

Minutes

of the

Annual SNC-IUGG Committee Meeting

20 November 2009, 12:15 – 13:30

Université de Neuchâtel, Espace Louis Agassiz

Committee members present

Prof. Dr Hubert van den Bergh (President, IAMAS)
Dr Charles Fierz (Secretary and treasurer, IACS)
IAG: Mr Adrian Wiget
IAHS: Dr Bruno Schädler (for Prof. Dr Rolf Weingartner)
IAMAS: Dr Markus Furger

Committee members absent with regrets

IAG: Dr Beat Bürki
IAGA: Prof. Dr Andrew Jackson
IAPSEI: PD Dr Luigi Burlini
IAVCEI: Prof. Dr Peter Ulmer
IPA: Dr Marcia Phillips

Committee members absent

IAGA: Prof. Dr Peter Wurz
IAPSO: Prof. Dr Thomas Stocker

The president opens the meeting by welcoming all members present.

1. Approval of the agenda

No modifications or additions are requested and the agenda is accepted as proposed in the invitation to the meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes of the committee meeting held in Lugano, 21 Novembre 2008

The minutes are accepted without further modifications, with thanks to snc-iugg secretary C. Fierz not only for the minutes but also for his work throughout the year.

3. Communications

- IUGG celebrated its 90th birthday. Switzerland adheres to IUGG since 1923.
- Georgia was admitted as an associate member to IUGG. Switzerland voted in favour of it.
- Bulgaria asked to change its current status from associate to ordinary member, category 1, which was approved by the IUGG executive council.
- A request for support of the Czech Academy of Sciences by the Czech national committee for IUGG has been forwarded to SCNAT.
- Report from the council of the Platform Geosciences:
 - All members of our committee were re-elected in globo by the council, the president needs to be confirmed by the Executive Council of SCNAT.
 - Surprisingly, a last minute candidate was elected to the Platform Executive Board. However, finding people ready to take over this duty is still difficult and such last minute candidatures, though welcome, may be counterproductive.
 - During the period 2012-2016, the Platform Geosciences will lead the SCNAT theme of resources and commodities. This topic will certainly be of interest to hydrologists. Furthermore, the Platform will also contribute to the topic energy that is linked to hydrology, climate and air quality.

4. Reports by the members

Below a few highlights from the written and oral reports by members:

• IACS

- MOCA-09 joint Scientific Assembly IAMAS – IAPSO – IACS (Swiss representative Dr Charles Fierz). Successful, well organized conference. Swiss participation not high. Benchmark for IAMAS- IACS 2013 in Switzerland (see also IAMAS report).
- WGMS searching for new director as Prof Haeblerli steps down. Position at Uni ZH financed through GCOS-Schweiz (MeteoSwiss) and supervised jointly by Uni ZH, MeteoSwiss and IACS.

• IAG (written report available)

- The IAG Scientific Assembly took place in Buenos Aires. Switzerland was represented by Prof. Dr G. Beutler, Prof. Dr M. Rothacher, Prof. Dr U. Hugentobler, Dr U. Marti and Dr E. Brockmann. Dr Marti was member of the scientific program committee.
- Dr E. Brockmann, member of the EUREF Technical Working Group (TWG), attended the EUREF symposium in Florence, Italy.
- Some four other meetings related to IAG took place in Europe.
- Prof. Rothacher is chair of the Global Geodetic Observation System GGOS.
- Mr Gurtner, responsible for the LIDAR station in Zimmerwald, passed away.

• IAGA (written report available)

- Prof. Dr Andy Jackson attended the IAGA Scientific Assembly in Sopron, Hungary, as the Swiss representative. Considerable discussion centred on the issue of how to choose subsequent venues for IAGA meetings, with a new move to promote less-developed countries. The Executive committee has ordered a number of studies, including one on the solar influence of climate. This is not something the conference of delegates had any influence on. It seems the secretariat of IUGG is hoping to establish permanent headquarters, with full-time staff, adopting the AGU model.

