

**CGI
Meeting #2 of 2004 –2008 Council**

Notes and Actions

Date: 25 August 2004

Time: 2.00 pm

Location: IGC Room 31 Florence

Attendees:

Kristine Asch	BGR (KA) Chair
Ian Jackson	BGS (IJ) Secretary General
Koji Wakita	JGS (KW)
John Broome	ESS/GSC (JB)
Dave Soller	USGS (DS)
François Robida	BRGM (FR)
Simon Cox	CSIRO (SC)

Apologies: Max Fernandez Royal Museum for Central Africa, Belgium (MF)

1. Introduction

This meeting was held immediately after the CGI Open Meeting at the IGC and the discussion/agenda largely centred on the feedback received at the Open Meeting and the actions which stem from that feedback. In general the view was that the meeting had gone well. The agenda and structure for the Open Meeting is comprehensively described in the PowerPoint presentation used on 25 August which will be placed on the CGI website.

2. Feedback and suggestions from the Open Meeting

- 2.1 Many contributors noted need to consider delivery of information to non-experts, general public and integration of data from other disciplines.
- 2.2 Several speakers wanted CGI to be active in locating and promoting the use of free software. John Whalley, Portsmouth University, UK, offered to map out what free software is available and form a Working Group on the subject. The Council agreed that this was a positive move they were inclined to accept.

2/1	Contact J Whalley to discuss his offer and ask him to make a firm proposal to CGI with draft ToRs	IJ	31.10.04
------------	--	-----------	-----------------

- 2.3 IGC2008 Trondheim – there is an invitation to CGI to play a major role (possibly running a set of well integrated symposia). We agreed that this was an excellent opportunity and that KA should request more details and clarification.

2/2	Contact organisers of IGC2008 and IUGS Exec to detail and clarify potential enhanced role of CGI at next IGC	KA	31.12.04
------------	---	-----------	-----------------

- 2.4 Better coordination of IAMG and CGI – with IJ on IAMG Council this ought to happen. The potential for some co-funding and a publications outlet were also raised.

2/3	Pursue opportunities for closer coordination and mutual benefit from CGI/IAMG relationship	IJ	31.12.04
------------	---	-----------	-----------------

- 2.5 NSF – Walter Snyder would like to see much closer liaison between his NSF initiatives in this area and CGI.

2/4	Attempt to meet with Walter Snyder when he is in Germany in the Autumn	KA	31.10.04
------------	---	-----------	-----------------

- 2.6 A number of participants raised the issue of Regional Groups/Contacts. (Mexico, Egypt, Russia). It was agreed that the CGI policy in this area is unclear and as yet immature and that we needed some ground rules. JB, KW and FR would review this and propose some options.

2/5	Review the Regional Group concept and develop a template(s) for their possible mode of operation and representation	JB, KW, FR	10.11.04
------------	--	-------------------	-----------------

- 2.7 Relationships with/endorsement of external conferences, workshops and symposia – We should advertise but not sponsor; endorsement was a question that would have to be addressed on a case by case basis.
- 2.8 UNESCO – A very positive message had been received from Robert Missotten. We need to follow up and better understand each others objectives and resources as a precursor to closer collaboration (especially in the area of outreach)

2/6	Contact and meet with Robert Missotten to establish basis for collaboration	KA, IJ	31.12.04
------------	--	---------------	-----------------

- 2.9 CGI should not just map organisations involved in geoscience information, it should be more proactive and coordinate - our response was and is: no, we map and connect.
- 2.10 CGI should go beyond its narrow technical community. It was felt by CGI that broad geoscience out-reach (as opposed to geoscience information out-reach) was a wider IUGS responsibility.
- 2.11 One representative of the commercial sector (Placer Dome Inc) gave us very positive support. We need to encourage more commercial sector participation.
- 2.12 Commercial salesmen – we will discourage hard sell or even subtle sell at any future CGI events.
- 2.13 Practicality of solutions – small surveys and individuals want solutions which they can adopt (and afford). We will take this into account.

3. Draft Action Plan

We discussed how we might achieve the aspirations in our draft Action Plan and who might lead on individual items.

2/7	Produce draft options for the CGI aspiration to be an	SC	31.12.04
------------	--	-----------	-----------------

	organisation that ratifies and promotes standards		
2/8	Start process of mapping out different groups and bodies working in the area of geoscience information	IJ	31.12.04

4. **GeoInfo VII**

Looks like NGU in Trondheim are organising this conference, but considerable uncertainty about scope (is it just librarians or wider?) and other parameters. What should be level of CGI involvement? (From mail from NGU it looks like the conference will no longer proceed there)

2/9	Contact Sharon Tirlahki to try and better understand expectations and options	DS	31.10.04
------------	--	-----------	-----------------

5. **Issues raised by IUGS**

This pertains to a number of earlier letters and emails from the former IUGS Secretary General. It was felt that collaboration with IUGS Geoindicators group and submission of an hydrogeologically oriented project to IGCP were not directly relevant to CGI priorities at this time and we agreed not to proactively pursue them. We did, however, thank JB for volunteering to be the nominee for ICSU-CODATA.

2/10	Find out more about ICSU–CODATA and if appropriate be the CGI representative	JB	31.10.04
-------------	---	-----------	-----------------

6. **Date Next Meeting**

Options were Toronto, August 2005 (in association with IAMG meeting), or Baton Rouge, April 2005 (in association with DMT/NADM meeting)

2/11	Identify possible meeting locations and dates	All	ASAP
-------------	--	------------	-------------

Ian Jackson
Nottingham
8 October 2004