Editor-in-Chief. The present editors proposed *J. Freymueller* and *L. Sánchez* for these positions. *H. Schuh* moved giving this proposal to the new EC, *Ch. Rizos* seconded, and it was unanimously adopted.

34 IAG Budget 2015 – 2018

H. Drewes presented his draft IAG Budget for the period 2015-2018 to be adopted at the next Council meeting. It is based on the financial report 2011-2014 which was reviewed by the Audit Committee during the last days (see next agenda item). The total expenditures were increased with respect to the budget 2011-2014 because of a large surplus in the present period and a current high net capital.

35 Summary of the Report of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee established by the IAG Council examined the receipts and bank statements of the IAG account for 2011-2014, checked the balances, examined the expenditures, and ensured the conformity with the budget 2011-2014. The Committee also examined the proposed budget for 2015-2018. *H. Drewes* presented the written IAG Audit Committee Report dated June 29, 2015 with the approval of the financial report 2011-2014 and the budget 2015-2018. *C. Rizos* moved to adopt this report, *H. Schuh* seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

36 Report of the IAG Resolution Committee

R. Barzaghi reported as a member of the IAG Resolution Committee on the procedure. The two submitted IAG Resolutions were discussed in the Committee. He presented the final versions after some changes in the structure and wording. *Ch. Rizos* thanked the members of the Resolution Committee for their excellent work.

37 Discussion of proposed resolutions for approval by the IAG Council

The two proposed IAG Resolutions were discussed by the EC, and some minor changes were included. *H. Drewes* moved to accept the slightly modified versions and to forward them to the IAG Council for adoption. *Ch. Rizos* seconded, and the Resolutions were unanimously approved for submission to the IAG Council.

38 Status of reviewed Statutes and Bylaws

H. Schuh gave a report on the review of the IAG Statutes and Bylaws as a member of the Committee. The draft versions were discussed in the Council and in detail with some Council members. There were some small additional changes, but the general structure and contents was not modified. The final version will be forwarded to the Council to be approved at its next meeting.

39 Sponsorship of symposia and workshops

H. Drewes presented the list of proposed symposia and workshops. According to a decision of the present EC, all meetings organised by at least one IAG component or two sub-components are automatically adopted. A proposal for sponsorship of “GEODATA 2016” in Argentina not supported by two sub-components was discussed. As it is directed to practical topography, cartography, geomatics, photogrammetry, and cadastre, and includes neither gravimetry and geoid (SC2.4b) nor reference frames issues (SC1.3b) the sponsorship was unanimously rejected.

40 Preparation of the IAG Closing Session

H. Drewes presented the agenda of the IAG Closing Session. Traditionally the convenors of IAG led symposia at the General Assembly give a short summary (5 min), the IAG Resolutions and the new IAG Fellows are presented, and the new IAG President gives his inaugural speech. *H. Drewes* was asked to send the list of IAG Fellows to the EC members and to ask *J. Freymueller* to explain the procedure of the proceedings of the IAG Symposia.

41 Any other business

There were no other items.

42 Appointment of Ch. Rizos to IAG Honorary President

H. Drewes moved to appoint *Ch. Rizos* to an IAG Honorary President in order to dignify his excellent presidency during the period 2011-2015. *H. Schuh* seconded and the appointment was unanimously approved with sustained applause of the EC members.

43 Closing the EC of the legislative period 2011 – 2015

Ch. Rizos thanked all the EC members for their great cooperation during the last four years connected with his best wishes for their future work. He closed the session, and thereby the IAG legislative period 2011-2015.