

**Minutes of ISPRS Council Meeting  
(11 – 15 October, 2008)**

**Attendees**

President	Orhan Altan (OA)
Secretary General	Chen Jun (CJ)
First Vice President	Ian Dowman (ID)
Second Vice President	Ammatzia Peled (AP)
Congress director	Cliff Ogleby (CO)
Treasurer	Mike Renslow (MR)
ISAC Chairs	Armin Gruen (AG)
IPAC Chairs	Rainer Sandau (RS)
Webmaster	Markus English (ME)

In attendance for item 6.2 Africa Initiatives: Emmanuel Baltasvias (EB)

**AGENDA**

1. Opening (CJ)
2. Approval of Agenda (OA)
3. Review of previous Council Meeting in Beijing (CJ)
  - 3.1 Approval of minutes
  - 3.2 Matters arising from the minutes not covered in the agenda,
4. Policy Matters (OA)
  - 4.1 Council Responsibilities, Communication
  - 4.2 Actions from the Last Changes in Statutes and Bylaws
5. Review of Technical Commissions proposals (OA)
  - 5.1 Formation of Working Groups
  - 5.2 Symposia Preparations, Contracts
  - 5.3 Working Group Meetings
6. Review of Council Strategy (OA)
  - 6.1 Review of discussions in Beijing Pre-Council meeting
  - 6.2 Regional Initiatives
7. Congress
  - 7.1 Congress Plans (CO)
  - 7.2 Congress Contract
  - 7.3 Lessons learned from Beijing Congress
8. ISPRS Membership (CJ)
  - 8.1 Report on status of Ordinary, Associate, Sustaining and Regional Members
  - 8.2 Status of defaulting Members (CJ, MR)
  - 8.3 Recruitment
9. ISPRS Publications (CJ)
  - 9.1 Journal
  - 9.2 ISPRS Bulletin, Highlights
  - 9.3 Archives
  - 9.4 Book Series
  - 9.5 Home Page

- 9.6 Orange Book
- 9.7 Silver Book
- 9.8 Blue Book, database
- 9.9 Brochure, Poster and Banner
- 9.10 Prospectus and Video
- 9.11 GIM page responsibilities
- 10. Financial Affairs (MR)
  - 10.1 Report from treasurer
  - 10.2 Guidelines for Council expenses
- 11. Foundation (ID)
- 12. ISPRS Committees (OA, ID)
  - 12.1 ISAC
  - 12.2 IPAC
  - 12.3 CIPA
  - 12.4 ICORSE
  - 12.5 Standards
  - 12.6 Knowledge transfer
  - 12.7 Student Consortium
- 13. Forthcoming Meetings (OA)
- 14. Relations with International and other Organizations (OA, ID)
  - 14.1 CEOS
  - 14.2 United Nations
  - 14.3 ICSU
  - 14.4 IEEE
  - 14.5 GEO
  - 14.6 IUGG
  - 14.7 IAG, ION
  - 14.8 JBGIS
  - 14.9 GeoUnions, AdHoc Group on Disaster and Risk Management
  - 14.10 IPY
  - 14.11 eGY
  - 14.12 EuroSDR
- 15. Centenary Preparations
- 16. Strategy Review
  - 16.1 ISPRS Strategic Plan 2010-Meeting of Drafting Committee, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2008
  - 16.2 Beijing declaration
- 17. Review of Decisions and Actions on Council (CJ)
  - 17.1 Action Items of Council after CM in Beijing
  - 17.2 Beijing Congress resolution
- 18. Reports from Council (All)
- 19. Other Business
  - 19.1 Educational Institutions, Remote Sensing Associations
  - 19.2 Out research (Forums and seminars on the new topics )
- 20. Next Council Meeting
- 21. Close

## **1. Opening**

OA opened the meeting and noted that this would be first of this four year period and expressed hope for a fruitful cooperation. He thanked Armin Gruen for hosting the meeting.

