



International Association of Geomorphologists

Executive Committee 2017-2021

President

Mauro SOLDATI
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia
Modena, Italy
soldati@unimore.it

Vice-Presidents

Susan CONWAY
National Centre for Scientific Research
Nantes, France
susan.conway@univ-nantes.fr

Sunil Kumar DE
North-Eastern Hill University
Meghalaya, India
desunil@yahoo.com

Francisco GUTIÉRREZ
University of Zaragoza
Zaragoza, Spain
fgutier@unizar.es

Secretary General

Mihai MICU
Romanian Academy
Bucharest, Romania
secretary@geomorph.org

Treasurer

Emmanuel REYNARD
University of Lausanne
Lausanne, Switzerland
emmanuel.reynard@unil.ch

Publication Officer

Kosmas PAVLOPOULOS
Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi
Abu Dhabi, UAE
kosmas.pavlopoulos@psuad.ac.ae

Co-opted Members

Andrea CORONATO
Austral Center for Scientific Research
CADIC-CONICET
Ushuaia, Argentina
andrea.coronato@gmail.com

Marta DELLA SETA
Sapienza University
Rome, Italy
marta.dellaseta@uniroma1.it

Allan JAMES
University of South Carolina,
Columbia, USA
ajames@mailbox.sc.edu

Takashi OGUCHI
University of Tokyo
Tokyo, Japan
oguchi@ccs.u-tokyo.ac.jp

Piotr MIGON
University of Wrocław
Wrocław, Poland
piotr.migon@uwr.edu.pl

Ghislain ZANGMO TEFOGOM
University of Maroua
Maroua, Cameroon
zangmotefogom@gmail.com

Special Portfolio Members

Lucio CUNHA
University of Coimbra
Coimbra, Portugal
luciogeo@fl.uc.pt

Katja LAUTE
Geomorphological Field Laboratory
Selbustrand, Norway
katja.laute@geofieldlab.com

Adel SEPEHR
Ferdowsi University of Mashhad
Mashhad, Iran
adelsepehr@aol.com

Konstantinos VOULALIDIS
Aristotle University
Thessaloniki, Greece
voulal@geo.auth.gr

MINUTES

of the Second IAG Council Meeting online meeting, Tuesday, 19 January, 2021 15:00 CET (GMT+1)

After careful deliberation of the IAG Executive Committee, taking into account the international situation imposed by the uncertainties associated to the COVID 19 pandemic emergency situation, an online IAG Council was convened.

The meeting was attended by 48 people (out of which 36 National Delegates with voting rights, representing Argentina, Australia, Austria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, France, GeoNorth (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden), Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malta, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Rwanda, Serbia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America).

The members of the IAG EC who attended the meeting were: Mauro Soldati (President), Susan Conway (Vice-President), Francisco Gutiérrez (Vice-President), Sunil Kumar De (Vice-President), Mihai Micu (Secretary General), Emmanuel Reynard (Treasurer), Kosmas Pavlopoulos (Member), Takashi Oguchi (Co-opted Member), Andrea Coronato (Co-opted Member), Allan James (Co-opted Member), Ghislain Zangmo Tefogom (Co-opted Member), Lucio Cunha (Special Portfolio Member), Katja Laute (Special Portfolio Member), Adel Sepehr (Special Portfolio Member). Due to institutional reasons, Piotr Migon (Special Portfolio Member), Konstantinos Vouvalidis (Special Portfolio Member), and Marta Della Seta (Co-opted Member) were unable to attend the meeting.

Following the President's welcome message, a draft schedule of the issues to be discussed was outlined, emphasizing the importance of this meeting for the future actions of the IAG during the last part of the present EC mandate.

Before the beginning of the discussions, the IAG Treasurer (E. Reynard) invited National Delegates to introduce themselves. The IAG Constitution and Bylaws voting rights requirements were also outlined.

The Agenda of the meeting was the following:

1. Introduction from the President (M. Soldati)
2. Report of the Secretary General (M. Micu)
3. Resolution about the postponement of the next IAG Regional Conference, Mashhad, Iran (A. Sepehr, F. Gutiérrez)
4. Resolution about the postponement of the next IAG International Conference, Coimbra, Portugal (L. Cunha, S. Conway)
5. Resolution about the postponement of the Executive Committee's 2017-2021 term (M. Soldati)
6. Any other business

Overview of recent IAG actions

Before starting the main points of discussion, a brief report was given by the IAG Secretary General (M. Micu), who outlined the main landmarks of the period passed since the last IAG Council Meeting (September 2019, Athens):

