

IUGS Commission for the Management and Application of Geoscience Information (CGI)**Council Meeting 8**

**Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology
Scharnhorststrasse 34-37
10115 Berlin
Germany**

09:00 – 19:00 24 August 2010

Notes and Actions

Present: Kristine Asch, Chair
Ian Jackson, Secretary General
Francois Robida, Treasurer
Gabriel Asato
Peter Baumann
Bruce Simmons
Wang Jun

Joachim Gersemann attended for item 7a

Apologies: David Percy
John Broome
(No information was available about Anna Nguno)

1. Welcome, agenda and introductions

KA welcomed all attendees, and in particular WJ to his first meeting. Apologies/absences were discussed and while the reasons for absence were fully understood, letters reminding Council members of the obligations they and their organisations accepted on nomination/election will be sent.

Action 8/1	<i>Send letter to DP and JB concerning obligations of Council membership and enquire about AN status.</i>	<i>KA/IJ</i>	<i>30 Sept</i>
Action 8/2	<i>Contact IUGS and point out that funds are increasingly difficult to obtain and request that in exceptional circumstances CGI funds may be used to fund Council meeting attendance.</i>	<i>KA/IJ</i>	<i>30 Sept</i>

2. Notes of last Council meeting (Buenos Aires, 2009)

Approved.

3. Actions from last Council meeting

Actions have been discharged. Two follow-on actions resulted.

Action 8/3	<i>Provide SOPAC contacts to BS.</i>	<i>KW</i>	<i>30 Sept</i>
Action 8/4	<i>Ensure Council members receive INSPIRE consultation requests/documents (but Council members should also consult INSPIRE Forum website).</i>	<i>KA</i>	<i>ongoing</i>

4.	Chair's update, including IUGS issues		
The following issues were raised: Representation in N America following the resignation of DS and the importance of engaging the N American informatics community and the USGS; the outcome of the IUGS Review of CGI; the need for an official letter of invitation to attend Council meetings. The future of CGI after 2012 was taken as a separate agenda item.			
Action 8/5	Approach USGS – Linda Gunderson – and ask if she or a senior nominee will join CGI Council. (IJ to attempt this face to face in UK in Sept, or if not KA will do by phone).	IJ (KA if necc)	30 Sept
Action 8/6	Ensure invitation to Council meetings is done with a formal letter of invitation.	KA/IJ	Before next meeting
5.	Treasurer's Report		
Balance is 43k USD and 1.8k euro. The money is held in an account opened by FR. After debate about how these funds could be optimally used (including GIRAF2, IWG/GeoSciML, Asia and SA workshops), it was agreed that Council needed to receive proposals against them.			
Action 8/7	Submit costed proposals for utilisation of CGI funds.	All	30 Sept
6.	Progress against 2008-2012 Action Plan (and potential new initiatives)		
Each component of the Action Plan was reviewed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Catalyse alliances: evidence cited – 1G, 1G-E, GIC, ICSU, IAMG, INSPIRE, GGIPAC, AUSCOPE, ICS, CGMW, EGS, OGC (list to be expanded by Council);Stimulate progress and standard geological concepts: evidence – CDTG, MTG, 1G-E multilingual vocabulary;Promote use of data exchange standards: evidence – IWG, 1G, 1G-E;Facilitate outreach: evidence – GIRAF, S. American workshop, 1G;Role in coordination of regional initiatives: evidence – INSPIRE, 1G-E, CCOP .			
Action 8/8	Initiate list of alliances and Council to expand (use 1G-E list as starter).	IJ/All	31 Oct
7.	Working Groups		
Multi Lingual Thesaurus <p>JG attended for this item and gave an oral presentation of the MTG history and progress. There was a full and frank, and at times difficult, discussion on the performance and future remit of the MTG (and the CDTG) which continued after JG left the meeting. After debate of the pros and cons and for a variety of reasons, including essential integration and a holistic approach, avoiding duplication and overlap, maximising synergies, efficiencies, structural simplicity and communication, it was agreed that the MTG and CDTG would be merged as a single task group under the IWG. It was agreed that the IWG and future task group members would resolve membership and leadership and inform Council of this. It was also agreed that this decision would be communicated to the leaders of the 2 groups as soon as possible.</p>			
Interoperability <p>BS summarised his J Laxton's report. Council expressed their appreciation of the work of the IWG. Council reinforced the view that a policy of progressive and pragmatic deployment and production and not pursuit of perfection was what they wished to see. The issue of moving GeoSciML to an OGC standard without losing control was discussed.</p>			
Action 8/9	Promulgate the decision to merge the MTG and GDT	KA	31 Oct

	<i>groups asap and ensure that a viable structure and leadership for the new group is emplaced.</i>		
Action 8/10	<i>Send letter expressing thanks and appreciation to IWG for their progress in 2009/10.</i>	KA	30 Sept
Action 8/11	<i>Ensure message on pragmatic deployment is passed on in Rome.</i>	BS	4 Sept

8. Regional Groups

Reports from each of the RGs (SE Asia, S America, Oceania) had been circulated prior to the meeting and the main points were presented to the meeting.