## **2. Approval of Agenda**

The draft agenda was approved

## **3. Review of previous Council Meeting in Beijing**

### 3.1 Approval of minutes

- CJ reviewed the minutes of post Congress Council Meeting in Beijing and these were accepted.

### 3.2 Matters arising from the minutes not covered in the agenda

- The Skype information of Council members was updated. OA encourages Council members to use Skype for discussion when needed.

## **4. Policy Matters**

### 4.1 Council Responsibilities, Communication

- The responsibilities of Council members were discussed. It was agreed that AP is responsible person from ISPRS Council for book series and Journals, Chair of IPAC as the representative of ISPRS to the UN COPUOS S&T Committee meetings. The main administration responsibilities of Council responsibilities and their liaison with others organisations are given.

#### 1. Main administrative responsibilities

According to the ISPRS Bylaws, the main responsibilities of ISPRS society administration are allocated to Council members.

#### 2. Liaisons with other organisations

One table lists the liaison person(s) representing ISPRS Council to these organisations.

For some organisations, the president of an ISPRS technical commission or committee is nominated as the liaison person.

- Policy issues on relations with other organizations were discussed. OA outlined that promoting ISPRS, gaining (or regaining) members and presenting more voices of photogrammetry and remote sensing communities are the three major motivations to develop relations with intergovernmental organizations (UN ...) and other international societies (ICSU...). It was agreed that a policy needs to be developed to assure the sustainable development of the collaboration with other organizations.
- It was agreed to set up an Award committee with Ian as Chair, JT and EB as members to review all ISPRS rewards.
- The file numbers were updated and a new version of communication codes is given.

- The attendance of ISPRS Council at conferences was briefly discussed. As there were so many related conferences, a policy should be developed for making a right decision. There are several critical influencing factors. OA mentioned that regaining our members, representing photogrammetry and remote sensing communities, and being the voices of our society are among the major factors or criteria. The balance of budget is another factor to be taken into account. Secondly, the benefits of ISPRS would be maximized if Council members are invited to give a keynote presentation, co-organizing the conference, meeting members or potential member, distributing brochures etc. Finally, such attendance should be revalued by Council itself and ISAC, IPAC every two years.
- It was agreed that all contact with Members should be through the President or SG.
- Martien Molenaar should be the ISPRS representative to GEO Capacity Building Committee and Stan Morain would continue his support for GEO.

#### 4.2 Actions from the Last Changes in Statutes and Bylaws

- The changes in Statutes and Bylaws approved in Beijing Congress were reviewed and some relevant actions were proposed.
- The Beijing Declaration has been put on ICSU website, and should be put in a better place of the front page in the ISPRS website. More effort should also be taken to the implementation of Beijing Declaration, and ask other sister societies to endorse it.

### 5. Review of Technical Commissions proposals

#### 5.1 Formation of Working Groups

- The proposals on the formation of Working Groups of Technical Commissions (TC) were discussed and concrete suggestions (and comments) were brought. It was agreed that the TORs give a clear definition of the tasks to be done by the WG, the collaboration to be conducted with other ISPRS WGs or international/regional organizations. The text should be neither too long nor too short. The appointed WG officers should be active and responsive. A good geographical distribution of WG officers is also required. TCPs were asked to revise the proposals and send them to CJ within 2 or 3 weeks.

#### 5.2 Symposia Preparations, Contracts

- The dates and venues of the eight technical commission symposia were discussed. TC II was asked to check the possibility to run its symposium in the end of May, 2010 or after TC VIII symposium
- TCPs were encouraged to introduce a peer review of papers at the mid-term symposium in order to improve the academic level. Traditional abstract based review could be combined with such a peer review process.
- The joint symposium with SDH in 2006 was considered not very successful in

terms of the number of papers submitted to Com.II. compared to those submitted to SDH. This may have been due to the fact that SDH had peer review.

