

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

Notes and Actions

Date: 24 August 2005

Time: 9.00 – 17:30

Location: IAMG Hart House, Toronto

Minutes taken by: John Broome

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)
	Max Fernandez	KMMA (MF)
	Anna-Karren Nguno	GSN (AN)

Apologies: Sergei Chersakov SGM RAS (SC)

Agenda item 1 : Welcome

Agenda item 2 : Review of actions:

1-1 : draft completed

1-2 : discharged

1-3 : action not complete

1-4: discharged – Simon

1-6 discharged

1-7 Simon – discussion paper – no formal action; wait for review of existing web site strategy

3/1	Distribute statistics on web site usage	IJ	30.09.05
3/2	Ensure that links to data model web site come from CGI site	SC	25.08.05

2-1 : J. Whalley – IJ emailed 5 times but no action from him, take no action on initiative

2-2 : to be discussed later in meeting

2-3: to be discussed later in meeting

2-4 : Meeting not possible, action dropped due to Snyder changing post. – action dropped
Question from DS : re. CGI links to academic community?

2-5 : done to be discussed

2-6 : skip to be discussed

2-7 : on agenda, to be discussed later

2-8 : done, activity continues on mapping groups

2-9 : done

2-10 : done

2-11 : done

Agenda item 3 : Review of progress for last year - KA

- Need South American representative
- Now 126 registered CGI members
- Have 1 regional WG in SE Asia
- Proposed regional WG for Russia (SC absent)
- Asked to run symposium at IGC 2008 possibly with IAMG and others

Discussion:

1. There is a need for outreach
2. Need to communicate the value of CGI to potential members and agencies.
3. Need Norwegian CGI member considering IGC 2008 location
4. Currently CGI members are individuals (FR). Can a regional or special interest working group be a member? This is important for voting re. standards.
5. There is a broad expectation in IUGS that CGI will develop and endorse standards

Agenda item 4 : Treasurer's Report - MF

Refer to submitted document

Have ~US\$18K

Discussion:

1. CGI should avoid currency conversion to reduce expenses (MF). Hold currency in original form (AN).
2. CGI should not fund WG member travel. (IJ)
3. CGI should spend its money; but council needs to define how. (JB)
4. CGI funding is available to support miscellaneous meeting expenses (e.g. lunches)
5. Use electronic funds transfer where possible to reduce transaction costs (MF)

Agenda item 5 : Web Site Status – IJ

Overview:

- Web site development is dependent on submitted content.
- Domain name changed (no longer BGS-related)
- We should continue to add linkages to our web sites.

3/3	Send email notification to members of significant postings on the CGI web site	IJ	ongoing
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- Council needs need more communication on what WG are doing. (KA)

3/4	Increase information flow on WG activities for CGI web site (submit bi-annual summaries of activities, in Nov., and May) KA/IJ to transmit this to WG leaders	IJ/KA	30.09.05
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Agenda item 6 : IUGS Executive perceptions and needs - KA

- Overall positive perception
- Importance of standards in CGI mandate
- IUGS Exec. does not want further enlargement of CGI Council.
- Wants more evidence of results from CGI WG activities
- CGI asked for \$8K from IUGS, received \$5K.
- CGI council members are encouraged to attend IUGS executive meetings
- CGI encouraged to publish in Episodes

3/5	Write paper for Episodes on data model WG activities	SC	31.12.05
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3/6	Develop 2-page summary of CGI goals and mandate	IJ-MF-KA-JB	31.10.05
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Agenda item 7 : Composition of and Potential Additions to CGI Council (KA)

Email received from Chinese scientist relating to his efforts to establish a Chinese CGI Council member. This action was not endorsed by CGI Council.
 Response from KA : Council membership limited, thanks for interest
 Obtain IUGS guidance on issue

3/7	Write letter to Chinese scientist – polite response – “Will communicate directly with Chinese representative at IUGS to determine appropriate contact.”	KA	25.08.05
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3/8	Write letter to IUGS inquiring about : 1. Their position on addition of Chinese member to CGI Council 2. Who to contact in China re. CGI	KA/IJ	30.09.05
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Agenda item 8 : Progress on the CGI Action Plan

- ppt presentation – KA

3/9	Prepare and circulate draft of revised wording for CGI Action plan,	JB	25.08.05
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Agenda item 10 : DMIC Working Group Report (John Laxton)

- ppt presentation - JLL

Discussion:

