

Closed Bureau Meeting (BM10-C, third session)

Saturday 12 July 2014, Oku-Yugawara, Hakone region, Japan

Minutes

Bureau members present: Charles Fierz (President; CF), Ian Allison (Immediate Past President; IA), Hiroyuki Enomoto (Head of Division III; HE), Olga Solomina (Vice President; OS), Ralf Greve (Head of Division V; RG)

Attending via videoconference: Andrew Mackintosh (Secretary General; AM) for items 7 and 10; the discussion of item 7 forms the basis for further comments to items 8 and 9.

Apologies: Xiao Cunde (Vice President; XC), Andrés Rivera (Vice President; AR), Ethan Greene (Head of Division I; EG), Cecilie Rolstad-Denby (Head of Division II; CRD), Valérie Masson-Delmotte (Head of Division IV; VMD).

Blue: annotations of agenda items; green: minutes; red: actions & decisions

1. Welcome and opening remarks (CF)

The day should be mainly devoted to discussions.

2. Agenda additions/modifications (CF, AM)

Item 10 is transferred from BM10B-6 (see appBM10C-2).

3. Co-heading of divisions

Do we need it?

The IACS by-laws have a precedent for appointing an Assistant Secretary General who is not actually a member of the Bureau itself (by-law 3.3 c). The Bureau opted for permitting Deputy Heads of Division to be appointed and agreed on following points:

- It is an option, but not an essential one;
- The process should be flexible and initiated by the concerned Head of Division;
- The purpose is to a) assist the Head of Division on his workload, b) to act as deputy where necessary, c) to engage more scientists in IACS, for example, train and encourage Early Career Scientists to work in our organisation;
- The Deputy Head of Division is not elected and is therefore not a member of the Bureau; he has neither right to vote nor of secession;
- IACS by-laws should be amended at Prague to show this – mostly so Early Career Scientists can get proper recognition for their work.

Accordingly the Bureau suggests the following addition to the by-laws (in italic below):

By-law 3; Officers

3.4 b The Bureau may, on advice from a Head of Division and at his discretion, appoint a Deputy Head to any Division.

If needed, any further policy can be added to the document describing the duties of IACS officers.

ACTION: CF to include this in the Prague package of by-laws changes and let VMD know she could informally appoint someone now.



4. Communication within the Bureau and involvement of Bureau Members

I think there is room for improvement here.

The Bureau agreed that the flow of information between Executive Committee (EC) and the remaining members of the Bureau must improve. As a first step, the EC will make more info available to all Bureau members, that is:

- Requests from the IUGG Secretariat to the EC, including attachments. The latter will also be made available on IACS Google account (Google Drive).
- EC teleconferences will be announced to all Bureau members one week in advance and will include a short agenda. All are welcome to join in but please let one EC member know about your intention. After the teleconference, main outcomes and decisions will be summarized in the original agenda to be sent again to all Bureau members.
- The subject of emails regarding IACS matters should start with 'IACS:'. Address one topic per mail and change the subject to correctly reflect the issue currently under discussion
- Moreover, documents in the Dropbox folder will be available for download to every Bureau member – one link to the main folder will be sent to Bureau members shortly.
- Finally, IA points out that a yearly face-to-face meeting is absolutely required to keep Bureau members involved in IACS activities.

ACTION: CF and AM to work on making additional info available;
all to use new tools and give feedback to EC.

5. How can IACS better communicate and engage with partners and collaborators?

- We need to produce a yearly report for IUGG anyway. This report will form the basis of an annual report to be sent to all our partners.
- One month before our annual Bureau Meeting, a short info about the main achievements and changes within IACS will be sent to all partners and correspondents, inquiring for a short feed-back on their activities since the last Bureau Meeting. The info will also contain the agenda of the next Bureau Meeting as well as an invitation to attend the open session of the latter.

5.1. International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

How do we engage even better in ICARP III?

The Bureau recognizes there is a link between the workshop “Arctic snow cover changes and their consequences” organized by the IASC Terrestrial Working Group and IACS efforts on snow classification. Further possible interactions should be looked for by the Head of Divisions (icarp.iasc.info/index.php/scientific-themes)

ACTION: HE to go back to Terry Callaghan – and reiterate that IACS is supporting the idea of snow-cover classification in the Arctic as it fits well in our effort to provide such classifications to the community.

