



## 5th IUSS COUNCIL MEETING 20 AUGUST 2002

For a list of the council meeting participants including e-mail addresses [click here](#)

Comments on the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting:

J. Kimble: Was it not agreed that all WGs and SCs should continue until 2004?

W. Blum: no, the decision to disband some units was taken before the decision to let WGs and SCs continue until 2004. Also some of the disbanded units go into the new structure and therefore would be superfluous.

R. Dudal refers to the election of IUSS Honorary Members - more information should be given on the newly elected Honorary Members: What are their domains of excellence and the nature of the services rendered to the IUSS.

W. Blum: This information will be given at the Closing Ceremony.

S. Nortcliff: refers to the sentence:

" It is suggested that at the next WCSS, only Division and Commission Chairpersons should be elected."

Should not all officers, also Vice-Chairpersons and Secretaries be elected in 2006, to ensure full regional and gender coverage? General agreement.

Discussion about the last sentence of the Minutes, referring to the issue of soils and landmines: " It is pointed out that this topic should be treated confidentially, as it is a security matter." ♦ The issue will be published in the bulletin, on the website etc., in order to invite scientists to work on this problem. Should this sentence be taken out?

R.D. Asiaman: The results should be treated confidentially, if possible, to make it more difficult for the producers of landmines to adjust their products to them.

### Item 16 Cooperation with ICSU

The Secretary-General explains the overall structure and functioning of ICSU.

- Who will represent IUSS in the ICSU GA? ♦ Will be discussed in Sept. 2002 in Rio/Brazil.

- IUSS representative in SCOPE ♦ up to now Ch. de Kimpe.

W. Blum suggests that Prof. Keith Sayers and the Chairperson of D4 (E. Frossard) could cooperate in this matter.

- CODATA (up to now Marc van Meirvenne) ♦ Contact through the website possible.

Marc van Meirvenne should continue.

General agreement.

Who gets reports from these representatives?

Reports should be published regularly, e.g. on the website (publication according to Rules, G6 and G7)

### Item 17 ♦ Changes to the Statutes

J. Kimble suggests that changes in the Statutes should not be decided at this Congress. Suggestions for changes should be sent out by mail to the Council Members, so that they can take a decision and then vote in 2004.

S. Nortcliff: The number of Honorary Members should be laid down as a percentage of the membership, to reflect the growing membership numbers of IUSS.

W. Blum: Election of WG-Chairpersons only at a WCSS or at any congress or other meeting of the WG?

As some of the WGs are much more active between the World Congresses and there tend to be more members of a WG at a meeting dealing with a special topic of a WG than at a World Congress, this might be preferable.

The President points out that the Statutes should support the WCSS, therefore members of WGs should attend the Congresses.

Rules I2 and M1 contradict each other ♦ decision will be taken in 2004.

IUSS Rules ♦ G5 "...one other member of the Divisional Committee shall be from the country where the next Congress will take place." ♦ How can this be guaranteed, without influencing the elections? Is this a transparent procedure?

### Item 18 ♦ Publications of IUSS

Bulletin is put on the IUSS website, could be distributed on CD-ROM.

A hardcopy of the IUSS Bulletin should still be sent out to

- libraries (if they do not prefer a CD-ROM)
- national soil science societies (5-6 copies max., depending on membership)
- life members
- honorary members
- those persons who pay for receiving a hardcopy.

This could reduce the number of copies to be printed to approx. 600 ♦ which would however increase the printing costs per copy.

It is pointed out that the number of persons subscribing to receive a hardcopy might even increase.

Moreover, it is considered a question of culture and historical record to have a printed version of the Bulletin.

The question of book reviews is discussed. Hans van Baren will no longer write them, but they are of great interest to the IUSS members.

A. Hartemink suggests that links to publishers could be made on the IUSS website.

Ch. de Kimpe suggests that each Bulletin should contain reports of Division Chairs etc.

Dr. Irb: IUSS should try to raise funds, in order to maintain its activities.

Website

A. Hartemink: the IUSS website contains the IUSS Bulletins 99, 100 and 101, information on the IUSS, and interesting links. It is a website about IUSS. It is not a soil portal, which would mean that much more work has to be put in.

S. Nortcliff: This is not necessary, the links are sufficient. Links to national soil science societies would create a "soil portal". Information on the website could be extended gradually.

