



ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

MINUTES

OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF AEGS

HELD IN HANNOVER (GERMANY)

Thursday, 11 September 2003 at 16:30

Present:

Dr. V. STEINBACH	(VS)	President of AEGS German Geol. Society
Dr. H.G. RÖHLING	(HR)	Secretary of Organising Committee, German Geol. Society
Dr. J. WIEGAND	(JW)	AEGS Secretary, German Geol. Society

EC Members:

Prof. F. CARRARO	(FC)	Italian Geological Society
Prof. M. GIARDINO	(MG)	Italian Geological Society
Dr. J. HALMAI	(JH)	Hungarian Geological Society
Prof. V. HÖCK	(VH)	Austrian Geological Society
Prof. I. FOUNTOULIS	(IF)	Greek Geological Society (proxy for Ilias Mariolakos)
Dr. T. NIELD	(TN)	Geological Society of London
Prof. C. IONESCU	(CI)	Romanian Geological Society
Dr. R. RAUDSEP	(RR)	Estonian Geological Society

1. WELCOME

VS welcomed the Executive Committee to Hannover and especially the new EC member Prof. Corina Ionescu from Romania, and Prof. Ioannis Fountoulis (proxy for Prof. Dr. Ilias Mariolakos) from Greece. VS gave a short overview about the program of today and tomorrow.

VS asked if the agenda should be changed. Everyone agreed to the agenda.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies received:

- A. Slaczka (from Poland)
- T. Peryt (from Poland)
- R. Rocha (from Portugal)

Apologies not received:

- M. Novak (from Czech Republic)
- S. Stouge (from Denmark)

Five members of the Committee were therefore missing.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (HANNOVER)

The Minutes of the previous EC meeting (3 May 2002, Hannover) were unanimously **approved** without alteration.

4. RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

- Outgoing members

JW reported that there are no members leaving the EC board

The two Polish EC members Andrzej Slaczka and Tadeus Peryt have been incommunicado twice. JW proposed that one seat should be made available to others. He will send a mail to the Polish Geological Society to ask, who should stay in the Board. The Committee **agreed** unanimously.

- Entering new members

Prof. Dr. Corina Ionescu

(Romanian Geological Society)

VS pointed out, that Corina Ionescu is the first lady in the EC board. Because there were no objections, the VS welcomed the new member on behalf of the old. The Committee **agreed** unanimously. JW asked the new member to supply a CV in the next week (CV attached to the Minutes).

Action: JW, CI

Copies of the membership list of AEGS and the EC membership list were circulated and members of the EC asked to communicate any alterations to the Secretary.

5. CHANGES IN THE MEMBERSHIP

JW reported that Sweden gave up its membership in AEGS.

JW informed the meeting that the Albanian Association of Engineering Geology and Geoenvironment asked to become a member. VH described the situation in Albania and that he

would do some investigations during the next year. Furthermore, VH is doing some research about Serbia as well.

Action: VH

6. FINANCIAL REPORT 2002

JW reported that the accounts had been scrutinised by VH. VH summarised the financial accounts for the committee and showed a balance sheet with an auditor's report.

The Committee **accepted** the financial report presented by VH.

7. ACTUAL STATUS OF MAEGS-13

VS reported that 120 participants had turned up from 33 countries. Additionally, 20 participants from the German Geological Survey (BGR) joined the Meeting. A book of abstracts (155 pages) and a field trip guide were prepared in high quality. The Secretary proposed a further vote of thanks, which was **passed** unanimously.

VS addressed to the next organisers some useful hints. The first circular should be distributed as soon as possible. Not only the geological societies but also the geological surveys should be informed. (How participants of MAEGS 13 were informed about the meeting: 50 % by the surveys, 25 % by the national societies, 25 % by internet).

VH said that it would be important to distribute the flyer not only to the society but to the EC members as well. A discussion started about how to distribute the information about the oncoming meeting in Europe. TD said it is important to announce the meeting as early as possible.

Action: MG, FC

8. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS OF AEGS

- MAEGS-14 (Turin, Italy, 2005)

VS said, that he is lucky to announce, that the Italian Geological Society will organise MAEGS-14 in Turin. He gave the words to MG.

MG gave a presentation about the organisation and scientific content of MAEGS-14. He proposed the theme "**Natural hazard related to the recent geological evolution**".

The Earth Science Department of University of Turin is organising the meeting. Local sponsors are: Piemonte Region, Province of Torino, Torino Municipality.

