

**Minutes of the Council Meeting,
Vienna, 3-5 March, 2007**

Attendees

President	Ian Dowman (ID)
Secretary General	Orhan Altan (OA)
Congress Director	Chen Jun (CJ)
First Vice President	John Trinder (JT)
Treasurer	Stanley Morain (SM)

Apologies

Second Vice President	Emmanuel Baltasvias (EB)
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In attendance for item 5 Preparations for the Congress;
XXIst ISPRS Congress Scient. Committee Chair Jiang Jie (JJ)

In Attendance from 2pm – 3pm Sunday 4 March for item 18.
Chief of the UNIDO Investment promotion Unit,
in Vienna Mithat Kulur (MK)

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Review of Council Meeting in GOA
4. Review of Commission Activities
 - 4.1 Feedback on advice to TCPs
 - 4.2 Commissions ToRs
5. Preparations for the Congress
 - 5.1 Report of Congress Director
 - 5.2 Submission of papers and abstracts
 - 5.3 Communications
6. Statutes and Bylaws
 - 6.1 Council Composition
 - 6.2 Other changes
7. ISPRS Membership
 - 7.1 Report on status of Ordinary, Associate, Sustaining and Regional Members
 - 7.2 Report and actions on defaulting members
 - 7.3 Recruitment
8. ISPRS Publications
 - 8.1 Journal

- 8.2 Highlights
 - 8.3 GIM Page
 - 8.4 Book series
 - 8.5 Archives
 - 8.6 Home Page
 - 8.6 Database and Blue Book
 - 8.7 Annual reports
 - 8.8 Silver Book
 - 8.9 Orange Book
 - 8.10 Green Book
 - 8.11 ISPRS Prospectus
 - 8.12 ISPRS Brochure
9. Financial Affairs
- 9.1 Treasurers Report
 - 9.2 Revision of subscriptions
 - 9.3 Merchandising
 - 9.4 Science Initiatives and Travel Grants
10. Awards
11. Foundation
12. ISPRS Committees
- 12.1 ISAC
 - 12.2 IPAC
 - 12.3 CIPA
 - 12.4 ICORSE
 - 12.5 EARSeL
 - 12.6 Ad hoc Committee on Standards
13. Planning of the Celebration Centenary of the Foundation of ISPRS.
14. Preparation of a Strategic Plan for the Society
15. Forthcoming Meetings
- 15.1 GeoSibir 07
 - 15.2 ISRSE
 - 15.3 Africa GIS
 - 15.4 Council attendance at meetings
16. Relations with International and other Organizations
- 16.1 United Nations: COPUOS, CODI,
 - 16.2 ICSU and the GeoUnions
 - 16.3 GEO
 - 16.4 JBGIS
 - 16.5 I*Y

- 16.6 GIS Development (MWF, MME)
 - 16.7 EIS Africa; Africa GIS
 - 16.8 Others: IEEE-GRSS; AARSE;
 - 16.9 WBCSD
- 17. Review of Decisions and Actions on Council (OA)
 - 18. Reports from Council (All)
 - 19. Other Business
 - 20. Next Council Meeting

MINUTES

1. Opening

ID opened the meeting, noting that this would be one of the important meetings of the four-year period before the Congress, and expressed hope for a fruitful exchange of ideas especially on the Congress, Statutes and Bylaws, Recruitment, External Relationships. He thanked the Austrian Society for hosting the meeting. ID explained that EB was unable to participate in this Council Meeting due to his mother's health problems and expressed the common wish of the Council for a quick recovery for his mother.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was revised by adding minor items. The revised agenda is that given above.

3. Review of Previous Council Meeting in GOA September 2006

OA reviewed the minutes of the Goa meeting and they were accepted with minor changes.

OA drew the attention of Council to Action Items which were initiated at previous meetings and after reviewing all AI that had been completed and those resulting from the CM in GOA, it was agreed that all Council members should devote serious attention to the Open Actions for which they are responsible.

4. Review of Commission Activities

4.1 Feedback on advice to TCPs

Council noted the good work and achievements in most of the Technical Commissions WGs. Council also observed that there are still several WGs which have made an insufficient contribution or simply sleeping. After reviewing all Technical Commissions activities Council decided on following actions;

- to consider in the next term combined Symposia, one in the beginning and the other at the end of the Symposium year in each country, especially TCs VII and VIII
- to add to the Guidelines for Technical Commissions that a maximum of 6-8 WGs is recommended for each Technical Commission.

4.2 Commissions ToRs

Council reviewed responses from Technical Commission Presidents on possible changes to the ToRs of their Commissions and noting that only TC V proposed a change, Council reviewed possible bids for Commissions for 2008-2012 period;

5. Preparations for the Congress

5.1 Report of Congress Director

CJ and JJ explained the general technical session plan for the Congress; After discussions and taking comments/suggestions from the past Congresses and earlier Joint and Council Meetings into account, it was decided that;

- There will be no workshops before the Congress
- Normally there will be 5 speakers per session or one Invited paper + 3 papers; Comm. III wants only 4 papers per session,
- There will be no oral presentations for posters,
- The number of parallel sessions in the first week will be 6 and in the second week 5,

5.2 Submission of papers and abstracts

Council noted that only TCs I and IV had submitted nominations for Resolutions Committees; it was decided;

- to change the topic in the user forum plan to “ *production chain for aerial sensing*”,
- to delete the amount of the CATCON prizes as they must be approved by the Foundation Board of Trustees,
- to place a Youth Forum on the afternoon at Saturday the 5th of July 07,
- as Council attendance is requested to this open discussion at the Youth Forum on the afternoon of Saturday 5th July – a possible clash with GA should be avoided by placing the GA in the morning,
- to remove the paragraphs regarding Congress Book from the 2nd Announcement,
- to decide about the contributing authors of the Congress Book immediately and invite authors by end of March 07,
- to add contact information for the Special Sessions,
- to not include registration form into the 2nd Announcement, but place it on web with all information by August 07 at the latest,
- to revise the Front Cover of the 2nd Announcement,
- to include ISPRS Foundation grant application and information and to make room for these additions by reducing the size of map,
- to take special care in order to protect the Congress Website and stored data from hostile attacks,
- to place the downloadable registration form on the Congress Website by Aug 07 at the latest with a map of Beijing showing the location of accommodation possibilities,
- to make necessary arrangements for the International Advisory Board (IAB) Meetings in August 07 in Beijing and the following Workshop in Urumchi according to the following timetable:

6. Statutes and Bylaws

6.1 Council Composition

ID tabled a proposal to change the structure of Council to include regional members and to integrate TCPs, IPAC and ISAC more into the governance of ISPRS.

Council discussed the matter and agreed that there is no need to change the restrictions regarding the re-election of Council members and confirmed that the 1st VP replaces the President in case of his absence.

OA informed the meeting that the Ballot to revise the Bylaw relating to the number of Honorary Members has been completed with the vote in favor of the increasing the number from 7 to 10.

6.2 Other Changes

Council discussed the suggestion to introduce a “fellowship” status into the ISPRS. It was agreed to discuss this issue in Beijing CM.

In order to clarify the number and function of the TC officers, the related guidelines should be revised

7. ISPRS Membership

7.1 Report on status of Ordinary, Associate, Sustaining and Regional Members

Type / Cat.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	A	B	C	D	E	Total
AsM	7	1	1											9
OdM	32	22	12	8	5	5	2	4						90
RgM	12													12
StM									8	7	14	27	14	70
Total														181

- The new Sustaining Member admitted since the GOA CM is Space Technologies Research Institute (TUBITAK-UZAY) (40093) Turkey

7.2 Report and actions on defaulting members

Council discussed at length the status of defaulting members and the decision at the GA in Istanbul to expel Members on ‘the warning list’ if they did not reduce their indebtedness. These Members were again warned by ID prior to this Council meeting that they could be expelled.

The following decisions were taken;

- to wait for the expulsion of the Ukrainian Ordinary Member as they expressed interest in further cooperation
- to expel the Ordinary Members Azerbaijan, Benin, Cote D’Ivoire and Suriname

7.3 Recruitment

Council had a long discussion about approaches and procedures for a new campaign of recruitment, by choosing the most appropriate and reasonable mechanism(s) that are cost effective. OA stated that the most effective way is face-to-face conversation with potential candidates.

Council decided on the following actions;

- to prepare 50 thin files (boxes) containing one CD with the compressed mpg file of the ISPRS Video, one ISPRS Prospectus, two ISPRS brochures and an “Invitation letter from the President to become a Member of ISPRS”. This will be used by all Council members at appropriate occasions.
- to prepare 50 thicker files (boxes) containing one ISPRS DVD with the ISPRS Video, one ISPRS Prospectus, two ISPRS brochures and an “Invitation letter from the President to become a Member of ISPRS” This will be used by ID to send to Embassies in UK, of Countries which are not Members of ISPRS .

8. ISPRS Publications

8.1 Journal

Council reviewed the annual report by GV on the status of the Journal. More than 100 papers are in the pipeline. He will manage to produce 9 issues in 2007, reducing the backlog from 5 to 2 issues by the end of 2007. Council noted the good work done by the Editor-in- Chief and Associate Editors.

8.2 Highlights

As the option for 4 issues per year would create more work. OA prefers to produce issues every 4 months. Council decided to collect feedback and review the matter before the Congress.

8.3 GIM Page

The responsibility table for the ISPRS Page in GIM International was discussed and the table for the contributions for 2007 was decided.

8.4 Book series

In an email message received during the meeting from Paul Aplin which included the Book Series report, Council were informed that the fourth book was published in 2006 and book number 5 is on the waiting and evaluation list.

Council noted the good work done by the Book Series Editor and the good collaboration with the publisher Taylor and Francis.

8.5 Archives

OA reported on the status of publication of the Archives and also collaboration of ISPRS event organizers with the Headquarters (HQ), the Webmaster, GITC and ITC. It was noted that this situation is now improving.

8.6 Home Page

Discussion is required with Fabio to resolve the future of the Webpage. Council may need to search for possible alternative locations for the webpage (ITC, TU Vienna Austria are possibilities), but Council prefers keeping at ETH, with a replacement for Fabio.

SM said that the web page is poor and Council should take the opportunity to revise it. LF and SM report updates are not made.

8.6 Database and Blue Book

OA explained that the last printing of the Blue Book was distributed in September 2005 and that it will not be published again in hardcopy. SM stated that the updates in the database take considerable time to be done and the program crashes often.

8.7 Annual Reports

The Annual Reports were published in February 07 E-Highlights.

8.8 Silver Book

The updated version of the Silver Book with new entries was distributed at the CM but the Web needs to be updated to contain the same information.

8.9 Orange Book

OA explained that the latest version of the Orange Book is on the Website and he will not produce a printed version in the near future.

8.10 Green Book

Council was reminded of their requirement to revise and extend the version of the Green Book given as a digital file with the CM files.

8.11 ISPRS Prospectus

OA explained the outcome of the questionnaire and it was decided OA and Gerhardt will revise the prospectus and show it to Cnl allowing adequate time to add changes before printing the next 3000 copies

8.12 ISPRS Brochure

OA noted that he will not produce a new version of the brochure.

9. Financial Affairs

9.1 Treasurers Report

SM presented his report, a one page summary. Council noted the positive balance in the years of 06-08.

9.2 Revision of Subscriptions

Council discussed proposals prepared by the Financial Committee Chair and Treasurer and agreed that an across the board increase of 12% at the GA in 2008 together with an annual increase within certain limits for each subsequent year.

9.3 Merchandising

Council discussed all details of the action and benefits for the Society and agreed to discuss further developments in Beijing 07.

9.4 Science Initiatives and Travel Grants

Council noted that CHF20000 have been allocated for science initiatives which has not yet been used and decided to support;

- Slovenia Summer School (CHF 8000, from ISPRS)
- students to attend a summer school to precede the ISRSE meeting in Costa Rica (\$5-7000 from Amsterdam funds)
- travel for eligible persons to attend GIS Africa in Bukina Fasso in September 2007 (\$5000 from Foundation)
- not to make a call for science initiatives

10. Awards

OA has sent an Awards document to all members by mail and email. He has also reminded Members of the need to submit nominations for the Brock award by the end of September 2007;

11. Foundation

JT reported on the activities of The ISPRS Foundation, including the 2006 Annual Report, a draft budget for 2007, the Annual Amount for 2007, grants for 2007 and the need for fund raising for 2007. A draft Marketing and Promotion Plan has been prepared by the Chair of the Marketing and Promotions Committee, Terry Keating. Contributions are required by 15 March, after which an updated version will be prepared.

Following discussions of this item together with item 9.4, the above actions were determined.

12. ISPRS Committees

12.1 ISAC

Council noted once again that the composition and ToRs of this committee should be renewed.

12.2 IPAC

No action was required for IPAC.

12.3 CIPA

OA gave an explanation about the election of new members of the Committee.

12.4 ICORSE

ID outlined the current position on ISPRS participation in ISRSE events.