• IAHS

- Joint Scientific Assembly Hyderabad Sept 2009 with IAHS. Joint Assembly successful, positive experience (Swiss representative Dr B. Schaedler)

- Gordon Young, IAHS president, will be the first Union Lecturer at SGM09. IAHS past-president Arthur Askew gave a talk at a symposium held in Bern.
- **IAMAS** (written report available)
 - MOCA-09 joint Scientific Assembly IAMAS – IAPSO – IACS (Swiss representative Prof. Werner Schmutz).
 - IAMAS-IACS Scientific Assembly 2013 in Davos. Chairs of the Swiss National Organizing Committee are Prof. Dr Heini Wernli, Prof. Dr Werner Schmutz and Dr Michael Lehning. This will be the first Scientific Assembly of IUGG Associations in Switzerland and the second ever IUGG related Assembly since the IUGG General Assembly 1967 in ZH and LU.
 - 2010, the 10th EMS Annual Meeting and the 8th European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC) will be held jointly in Zurich. The Swiss Society of Meteorology SGM, IACETH and MeteoSwiss are involved in the organization of this event. A Local Organizing Committee has been established. A contribution of CHF 23 000.- was obtained from SCNAT to support attendees from less developed countries.
- **IAPSO**
 - No report
- **IASPEI**
 - Prof. Dr D. Giardini represented Switzerland at the IASPEI General Assembly 2009, Cape Town, South Africa.
 - Health problems afflicted Dr Luigi Burlini throughout the year. The committee wishes him a speedy recovery.
 - Nevertheless, this did not prevent Dr Luigi Burlini from co-organizing the 8th Euro Conference of Rock Physics & Geomechanics, 13th - 18th September, 2009, Ascona.
- **IAVCEI** (written report available)
 - Two IAVCEI workshops took place 2009: The Collapse Calderas Workshop, La Muralla, Querétaro, Mexico and IAVCEI – IAS 3rd International Maar Conference, Malargüe, Argentina.
 - Swiss activities outside IAVCEI but related to volcanology concentrated around the 'Journée Magmatique' and the contribution to the exhibition „Focus Terra“ at ETHZ
 - 2010, a workshop on "Rheology and physical properties of magmas: Controls on dynamics of magma transport, storage and eruption" will be co-organized by the Friedländer foundation and held at ETHZ.
- **IPA**
 - No report

5. Treasurer's report

The treasurer tables his report. The report evidences incomes of CHF 6005.45 and expenditures of CHF 6377.30. The bank account balance on 31 December 2008 amounts to CHF 493.55. CHF 400.- budgeted for the 2008 SGM union lecture could be transferred from 2008 to 2009. The report is accepted by the members present with thanks to the treasurer.

6. Budget 2010

The 2010 budget experienced no cuts by the Executive Council of the Platform Geosciences. Regarding next year's budget (2011), we will have to enter a higher request due to the General Assembly in Melbourne. Treasurer Fierz suggests contacting the Swiss associations and commissions concerned for a contribution to these expenses. A letter will be written to all associations involved reminding them who are the correspondents and make them aware again of IUGG and our committee.

7. Bylaws

The bylaws have been accepted by the Executive Board of the Platform Geosciences with one amendment to make them compatible with the statutes and bylaws of both the Platform Geosciences and SCNAT. Accordingly, Art 5b now reads:

"Die Mitglieder sowie der Präsident des Landeskomitees SNC-IUGG werden durch den Vorstand der Platform Geosciences gewählt. Die Wahl des Präsidenten wird durch den Vorstand der SCNAT ratifiziert. Mitglieder, die das 70. Altersjahr überschritten haben, scheiden aus dem Landeskomitee SNC-IUGG aus."

The amended document has been forwarded to SCNAT for approval by its Executive Committee and a French translation should be made available in 2010 (hopefully).

8. Web page

The secretary could not devote enough time to this task during this year. He will contact the IT services of SCNAT as soon as possible to carry this out in 2010.