MG gave an overview about the geohazards of the Piedmont region. He pointed out that 5 different possible sessions are proposed:

1. Seismotectonics
2. Floods and landslides and related hazards
3. Volcanic hazards
4. Geoscience and the public policy
5. Geoscience and communication

It will be a 3-days congress with a 2-days field trip). The field trip would include the so-called Torino hill (an uplift area) and to the Susa valley.

A discussion about the session started resulting in the following program:

1. Active Tectonics
2. Seismicity
3. Floods and landslides and related hazards
4. Subsidence hazards
5. Volcanic hazards
6. Geohazard and the public policy
7. Geohazard and communication

RR asked about the registration fee. FC said that they calculate with 140 EUR. VH pointed out to ask the EU for funding. VH informed the board, that there is a large environmental congress in Vienna and that he will give a short presentation about MAEGS-14 at this meeting. JW said that he can do the same on a congress in September in Bochum (Germany).

Action: MG, FC, JW, VH

- MAEGS-15 (The Baltic States, 2007)

VS asked RR to report about the actual status of MAEGS-15, which should be held in the Baltic States. RR explained some difficulties about organising the meeting. The countries have not enough money and more important, to organise the meeting with 3 countries would be difficult.

The board discussed about the problems and came to the conclusion that Estonia is organising MAEGS-15 alone. Anyway, help from the other 2 Baltic States would be welcomed. Possible themes and issues of the Meeting would be:

- Natural Resources
- Paleoclimate
- Baltic Sea
- Coastal management
- Mining waste

IC said that we need not to define the theme now.

JW summarized that MAEGS-15 will be organised by Estonia, and the theme would be fixed on one of the 2 next EC Meetings.

Action: RR

9. STRUCTURE OF FUTURE MAEGS

VS pointed out that MAEGS should choose a hot topic, an actual theme. The advantage of AEGS is that it is flexible in choosing a theme. This strategy seems to be most promising.

10. MATTER ARISING

VS pointed out that the EC members have to register for the field trip.

JW informed the EC board about recent publications about AEGS:

- GMTI (German geoscientific newsletter)
- BDG (German professional association for geoscientists)

- Geologues, 2 articles (French Union of Geologists)
- E-Bulletin of Episodes (IUGS)
- Episodes (will be published at the end of this year)

VS remembered that AEGS is an affiliated organisation of IUGS. IUGS installed rapporteurs for the affiliated organisation. Prof. Ed De Mulder (IUGS president) is the rapporteur for AEGS, which is good sign. JW reported that De Mulder was invited to MAEGS-13, but that it was not possible for him to come. JW delivered greetings from him to the EC board.

JW reported about an IUGS initiative: Years of planet earth (2005 – 2007). Information about the initiative is found on a special created homepage: www.esfs.org.

JW described the IUGS initiative and that AEGS was asked to become active. TD explained the details about that program. He is the Vice-president of the outreaching committee of the initiative. TD reported that the Chinese and the Indian Government as well as the Shell Company agreed to submit an application to the UNESCO, that this initiative gets a UNESCO initiative as well. TD underlined, that if this initiative is accepted, AEGS can apply funds to organise meetings. Since the years of planet earth cover 2005 – 2007, the Turin (2005) and Estonia Meeting (2007) could possibly get funding from the UNESCO.

JW asked, if a new scrutiniser could be elected. One of the scrutiniser (Rogerio Rocha) was absent twice. HR was willing to take the task and he was elected unanimously by the board.

VS pointed out that there should be more articles (information) about AEGS published in the national journals.

Action: all

11. DATES OF NEXT EC MEETING AND NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

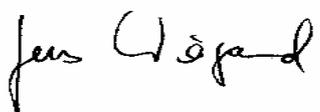
JW announced that the next EC Meeting will be held in Italy. Since the oncoming world congress of geology (IGC-32) will be held in Florence next year (20-28 August 2004), and many members of the EC board will join this congress, the board decided to held the next Meeting of the Executive Committee during IGC-32 in Florence. An exact date will be chosen in the next weeks. The secretary will then inform the board about the date and exact venue.

The next GA of AEGS will be held during MAEGS-14, which will be held in the first half of September 2005.

Action: MG, FC, JW

There being no further business VS thanked the EC members and declared the meeting closed at 19:45.

ENDS



Dr. Jens Wiegand
(AEGS Secretary)

ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

STATUTES

1. An Association of European Geological Societies shall be established (AEGS).
2. Membership of the Association is open to all non-governmental societies, institutions and organisations in Europe active on a country-wide scale in the geological or earth sciences, whether covering the entire subject field or specialising in one or more of its branches.