1. New National Scientific Members were approved (Nigeria, Rwanda, Belarus, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Senegal); meanwhile, active discussions are ongoing with Iraq, Vietnam, Ukraine, Bangladesh, Philippines, North Macedonia, Chile;
2. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Geological Society of America;
3. Dr. Katja Laute (Norway) was unanimously approved by the IAG Executive Committee as new EC Special Portfolio Member, with a task in supporting the timely preparation of the IAG Highlights;
4. The first IAG International Geomorphology Week (first week of March) was organized in 2020 in Poland and India. The 2021 edition will foresee a series of regional webinars as well as a number of other events, such as workshops on *Women in Geomorphology*;
5. The IAG supported the initiative of its Working Group on "Landform Assessment for Geodiversity" in establishing an International Geodiversity Day (July 2020);
6. The IAG is providing constant support to the International Network of Young Geomorphologists Groups, comprising so far India, Poland, UK, Ireland, France, Southern Africa, Romania, Switzerland, Costa Rica, Germany, GeoNorth;
7. The IAG is taking active part in the IUGS *Deep Time Digital Earth* Big Programme (DDE), participating in several meetings of the Governing Council, prospecting collaboration and financed research opportunities;
8. The term 'geomorphology' was finally included in the European Research Council (ERC) Panel *PE10 Earth System Science - area PE10_13 Physical geography, geomorphology*; this came as a result of official requests made by IAG Presidents Eric Fouache in 2016 and Mauro Soldati in 2018; the initiative was supported also by the EGU Geomorphology Division.

Finally, the Secretary General underlined the important role of the National Delegates in the dissemination of IAG actions (brought to the attention of the geomorphic community through official e-mails, website, *IAG Highlights*, social media channels), as the key for a fruitful collaboration based on close and permanently updated dialogue.

Discussions

Following this overview, the IAG President (M. Soldati) presented the three main items on the agenda, outlining pros and cons of different options:

- 1) Postponement of the Regional Conference on Geomorphology (RCG) in Mashhad, Iran to Spring 2022 following the recommendations of the local organizers;
- 2) Postponement of the International Conference on Geomorphology (ICG) in Coimbra, Portugal to September 2022 following the recommendations of the local organizers;
- 3) Extension of the current IAG Executive Committee's term up to and including the International Conference on Geomorphology, if postponement is approved, enabling elections to be held in person. In case of postponement of the ICG, the IAG EC would also ask for the Council's approval for extension of the term of the ongoing Working Groups and recommend that the next committee's term comprises 4 years terminating in an ICG to be held in 2026.

The main reasons for which these issues were brought into discussion for the Council's voting were described in detail by the IAG President. Essentially, they refer to the huge level of uncertainty involved in the organization of large events, including the well-being of conference attendees; the fact that field visits are integral to the success of IAG geomorphology conferences; the economic situation of participants and hosts; the provision of adequate recompense (intellectual, strategic and financial) for the conference local organizers. It was also underlined that the local organizers of the two conferences were really advanced in the organizational process, and thus they would deserve the opportunity to plan the events when the

international situation is considered optimal.

The participants were informed that, in case of conference postponements and extension of the Executive Committee term, the IAG would continue its activity online, organizing workshops, seminars and discussions in form of webinars. A particular focus would be envisaged for the Young Geomorphologists, by offering grants to attend online meetings which require a registration fee.

After the President's introduction and comments by the participants, the open voting procedures started (35 present National Delegates had the right to vote; 1 National Delegate joined the meeting in time to vote only for point 3).

Decisions

1. Postponement of the Regional Conference on Geomorphology (RCG) in Mashhad, Iran to spring 2022: approved with 35 votes (1 vote previous to the meeting, via e-mail) and 1 abstention.

2. Postponement of the International Conference on Geomorphology (ICG) in Coimbra, Portugal to September 2022: approved with 36 votes (1 vote previous to the meeting, via e-mail).

3. Extension of the current IAG Executive Committee's term up to and including the postponed International Conference on Geomorphology: approved with 37 votes (one previous to the meeting, via e-mail; one National Delegate attended the meeting in time to vote only for point 3). Thus, elections for the new term and voting for the next conferences will be held in person in Coimbra in 2022. The next committee's term will comprise 4 years terminating on the occasion of the ICG to be held in 2026. Finally, the present Working Groups are extended the ICG in 2022.

The decisions will be brought to the attention of the IAG National Scientific Members through an official notification.

Date

19 01 2021

IAG President



Prof. Mauro SOLDATI

IAG Secretary General



Dr. Mihai MICU