

Minutes, Council Meeting 2016

7th - 9th January, 2016

Beijing, China

In Attendance:

President	Chen Jun (CJ)
Secretary General	Christian Heipke (CH)
First Vice President	Orhan Altan (OA)
Second Vice President	Marguerite Madden (MM)
Treasurer	Jon Philip Mills (JPM)

Regional Representatives:

Africa	Hussein Farah (HF)
Latin America	Mario Hernandez (MH)

Book series editor Li Zhilin (LZ, on Jan. 9 for item 9.5)

Excused:

Congress Director	Lena Halounová (LH)
Reg. Rep. SE Asia	Nguyen Dinh Duong (NDD)

Agenda

1. Opening remarks.....	2
2. Approval of Agenda.....	2
3. Review of previous meetings	2
3.1. Approval of minutes of CM, Prague, 7th and 10th July, 2015.....	2
3.2. Review of council action lists	2
4. Science issues	3
4.1. ISPRS Journal of Ph&RS theme issue for Congress.....	3
4.2. Status, Scientific Initiative 2015	3
5. Policy matters and society management	3
5.1. Agenda of General Assembly in Prague.....	3
5.2. Revision of statutes and bylaws.....	3
5.3. Candidates for 2016-2020 period	3
5.4. Update of Green Book	4
6. Report of Regional Representatives	4
7. The XXIII Congress in Prague 2016	4
7.1. List of action items prior to congress	4
7.2. National Mapping and Cadastre Agency Forum and Space Agency Forum	5
7.3. Awards	5
7.4. Prague Declaration	5
8. ISPRS Membership.....	5

8.1.	Individual membership	5
8.2.	Changes in other Membership Categories	6
9.	ISPRS Publications	6
9.1.	ISPRS Annals and Archives	6
9.2.	ISPRS Journals.....	6
9.2.1.	Journal strategy document.....	6
9.2.2.	Statusof contract with elsevier.....	6
9.3.	eBulletin, GIM and Geoinformatics page	6
9.4.	Biennial report 2014/15.....	6
9.5.	Book series	6
10.	Financial affairs	6
10.1.	Update on subscription payments received to date / members in arrears.....	6
10.2.	Current 2015 financial position against budget.....	6
10.3.	ISPRS registration, banking and tax paying	7
10.4.	ISPRS budget 2016	7
10.5.	TIF budget 2016.....	7
11.	ISPRS Committees.....	7
11.1.	Student Consortium	7
11.2.	New International Industry Advisory Committee	7
12.	Relations with international and other organisations	7
12.1.	ICSU - GeoUnions	7
12.2.	IUGS	7
12.3.	JBGIS.....	8
13.	Coming meetings.....	8
13.1.	Meetings to be attended by Council members.....	8
13.2.	Next meetings	8
14.	Closing.....	8

1. Opening remarks

CJ welcomed all and opened the meeting at 9:00 am.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Review of previous meetings

3.1. Approval of minutes of CM, Prague, 7th and 10th July, 2015

The Minutes were approved.

3.2. Review of council action lists

The council actions were updated.

4. Science issues

4.1. ISPRS Journal of Ph&RS theme issue for Congress

CH reported on the status of the theme issue. 15 papers were submitted, 11 were accepted (incl. the vision paper), publication is due for March 2016.

4.2. Status, Scientific Initiative 2015

JPM reported on the status. Five of the seven supported initiatives have submitted reports, and these were accepted by Council. The remaining two reports are due shortly and will be discussed at the next meeting in Dubai in March. The results are to be adequately publicised. Cnl also discussed possibilities to communicate the results of the scientific initiative during the Prague Congress, such as a special session.

Council discussed the merits of the scientific initiative given that a significant amount of about CHF 80k was spent on the initiative over the last two years. It was generally felt that the effects were positive. In order to obtain a better view on the current situation and a potential need for improvement, JPM is asked to contact ISAC for a review of the project outcomes to help inform future strategy.

Action 16/1001: JPM is asked to provide a two page document on the scientific initiative to be included in the Biennial Report 2014/15 consisting of the executive summaries of the submitted reports, by Jan. 15, 2016.

Action 16/1002: JPM is asked to consider possibilities to communicate the results of the Scientific Initiative during the Prague Congress with the help of LH, by Feb. 15.