9. Status „Union Lecture“

The first joint Union Lecture will open this year's SGM in Neuchâtel. With Prof. Dr Gordon Young (Canada), President of IAHS, a very prominent representative of IUGG was able to be invited thanks to the fruitful collaborative efforts by both the Swiss national committees for IUGG and IUGS.

Next year's joint Union Lecture will be organized by our sister committee SNC-IUGS. Members of the Swiss Geodetic Commission have firmly announced their will to organize the event in 2011.

10. Meetings 2010

A few meetings of importance were cited, particularly EMS 2010 in Zürich (see IAMAS above) and Cities on Volcanoes to be held in Tenerife

11. Quest for a president

President Hubert van den Bergh reiterates his wish to step down, particularly because his current activities are no longer connected to IUGG. Secretary Fierz recalls that the discussion started in Lugano, with a first call for potential candidates in summer 2009. Finally, from various possible names, both Prof Markus Rothacher and Prof Marc Parlange were approached. Prof M. Rothacher showed interest for our committee but felt the time to be too early for him to step in. Prof Marc Parlange, on the other hand, is willing to take over this task. According to our new bylaws, the way to proceed is as follows:

- First we need to obtain the agreement of CHy regarding a second IAHS correspondent.
- Second, we will proceed to the election of Prof. Parlange first as member and then as president of the committee. This will happen by e-mail (note that we could not have elected Prof. Parlange in Neuchâtel as the quorum was not attained!).
- Third, the name of the new president must first be communicated to the Platform Geosciences and then to SCNAT.

12. Varia

A few topical discussions during this meeting made it quite enjoyable and attractive. Unfortunately, time was very short again.

13. Next committee meeting

19 November 2010 in Fribourg

Davos, 28 January 2010 / Dr C. Fierz, secretary snc-iugg

Swiss Geodetic Commission

Annual report 2009

Regarding activities in context with the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) the year 2009 was dominated by the IAG Scientific Assembly held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Some of many further international meetings and events of importance to geodesy with participation of Swiss scientists are shortly mentioned below.

1. Scientific Assembly of the IAG, 31.08.-4.09.2009, Buenos Aires, Argentina “Geodesy for Planet Earth”

The Swiss Geodetic Commission (SGC) was represented by Prof. Dr. G. Beutler, Prof. Dr. M. Rothacher, Prof. Dr. U. Hugentobler, Dr. U. Marti and Dr. E. Brockmann. Dr. Marti was member of the scientific program committee. Some of the main issues discussed in Buenos Aires were focused on the “Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS)” and the improvement of the International Gravity Field Service (IGFS). Meanwhile the book GGOS 2020 is published (see → <http://www.iag-ggos.org/>). Dr. Brockmann presented a paper on "Determination of Tectonic Movements in the Swiss Alps using GNSS and Levelling". The final report of the IAG 2009 Scientific Assembly is available for download → http://www.iag-aig.org/index.php?tpl=text&id_c=48&id_t=395.

2. EUREF Symposium 2009, 25.-30.05.2009, Florence, Italy

Among other Swiss scientists, Dr. E. Brockmann, member of the EUREF Technical Working Group (TWG), attended the symposium of the IAG Sub-commission EUREF and prepared a paper on the usage and consistency of the different realizations of ETRF89 in Europe. Apart from the Swiss national report 2009 a paper concerning GNSS ambiguity resolution using only several epochs of data was presented by Dr. S. Schaer.

For more information please visit the website

→ http://www.iag-aig.org/index.php?tpl=text&id_c=50&id_t=428.

3. Hotine Marussi Symposium 2009, 5.-9.07.2009, Rome, Italy

The symposium was held under the scientific coordination of the Intercommission Committee on Theory (ICCT) of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). The main goals of the Symposium are aligned with the objectives of the ICCT:

- advances in theoretical geodesy
- developments in geodetic modelling and data processing in the light of the recent advances of the geodetic observing systems
- connections and contribution exchanges between geodesy and other Earth sciences

For more information please visit the website

→ http://www.iag-aig.org/index.php?tpl=text&id_c=50&id_t=422.

