



Commission 5 Steering Committee Meeting

19 and 21 April 2005, Cairo – Egypt
Intercontinental Semiramis

1. Welcome, Opening Remarks, Roll call

Meeting started on 19 April 2005 at 1745 (Commission 5 Meeting Room)

Present – Naser El Sheimy, Dan Schnurr, Mikael Lilje, Cyril Romieu, Vaclav Slaboch, Matt Higgins, Rob Sarib and Rudolf Staiger

Apologies – