Date: Wednesday July 9, 2003 (4-7pm)

Place: Empress Hall A&B, Royton Hotel

Participants:

- National Delegates at Council

  Argentina  Dr. Juan Vilas
  Australia  Dr. Charles Barton
  Austria  Dr. Michael Kuhn
  Belgium  Prof. Andre L. Berger
  Brazil  Dr. Luiz Palo Souto Fortes
  Canada  Dr. Ronald E. Stewart
  Chile  Dr. Pablo Gran
  China  Prof. Chuanzhen Zhu
  Colombia  Eng. Laura Sanchez Rodriguez
  Croatia  Dr. Mirko Orlic
  Czech Republic  Dr. Petr Holota
  Denmark  Dr. Soren Gregersen
  Egypt  Prof. Attia A. Ashour
  Finland  Prof. Dr. Pentti Malikki
  France  Dr. Michel Menvielle
  Germany  Prof. Dr. Gerd Totzlauff
  Hungary  Prof. Dr. Jozsef Adam
  Iceland  Mr. Pall Jonsson
  India  Dr. Vilai P. Dimri
  Indonesia  Mr. H.Z. Abidin
  Iran  Dr. S. Hajam
  Ireland  Dr. Peter Lynch
  Israel  Prof. Zev Levin
  Italy  Prof. Lucio Ubertini
  Japan  Prof. Kojiro Irikura
  Jordan  Eng. S.M. Khalifeh
  New Zealand  Dr. David A. Rhoads
  Norway  Dr. Bjorn Geirr Harsson
  Poland  Prof. Dr. Jan Krynski
  Portugal  Prof. Dr. Luis A. Mendes-Victor
  Romania  Dr. Constantin S. Sava
  Russia  Dr. Yuri S. Tyupkin
  Slovenia  Mrs. L. Globevnik
  South Africa  Prof. Charles L. Merry
  Spain  Dr. Joan M. Torta
  Sweden  Dr. Birna Olafsdottir
  Switzerland  Prof. Dr. Huw C. Davies
  Thailand  Major General T. Thambumroong
  Turkey  Dr. Lt. Col. Eng Onur Lenk
  United Kingdom  Prof. David N. Collins
  United States  Prof. David N. Jackson
  Vietnam  Prof. Dr. T.K.T. Nguyen

Italics for Countries with Observer Status only

- Members of the Bureau

  President  Prof. Masaru Kono
  Vice President  Prof. Uri Shamir
  Treasurer  Dr. Aksel Hansen
  Secretary General  Dr. JoAnn Joselyn
  Asst. Sec. Gen.  Mr. Ryan Aucone
  Member  Dr. Tom Beer
  Member  Dr. J.Y. Chen
  Member  Dr. Harsh Gupta

- Members of the Finance Committee

  President  Dr. A. Fred Spilhaus
  Secretary  Dr. Patrick Pinet
  Member  Prof. Michael J. Hamlin
  Member  Prof. Vinod K. Gaur
  Member  Prof. Dr. Erwin Groten

- The Executive Committee and Secretaries-General of the Associations:

  Past President  Prof. Peter Wyllie
  President IAG  Prof. Fernando Sanso
  Secretary IAG  Prof. Christian Tscherning
  President IAGA  Dr. David Kerridge
  President IAHS  Dr. Kuniyoshi Takeuchi
  Secretary IAHS  Dr. Pierre Hubert
  President IAMAS  Prof. Dr. Huw Davies
  President IAPSO  Dr. Paola Rizzoli
  President IASPEI  Prof. Brian Kennett
  President IAVCEI  Prof. Steve Sparks

- The following alternate Council Delegates attended the Third Council Meeting:

  France  Dr. Jean-Pierre Barriot
  Dr. Roland Schlich

- The President invited the following guests for the Third Council Meeting:

  Member Candidate  Dr. Y.T. Chen
  IAG Pres. Elect  Dr. G. Beutler
  IAMAS Pres. Elect  Dr. M. MacCracken

1. Greetings, Presentation of the Credentials:

   Salutations: Présentation des lettres d’accréditation

   Following a successful informal meeting of the Council Delegates, President Kono called the third Council meeting to order at 4:10 pm in the Highness AB room. In order to be certain of the number of Delegates present and able to vote, a roll call of delegates was held. 35 national delegates were present, 33 eligible to vote. Secretary-General Joselyn further read the sections from the IUGG Statutes and By-laws concerning votes by correspondence. The ballots from 3 delegates were received in advance of the meeting and in accordance with the rules. Those delegates were Prof. Berger (Belgium), Prof. Liu (China-Taipei), and Dr. Moon (Korea). Other national delegates arrived in the course of the meeting and Dr. Berger was obliged to leave. In total 42 votes were accredited.

   Although some discussion remained on Agenda Item 13, President Kono decided to proceed with Agenda Item 14.
14. Elections of IUGG Officers (Ref. AGENDA ITEM 5)
Election des responsables de l’UGGI (Cf point 5 de l’ordre du jour)

Dr. Lynch (Ireland) asked if the order that the names were printed on the ballots was significant. President Kono replied that the order was chosen by the Nominations Committee. Dr. Lynch suggested that the names on the ballot should appear in alphabetic order. Continuing on the topic of nominations, Dr. Kono expressed his disappointment that one person who had been nominated for an office withdrew his name just before the General Assembly. Dr. Kono hoped that in the future, any person who agreed to be nominated would not take this honor so lightly. He also emphasized that the elections of officers and the selection of the site for the 2007 General Assembly were independent votes and the results of the elections for officers should have no influence on the site selection.

Delegates were asked to mark their ballots for each of 6 offices open for the Bureau (the copyright of Secretary General was elected for an 8-year term in 1999) and the 5 positions on the Finance Committee. President Kono asked Dr. Fred Spilhaus and Dr. Steve Sparks to assist with counting the ballots, numbered 16-26 in the Ballot Books.

While the ballots were being counted, Dr. Kono took the opportunity to present mementos of appreciation to Dr. Uri Shamir for his 8 years of service as IUGG Vice-President; to Dr. J.Y. Chen for his 12 years of service on the IUGG Bureau; Dr. E. Groten for his 8 years of service on the Finance Committee; and Dr. A.F. Spilhaus, Jr., for his 16 years of service on the Finance Committee including 4 years as the Chair.

Other announcements made while the votes were being counted included preliminary statistics of the persons attending the General Assembly, and information about the IUGG promotional video/DVD prepared by special arrangement for the General Assembly by NHK – a Japanese television network. It was explained that IUGG owns the video but that the copyright must remain with NHK. Each delegate/IUGG Adhering Body may have a copy but must agree that the copies will be shown for educational/non-profit purposes only. There is no charge for the first copy to each Association and National Committee, but after that, the Secretariat may have to charge for the cost to copy and mail either a DVD or videotape.

The tellers announced the preliminary count of the votes. The counts given below are the final counts.

a. President
U. SHAMIR: 27, W.R. PELTIER: 13, 2 Abstentions
b. Vice-President
P. RIZZOLI: 20, T. BEER: 21, 1 Abstention
c. Treasurer
A.W. HANSEN: 40, 0 Opposed, 2 Abstentions
d. Bureau Members
Position 1: A. TEALEB: 36, 0 Opposed, 6 Abstentions
Position 2: A. NIKOLAEV (name withdrawn): 8, H.K. GUPTA: 31, 3 Abstentions
Position 3: Y.T. CHEN: 21, C.S. SAVA: 17, 4 Abstentions

15. Selection of the venue of the XXIV IUGG General Assembly (2007) (Ref. AGENDA ITEM 8)
Choix du lieu de la XXIVIème Assemblée Générale (Cf point 8 de l’ordre du jour)

Dr. Kono asked the delegates use Ballot number 27 to select the site of the 2007 General Assembly. The verified count of votes follows:
Perugia, Italy: 27, Melbourne, Australia: 14, 1 Abstention

16. Presentation and Adoption of the Resolutions
Présentation et adoption des résolutions

Dr. H. Gupta, Chair of the Resolutions Committee (other members were G. Balmino, R. Vincent, and K. Whaler) led the discussion of the Resolutions. He said that after the committee carefully reviewed the potential resolutions, they were discussed with the Associations at the Executive Committee meeting of 8 July. The final texts, in English and French, were projected on screens for the Council’s consideration. The adopted Resolutions will be included in the Comptes Rendus, and will be posted on the IUGG web site.

Resolution 1: Geophysical Seafloor Observations:
No questions were asked. The delegates were asked to raise their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. The resolution was accepted unanimously.

Resolution 2: Ocean Modeling:
No questions were asked. The delegates were asked to raise their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. The resolution was accepted unanimously.

Resolution 3: Integrated Global Geodetic Observing System (IGGOS):
Dr. Sava (Romania) noted a typographical error that the Secretary General agreed to correct. Dr. Stewart (Canada) asked if IGGOS could be a goal for 2007. Dr.

No questions were asked. The delegates were asked to raise their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. The resolution was accepted unanimously.

Resolution 5: The impact of biomass-burning aerosols on precipitation.

Dr. Levin (Israel) commented that this resolution had been discussed within the Commission on Clouds and Precipitation within IAMAS, but that the number of people who were there to discuss this issue was small, and several members of the Commission disagreed with this resolution. Dr. Jackson (USA) said that he was under the impression that industrial processes also produced aerosols and asked why these processes were left out. Dr. Davies (Switzerland, and President of IAMAS) said that the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) intentionally focused this issue on biomass burning only even though pollution is mentioned in this resolution. Dr. Kono said that the Executive Committee discussed this proposed resolution in length and determined that the issue of the effects of biomass burning had serious implications and that the studies recommended by this resolution should be done. The delegates were asked to raise their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. There were no votes against but 5 delegates voted to abstain. The resolution was therefore accepted.

Resolution 6: Data access under the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

No questions were asked. The delegates were asked to raise their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. The resolution was accepted unanimously.

Resolution 7: Monitoring the Earth with Synthetic Aperture Radar.

No questions were asked. The delegates raised their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. The resolution was accepted unanimously.

Resolution 8: MST/IS Radar in Antarctica.

No questions were asked. The delegates raised their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. The resolution was accepted unanimously.


Dr. Menvielle (France) commented that this resolution had been put forward by the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA). While he did not oppose the resolution, he hoped that gravity data could also be included because gravity maps are very important. Dr. Sava (Romania) pointed out that another resolution had dealt with gravity data. Dr. Kono said that the members of the Executive committee had noticed that there were a number of resolutions that asked for the release of data. He suggested that this is an item that should be taken up by the new Executive committee.

The delegates raised their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. The resolution was accepted unanimously.


Dr. Lenk (Turkey) commented that in the context of the global navigation systems, the list presented was incomplete. Dr. Beutler agreed, but said that the additional systems were a matter for the future. Dr. Kono said that he thought that it was more productive to deal with the resolution as it stood.

No further questions were asked. The delegates raised their hands to indicate acceptance or rejection. The resolution was accepted unanimously.

Resolution 11: Resolution of Thanks.

The resolution was greeted with unanimous applause. There were no questions or comments.

13. IUGG Goals and Vision (Continued)

Since each of the third day’s agenda items had been completed, Dr. Kono asked that the Council return to discussion of item 13 (Goals and Vision), which had not been finished at the second Council. He commented that efforts to make changes to IUGG should be constantly under consideration. In particular, he thanked Dr Stewart (Canada) for suggesting and leading the informal meeting of Council Delegates so that they could express ideas in an open forum, and asked him to comment on that meeting. Dr. Stewart said that the intent of the one-hour meeting was to promote a sense of community, and that he was delighted by the response. He reported that many National Delegates do not feel that they have an effective voice within IUGG, even though they are often the ones trying to defend IUGG in their home countries. Council members generally feel more closely linked to their Associations than to IUGG. Dr. Stewart agreed to summarize the sense of the meeting and to distribute them at a later time. Dr. Gregersen (Denmark) asked if this sort of meeting could occur before the Council meetings in 2007. Dr. Kono and Dr. Shamir both agreed that the meeting was beneficial and that the Union should arrange a similar meeting at the 2007 General Assembly. Dr. Menvielle (France) suggested that the Council needed a place to congregate throughout the General Assembly; this suggestion was welcomed.