### 5.3 Working Group Meetings

There was nothing to report on this item.

## 6. Review of Council Strategy

### 6.1 Review of discussions in Beijing Pre-Council meeting

- The loss of some members since the Istanbul congress was analyzed. It was agreed that one of the key factors for regaining members is to find the right organization and the right person. The benefits of becoming a member could be another key factor. Regional representatives, sustaining members and white elephants could help to regain the members...

### 6.2 Regional Initiatives

ID reported ISPRS Initiatives in Africa. A number of initiatives had been successfully conducted or launched by ISPRS in Africa, such as

- Liaison with organizations in Africa:
  - ◆ joined UN ECA CODI Geoinformation Sub Committee and attended CODI meetings, presented ISPRS activities. Excellent opportunity for liaising with UN in Africa, NMAs and other organisations;
  - ◆ attended AARSE Conferences in 2006 (and will attend in 2008), presented ISPRS and organised sessions; attended Africa GIS in 2005 and 2007, presented ISPRS activities, spoke at opening and organised tutorial (Manos Baltsavias);
  - ◆ attended FIG Regional Conference in Ghana, presented ISPRS activities, co-organised session and gave plenary address;
  - ◆ co-organised IEEE-GRS GEOSS workshops in South Africa and Burkina Faso, and next one in Ghana (Oct 2008).
- Geospatial Knowledge Portal: a knowledge portal has been set up in collaboration with EIS Africa, South African Human Science Research Council, JBGIS and Ordnance Survey. This is attached to the African Geospatial Information Regional Network (AGIRN) site at EIS Africa and provides information for African NMAs. A presentation was made at the GDEST Conference organised by US State Department in South Africa.

Council appreciated these efforts and agreed to continue the activities in the future, including:

- collaboration with other JBGIS initiatives in Africa
- encouraging the ad-hoc committee on Technology transfer to conduct some activities and look after active members in Africa
- Using Nicolas Pappadimitis to contact French speaking people
- Connecting the ISPRS 'disaster' activities with University Network for Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa (UNEDRA) which is an active network run from ITC

EB gave a brief report about the recent ISPRS activities in Cuba, including the Lidar Workshop and SELPER Symposium held during 19-26/9/2008 in Habana. Council

appreciated the efforts of EB and reiterated the continual support of such activities.

## **7. Congress**

### 7.1 Congress Plans

CO gave a brief introduction about the preparation of the Melbourne congress, including domain name registration, appointment of PCO, minister's media release, Congress dates, venue progress.

- The dates Saturday 15th – Monday 24th September, 2012 was considered not very suitable for many universities. CO collected the favorable dates from TCPs and Council members, and will discuss it the Melbourne conventional center.
- CO explained that a few hard copy of congress proceedings will printed in advance and an on demand printing service at the congress site will be provided.

### 7.2 Congress Contract

CO informed Council that the congress contract will be co-signed by PCO.

### 7.3 Lessons learned from Beijing Congress

The Beijing congress was evaluated and considered as very successful. The no-shown up at the Congress was raised. CJ was asked to provide a statistics and analysis about the non-show up and to report to the next Baltimore CM.

## **8. ISPRS Membership**

### 8.1 Report on status of Ordinary, Associate, Sustaining and Regional Members

CJ gave a report about the status of Ordinary, Associate, Sustaining and Regional Members.

### 8.2 Status of defaulting Members

The status of the unpaid members was discussed. It seems that some members might not exist. A careful check should be conducted to make sure their information correct.

### 8.3 Recruitment

CJ reported that one ordinary member and two sustaining members were recruited since the end of Beijing congress.

The recruitment of members needs a strategy which defines the objectives and actions for getting new members. It was suggested to take nations on the list of UN, and check what should be done for locating the right institution and right person. An early plan should be prepared before a Council member or other ISPRS representative goes to that region. A folder with brochures needs to be prepared for such recruitment purpose.

