

**Minutes of the Council Meeting,  
20 and 24 August 2007, Beijing**

**Attendees**

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

In attendance for item 5 Preparations for the Congress;  
XXI<sup>st</sup> ISPRS Congress Scient. Committee Chair     Jiang Jie (JJ)

In Attendance for Part of the Meeting  
ISAC Chair     Armin Grün (AG)

**AGENDA**

- 1. Opening**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Review of Council Meeting in Vienna and all outstanding Actions**
- 4. Review of Commission Activities**
  - 4.1 Feedback on advice to TCPs
  - 4.2 Commissions ToRs
  - 4.3 Bids for Commissions for 2008-12
- 5. Preparations for the Congress**
  - 5.1 Report of Congress Director
  - 5.2 Submission of papers and abstracts, panel session speakers
  - 5.3 Preparations of the general program of the congress including accommodation and social program
  - 5.4 Communications
- 6. Statutes and Bylaws**
  - 6.1 Council Composition and Fellowships
  - 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
- 7.4 Honorary Membership

**8. ISPRS Publications**

- 8.1 Journal
- 8.2 Highlights
- 8.3 GIM Page
- 8.4 Book series
- 8.5 Archives
- 8.6 Home Page; Webmaster
- 8.7 Database and Blue Book
- 8.8 Annual reports
- 8.9 Silver Book
- 8.10 Orange Book
- 8.11 Green Book
- 8.12 ISPRS Prospectus
- 8.13 ISPRS Brochure

**9. Financial Affairs**

- 9.1 Treasurers Report including report of the Visit to UBS, Credit Card Payments
- 9.2 Revision of Subscriptions
- 9.3 Merchandising
- 9.4 Science Initiatives and Travel Grants

**10. Awards**

- 10.1 Membership Awards

**11. Foundation**

**12. ISPRS Committees**

- 12.1 ISAC
- 12.2 IPAC
- 12.3 CIPA
- 12.4 ICORSE
- 12.5 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. Report of different Meetings**

- 15.1 GeoSibir 07
- 15.2 ISRSE
- 15.3 MME07

- 15.4 Council attendance at Meetings
  - 15.5 GEOSS Workshops
  - 15.6 EuroSDR
  - 15.7 Cape Town Summit
- 16. Relations with International and other Organizations**
- 16.1 United Nations: COPUOS, CODI,
  - 16.2 ICSU and the GeoUnions; IYPE
  - 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. Reports from Council (All)**
- 18. Other Business**
- 19. 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 Chinese Society for hosting the meeting. ID also thanked the guests attending the meeting.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda above was accepted without changes.

### **3 Review of Council Meeting in Vienna and all outstanding Actions**

OA reviewed the minutes and they were accepted without change. The outstanding actions were reviewed before the meeting by email correspondence

### **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 that the following actions, which were decided in Vienna CM, should be followed strictly in the next term. The important one from them is;

- to change to the Guidelines for Technical Commissions that a maximum of 6-8 WGs is recommended for each Technical Commission.

Another reminder which should be sent to the TCPs is the importance of the next joint meeting and their presence at this meeting.

#### 4.2 Commissions ToRs

Unfortunately most of the Technical Commission Presidents did not send the proposals to the changes in the terms of references. They should be reminded;

#### 4.3 Bids for Commissions for 2008-12

The possible bids for the Technical Commissions are;

TC I Canada

TC II Germany

TC III France

TC IV USA, Japan (First Choice)

TC V UK

TC VI Netherlands, Slovenia

TC VII Austria

TC VIII Japan (Second Choice), Italy

### 5. Preparations for the Congress

#### 5.1 Report of Congress Director

CJ and JJ gave a detailed presentation about the Congress Preparations. Council was satisfied about the developments. However following points resulted from the Joint Meeting with Technical Commission Presidents found worthwhile to be mentioned also once again at the Council Meeting. These are (with some adds);

##### *1. General*

- Check the minimum time to convert the Big Hall from GA Setup for Opening Ceremony or leave enough time to go to Great Hall,
- LOC should ask Council/TCPs what office equipment they require in their assigned rooms (wi-fi provided),
- Secretary General and Treasurer (together with their staff) should share the same room for doing the necessary changes preparing the General Assembly, (It was decided to change the room allocation of the President to them). This room should have a safe according to the Contract,
- Simultaneous Translation for the General Assemblies, the Opening and Closing ceremonies according to the contract should be provided. However CJ sees a problem regarding the Opening and Closing ceremonies,