Action 8/12	<i>Identify and encourage Asian geoscientists to be part of the IWG.</i>	KW	31 Oct
Action 8/13	<i>Mail KA about SEGEMAR server address issue.</i>	GA	30 Sept
Action 8/14	<i>Write letter to GA senior management about 8/13 issues.</i>	KA	31 Oct
Action 8/15	<i>Provide Council with an outline of needs for a S American GeoSciML training course.</i>	GA	30 Sept

9. EarthResourceML and its adoption

BS provided the background to the letter from Prof Malahoff. Council agreed in principle the adoption of EarthResourceML by IUGS-CGI and asked the IWG to liaise with the Australian task group so that the technical and logistical details could be understood and a plan put in place.

Action 8/16	<i>Transmit the decision to A Malahoff and to the IWG and Australian task group.</i>	BS	31 Sept
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10. IUGS matters

The IUGS Exec review of CGI was discussed; the most significant item was the future of CGI and this is covered below. The request to make a proposal for ICSU funds was discussed it was agreed JB was the logical person to take this forward. There was a recent request to provide an IUGS nominee of a GEO group; KA is taking care of this.

Action 8/17	<i>Take forward and respond to the IUGS request to make a bid against ICSU grant funds.</i>	JB	30 Sept
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11. CGI after 20102

KA set out the issues – the need for several Council members (including Chair, Sec Gen and Treasurer) to stand down in 2012 under our Statutes should CGI continue “as is”; and the discussion with the IUGS Exec members about possible new commissions/groups being spawned by CGI. A wide-ranging discussion followed which included the personal positions of the Council members present. It was agreed that KA would set out the issues and ask Council members for options and proposals. This information would be collated and discussed by email with the intention of making an agreed proposal(s) to the IUGS Executive before their annual meeting papers would be collated in December 2010.

Action 8/18	<i>Set down the background and issues for Council.</i>	KA	30 Sept
Action 8/19	<i>Provide proposals to KA on a future CGI post 2012 – from the status quo to a completely new mission and focus.</i>	All	15 Oct

12. CODATA

No report and as JB was not present the item was passed over.

Action 8/20	<i>Provide a short written report on CGI-relevant CODATA activity and plans.</i>	JB	30 Sept
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13. GIRAF

KA presented progress since the workshop in 2009. There was a proposal for a second GIRAF workshop in Dar es Salam in 2011 but it requires funds. There was also the planned workshop with 1G and AEGOS at the CAG early in 2011; additionally there was a proposal for an African component in the geoinformation super

symposium at the 34IGC. The discussion raised the issue of the possibility of an “Outreach” Commission as one idea of what may follow CGI.

14. OneGeology

As IJ will give a presentation at the Workshop on Wednesday this item was very short – a brief discussion of the roles of 1G and CGI-GeoSciML.

15. IGC34

BS gave an overview of the current position and plans for the Geoinformation Super-Symposium.

Action 8/21	<i>Provide BS with proposals for convenors for remaining sessions and make suggestions for merging sessions.</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>31 Oct</i>
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16. Preparation for the Geoscience Language Workshop and GeoSciML open day

Substantive discussion about how to ensure there was maximum discussion and workshop time and also defining the success criteria.

17. AOB

Young Earth Scientists (YES) involvement – following discussion about status (observer/member) there was agreement to invite a YES delegate as an observer to future Council meetings.

Action 8/22	<i>Write to YES Chair issuing invite to a YES delegate to future Council meetings.</i>	<i>KA</i>	<i>30 Sept</i>
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18. Date and Location of Next Meeting

The principle of associating the Council meeting with another event (including the 1G OMG) was agreed. A number of options were considered. The two favoured options were Edinburgh in June (INSPIRE conference) and Minneapolis in October (GSA conference). The majority of council members felt the former was preferred, although the discussion recognised the need to further engage with the US.

Action 8/23	<i>Mail all Council setting out options for date/place of next meeting; Council to confirm final choice.</i>	<i>KA/All</i>	<i>31 Oct</i>
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Ian Jackson
31 October 2010