"Netscape" has problems opening the IUSS website.

G. Petersen: Website should include E-mail list of Council Members, national soil science societies etc.

Cooperating Journals

Three journals apply:

- Journal of Soils and Sediments (Dr. Norra)
- Australian Journal of Soil Research (Drs. Banerjee and Singh)
- Ciencia del Suelo (Argentina) (Dr. Buschiazzo)

The Secretary-General reads the respective item of the IUSS Byelaws.

General discussion:

Special rates for members - it is difficult to check who is an IUSS member under the new structure.

What should be the "contribution to IUSS" mentioned in the Byelaws? Journals could e.g. be asked to send free copies to countries in development etc.

Should national journals be accepted (this was not done in the past)?

D. Yaalon suggests that, as all the actual cooperating journals are abstracted by ISI, this could serve as a standard for new journals.

Objections to the applying journals:

- "Journal of Soils and Sediments" is comparatively new;  
objection: How old must a journal be? ♦ no rules exist for that. Sediments are important.
- Australian Journal of Soil Research ♦ name suggests that it is regional;  
objection: approx. 60% of contributions are from outside Australia; well established journal with wide distribution
- Ciencia del Suelo (Argentina) - regional, published in Spanish language.

Dr. Norra offers that 2-3 IUSS members could become board members of the Journal of Soils and Sediments. Also, an "IUSS corner" could be established in the journal and on the website.

It is suggested that IUSS should not be too restrictive in accepting new journals, so as to attract younger scientists.

R.D. Asiaman informs the Council about the problems of African soil scientists: Many research findings concerning Africa are published in European/American/Asian journals, Africans do not have access to the information!

Agreement that IUSS should try to help in this matter (free copies to African soil science societies, access to information on the internet ...).

Agreement that IUSS provides publicity for the Cooperating Journals and should demand something in exchange.

Cooperating Journals should be clearly informed about the criteria, conditions re-negotiated!

Secret vote on the applying journals. 55 votes are cast. Results:

Australian Journal of Soil Research -	for: 35	against:	20
Ciencia del Suelo:	for 24	against:	31
Journal of Soils and Sediments:	for 36	against:	19

Australian Journal of Soil Research and Journal of Soils and Sediments are accepted as new Cooperating Journals.

A. Hartemink volunteers to be the contact person for Cooperating Journals.

### Item 19 ♦ Venue of the 19<sup>th</sup> WCSS in 2010

Bids are submitted by Australia, China and Brazil

After discussion, Brisbane, Australia is accepted as the venue of the 19<sup>th</sup> WCSS in 2010.

Australia has submitted a very well documented bid, submitted two years ago, including official support. The Australian Soil Science Society Inc. has already started to prepare the Congress (venue for such a big event should be booked approx. 10 years in advance!). D. Sparks and G. Petersen support the decision, as they also had to start early preparing their Congress.

Rules state that a decision should be made at least 6 years before a Congress, decision can be taken earlier.

Proposals for venue of the 20<sup>th</sup> WCSS in 2014:

- Korea ♦ Dr. Kim
- P.R. China ♦ Dr. Zhao Qiguo
- Brazil - Dr. Rosolem

Proper bids should be submitted at the Mid-Term Meeting in 2004, a decision will be taken in 2006.

A. Ruellan: national societies should be officially informed that the time for a bid is 8 years.

P. Sanchez: discussions and decisions need not be limited to Congresses and Mid-Term Meetings, E-mail and teleconferences could be used.

### Item 20 ♦ Results of the elections of new IUSS officers

Transparencies are shown with the names of the new officers of Divisions and Commissions. The results will also be made public at the Closing Ceremony.

### Item 21 ♦ Resolutions

G. Varallyay shows the Resolutions on transparencies.

After a short discussion the decision is taken to accept all 4. They will be read at the Closing Ceremony.

K. Stahr informs the Council that the European Soil Science Society will organize the EUROSOIL in 2004 in Freiburg, Germany. Leaflets are distributed.

W. Blum thanks the President, Sompong Theerawong, the Vice-President, Irb Kheoruenromne, as well as the chairpersons of the ad-hoc committees during the 17<sup>th</sup> WCSS, George Varallyay (Resolutions), Dan Yaalon (Elections) and Lynette Abbott (Posters) for their excellent work.



**Close Window**