Action 16/1003: CH is asked to make sure these executive summaries are included in the next eBulletin and placed on the web, by Jan. 31, 2016.

Action 16/1004: JPM is asked to contact ISAC to obtain a review of the Scientific Initiative outcomes in order to inform future strategy, by Jan. 31, 2016.

5. Policy matters and society management

5.1. Agenda of General Assembly in Prague

Cnl discussed and amended the first draft of the agenda of the GA meetings in Prague. Documents will be distributed to the Ordinary Members one month in advance in digital form. If necessary, additional documents will be prepared on a USB stick and distributed during registration for the GA.

One of the documents will be the Strategic Plan. This will be provided by OA as part of his report to the GA.

Action 16/1005: CH is asked to coordinate distribution of all documents, in due time.

Action 16/1006: Cnl members are asked to provide input for the strategic plan to OA in tabular form, by Jan.31, 2016.

5.2. Revision of statutes and bylaws

The suggestions for changes of the statutes and bylaws were discussed and agreed. They need to be sent to the Ordinary Members for consideration.

Action 16/1007: CH is asked to send the proposals for changes of the Statutes and By-laws to the Ordinary Members for consideration, by Jan. 10, 2016.

5.3. Candidates for 2016-2020 period

Cnl discussed the proposals for organising the Congress in 2020 and hosting the Commissions between 2016 and 2020.

It was agreed that an updated version of the sample contract for the Congress be put on the web and a version for the Geospatial Week be derived from that sample contract. This de-

rived version is then to be sent to the organisers of the Geospatial Week 2017. Printed versions of the Archives Vol. A will be produced also in the future, both for archival purposes and as presents for special occasions. The number of copies and the printing process will be decided from case to case.

Action 16/1008: CH is asked to put the updated version of the Congress Sample Contract on the web, by Jan. 31, 2016.

Action 16/1009: JPM is asked to derive a version of the contract for the Geospatial Week and send it to Cnl, by Feb. 29, 2016.

5.4. Update of Green Book

The Green Book is the operational manual for Cnl and needs to be updated regularly.

Action 16/1010: Cnl members are asked to review and complete the provided version of the Green Book, and to send their comments to CH, by Feb. 29, 2016.

6. Report of Regional Representatives

HF and MH reported their activities to improve the visibility of ISPRS in Africa and South America, respectively. Thanks to their efforts the address database was updated over the last years, and contact to some members could be revitalised.

One of the main problems to further increase membership and active participation is lack of funds. Mapping institutions partly struggle to fulfil their everyday mandate, so new partners should be sought from universities, remote sensing centres and the space agencies. Another action item is to organise meetings in the region, as it is difficult for participants to travel to locations outside the region. Such meetings should be application oriented rather than research oriented in order to fulfil the need of potential participants.

CJ mentioned that TIF grants are available for delegates of Ordinary Members and active scientists to participate in ISPRS meetings, in particular the Congress. He also mentioned that ISPRS Individual Membership might play a major role in these areas.

MM mentioned that an award specifically for Africa has been recently established by the company IGI from Kreuzthal, Germany. She will forward this information to HF.

It would be good to organise meetings of the participants of the regions during the Congress. HF and MH are asked to take the initiative in this respect.

A strategy on how to improve the active participation of members from Africa, South America and South East Asia should be developed. HF and MH will take the lead in this item. The strategy should include names of key individuals, key organisations and potential sustaining members in areas related to ISPRS coming from the regions to help implement the strategy.

Action 16/1011: HF and MH are asked to organise meetings of participants of their respective region at the Congress with the help of LH, in due time.

Action 16/1012: MM to forward information on IGI award for Africa to HF, by Jan. 15, 2016.

Action 16/1013: HF and MH are asked to develop a strategy to improve active participation of members and other interested individuals from their region with the help of NDD, by June 30, 2016.

7. The XXIII Congress in Prague 2016

7.1. List of action items prior to congress

Cnl decided on the meeting prior to the Congress. Cnl Members are asked to arrive in Prague on Friday, July 8, if possible. A Cnl meeting will take place on July 9/10 at a suitable location, followed by a transfer to the Congress Hotel on July 10 in the evening. July 11 will be devoted to onsite preparations.

A number of people are to be invited to the Congress. CJ is asked to update the list from the Melbourne Congress and to then send it to CH for sending out the invitations.

Resolutions are to be prepared by the TCPs based on the template agreed upon in Prague in July 2015.

