



International Association of Geomorphologists Association Internationale des Géomorphologues

MINUTES

*of the IAG Executive Committee Meeting,
held on the 11-12th of April, Vienna*

On Wednesday-Thursday, April 11-12, 2018, during the General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union, the **second meeting of the Executive Committee 2017-2021 of the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG)** was organized.

The members of the IAG EC who attended the meeting were: Mauro Soldati (President), Susan Conway (Vice-President), Sunil Kumar De (Vice-President), Kosmas Pavlopoulos (Publications Officer), Mihai Micu (Secretary General), Piotr Migon (Co-opted Member), Lucio Cunha (Special Portfolio Member). Due to institutional and personal reasons, Francisco Gutiérrez (Vice-President) and Emmanuel Reynard (Treasurer) were unable to attend personally the meeting (E. Reynard took part in the discussions via Skype teleconference).

Detailed reports have been submitted by the EC members on their specific portfolio.

Information

The President provided a general overview concerning IAG EC activities held between November 2017 and April 2018, including the progresses in the direction concerning the legal status of IAG, Constitution update, IAG Alumni, NSMs contacts and new invitations, organization of future regional conferences. The most important issue, taking into account its short-to-long term implications, is the finalization of the IAG's legal status. Following different actions taken and enquiries which have been made, and based on the evaluation of the requirements (including financial implications) from different countries (Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Romania), the solution offered by Spain (FELIU N&I) proved to be the most suitable in terms of timing and feed-back quality. In order to advance in this direction, several procedures were suggested, highlighting the necessity to update the content of the IAG Constitution.

Discussions

I. PRIORITIES

1. National Scientific Members: new contacts have been established and new NSMs are making progresses in joining IAG. National Delegates and participants from countries which have paid the fee up to date could benefit from reduced fees during RC or IC.

2. Communication, co-operation and outreach: the website interface has to be improved and updated; a "geomorphic picture of the week/month", as a potential IAG-EGU common initiative has been suggested. An improvement of the IAG Newsletter has been discussed: a single 2017 issue, entitled "1-4" was suggested; it was suggested also that, starting with 2018, the previous format of the Newsletter may be replaced by two new formats: "*IAG Highlights*" (short, every 3-6 months, posted on the IAG website) and "*IAG records and archives*" (all memories: minutes, WGs reports, etc. annual; to be sent to the NSMs). In order to maintain a high visibility of IAG, memorandums of understanding (like the ongoing one with IPA) were either explored (ICL, AGU Earth and Planetary Surface Processes Section) or renewed (EGU Geomorphology Division).

3. Working Groups: each WG has to send the yearly reports. New WGs have



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already started their activity: *Geomorphology and Society: Past, Present and Future* (IAG-IGU Joint Commission/Working Group) and *Denudation and Environmental Changes in Different Morphoclimatic Zones (DENUCHANGE)*. Another WG called *Connectivity in Geomorphology* is intended.

4. Reappraisal of IAG roots and history: the idea of a potential virtual museum was discussed (e.g. interviews with past IAG Presidents of Honorary Fellows, realized by young geomorphologists).

5. Training Programme: the President outlined as one of the IAG's main objectives the support towards existing national groups of young geomorphologists and the implication towards the stimulation of new ones, having a final ambitious aim (as discussed with representatives from the young geomorphologists groups from Austria, Germany, Romania and Italy) to link them by creating an international network of young geomorphologists groups. As well, both sides discussed on the possibility that a Special Portfolio Member position can be obtained for a young geomorphologist.

II. ADDITIONAL GOALS

1. Legal status and Constitution: consistent discussions have been devoted to the adjustment of IAG's legal status and the potential revision of the IAG Constitution, in order to adapt IAG's functionality to the present-day requirements (especially financial). The suggestions of FELIU N&I for the establishment of a provisory parallel association would ease the financial transparency, in the framework of the present-time international banking financial requirements.