## **9. ISPRS Publications**

### 9.1 Journal

- It was agreed to continue the contract with Elsevier for the publication of ISPRS Journal. AP was asked to deal the contract issue with the help of EB and GV. EB and GV were appointed as the ISPRS representatives to negotiate with Elsevier.

Eight theme issues of the ISPRS Journal will be planned and published at the years 2010-2013. Council invited TCPs to submit suggestions for future theme issues to GV no later

than November 15. Only require a topic, names of guest editors as well as the suggested year for publication.

It was suggested by GV that two new associate editors be appointed to deal with papers on optical remote sensing applications... Three candidates were also proposed by GV on the basis of the recommendation from others. It was agreed to establish a new editorial board and appoint associate editors at the same time.

### 9.2 ISPRS Bulletin, Highlights

The contents of the forthcoming ISPRS highlights issue (Oct. 2008) were tabled. The next issue (1<sup>st</sup> Issue 2009) will be focused on the annual reports of Technical Commissions and the formation of WGs. TCPs were asked to submit their report by 15th, Dec., 2008 and were invited to put the advertisement of their symposium on this issue.

### 9.3 Archives

It was agreed that the same color ( light yellow (Pantone 1205 U) ) is continued to be used for the Archives in the coming four years, and the white color be used for the next Congress proceedings.

### 9.4 Book Series

- It was agreed to appoint Dr. Mir Abolfazl (an assistant professor at the Geomatics Department of Laval University, Canada) as the new book review editor.
- Some new proposals for the ISPRS book series were briefly discussed. It was decided that AP nominated as the Council member responsible for the ISPRS book series affairs and liaison person with Paul Alpin, Book Series Editor.

### 9.5 Home Page

- ME gave a report on the preparation and implementation of the new homepage of ISPRS. The new layout and templates were explained. The attendees of the meeting thanked Markus for his wonderful job as ISPRS webmaster. TCPs were asked to use the same templates for their website as well as the WG's website. They were also asked to contribute to the ISPRS website by provide news and reports as well as review papers.

### 9.6 Orange Book

### 9.7 Silver Book

- The ISPRS Silver Book (the ISPRS Organization and Programs) is published every four years. The new silver book will be updated by CJ compiling all the relevant information, such as a brief summary of the Society history, objectives, members, awards, finances and structure; new Officers, activities, Commissions and Working Groups, Terms of Reference and planned events; Society Statutes, Bylaws, Guidelines and Awards.

### 9.8 Blue Book, database

- The Blue Book (ISPRS Member List) contains complete up-to-date addresses and communication numbers of each Ordinary Member and Associate Member, its officers and Commission Correspondents, and the officers of Regional Members, Sustaining Members, and Honorary Members of the Society. It has been kept updated since the closing of Beijing Congress. The ISPRS database has also been kept updated since then.

#### 9.9 Brochure, Poster and Banner

- New ISPRS brochures were produced by Secretariat. 100 and 50 copies were brought to each Council member and each TCP respectively. Some Council members need more copies of brochures (ID-500 copies more, AP-1000 copies more, and OA-300 copies more).
- A new ISPRS Banner was brought to the meeting and will be used for the coming ICSU meeting in Maputo. It was suggested that the information about Council members should be deleted and the information (including pictures) of the Melbourne congress be added to the next version.

#### 9.10 Prospectus and Video

- The renewal of the Prospectus was discussed. It was agreed that OA send the former Prospectus to the new Council members. Council members were asked to give answers with 15 days.
- OA explained the value of the Video and suggested to renew it. It will cost 5000 EUR for three languages. There was a brief discussion by Council members about the necessity and the way of renewal. As time was limited, it was agreed that the decision be postponed and the final decision will be made at the next Council meeting.

#### 9.11 GIM Page Responsibilities

The responsibility of GIM page from Aug. 2008 to Jan. 2009 was decided in last Council meeting.