**ACTION** CJ investigate the service of simultaneous translation and come with final actions to the JM in December

- LOC should provide rooms for TC Board and other meetings  
Foundation Board Meeting should be done after the election of the Council,
- Printed material of the Congress needs a careful spell check, ID and JT offered help in this matter whenever needed,
- Special waiting room for accompanying persons would be nice,

- One registered person is entitled to give one paper excluding invited papers.
- Workshop and Tutorial materials should be published and especially the workshop proceedings should be assigned Vol nos from OA
- Payment to the Tutors should be decided ASAP
- Putting the abstracts on the web should be investigated
- Presentation of the Young Authors awards should be coordinated, the 3 Plenaries was suggested as good possibilities
- Presentation of the Best Paper and Best Poster Awards of the Youth sessions can be done accordingly at the Youth Panel Session (Best Paper) and the (Best Poster) during the Social Activity of the Student groups on Sunday,
- It is good to have all Awards including the Best Paper Awards of the Youth sessions in a adequately printed “Awards Brochure”, which will be ready at the first days Opening Ceremony,
- This brochure should be printed totally in a number that it is enough for different occasions like Opening ceremony, 3 Plenary Sessions and the Gala Dinner
- It is good for potential exhibitors that they see on the floor plan which company has reserved which place in order to apply directly with the booth nos,
- In the second week there is a traditional meeting with the exhibitors; LOC should assign room and time slot for this,
- In the first days of the Congress there will be a Joint Board Meeting of the Geo-Spatial Information Societies; LOC should assign room and time slot for this,

**ACTION CJ** to come with time table and room assignment proposal for meetings to the next CM in Istanbul

5.2 Submission of papers and abstracts, panel session speakers;

- Summer School – funding is an issue to be resolved; MB and CJ to investigate possibilities,
- There is a need to discuss the scientific and social program of the Summer School and also the possibility of having poster sessions where students can present their work
- Tutorials; 7 proposals received so far, there could have more. TC I has 2 more proposals. Proposals are still possible - deadline is the end November.
- Workshop Proposals from Hans Knoop on “ISO/TC211 and CEN/T287 Standardization” and “Land Cover Classification Harmonization” are accepted
- Workshop Proposal Gi4DM is pending as this is a 3 ½ days workshop and coincides with the TSs
- Amy Budge proposal on GEOSS Workshop on “Air Quality and Human Health” is accepted,

- There is a possibility of proposing new Tutorials and Workshops until end of November 2007,
- A proposal by Shibasaki on “Standardization of DEMs” is accepted
- Make room for microwave and TerraSaR-X sessions
- To place a session for the SIG
- AB proposes TS on UAVs
- SS8/SS10 needs deciding.
- For SS16 no response from FIG – Hans-Gerd Mass suggests topic of calibration
- New session proposed by China Academy of surveying and mapping – accepted,
- There is a need to rethink in order to ensure discussion involving users into the User Forum, especially the involvement of NMAs and their problems in the production chain,
- 2 of the 3 User Forum sessions can be organized in the second week,
- *Plenary Speakers,*

Following names and themes are proposed;  
 José Achache (GEOSS and Society benefits)  
 Vincent Tao  
 Al Gore (Climate Change)  
 Richard Bamler (SAR)  
 Jack Dangermond  
 Deren Li  
 Council will follow this action.

### 5.3 Preparations of the general program of the congress including accommodation and social program

LOC should investigate the problem of participants registration before they book their hotels. JG suggested including apartments near the Congress Center, which can take 2-4-6 people.

### 5.4 Communications

CJ noted that they made a contract with REED Business (former GITC) for the preparation of the Congress Daily. Following suggestions summarised below are received from the International Advisory Board Committee meeting after visiting the Congress Centre;

- VIP Room 1 seems suitable for paid accompanied persons,
- Sustaining Members should be able to advertise themselves at their booths “Sustaining Member of ISPRS”

## 6. Statutes and Bylaws

### 6.1 Council Composition and Fellowships

ID brought 2 alternatives on the Composition of the Council and related organs.

They are;

Alternative 1

Council is enlarged to include TCPs and Regional representatives. The current Council is replaced by an Executive Board with the same membership as Council. Council meets once a year. An Advisory Board, comprising chairs of the Permanent Committees, the Chair of the Finance Committee, the Editor in Chief of the ISPRS Journal, the Book Series Editor and the ISPRS Webmaster is established, to meet once a year.