ACTION: The Heads of Division are invited to scan the ICARP III themes for other possible interactions with their Divisions and to report to the Bureau if any are found.

5.2. Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR)

See item 6.1 in session BM10-A.

5.3. Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS)

See item 6.4 in session BM10-A.

5.4. CryoOrganizations

Possibilities to revive the activity of the CryoOrganizations include:

- Re-launch the one hour teleconferences to discuss one topic of common interest;
- Organize half-day CryoMeetings prior, after, or during major conferences (American Geophysical Union (AGU), European Geosciences Union (EGU), Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS));

- Organize together with CliC a meeting to launch the “Glossary Initiative”.

ACTION: CF to contact Jenny Baeseman (CliC) to discuss next steps.

5.4.1. International Permafrost Association (IPA)

Should we work out a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), as proposed by the IPA Executive Committee?

IACS for itself could very well go along with the CryoOrganization MoU as a basis for collaborations. However, as it is a request emanating from IPA, IACS will respond positively to it. We might build more of a relationship in the process of drafting the MoU.

ACTION: CF to get back to IPA and ask for a draft IACS shall comment on.

5.4.2. World Climate Research Program (WCRP) / Climate of the Cryosphere (CliC)

ACTION: IA and CF to screen the CliC initiatives and identify the potentials for cooperation.

5.5. World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

See item 6.7 in session BM10-A.

6. **Outreach**

At its recent meeting in Baku, the IUGG Bureau agreed to establish an IUGG Outreach Committee to organize and to manage IUGG’s communication, promotion, public information, and general outreach activities.

It is not clear to IACS what exactly the IUGG Bureau expects this committee to do (see appBM10C-6). If the task is only to review the outreach activities of the Secretariat and offer guidance, then an annual meeting may suffice. However, if the committee should take actions by itself along the lines proposed in the *Program of Activities*, one wonders how this could happen by meeting once a year only. The profile of a suitable nominee also depends strongly on the above expectations and therefore, at this stage, IACS cannot name any candidate.

Finally, the IACS Bureau expresses concern about too much emphasis on involvement with the industry as shown in this draft. This could lead to unwanted dependencies not suitable for a scientific union.

ACTION: CF to send the above comments to IUGG Secretariat before 20 July 2014.

7. **IUGG Visioning and Strategy, including General Assembly**

A IUGG task group - out of the extended IUGG Executive Committee - drafted a document that we should discuss and comment.

The Bureau discussed that document at length and annotated it accordingly (see appBM10C-7)

8. **IUGG Organization**

IAVCEI President Ray Cas made a proposition to IUGG that we should consider and comment.

The Bureau discussed Ray Cas’ document and annotated it accordingly (see appBM10C-8)

9. **IUGG Membership**

IAVCEI President Ray Cas made a report to IUGG that we should consider and comment.

The Bureau discussed Ray Cas’ document (see appBM10C-9). Many comments on that topic were discussed under items 7 & 8 already. In {the attached} and annotated document, the Bureau reiterates that it opposes individual IUGG membership. Individual membership at the Association level should be offered for free in the near future though. IACS will propose a plan on how to introduce individual membership and benefits at its next Plenary Administrative Session (PAS) in Prague, June 2015. The Bureau also proposed that the planned IACS Early Career Award (see minutes BM10A, item 5.2) should only be delivered to IACS individual members.

- ACTIONS:** - IA to draft a plan for introducing free individual membership.
- CF to send our comments on visioning and strategy, membership, and modernisation to the IUGG President by 1 August 2014.

10. Status of planned joint IACS-IGS symposium in Wellington, New Zealand (Andrew Mackintosh)

Transferred from BM10-6.

The idea of a joint IACS-IGS-CliC conference is approved. The difficulty is to find a catchy title satisfying all involved parties. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) can then come up with a list of 3-4 subtopics. The Bureau then discussed several ideas for a possible title:

- *'The Southern cryosphere and global connections.'*
- If CliC doesn't like that:
'The Southern cryosphere: climate variability and global connections.'
- If we want to also include papers that deal, e.g., exclusively with Cook Glacier dynamics:
'The Southern cryosphere, climate variability and global connections.'

ACTION: AM to get back to the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), Magnús Már Magnússon (IGS), and Jenny Baeseman (CliC) to finalize the structure of the conference.

11. Close

With thanks to the local hosts, especially Hiroyuki and Miki Yoshioka, for their excellent arrangements.