The responsibility of GIM page for the March and April were decided. The responsibility for the following issues will be discussed in the next Council meeting...

## **10. Financial Affairs**

### 10.1 Report from Treasurer

- MR gave a report about the draft ISPRS budget in 2009. Council members were asked to send him the projected expenses for 2009. It was suggested that not only the 2009 budget be prepared, but also the next four year's budget would be proposed.

### 10.2 Guidelines for Council expenses

- The financial policies and guideline for travel expenses was discussed and was agreed by Council in principle. The travel needs to be approved during Council meeting or by communication through the internet. The same guidelines for



travel expenses will also applied to the non-Council persons whose travel was approved the Council. Council should decide on this on a case by case basis. It was suggested not to use the word 'Auditing Procedure' and to find an appropriate term.

- The support from ESF to young European scientists travelling to Beijing congress was considered successful. ESF expressed its willing o continue such support. CJ was asked to contact ESF with the help of JPM for seeking a long term support according to guideline for travel expenses.

## 11. **Foundation**

- It was decided that priorities for funding should be unchanged, but this will be discussed further in Baltimore. No requests for Foundation funding at present. TCPs/WGs to be asked for suggestions before Council Meeting in Baltimore

## 12. **ISPRS Committees**

### 12.1 ISAC

- The TORs of ISAC was reviewed with AG (Armin Gruen). It was agreed that ISAC should provide more advice and aids to Council, such as prepare vision papers (could be publish on the highlights), examine the TORs of WGs., and suggest collaborative S&T activities with other international societies and intergovernmental bodies.
- The new members of the term 2008-2012 were proposed and decided. They are from the academic community, practitioners and industry. OA was asked to invite them officially. The members of ISAC is the listed below:

**Chairman:** Armin Gruen

**Members**

Jürgen Dold  
Clive Fraser  
Dieter Fritsch  
Kass Green  
David Holland  
Jiang Jie  
Wolfgang Kainz  
Zhilin Li  
Mostafa Madani  
Bryan Mercer  
Michael Schaepman  
Monika Sester  
Andrew Skidmore  
George Southard

### 12.2 IPAC

- The TORs of IPAC was reviewed. Council hoped that IPAC would provide more advice on issues relevant to Society interaction with intergovernmental organizations (such as how to attract more RS people to ISPRS), and actions to

be taken for implementing ISPRS long term strategy (such as Beijing Declaration).

- The new members of IPAC of the term 2008-2012 was proposed and decided. It was agreed that the WG for RS's policy will not be kept and Irmgard Niemeyer be invited as a member of IPAC. CJ was asked to recommend a candidate from China who has GIS or photogrammetry background. The names are listed below:

**Chair:** Rainer Sandau

**Members:**

Begni, Gerard: begni@medias.cnes.fr

Chern, Rock Jeng-Shing: jschern@cc.hc.chit.edu.tw

Ginati, Amnon: amnon.ginati@esa.int

Mostert, Sias: sias.mostert@spacecommercialservices.com

Navalgund, Ranganath:

Nayak, Shailesh:

Neeck, Steven: steven.neeck@nasa.gov

Niemeyer, Irmgard:

Sandau, Rainer: rainer.sandau@dlr.de

Schreier, Gunter: gunter.schreier@dlr.de

Schrogl, Kai-Uwe: kai-uwe.schrogl@espi.or.at

Von der Dunk, Frans: f.g.vonderDunk@law.LeidenUniv.nl

#### 12.3 CIPA

- CO gave a brief introduction of 22nd CIPA Symposium to be held October 11-15, 2009 Kyoto, Japan.

#### 12.4 ICORSE

#### 12.5 Standards

- Agreed Wolfgang Kresse to continue to chair the ISPRS ad hoc committee on standards.

#### 12.6 Knowledge transfer

#### 12.7 Student Consortium

### 13. Forthcoming Meetings

- The forthcoming meetings and the attendance of ISPRS Council members were discussed.