Alternative 2

Council is given the right to co-opt Regional Members to balance regional representation on Council. Council’s proposals for the members to be co-opted must be approved by GA. The Advisory Board could still be introduced under this option.

The majority of the Council members have expressed their positive thoughts for the alternative 2. However the presented changes of the Status&Bylaws needs to be revised

6.2 Other changes

Other changes in the Status and Bylaws are the Commissions possible proposals for the ToRs. As they are not ready for discussion they should be persuaded and ready for discussion at the Joint Meeting in Istanbul. They should be sent afterwards to ISAC for comments and discussed later at the CM and JM in Durham.

**ACTION JT** to follow that ToRs of the Technical Commissions sent at the end of November for discussion at the Joint Meeting in Istanbul,

**ACTION CnL** to discuss the needed financial support for the Regional Representatives at the Joint Meeting in Istanbul,

7. **ISPRS Membership**

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

Membership Status

Type / Cat.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	A	B	C	D	E	Total
AsM	7	1	1											9
OdM	29	21	12	8	5	5	2	4						86
RgM	12													12
StM									8	7	15	27	16	73
Total														181

New Member(s)

**Sustaining Member**

- Space Technologies Research Institute (TUBITAK-UZAY) (40093), Turkey
- CycloMedia Technology BV (40094), The Netherlands
- Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Sciences (CRMS) (40095), USA
- University of Calgary Department of Geomatics Engineering (40096), Canada
- Siberian State Academy of Geodesy (40097), Russia

7.2 Report and actions on defaulting members

OA reported that there is a misunderstanding of the Membership Category of the Ordinary Member of Chile. It was agreed that this is Category 2.

Another issue is the long year’s unpaid dues of some Ordinary Members, especially Brazil. The ordinary member from Lebanon (OdM 10054) wants to withdraw its membership. It is

a long year's fact that that some members do not pay, ID suggests using donations from Embassies or adoption of them by other members,

### 7.3 Recruitment

Council observed the good development on the increase of Sustaining Members; however the decrease in the number of Ordinary Members in the last years is evaluated as a worrying fact. OA noted that face to face discussion and conversation with potential members are the best ways of recruiting new members.

### 7.4 Honorary Membership

It was noted that a call for the Honorary Members Nominations should be made ASAP.

## **8. ISPRS Publications**

### 8.1 Journal

OA reported that the Journal will be able to get back onto its publication schedule by early 08 and the publication of several theme and regular issues are guaranteed by the papers waiting on the queue. However from the Joint Meeting;

### 8.2 Highlights

OA gave a presentation about the developments on the E-Highlights and the GIM Page with some technical neglections at the Web Appearance of Highlights. It was decided to invite Durk Haarsma to the Next Council Meeting in Istanbul.

### 8.3 GIM Page

OA explained that the publication of the GIM page goes without problems; however he mentioned that his proposal to publish ISPRS Page every 2 months has been rejected as the other Organizations are having one page in every month. However this point and others are subject of discussion at the CM in Istanbul.

### 8.4 Book series

OA gave a presentation about the Book series and the printed Books. He explained that until now they had a good cooperation with the Book Series Editor and the Publisher with four Books published and several books are on the queue.

### 8.5 Archives

There is a big gap of Digital Archives at the Webpage and Council urged that OA request from the ISPRS event organizers that they complete this series ASAP

### 8.6 Home Page; Webmaster

OA said that the current Webmaster (Fabio Remondino) will be not fully employed at ETH-Z from October of this year and the future change of the Head of Department of Photogrammetry in the year 2009 forces ISPRS to look for another location and webmaster ASAP. The possible candidate for the location is TU-Vienna.

OA thanked Austrian Colleagues for helping him to convince the colleagues at the TU-Vienna to host the ISPRS WebPage.

### 8.7 Database and Blue Book

OA explained that the database distributed at the CM is complete and update, with the transfer of the ISPRS webpage and appointment of the new Webmaster the data on the ISPRS WebPages will be update. There is no need to print the new version of the Blue Book.

#### 8.8 Annual reports

OA reminded the all that the deadline for the 2007 Annual Reports is 30 November 2007 and expressed his hope to publish a complete Annual report without delay

8.9 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 produce 20 copies for the JM after the Beijing Congress.

