



International Association of Geomorphologists

Executive Committee 2022-2026

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Second IAG Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, 25 April 2023, 12:45-16:00 CEST (UTC+2),
EGU General Assembly 2023, Room 2.43, Vienna, Austria and Online

MINUTES

1. Welcome by the President

The President welcomed all the IAG EC members (both online and offline) and thanked all EC members for their efforts and works for the IAG and the international geomorphology community.

2. Overview of presence and absence

The Secretary-General summarized presence and absence of EC members:

Present in-person: Sunil Kumar De, Takashi Oguchi, Achim A. Beylich, Katja Laute, Anita Bernatek-Jakiel, Susan Conway, Cengiz Yildirim;

Present virtually: Andrea Coronato, Mihai Micu, Francisco Gutierrez, Narges Kariminejad, Efthimios Karymbalis, Ghislain Zangmo Tefogom, Samuel McColl;

Absent: Timothy Beach

3. Report from the Treasurer

Francisco Gutierrez appraised the EC members about the status of the IAG account and activities. He also informed that an amount of 21,329 € had been received from the Portuguese Association of Geomorphologists on account of the 10th International Conference on Geomorphology. The EC thanked the Portuguese Association of Geomorphologists, and particularly Lucio Cunha, for their generous support to the IAG. The legal office and the bank account of the IAG are located in Madrid, Spain. To transfer the authorized signatory of the IAG account from the previous Treasurer to the new one as per the Spanish regulations, the new Executive Committee of the IAG should be registered in the SRA. The required documents were prepared with the advice of Feliu (legal advisor of the IAG) and delivered online to the SRA. Until now, Emmanuel Reynard, former Treasurer of the IAG, is possessing the transaction right of the IAG account. Some of the documents are needed from the previous Treasurer (Emmanuel) and the EC requests the previous treasurer to provide the documents to the new Treasurer. The EC hopes that very soon the SRA will approve the new EC and the new Treasurer will get the transaction right.



4. Report on Working Groups

Andrea Coronato reported on the status and activities of IAG Working Groups. Since September 2022, 16 Working Groups have been in action (13 continuing and 3 newly started Working Groups). The WG “Dynamic geodiversity of critical zones in mountain and polar regions (DYNAgeoZONES)” accepted to shorten its original name. Information of the continuing and new WGs was updated on the IAG website with the collaboration of Susan Conway and Meven Philippe. 15 WGs informed us about their activities sending their annual reports (2022-2023) on time before 14 April 2023. The WG Rocky Coasts Geomorphology did not send the requested annual report. Meven Philippe and Susan Conway had generated a Google form document for digital reporting. The claim forms for financial support for the newly started Working Groups were also sent out.

The following three IAG Working Groups are eligible for an annual support of 500 Euros from IAG until 2026: (i) Virtual Field Trips in Geomorphology (contact: Niki Evelpidou, evelpidou@geol.uoa.gr), (ii) Andean Geomorphology (contacts: Juan Federico Ponce, jfedeponce@gmail.com; José Araos, jose.araos@gmail.com), (iii) Dynamic geodiversity of critical zones in mountain and polar regions: from Nature to Culture (DYNAgeoZONES) (contacts: Marco Giardino, marco.giardino@unito.it; Zbigniew Zwolinski, zbigniew.zwolinski@amu.edu.pl).

5. Update on the ICG in Christchurch, New Zealand, February 2026

Samuel McColl provided updated information on the 11th ICG in Christchurch, New Zealand, February 2026. The 11th ICG will be organized by the Australian & New Zealand Geomorphology Group and will take place 9-13 February 2026 in Christchurch, New Zealand.

A conference website was established at <https://www.confer.co.nz/icg2026>. The conference venue was confirmed and the local Conference Organising Committee has been established.

The EC informed the Convener of the 11th ICG that the registration fees for the IAG, EGU, IPA and other Young Geomorphologists grant holders (approximately 25) and the EC members (approximately 13) should be waived. The Young Geomorphologists will pay the required fee for participating in the Young Geomorphologists Training Programme from the grant. The EC decided that an amount of at least 2% of the registration fees will be levied from the Organizing Committee of the 11th ICG. If the amount of savings from the conference is higher, the IAG will welcome to receive more contributions from the Organizing Committee.

6. Update on the RCG in Cappadocia, Türkiye, September 2023

Cengiz Yildirim provided updated information on the upcoming RCG in Cappadocia, Türkiye, 12-14 September 2023.