12.5 EARSeL

Noting that a strong relation with EARSeL committee members will benefit both sides it was decided;

12.6 Ad hoc Committee on Standards

No action was required for the Committee.

13. Planning of the Celebration Centenary of the Foundation of ISPRS

OA explained the plans for the celebration of the Centenary of the Foundation of ISPRS and a new strategic plan which can be announced at the celebration.

Council welcomed this initiative and suggested having more Members and/orTCPs in the Preparatory Committee and to have a separate committee for the preparation of the strategic plan, which should be an initiative of the Council.

14. Preparation of a Strategic Plan for the Society

ID tabled a proposed schedule for preparing a strategic review for ISPRS which would involve Council in the initial preparations and then the setting up of a review Committee to prepare the plan. Council agreed to this and will review the 2000 Plan and send comments to ID for discussion at the next CM in August.

15. Forthcoming Meetings

15.1 GeoSibir 07

JT gave a synopsis of ISPRS program and Council noted that two ISPRS sessions will be held in Novosibirsk

15.2 ISRSE

Council noted a stronger ISPRS presence in the forthcoming meeting of the ISRSE in Costa Rica and decided;

15.3 Africa GIS

ID has agreed that ISPRS will be a sponsor; Council will support travel to that meeting out of Scientific Initiatives as stated in item 9.4.

15.4 Council attendance at meetings

A list of these meetings has been discussed and attached as **ANNEX 7** of these Minutes

16. Relations with International and other Organizations (ID)

ID spoke to a paper which reviewed current activities with other organisation. The main points discussed are given below.

16.1 United Nations: COPUOS, CODI, UNIDO, UNDP

It was confirmed that ISPRS should exhibit that the COPUOS Exhibition celebrating 50 years in Space. ID would request material for posters from TCPs and other and OA would discuss with Gerhard Kemper the preparation of posters with a uniform format. OA and ID would discuss the arrangements for setting up and taking down the exhibit with the Austrian Society.

16.2 ICSU and the GeoUnions

ID noted that there would be a Unions meeting and a GeoUnions meeting in Rome in May and asked if Council had any topics to rise. SM requested any information on the dues structure. ID would circulate any relevant papers.

16.3 I*Y

It was decided that ISPRS current involvement in the international science years was appropriate.

16.4 GIS Development (MWF, MME)

It was considered that ISPRS involvement with GID development, especially Map Middle east was appropriate but we should not seek closer links.

17. Review of Decisions and Actions on Council

A list of Actions from the previous period was discussed and reviewed. The action items of this meeting have been added to this list and attached as **ANNEX 8** of these Minutes.

17. Reports from Council (All)

Reports of the Council Members on their activities since the previous CM were presented.

18. Other Business

- Council met with MK, Chief of the UNIDO Investment promotion Unit, in Vienna. UNIDO is interested in using GeoInformation to help promote investment opportunities for commercial companies in Africa, and asked for ISPRS help. Council noted it could be a good opportunity to promote the ISPRS activities in Africa and decided to collaborate with this unit. MK will report to ISPRS in August 07 about the future of the network project in Africa and the funding.

Council discussed the option and possibility of a joint action and cooperation with World Business Council of Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and decided to follow this action; ID reported that he had received an enquiry on whether ISPRS would undertake accreditation. Council responded that ISPRS is not organized to do accreditation and that we should continue with this policy. ISPRS could however advise on people to serve on accreditation panels.

19. Next Council Meeting

Next Council meeting is scheduled for Beijing together with the Joint Meeting of the Technical Commission Presidents. The timetable is as follows;

- August 19th; arrival of the Council Members
- August 20th; Council Meeting
- August 21st; Joint Meeting (and IAB meet by themselves)
- August 22nd; Visit of the Conference Center (8.30-10.00), meeting of Council, TCPs and IAB (10.30 – 12.30), Technical Tour (afternoon)
- August 23st; Joint Meeting
- August 24th; Council Meeting
- August 25th; departure to Urumchi Workshop and possible half day Council Meeting there

It was decided that an interim meeting of Council might be required in December, and a provisional arrangements was made hold this in Istanbul

The venue for the spring 08 meeting was still undecided. ID was looking into UK hosting the meeting. Australia or India, as potential bidders for the Congress, were also possibilities.

20. Close

There were no other items to be discussed and ID thanked the participants for their contributions and reminded them of very urgent business matters arising from this meeting. ID closed the meeting and once again thanked Wolfgang Kainz and Austrian Society for hosting this meeting.