#### 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 distributed the newly printed Prospectus resulted from the questionnaire and corrected mainly by JT and ID

#### 8.12 ISPRS Brochure

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

### **9. Financial Affairs (9.1-9.3 will come from Stan)**

9.1 Treasurers Report including report of the Visit to UBS, Credit Card Payments

9.2 Revision of Subscriptions

9.3 Merchandising

9.4 Science Initiatives and Travel Grants

There were 2 requests as Science Initiative and the need for the organization of the Summer School before the Congress.

Council decided to support the Summer School with a maximum grant of 8.000 SFR however to present a better budgeted

Council discussed two other proposals and decided to support;

- Bharat Lohani's Proposal from Kanpur, India on the Short term course on "Laser mapping: Fundamentals and Data Processing",

And;

- Gerd König's Proposal from Berlin, Germany on "Starting a project /Analysis of E-Learning Software and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and GIS",

Each with an amount of 5.000SFR.

Council noted that at the moment there were no funds allocated by the Congress Committee on the Young Authors' Award and advice the LOC to find funds for the Best John, please the two items below

### **10. Awards**

### **11. Foundation**

### **12. ISPRS Committees**

12.1 ISAC

There was long brain storming with the ISAC Chair on the best involvement in ISPRS activities and performing according the ToRs as a Committee advising the Council on

- Identify and prioritize scientific and technologic (S&T) trends,
- Facilitate excellence in scientific research and development and the use of proper and appropriate technology by evaluating and refining S&T Resolutions,
- Collaboration with the ISPRS Council to formulate Resolutions for ISPRS General Assembly,
- Reviewing proposed Working Groups Terms of Reference with Council,
- Evaluating inputs recommended for changing the overall scope and direction of S&T activities in the Society and advise Council accordingly,
- Suggesting collaborative S&T activities with other international societies and intergovernmental bodies.

In order to ensure a better cooperation with ISAC and fulfill in the best way the above summarized ToRs of ISAC, Council agreed the ISAC chair should be present at the Joint Meetings one immediately after the Congress and in the Meeting of the Congress year and the Joint Meeting at the Last Symposium during the Inter-symposium year.

### 12.3 CIPA

There was no report of CIPA for the CM however there is the biannual CIPA symposium in October 07.OA said that he got the information that the next CIPA symposium will be most probably organized in Japan and the Symposium director will be Juko Takase, ISPRS Representative to CIPA executive Board. If this is the Case Council should consider nominating a new representative to CIPA Executive Board.

**ACTION** OA to place an item to the next Council Meeting Agenda for the nomination of the ISPRS representative to CIPA Executive Board

### 12.4 ICORSE

Ian I leave this to you

### 12.5 Ad hoc Committee on Standards

Council noted the report of Hans Knoop, Representative of ISPRS to ISO/TC 211 and his wish to have a workshop before the congress in 2008

## **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.

Involvement of ISPRS Related Organs (updated 06.09.07) in the preparation of the Centenary Celebration a possible proposal for activities during the celebration is attached as **ANNEX 2**.

## **14. Preparation of a Strategic Plan for the Society**

## **15. Report of different Meetings**

### 15.1 GeoSibir 07

Council noted the report of JT on this meeting and decided to continue its relation with the colleagues in Novosibirsk and give support for forthcoming meetings

### 15.2 ISRSE

### 15.3 MME07

Council noted that the ISPRS meetings organized during the MME07 was not well attended and decided to send speakers for Plenary Sessions or the Opening. Noting the importance of this region for ISPRS Activities, Council will decide for MME08 on the spot as this is also the Congress Year.

### 15.4 Council attendance at Meetings

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

### 15.5 GEOSS Workshops

### 15.6 EuroSDR

### 15.7 Cape Town Summit

## 16. Relations with International and other Organizations

### 16.1 United Nations: COPUOS, CODI

It was confirmed that ISPRS booth at the COPUOS Exhibition celebrating 50 years in Space in Vienna was very successful. ISPRS posters prepared by Gerhard Kemper was kept in UN building for further exhibitions

### 16.2 ICSU and the GeoUnions; IYPE

ID reported on the Unions Meeting and a GeoUnions Meeting in Rome in May.

### **Ian, I leave the 16.3-.9 to you**

### 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. Reports from Council (All)

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

## 18. Other Business

A list of Actions from the previous period was discussed and reviewed.

## 19. Next Council Meeting

A Schedule of the next Council Meetings

## 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 Chen Jun and Chinese Society for hosting this meeting.