The conference website is available at <https://rcg2023.info/>. Important dates (abstract submission deadline, sending of letters of acceptance, early rate registration deadlines, pre-conference field trip, intensive course, post-conference field trips 1-4) and the



revised list of proposed conference sessions (including sessions organized by IAG WGs) were also included. So far, the number of registrations and abstract submissions is low. The EC requested to extend the deadline for abstract submission until 21 May 2023 and to seek potential conveners for each session along with a brief description of each session. Sessions being organized by IAG Working Groups should be marked accordingly. The EC decided that physical IAG EC and IAG Council meetings will be held during the conference.

7. Young Geomorphologists issues: Procedure for final approval of grants; YGs definition; Russian applicants; grants for RCG 2023

Anita Bernatek-Jakiel and Efthimios Karymbalis requested to discuss the procedure for the final approval of grants for YGs, the existing YGs definition, the handling of grant applications submitted by Russian scientists, and the allocation of grants for the RCG in Cappadocia in September 2023.

a. The existing definition of YGs was discussed during the EC meeting. Different members of the current EC interpret the existing definition in different ways and it was concluded that the existing definition should be slightly revised to avoid potential misunderstandings. The EC decided to define the definition of "Young Geomorphologists" in the following way:

"Young Geomorphologists are defined as existing Bachelor, Master or PhD students and the candidates who have received their highest degree, i.e. BSc, MSc, or PhD, within the past seven years. Provided parental leave fell into that period, up to one year of parental leave time may be added per child, where appropriate."

b. Following the formal statement published by IAG in connection with the ongoing war, the EC decided that the applications from Russian scientists are eligible and are considered as long as the applicants are not formally affiliated with the Russian Association of Geomorphologists.

c. The call for grants for the RCG and the related Intensive Course for Young Geomorphologists was ready to be published, and following discussions during the EC meeting, it was decided that the total amount allocated for grants for the RCG and related Intensive Course for Young Geomorphologists shall not be included in the call. The total amount for grants for YGs shall include 6000 Euros from IAG. The possible contribution from EGU shall be discussed after the EGU GM Division business meeting. The new President of the EGU Geomorphology Division, Kristen Cook shall be contacted to discuss this issue. The deadline for submission of grant applications will be 22 May 2023.

8. NSMs: Report, IAG strategy and priorities

Mihai Micu provided his report on NSMs and proposed a strategy and priorities related to IAG NSMs. By September 2022, IAG comprised 63 countries, grouped in National Scientific Members: 56 individual countries and 3 regional associations (total of 8



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countries). There are different levels of dialogue with 24 countries (Colombia, Egypt, Fiji Islands, Jamaica, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Paraguay, Pakistan, The Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam, West Africa (Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Guinea)). Specific situations are given for Estonia (the connection was recently reprised), Malaysia (see point 9 below) and Egypt (see point 9 below).

Referring to previous discussions via email within the EC (January-March 2023), dealing with the question if the main focus should be more on quantity (i.e. attracting more members) or quality (focussing on the “value” of the members composing a particular NSM) it was found that IAG should strategically focus on both aspects. This means that prospecting for new members should be a priority, while at the same time, the already existing members should be convinced to develop even more proactive memberships as well as new initiatives focussing on increasing the awareness of membership importance and benefits. The following strategic points were presented during the EC meeting: (i) Collecting information on geomorphology communities around the world, (ii) Define IAG membership benefits and expectations, (iii) Define new initiatives and invite NSMs to coordinate/contribute, (iv) Dedicate regular time to communication, (v) Strengthen the collaborative environment for YGs, (vi) Organize a “field trip around the world”, linking IAG NSMs worldwide and promoting the importance of geomorphic research and services to nature and society.

9. Proposals for new NSMs: Egypt and Malaysia

The proposals for IAG membership brought forward by Egypt and Malaysia were discussed during the EC meeting. The Egyptian Society for Environmental Change submitted a complete proposal for IAG membership on 18 February 2023, expressing their interest to replace the Egyptian Geomorphological Group (a lapsed member long-time without an updated membership payment) as Egypt NSM.

This proposal was approved by the EC, and considering the economic condition of Egypt, the EC decided that the annual IAG membership fee for Egypt will be 120 Euros per annum. Following negotiations between Takashi Oguchi and Edlic Sathiamurthy (Marine Geosciences, University of Malaysia Terengganu), the interest of Malaysia to join IAG as a member was discussed. It was decided during the EC meeting that Malaysia is welcome to join the IAG as a new NSM with a fee exemption (due to the low number of geomorphologists active in the country). Malaysia will be asked to send annual reports to IAG related to their IAG membership.