3. Purposes and objectives

3.1 The main purpose of the Association of European Geological Societies is to promote periodic meetings (MAEGS) during which European geologists gather together to discuss aspects of European geology.

At these meetings it is hoped:

3.2 to identify the geological problems of Europe as a whole regardless of regional or national boundaries, language or disciplinary approach;

3.3 to promote investigation and research into European geology;

3.4 to assist in promoting a unified understanding of geology, geophysics and geochemistry of the solid earth of Europe;

3.5 to promote collaboration between workers in the different countries and geological societies of Europe, and in different branches of earth sciences;

3.6 to increase the public understanding of geological knowledge and its use in planning the development of Europe, and for its application in the solution of economic, technological and social problems of the future.

4. Executive Committee

4.1 In order to maintain continuity and to ensure that periodic meetings take place, there shall be an Executive Committee.

4.2 The Executive Committee, which shall be elected at the Plenary Session of the meeting shall comprise:

4.2.1 The President (Chairman of the next meeting) or his/her nominee and the Secretary of the Association.

4.2.2 The two immediate past Presidents or their nominees.

4.2.3 The two Secretaries of the Organising Committee of the last and the next meeting.

4.2.4 Representatives of all the societies due to hold future meetings of the Association of European Geological Societies.

4.2.5 Representatives from other member societies not covered by 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3 and 4.2.4.

4.2.6 The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt members between plenary sessions of the Association.

4.3 Each voting society (see paragraph 6.1 below) shall have only one vote, even if there be more than one delegate from that Society on the EC. Similarly, each country represented shall have only one vote even if there be more than one delegate from that country.

4.4 The Executive Committee shall co-operate with the Organising Committee of the next meeting and shall continue in existence until the next meeting.

4.5 The Executive Committee will consider, approve or reject invitations by member societies to act as host for the next and future meetings.

4.6 It will consider, approve or reject the outline programme proposed by the Organising Committee for the next meeting.

4.7 In the event of no country offering to be host for a meeting it will request one or more countries to offer invitations.

4.8 It will resolve any contentious matter which may arise in the affairs of the organisation.

5. Meetings of the Association of European Geological Societies (MAEGS) and their Organising Committees

5.1 Meetings of the Association of European Geological Societies, which are recognised as the most important function of the Association, are held as far as possible every 2 years, or 3 or 4 years if the Executive Committee considers that a 2 year interval would produce an undesirable conflict with another international meeting.

5.2 Participation at the meetings is based on individual application and every member of a member society shall have the right to participate.

5.3 Any member society may offer to be the host for the next meeting at any time from the commencement of the current meeting.

5.4 The Executive Committee shall respond to the invitation of a member society to host the next or any future meeting within 6 months of its receipt, and preferably before the end of the current meeting.

5.5 The meetings of the Association of European Geological Societies shall be organised and managed by an Organising Committee set up by the society or societies whose invitation has been accepted by the Executive Committee.

5.6 The composition and working procedures of the meeting Organising Committee will be at its discretion and as it considers most suitable for the country concerned, but it shall include a Chairman and a Secretary.

5.7 The Chairman of the Organising Committee (next President) should normally be nominated by the outgoing President of the current meeting during the opening ceremonies and subject to ratification at the closing Plenary Session. He/she will be the elected President of the Association and act as Chairman of the Executive Committee until the end of the following meeting of the Association.

5.8 The meeting Organising Committee is responsible for the organisation and administration of the current meeting, including the scientific and ancillary programmes, conduct of the meeting, accommodation, publications, excursions and finance.

5.9 The meeting shall include one Plenary Session for a Business meeting at which the affairs of the Association shall be discussed.

6. Funding

6.1 The Executive Committee will establish a membership fee for the Association. The fee will be set in three bands according to membership, as follows:

Band 1	< 500 members
Band 2	500 - 1000 members
Band 3	> 1000 members

Member Societies paying a fee will be entitled to send a voting representative to Executive Committee meetings. Those not paying a fee may send non-voting observers to Executive Committee meetings.

6.2 Member Societies will be expected to pay their annual fee in the first quarter of the year, or as soon as possible thereafter, and must have paid by the end of the year. Each year the Secretary will review the finances of the Association and make a report to the Executive Committee.

6.3 For the assistance given by the AEGS Secretary and the EC-members for the preparation and organisation of the biennial conferences, 10% of the registration fees paid by the participants in the conference must be paid to the AEGS secretariat. In special cases, e.g., when the AEGS conference is combined with another conference, a certain amount of money (to be determined by negotiation with the Secretary) must be paid to the AEGS secretariat.