4. E-GVAP Expert Meeting, 17.11.2009, De Bilt, Netherlands

EGVAP is a project of the EUMETNET partners together geodetic partners providing GPS delay and water vapour measurements from near-realtime processing for operational meteorology. An annual expert meeting took place at KNMI showing the status and planning the next steps.

For more information please visit the website → <http://egvap.dmi.dk/>.

5. Colloquium on scientific and fundamental aspects of the Galileo programme, 14.-16.10.2009, Padua, Italy

The goals of this second Galileo scientific meeting were to consolidate the links between all parties involved in organising the scientific exploitation of Galileo and set the stage for a fruitful cooperation over the coming years in the context of the ESA GNSS Evolution Programme. For more information please visit the website

→ http://www.esa.int/esaNA/SEMRXKKIWZF_index_0.html.

6. Meeting on the development of a GGOS intergovernmental committee – GIC, 2.-3.11.2009, Frankfurt, Germany

The participants of the Frankfurt meeting discussed the development of intergovernmental support for the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS), especially the establishment of the GGOS intergovernmental Committee GIC and the cooperation with the IAG and its relevant science activities. Recognizing the benefits that GGOS provides to society (e.g. monitoring of global change, environment, natural hazards, etc.) as one of the global observing systems the need for sustainability and improvement of the global network for geodetic infrastructure and IAG services were acknowledged and a special Declaration was approved.

December 2009, A. Wiget

Date: Wed, 18 Nov 2009 17:01:06 +0100
From: Andy Jackson <ajackson@ethz.ch>
To: Charles Fierz <fierz@slf.ch>
Subject: Re: Annual Meeting: Agend

Dear Charles

Please excuse my absence from the meeting on the 20th, but I must leave tomorrow for Australia at short notice.

I attended the IAGA meeting in Sopron, Hungary as the official delegate of Switzerland (at no cost to snc-iugg), and attended the business meetings. Considerable discussion centered around the issue of how to choose subsequent venues for IAGA meetings, with a new move to promote less-developed countries. The Executive committee have ordered a number of studies, including one on the solar influence of climate. This is not something the conference of delegates had any influence on.

The Secretariat of IUGG is hoping to establish a permanent headquarters, with full-time staff, rather adopting the AGU model.

I do not feel there are other items of significance for snc-iugg.

Please accept my apologies, and I wish you a good meeting in Neuchatel.

Sincerely

Andy

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2009 Annual Report of the Swiss representative of IAMAS

Markus Furger, Swiss National Correspondent of IAMAS

Activities 2009

This year was directed mainly by two key events, the MOCA conference of IAMAS-IAPSO-IACS Joint Assembly 2009 in Montreal, Canada, and the decision of the IAMAS and IACS to host a joint conference in Davos in 2013.

- **MOCA 2009, 19-29 July 2009, Montreal, Canada**

This conference was attended by several Swiss scientists. Travel support by the SNC was given to Prof. Werner Schmutz, PMOD/WRC Davos, and Vice-President of the International Radiation Commission of IAMAS. One of his tasks was to present the Swiss application for the 2013 meeting in Switzerland. This application was successful (see below).

- **IAMAS-IACS 2013 in Davos**

Early in the year people from Geneva and Davos developed the idea for a Swiss candidature for the 2013 IAMAS conference to be held in Switzerland. After numerous discussions by phone call and eMail, a planning meeting was held in Zurich 3 June 2009, where the strategy and the presentation of the Swiss application in Montreal were discussed. This approach proved to be successful, and Switzerland was approved to hold the conference in 2013. A second meeting on 24 August 2009 in Berne brought the final decision for the location of the conference: Davos. This will be a joint meeting of IAMAS and IACS, which is also strongly represented in Davos (SLF). Prof. Werner Schmutz was approved to chair the local organizing committee. The National Organizing committee will be chaired by Prof. Heini Wernli, ETHZ. Organizing this conference will be a rewarding challenge for the whole Swiss atmospheric sciences community.