10. NSM Australia-New Zealand: Request for paying only one annual affiliation fee

Achim A. Beylich informed us about a request of the Australian & New Zealand Geomorphology Group to pay only one annual IAG affiliation fee for their IAG membership. Following discussions within the EC, it was decided that the Australian & New Zealand Geomorphology Group (ANZGG) shall together pay one annual IAG affiliation fee of 300 Euros until 2026.



11. NSM GeoNorth: Request to modify the annual affiliation fee

Achim A. Beylich informed us about the request of the NSM GeoNorth to modify the annual IAG affiliation fee.

The EC decided that, since Norway is paying its own annual membership fee of 300 Euros, the annual membership fee for the Nordic group member GeoNorth will be reduced from 600 Euros to 500 Euros. Norway continues to be part of the GeoNorth network, but voting right (one vote) is only given to the four countries Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden within the NSM GeoNorth.

12. Annual affiliation fees for IAG National Scientific Members (NSMs)

In addition to the revised annual affiliation fees for the Australian & New Zealand Geomorphology Group (ANZGG) (300 Euros, see point 10 above) and for GeoNorth (500 Euros, see point 11 above), the annual affiliation fees of the remaining IAG National Scientific Members remain as before, based on the number of geomorphologists and power purchasing parity in the respective countries:

120 Euros: Bulgaria, Croatia, Egypt, Estonia, Jamaica, Malta, Romania, Serbia, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Taiwan;

250 Euros: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Czech Republic, Hungary, India, Israel, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, Russia, South Korea;

300 Euros: Australia & New Zealand (see above), Norway;

500 Euros: Belgium, GeoNorth (see above);

600 Euros: Canada, China, Switzerland;

1000 Euros: USA;

1200 Euros: France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, United Kingdom

13. Geomorphica: Discussion on support, funding and auspices

The IAG support, funding and auspices for the new diamond open access journal Geomorphica (launched in April 2023) were discussed during the EC meeting.

Following the decisions in the previous IAG EC, IAG will provide a financial support of 700 Euros per year for Geomorphica until 2025. In 2025 the cooperation with Geomorphica will be reviewed and a new decision on financial support for this journal will be taken by the EC. Geomorphica colleagues provided a draft agreement letter for the terms of collaboration between IAG and Geomorphica in February 2023, and it was decided during the EC meeting that Takashi Oguchi and Susan Conway will carefully view and revise this draft letter, and will get back to the EC to discuss the next steps to define and develop the formal collaboration between IAG and Geomorphica.

14. IUGS Geological Heritage Sites and IAG Global Geosites Committee

Achim A. Beylich reported on information received from Piotr Migoń related to the IUGS Geological Heritage Sites and the IAG Global Geosites Committee, and outlining further steps in the designation procedure of Global Geosites. Following the successful Zumaia



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conference and the announcement of the First 100 IUGS Geological Heritage Sites, the best and most feasible way forward to continue with the IUGS Geological Heritage Sites designation program is currently discussed within IUGS. Detailed discussions took place within the IUGS EC during their last meeting in Belfast in February 2023. In summary, the main idea is that IUGS plans to announce 100 sites every two years. Piotr Migoń expects to be contacted by the project leaders in May 2023 and to receive more detailed information on what exactly is expected from the IAG as an involved organization and how, accordingly, an efficient task group can be formed.

15. Report on Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) events in November 2022, Paris, attended by Mauro Soldati; DDE activities and events at EGU 2023

Achim A. Beylich reported on information received from Mauro Soldati regarding his participation in the Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) events in November at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France, and regarding DDE activities and events at EGU 2023.

As part of a committee of the DDE Governing Council (GC) dealing with Membership contributions, Mauro Soldati asked for clarification on whether a financial contribution was requested to the member bodies (including the IAG). In addition, Mauro Soldati suggested that DDE produce a clear statement on the benefits of Membership to the DDE, irrespective of whether a membership fee was to be requested. Jennifer McKinley, the DDE GC Chair, informed that DDE is not intending to request any obligatory financial contributions from its Members, and that contributions could be in terms of data, post-doctoral fellowships or other in-kind modes. Moreover, based on Mauro Soldati's suggestion, which was supported by the attendants, a statement was produced that defines the kind of benefits the Members can expect to have from the DDE and in return the nature and type of support in terms of activities that Members could provide to support DDE's work. Two important benefits that the IAG may take advantage of are:

- Participating in the work of DDE Working and Task Groups (WTGs; currently there are 27 of them. See: <https://www.ddeworld.org/about/groups>). Most of these WTGs receive annual catalytic grants of US\$ 5,000 – 10,000 to support activities intended to contribute to DDE goals and objectives.