In order to be in a better position to evaluate the Congress as a whole and the General Assembly, questionnaires are to be prepared and distributed to the participants.

Action 16/1014: CJ is asked to send an updated list of people to be invited to the Congress to CH, by Jan. 31, 2016.

Action 16/1015: CH is asked to invite the people on the list provided by CJ, in due time.

Action 16/1016: CH is asked to contact the TCPs and ask them to provide draft resolutions to be discussed in the JM in Dubai in March 2016, by Jan. 15, 2016.

Action 16/1017: LH is asked to develop two different questionnaires to obtain feedback from participants of the Congress and participants of the General Assembly, by Feb. 29, 2016.

7.2. National Mapping and Cadastre Agency Forum and Space Agency Forum

CH reported on the current status. HF and MH offered help in contacting potential speakers from Africa and South America.

Action 16/1018: HF and MH are asked to provide to CH a list of potential speakers from their region to give a talk at the NMCA and the Space Agency Forum, and to help in contacting the selected speakers afterwards, by Jan. 31, 2016.

7.3. Awards

Cnl discussed the status of nominations and further actions.

It was decided that for the President's Award, groups of officers from a single working group (chair, co-chairs, secretary) can be suggested by the TCP as an alternative to suggesting a single individual.

Action 16/1019: OA is asked to coordinate the storage of all received nominations in the restricted area of the ISPRS web with the help of web master Markus English, in due time.

Action 16/1020: CH is asked to contact the Nomination Committee to check received nominations between Feb. 1st and Feb. 15, 2016 and to recommend further action, by Jan. 15, 2016.

Action 16/1021: CH is asked to inform TCPs that they should please nominate candidates for the Presidential Citation to CH and that they can nominate individuals or a group of officers from one working group, by Jan. 15, 2016.

7.4. Prague Declaration

Cnl discussed the current text and the next steps.

Action 16/1022: CJ is asked to provide an update taking into account the received comments, by Feb. 29, 2016.

8. ISPRS Membership

8.1. Individual membership

CH reported about the current status. As of Dec. 31, 2015, ISPRS counted 394 Individual Members.

Individual members have been informed that they need to renew their membership on an annual basis. As of Jan. 6 about 250 members had already renewed their membership.

8.2. Changes in other Membership Categories

CH reported on the status.

9. ISPRS Publications

9.1. ISPRS Annals and Archives

CH reported on the status. An application for inclusion of the Archives and Annals in the Engineering Index EI has been submitted via Copernicus.

Action 16/1023: CH is asked to obtain an updated table of the entries into the ISI index from Thomson Reuters, by Feb. 29, 2016.

9.2. ISPRS Journals

9.2.1. Journal strategy document

MM reported on the status of the strategy documents. Cnl discussed the suggested changes. The document is now nearly finished.

Action 16/1024: MM is asked to provide a final version of the document, by Feb. 29, 2016.

Cnl also discussed issues of separation and potential overlap of the two journals. The E-i-C's of the two journals are asked to meet in Prague to prepare a document for this issue, based on the aims of the respective journals.

9.2.2. Status of contract with Elsevier

JPM reported on the progress of the discussions with Elsevier. The contract is now nearly finalised and will shortly be sent to CJ for signature.

Action 16/1025: JPM is asked to complete the final details and to instruct Elsevier to send the contract to Chen Jun for signature, by Jan. 31, 2016.

9.3. eBulletin, GIM and Geoinformatics page

CH reported on the status of the publications. The list of contributors to the editorial is updated.

9.4. Biennial report 2014/15

CH reported on the status. Nearly all contributions have been received and publication is scheduled for March 2016.

9.5. Book series

LZ reported that the manuscript of a book by Chris Gold on spatial context has been received. He also presented a plan for the publication of more books in the near future. The plan was considered favourably by Cnl.

10. Financial affairs

10.1. Update on subscription payments received to date / members in arrears

Cnl decided that certain countries be contacted with respect to their outstanding dues and be offered a suitable solution to the problem.

Action 16/1026: JPM is asked to contact the identified Ordinary Members to see whether a solution can be achieved, by Jan. 31, 2016.

10.2. Current 2015 financial position against budget

JPM presented the financial position against budget for 2015. Some late transactions are still outstanding, but it can be concluded that the year will probably end with a small profit.