- **EMS/ECAC 2010 in Zürich**

Some preparatory meetings and discussion for this event of the Swiss Society of Meteorology together with IACETH and MeteoSwiss took place during 2009. A Local Organizing Committee was established.

Swiss People with IAMAS duties

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Prof. Werner Schmutz, PMOD/WRC | Vice-president of IRC |
| • Dr. Martin Wild, ETHZ | Co-chair of the Global Energy Balance WG of IRC |
| • Prof. Dr. Hubert van den Bergh, EPFL | President SNC-IUGG |
| • Dr. Markus Furger, PSI | Swiss National Correspondent of IAMAS |

Budget 2010

There will be a need for some support for planning meetings for the 2013 conference. As most of these meetings are expected to be in Switzerland, an amount of CHF 500 will be requested:

- Support for meetings of the 2013 organizing committees **CHF500.00**

As the next official meeting involving IAMAS will be in 2011 in Melbourne, Australia, no further budget request for travel support is made for 2010.

Zürich, den 19. November 2009

IAVCEI – Kurzbericht für die Jahressitzung des Landeskomitee IUGG am 20.11.2009 vorgelegt von Peter Ulmer

Kongresse/Workshops

2009 war in Bezug auf Kongress-Aktivitäten der IAVCEI ein Zwischenjahr; in 2008 fand die General Assembly in Reykjavik statt, 2011 wird die IAVCEI ihre General Assembly im Rahmen der IUGG Konferenz in Melbourne abhalten.

Wichtige Workshops der IAVCEI 2009 waren:

- Collapse Calderas Workshop, La Muralla, Querétaro, Mexico, October 19-25, 2008
- IAVCEI – IAS 3rd International Maar Conference, Malargüe, Argentina, 14-17 April 2009

Tagungen der IAVCEI oder mit Beteiligung der IAVCEI 2009/2010

Cities on Volcanoes 6 - Tenerife 2010 (Canary Islands, Spain), May 31-June 4, 2010

Aktivitäten im Bereich Vulkanologie / Petrologie vulkanischer Gesteine in der Schweiz (ausserhalb des Engagements im Rahmen der IAVCEI):

Die **Stiftung ‚Vulkaninstitut Immanuel Friedländer‘**, die an der ETH-Zürich domiziliert ist und deren Stiftungsrat die meisten Vertreter der aktiven Forschungsgruppen im Bereich Vulkanologie / magmatische Petrologie der Schweiz umfasst, unterstützt die Forschung mit bescheidenen finanziellen Zuschüssen im Bereich Vulkanologie in der Schweiz. 2009 wurden kleinere Projekte in Griechenland und Ägypten (Kreta und Santorini) und Feldarbeit in Chile finanziert. Im Februar 2010 findet ein Workshop/Vorlesungsreihe zum Thema: **Rheology and physical properties of magmas: Controls on dynamics of magma transport, storage and eruption** an der ETH Zürich statt, der von der Friedländerstiftung, der EDSM (Ecole Doctorale en Sciences des Minéraux) und SNF ProDoc 4-D Adamello finanziert wird und bis dato mehr als 80 Anmeldungen aufweist.

Der **‚Journée Magmatique‘** ist ein 1-tägiges Symposium organisiert durch die Schweizer Hochschulen im Bereich magmatische Petrologie / Vulkanologie, das alternierend an einem der Standorte der CH-Universitäten stattfindet (Januar 2009 in Lausanne, Januar 2010 in Bern). Dieses Symposium bietet jüngeren (Doktoranden / Postdocs) und bestandeneren Wissenschaftlern eine Plattform zur Präsentation ihrer laufenden Projekte und dient zur Vertiefung der Zusammenarbeit zwischen den verschiedenen Forschungsgruppen in der Schweiz und dem nahen Ausland.

„Focus Terra“: An der ETH Zürich wurde im April 2009 mit dem Wiederbezug des Stammhauses der Erdwissenschaften (Naturwissenschaften Ost, Sonneggstrasse, Zürich) die neue Ausstellung/Museum zum Thema Erdwissenschaften mit einem prominenten Teil in Vulkanologie eröffnet.