- Framework for data interchange rather than content is the focus

- Want to prioritize areas for future work, e.g. classification schemes
 - Issue of classification schemes : new groups caused confusion and some duplication effort. (MLT, DIMAS), MLT members are working on “terms” as well (T. Mardal etc.). Also DIMAS is working on other activities. -KA
 - There is some confusion on who should work on what - DS
 - There will be natural transition from data model to vocabulary work. Vocab. work is dependent on having “right tools” - SC
 - Summary : Issues of vocabulary development will be parked until other work is completed.
- Problems: Lack of funds for meetings. Face-to-face meetings are more productive, The WG needs to release a draft model with appropriate tools in near future to engage the community and seek their input.
- Comments:
 - This is a good project. We need to investigate potential funding sources - IJ
 - “INSPIRE” is a possible connection for funds – FR

3/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register CGI as an SDIC • Register DMIC as a reference project 	FR	25.08.05
3/11	Complete and submit project form for funding eContent+	FR	25.08.05
3/12	Forward link for eContent+ to JLL	FR	25.08.05

Agenda item 11 : MTG Working Group Report - MTG Representative (DS)

Summary of issues:

- Went back to published version as base thesaurus
- MLT should be a public tool for widespread use
- Sharon interested in how to keep project “going”.
- WG is trying to determine how to write eContent+ proposal (3 million Euro proposal)
- Will need to find matching funds ...
- Minutes of 4th WG meeting circulated

Discussion

- Proposed project too expensive - DS
- Have there been liaison efforts with other thesaurus initiatives? - KA ; Don't know – DS
- Ill-advised to seek 3 million euros in funding – DS
- Group “bogged down” with preoccupation with finding funds – MF
- Some group members claim requirement for funding support to proceed – IJ, etc.
- Is there a leadership problem?
- What are the views on MLT from GIC? – KA ; There is an eEarth project (common access to European borehole data) It has developed its own thesaurus and not using MLT(claimed inadequate) ,,,,, Is the MLT purpose correct?- FR
- Confusion, MLT seems inadequate, but the some scientists who are working on eEarth thesaurus are also working on the MTG. eEarth thesaurus is designed to meet a short- term requirement, MLT is more comprehensive and a longer term project but overlap and external confusion has been caused by the way the eEarth project has proceeded. – IJ
- Are CGI requirements for MLT clear? – DS
- Requirements are as follow - KA
 1. Service orientation, not document
 2. Update and modernise terms

- 3. Public domain
- 4. Structured
- 5. No timeline?
- There have been ongoing problems, disorganized, leadership, insular.
- Should council cut them loose? - DS
- Nore : MLT did not provide a representative to report progress at this meeting – IJ, DS

Decision:

- Communicate to MTG that language standards are very important to CGI, but the approach and performance of the MTG is unsatisfactory.
- Review requirements, request detailed work plan. Link with similar initiatives.

3/13	. Communicate to MTG that language standards are very important to CGI, but the approach and performance of the MTG is unsatisfactory. Clarify CGI requirement and expectations.	DS	25.08.05
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3/14	Submit your agency requirements for a geosciences thesaurus to DS	all	25.08.05
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Agenda item 9 : Plans for First Outreach Workshop (all)

- IUGS requested proposal for Outreach Workshops – IJ (Robert Missotin(sp.))
- IJ circulated draft in July.
- Offer by Namibian GS to host Outreach Workshop (Gabby Schneider) – KA
- Recommended time : end of 2006.

3/15	Submit comments on Outreach Workshop Proposal to IJ by Aug. 31.	all	31.08.05
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3/16	Submit proposal to UNESCO on Outreach Workshop Proposal by Sept. 7.	IJ	07.09.05
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3/17	Form a small working group to work on details of Outreach Workshop Proposal	IJ (JB, AN, MF, KA)	ongoing
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- Need to obtain funds from UNESCO (\$5K and IUGS Executive 5-10 K\$)
- Estimate requirement of \$50K for airfare
- Workshop approach preferred over “road show” approach because:
 - Workshop will have lower cost.
 - Road show is more costly for “experts” (unsupported cost)
 - Road show has logistical difficulties, travel and accommodations
 - Road show requires longer time commitment to “experts”
- Need to present to Managers using different methodology than to working level people.
- Concerns over private sector support for workshop. –JB
- Not a problem for other council members - all
- Private sector funding support is essential to success– KA