10.3. ISPRS registration, banking and tax payment

JPM reported the current situation. At the moment, no further action is needed.

10.4. ISPRS budget 2016

JPM presented the budget for 2016. It was endorsed by Council.

Action 16/1027: Cnl members are asked to provide JPM with estimates of necessary resources up until the Congress, by Jan. 31, 2016.

10.5. TIF budget 2016

MM presented the TIF budget for 2016. Cnl recommended this budget be adopted by the TIF Board of Trustees.

11. ISPRS Committees

11.1. Student Consortium

MM reported on three proposals for summer schools in 2016: one in connection with the congress, one in connection with ACRS 2016 in Sri Lanka, one in Brazil. Cnl recommends all three summer schools to be supported, and in addition, to support the 3S activity with 1.000,- CHF.

11.2. New International Industry Advisory Committee

Cnl discussed the documents provided by IIAC chair Franz Leberl (FL). The letter to prospective new sustaining members was endorsed. CH was asked to communicate with FL to ensure that the interests of Ordinary Members are taken into account.

Points of contact for obtaining addresses and names of key people in potential new sustaining members are HF and Ian Dowman for Africa, MH for South America, NDD, CJ, Shunji Murai and Kohei Cho for Asia, and John Trinder for Australia. Also the national Ordinary Members are good sources of information. This is in particular true for NMCA's.

The table which converts the advantages of membership into financial benefits was endorsed by Council. FL is asked to modify the table as he sees necessary.

The participation of individuals in IIAC still needs additional discussion.

CH is asked to continue the contact with FL, help him where possible and to ask him to present the status of his activities during the Congress in Prague.

Action 16/1028: CH is asked to contact FL with the result of the discussions and to ask him to report on the status of activities during the Congress in Prague, by Jan. 31, 2016.

12. Relations with international and other organisations

12.1. ICSU - GeoUnions

OA reported on an ICSU-GeoUnions meeting, which was held in Trieste in Nov. 2015. Cnl endorsed a declaration on "Future Earth and Space Science Education" developed at that meeting under the leadership of IUGG.

Action 16/1029: CH is asked to inform IUGG that ISPRS has endorsed the declaration of Trieste, by Jan. 15, 2016.

12.2. IUGS

CH reported that a request was received by IUGS to consider support of a potential project on "Environmental Geoscience of the anthropocene: Past and future". The project is interesting to ISPRS.

Action 16/1030: CH is asked to inform IUGS about the interest of ISPRS in the Anthropocene project proposal, by Jan. 15, 2016.

Action 16/1031: CJ is asked to provide support to the project with the help of MH, in due time.

12.3. JBGIS

CJ reported on the last JBGIS meeting in New York in August 2015. The report on the Status of the World, a project carried out by Gottfried Konecny and supported by ISPRS in the frame of the Scientific Initiative, was very well received.

The next JBGIS meeting is to be held during the Congress in Prague.

Action 16/1032: LH is asked to coordinate a date and place for the meeting with the help of OA and CJ, by Jan. 31, 2016.

12.4. GEO

CJ informed Cnl about the GEO plenary in Mexico in November 2015. During the meeting he made a number of remarks concerning ISPRS incl. the vision paper, the Congress and the two Fora to be held as part of the Congress.

13. Coming meetings

13.1. Meetings to be attended by Council members

The list of meetings was updated. LH is asked to consider participation in the ICSU meeting in Paris and GeoSibir 2016 in Novosibirsk, both in April 2016.

13.2. Next meetings

Skype Meeting, Feb. 17, 2016

In order to further prepare the Congress the European Cnl Members will meet at TU Munich on Feb. 17, 2016. CJ and MM will join via Skype as long as possible.

Action 16/1033: CH is asked to prepare the meeting in Munich to discuss the 2016 Congress, in due time.

JM Spring Dubai, 15th - 18th March, 2016

Action 16/1034: CH is asked to coordinate all necessary actions for the JM in Dubai with the local organisers, in due time.

The location of the Joint Meeting of Council and Commission Presidents in autumn 2016 was discussed.

Action 16/1035: CH is asked to contact potential hosts of the JM in autumn 2016, by Feb. 29, 2016.

14. Closing

OA thanked CJ for the warm hospitality in the name of all Cnl members. CJ thanked all presenters of the seminar held on Jan. 8 and closed the meeting at 16:00.