Dr. Jackson (USA) then drew attention to the suggestion from the USA National Committee (included in the Council Agenda book) regarding involving the Council to generate an IUGG vision statement. He did not believe that informal discussions among the Council members adequately addressed this issue, and requested a formal response to the proposal by the USNC. Dr. Lynch (Ireland) agreed. Dr. Kono replied that at the second Council meeting the responses to the Bureau’s questionnaire had been reviewed and a number of suggestions, including a revised mission statement, resulted. He thought that it was more appropriate to hand over all of these suggestions to the new Bureau and Executive committee and to ask them to prioritize and address them. Concerning the vision statement, Dr. Shamir agreed to place this issue on the agendas for future Bureau and Executive committee meetings, but suggested that all of the components of IUGG, the Associations as well as the Adhering Bodies, should be involved in the process.
Dr. Kono asked if there was anything else that the Council wished to discuss. Dr. Stewart (Canada) brought up the issue of the length of the General Assembly because the Canadian National Committee thought that it could be shortened. Dr. Kono replied that great deal of time had been devoted to discussing this issue at Bureau and Executive Committee meetings both before the General Assembly and at this General Assembly. Some Associations felt that one week was enough, yet others insisted that the full 2 weeks were needed. Because there was no consensus, it was decided not to change the format at this time. Dr. Shamir added that this issue was explicitly included in the IU GG questionnaire, and it had been recommended to continue with the two-week format. He further asked the delegates to consider their experiences at the Sapporo General Assembly, and think about the consequences of a shortened meeting (what would be lost?). Dr. Joselyn pointed out that for this Assembly changes had successfully been made to accommodate the wishes of some Associations to concentrate their symposia within one-week intervals, and that there were only 8 days between the first Council meeting on Tuesday July 1 and the last Council meeting on Wednesday July 9. Nevertheless, Dr. Jackson (USA) proposed an informal vote of the Council on the issue of one week versus two weeks. Dr. Lynch (Ireland) supported a vote but suggested that it be for information only. Dr. Davies (Switzerland) suggested that the Delegates did not have enough information about Association requirements and the overall structure of the General Assembly to make an informed decision at this time. Dr. Vilas (Argentina) expressed his support for the two-week format because he had personally gained much more knowledge in two weeks at the Assembly, especially on interdisciplinary topics, than would have been possible in only one week. Dr. Levin (Israel) pointed out that in a short meeting, the scientists would have time only for their own disciplines and would not be able to interact with scientists in other Associations. Dr. Kono asked if there should be a vote. Dr. Gregersen (Denmark) replied that the issue had been discussed in the Questionnaire and there was no need to vote. Dr. Menvielle (France) also argued against voting because he believed that the Associations should make the determination. Dr. Kono noted the disagreement toward taking a vote and decided to pass the issue to the incoming Executive Committee for their further discussion.

Before closing the meeting, Dr. Kono addressed the impact that the health issue of Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) had had on the Sapporo Assembly. He said that he appreciated the efforts made by IUGG National Committees to overcome the difficulties caused by the sudden outbreak of SARS in regions of several countries, and expressed sincere thanks to those scientists from SARS-affected areas for their understanding and willingness to cooperate with the Sapporo Local Organizing Committee. Many persons experienced problems with finalizing travel arrangements and some had to cancel their plans to attend because of the precautionary requirements. Nevertheless, these actions also contributed to the success of this General Assembly because those who did come, could do so with confidence that their health would not be compromised by this serious global outbreak.

Finally, Dr. Kono thanked all the delegates for their time and involvement in this Council, and especially their valuable opinions and comments. He also thanked the Bureau, the Executive Committee, and the Finance Committee members for their hard work and their vision of how to make a better IUGG. He said that in spite of the short time allowed to discuss Administrative matters during this Assembly, much had been accomplished. The Council meeting was closed at 6:31 pm.

Dr. Takeuchi, President of IAHS, asked to return to the agenda item regarding IUGG visibility because he thought it was very important. While the Associations could do a better job of including the IUGG logo on their publications and conference materials, he also wondered if there was some other kind of inter-Association activity that could be planned within the Union. Dr. Barton (Australia) said that one of the highlights of this Assembly has been the Union lectures not only because of their outstanding quality, but also because they addressed important societal issues. He stressed the value of bridging the current structure of the Associations to deal with the scientific issues that the IUGG member countries were facing. Dr. Hamlin mentioned the difficulty of Association symposia that overlapped the Union lectures. Dr. Menvielle (France) hoped that for the next General Assembly, the Associations would agree to support both the Union lectures and the Union symposia as opposed to competing with them.