- Possibilities for receiving financing for projects that support the mission and vision of DDE. DDE has funded, during 2021-2022, 7 projects, including some that directly benefit DDE Members like CGMW and CGI and their partner WTGs; each project is of 2 to 3-year duration with financing up to US\$ 40,000 – 50,000 per year.

Financing is normally offered to joint ventures including more than one DDE member. Among the others, the IAG may seek for collaboration with the International Association of Engineering Geology (IAEG) which recently became a DDE Member.

The Open Science Forum, 9 November 2022, was aimed at presenting to the UNESCO National Delegates the aims and activities of the DDE. In the introductory part, it was briefly shown how the DDE started and which are the activities and projects held so far.

A full report of the event is reported here: <https://www.ddeworld.org/news/detail/190>



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DDE was running a number of activities and events at EGU 2023 to inform the various activities. The IAG EC appreciates and thanks Mauro Soldati for his constructive activities in the DDE Group of the IUGS as the Nominee of the IAG.

16. IAG affiliation with International Science Council (ISC)

The President informed us about the benefits of a possible IAG affiliation with the International Science Council (ISC). Defined benefits include an increased visibility of the IAG and the potential to gain more members worldwide. The annual affiliation fee for IAG may be between 1000-3000 Euros per year (negotiable).

It was decided during the EC meeting that IAG will prepare a proposal for getting affiliated with ISC. Sunil Kumar De will provide more information and will prepare a related document, and Mihai Micu, Susan Conway and Katja Laute were appointed to work on the detailed proposal.

17. Cooperation with AGU: Status and further actions

Takashi Oguchi reported the status and further actions related to the cooperation with AGU. On 13 December 2022, during the AGU Fall Meeting in Chicago, Susan Conway and Takashi Oguchi had a meeting with three representatives from the AGU Earth and Planetary Surface Processes Sections: Kimberley Hill (President), Gordon Grant (outgoing President) and Suzanne Anderson (President-elect). During this meeting, the MoU between IAG and AGU and possible future collaborations were discussed. Possible joint future activities include joint meetings, co-convened sessions, activities related to early-career, diversity, and inclusion, and contributions to the AGU newsletter.

18. Cooperation with GSA: Status and further actions; possible IAG conference in the USA

Achim A. Beylich reported on the status and further actions related to the cooperation with GSA. Sunil Kumar De and Achim A. Beylich had a Zoom meeting with Nan Stout, Associate Director, Scientific Integrity and Strategic Partnerships, GSA, on 10 February 2023, and participated in the virtual GSA Associated Societies Meeting on 23 March 2023. Based on the existing MoU between IAG and GSA, a further deepening of the existing collaboration between IAG and GSA was discussed during these meetings. A document describing IAG priorities within the collaboration with GSA was prepared by the IAG EC and sent to Nan Stout. The priority points of IAG described in this document are (i) Joint programs at conferences, (ii) Links to websites, (iii) Young Geomorphologists travel grants, and (iv) a possible IAG Conference in the USA. A detailed response to the IAG document and the four priority points is expected soon, and the discussions on the deeper and more concrete collaboration between IAG and GSA will be continued.

19. International Geodiversity Day 2023 and International Geomorphology Week 2024: Possible IAG activities

Takashi Oguchi reported about the successful IAG Webinar on Contributions of Geomorphologists to the International Geodiversity Day at the First International



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Geodiversity Day on 11 October 2022 and on the successful IAG Regional Webinars and other events during the International Geomorphology Week 2023 (1-7 March 2023). Despite the fact that physical meetings are possible again, the virtual events organised by IAG were considered as a success and as well received by the scientific community. It was decided by the EC that IAG will continue to organize virtual activities during the International Geodiversity Day in 2023 and the International Geomorphology Week 2024. For the IAG Webinar on the occasion of the International Geodiversity Day 2023, key scientists will be invited for defined topics very soon.

20. Future EC meetings during EGU General Assemblies

Achim A. Beylich suggested that during the forthcoming EGU General Assemblies in the coming years IAG EC meetings could be held outside the EGU conference venue.

21. Any other business

Susan Conway informed us about an email that she had received from Chris Houser, the current moderator of Geomorph-list. After 14 years Chris Houser wishes to pass this task to someone else and he asked how IAG like this transfer to be handled. Susan Conway agreed to investigate possible solutions and to get back to the EC with suggestions on how to proceed very soon.

IAG President
Sunil Kumar De

IAG Secretary-General
Achim A. Beylich

Date: 24 May 2023