The proposal to hold a Latin American Remote Sensing (LARS) conference was discussed and it was agreed to go ahead with this in collaboration with SELPER.ID to follow up.

### 14. Relations with International and other Organizations

#### 14.1 CEOS

#### 14.2 United Nations

- RS was appointed as the representative of ISPRS to the UN- COPOUS which will meet every year in Vienna. OA will go and introduce him for the first time. It was agreed to participate and support the UN Regional Cartographic Conferences and UNECA CODIST.

#### 14.3 ICSU

OA and ID will attend the coming ICSU meeting.

#### 14.4 IEEE

- It was reported that at least 3 workshops would be co-organized by ISPRS and IEEE.

#### 14.5 GEO

- It was agreed not to go to the GEO assembly, ID and SM continue to serve the user committee of GEO, MMD to capacity building committee of GEO.

#### 14.6 IUGG

#### 14.7 IAG, ION

- Agreed to appoint MR and Charles Toth to organize ISPRS session at the ION "International Technical Meeting".

#### 14.8 JBGIS

- The document 'Ad hoc Committee on Risk and Disaster Management' was tabled which was prepared by ISPRS Council as an action of the JBGIS. It was agreed to continue to promote and support such activity.

#### 14.9 GeoUnions

- ID and OA will attend the GeoUnion meeting to be held during the coming ICSU meeting at MAPUTO. The issues to be discussed include the GeoUnions involvement in the meetings on 'Mapping GeoUnions to the ICSU Framework for Sustainable Health and Wellbeing' and the International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment to be held at Stresa, Italy in May 2009.

#### 14.10 IPY

- The next International Year of Planet Earth will be held in London. Ian will attend it on behalf of ISPRS.

#### 14.11 eGY

#### 14.12 EuroSDR

- The Minutes of Meeting between EuroSDR and ISPRS during Beijing congress was tabled and reviewed. ISPRS Council encourages its TCs and WGs to collaborate with SDRs and some concrete actions has been proposed at the ISPRS WGs level (reflected by the WGs TORs)
- The Ordnance Survey will organize a CC: The Exchange meeting in July, 2009. ID will attend the meeting on behalf of ISPRS.

## **15. Centenary Preparations**

## **16. Strategy Review**

16.1 ISPRS Strategic Plan 2010-Meeting of Drafting Committee, 8th July 2008

- A Briefing paper on ISPRS Strategic Plan 2010(for meeting in Baltimore, 13-14th March 2009) was tabled. It will be discussed in the next meeting.

16.2 Beijing declaration

- The Beijing Declaration is a landmark in the IPSRS history and is getting more and more support from other organizations, including ICSU. Concrete implementation actions needs to be envisaged by Council.

## **17. Review of Decisions and Actions on Council**

17.1 Action Items of Council after CM in Beijing

- The action items of Council after CM in Beijing were evaluated and most of them have been completed.

17.2 Beijing Congress resolution

- The overall distribution of Beijing Congress resolution to the newly formed WGs was analyzed. All the resolutions were covered by at least one WG(s).

## **18. Reports from Council**

## **19. Other Business**

19.1 Educational Institutions, Remote Sensing Associations

- The two proposals from Gottfried Konecny for enhancing mutual informal exchanges among educational Institutions, and Remote Sensing Associations were tabled. Due to time constrains, this item will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

19.2 Outreach (Forums and seminars on the new topics)

- A meet with UBS was arranged. MR signed the contract with the representatives of UBS
- Council met Leica representatives and discussed the possible support from Leica to ISPRS. Leica wished to define a package support and Council was happy to accept.

## **20. Next Council Meeting**

- The next Council meeting will be held in Baltimore, USA, March 07-12, 2009. The tentative plan of the meeting has been given.

## **21. Close**

OA closed the meeting and thanked Council members for contribution. He suggested continuing to exchange ideas and opinions through internet.