2. Support to the organization of IAG Conferences: an overview on the 2019 Greece RC (Athens, September; abstracts submission from January to April 2019; reduced fees for students, retired and honorary fellows, national delegates) and the 2021 Portugal IC (Coimbra, September; 20-25 Scientific Sessions; 1000 participants targeted, 300-400 EUR registration fee; the first announcement in September 2018) was given.

III. OTHER ISSUES

1. Financial aspects: it was suggested that the Treasurer should send a yearly report to the NSMs, containing a situation with the expenses for EC meetings.

2. IAG EC: for gender balance and good global representation within the IAG EC, the President proposed a number of possible co-opted members from different countries. Discussion was held about pros and cons of different options and finally a representation from Northern and Latin America was considered as crucial for the future of the IAG.

Decisions

1. National Scientific Members

➤ A Council Meeting will be organized during the RC in Greece (e-mail vote for the non-present NSMs is approved).

➤ The request of WAQUA (*West African Quaternary Research Association*) was approved, and the NSM will hold one vote. The new NSM member will be proposed to the Council for approval in Athens, in 2019.

➤ The constitution of the *Costa Rican Association of Geomorphologists* (President: Adolfo Quesada Roman, PhD. Student at the University of Geneva) was approved and the new NSM will be proposed to the Council for approval in Athens, in 2019. A yearly report of the NSM to the IAG Secretariat upon approval is requested.



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➤ The fee for Iran was proposed at 300 EUR/year; this issue will be proposed to the Council for approval in Athens, in 2019.

➤ In case of NSMs with gaps in the yearly payments, the procedure of bringing them up to date will start from the level of the year 2018.

2. Communication, co-operation and outreach

➤ Allan James (University of South Carolina, Columbia, USA) and Andrea Coronato (Austral Center for Scientific Research, Ushuaia, Argentina) were approved as new Co-opted members, making thus the EC of the IAG complete.

➤ The "1-4" issue of the Newsletter 2017 will be the last following the former layout, and two new formats will be prepared: "*IAG Highlights*" (short, every 3-6 months, posted on the IAG website) and "*IAG records and archives*" (all memories: minutes, WGs reports, etc. annual; to be send to the NSMs).

➤ All the *Editors in Chief* of the journals from E. Reynard's list will receive from K. Pavlopoulos the last IAG Newsletter, to publish it.

3. Working Groups

➤ The 2017-2021 activity of two new WGs is approved: *Anthropocene Geomorphology* and *Denudation and Environmental Changes in Different Morphoclimatic Zones (DENUCHANGE)*. Each new WG will receive the money for the first year of activity, and then if the yearly activity report is send, they will receive it annually.

➤ The proposed new Working Group on *Connectivity in Geomorphology* has principally been approved by the IAG EC, but the proposer will be asked to send a detailed (at least two pages) outline of the proposal.

4. Training Programme

➤ Two grants (500 EUR each) for young geomorphologists outside Argentina have been approved, for the *Congress of the Argentine Association of Geomorphology and Quaternary Studies*.

➤ Two grants (300 EUR each) have been approved for the BSG Post-Graduate Training Workshop in Windsor (2018), for PhD Students outside UK.

➤ The sum of 2,000 EUR will be allocated to the 2019 International Meeting of Young Geomorphologists, Germany.

➤ Auspices of IAG (without financial involvement) have been granted to the Annual Meeting of the German Young Geomorphologists, as well as for the organization of the Third Annual Meeting of the IGCP Project 639 "*Sea Level Change from Minutes to Millennia*" and for the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

5. Legal status and Constitution

➤ Request of clarifications will be sent, in order to enquire about the need of IAG to have or not it's Constitution approved by IGU and IUGS.

6. Support to the organization of IAG Conferences

➤ During RC and IC, reduced registration fees will be made available to students (BSc, MSc. PhD), retired and honorary fellows of IAG, national delegates of NSMs with annual subscription fees up-to-date.

7. Finances

➤ Reimbursements for EC meetings will be related to the number of meeting days.



**International Association of Geomorphologists
Association Internationale des Géomorphologues**

Date

26 06 2018

IAG/AIG President

Prof. Mauro SOLDATI

IAG/AIG Secretary General

Dr. Mihai MICU