Item : Presentation on GS of Namibia – AN

Ppt presentation

Agenda item 12 : Regional Working Groups (KW)

Ppt presentation, Asian Regional WG Report – KW

- 4 specialists in Asian Regional WG
- Activities:
 1. Recruit members
 2. Exchange of information using email
 3. Develop WG web site
 4. Promote CGI
- CCOP Geoinformation meeting in 2005 is opportunity for call for CGI members.
- Set up thematic meeting with KIGAM, or CCOP, or China (?)
- Comment : Good progress - KA

Discussion:

- How would regional developments be brought to CGI council? –DS
- Perhaps through CGI Council representative? – KW

Item #1 : Review of draft 2004 document on CGI Regional WG Policy prepared by - JB, KW, FR

Accepted – all

3/18	Put CGI Reg. WG Policy on CGI Website	IJ	30.09.05
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Letter from Sergei – Russian Regional Working Group. Request for CGI co-organization of “GIS and Geology” conference by Russian Academy of Science.

Opportunity to communicate CGI role and activities to Russian community

Conference is more like a WS with ~60 participants– KA

3/19	Respond to Sergei that we are interested in conference and possible CGI meeting there but need more information.	IJ	30.09.05
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Item #2 Letter from Sergei re. Russian Thesaurus Project

- Russian group must explain its goals and activities.
- Responsibility of MLT WG to investigate further

3/20	Ask MTG to investigate Russian Thesaurus Project	IJ	30.09.05
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Item #3: Should there be a CGI WG on client-server databases?

Decision : Not considered a sufficient significant issue for a WG.

3/21	Respond that this outside of CGI scope of activities. Communicate decision on client server databases to SC	IJ	30.09.05
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Agenda item 13 : CGI's role in Geoscience Standards

Discussion of draft document prepared by SC.

- Note : IUGS is already an active standards setting agency
- Standards must be used to be useful
- Process for submission and approval, etc.
- Submission must be compared to other similar standards at submission – DS
- Standards will change – SC
- What happens after CGI endorsement i.e. standards maintenance? - JB
- Not yet considered, but would need separate revisions WG ? –SC
- Standard sponsor must be part of revisions WG.
- Action : Develop subcommittee to review Standards process.

3/22	Establish Standards Subcommittee to review standards process	SC, MS, DS, etc?	25.08.05
3/23	Establish CGI Standards web page on member's part of CGI website (IJ), SC to provide initial content	IJ, SC	30.09.05

Agenda item 14 : CGI's Relationship with other Geoscience Information Groups (IJ)

- List of linkages on web site
- GIC-linkage (IJ, AN,& FR) being investigated but GIC is reluctant, action on GIC to contact KA re. CGI relationship.
- IAMG : Meeting with IAMG executive (Aug. 22, 2005) to discuss linkages
 - Potential Synergies:
 - Publication
 - Co-scheduled meetings
 - Jointly-sponsored technical sessions at IAMG sessions
 - IGC-Symposium
- 3-page paper to be prepared to detail proposed alliance/association between IAMG and CGI

3/24	Prepare draft of 3-page document describing nature of proposed IAMG/CGI alliance for circulation to Council	IJ, KA, JB	31.10.05
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- Issue: Overlap between IGEOINFO and CGI mandates; Result = potential confusion. IGEOINFO claim to be a partner with CGI. Need to clarify nature of partnership

3/25	Ask IGEOINFO to indicate their understanding of the partnership between CGI and IGEOINFO as part of our review of partnerships.	KA/IJ	25.08.05
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Agenda item 15 : Potential Publication Opportunities with IAMG

- (Part of agenda item 14)

Agenda item 16 : CGI Input to IGC 2008 in Norway

- IJ and KA sent email to Prof. Solheim outlining CGI major information Symposium proposal to IGC as umbrella for 4 component symposia. Threat of result of disorganized sessions as at Florence if not coordinated. Awaiting response.
- Possibility of joint IAMG/CGI sponsorship.
- IGC is the important conference for CGI.

3/26	Form subcommittee to take forward IGC Symposia formulation	KA/IJ/JB	25.08.05
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Agenda item 17 : Any other Business

- Revisit MLT issues

Agenda item 18 : Open Meeting

Open meeting was attended by only 5 participants due to overlap with IAMG field trips.

Resumption of Council meeting after Open Meeting.

(Minutes to be added by SC and/or DS)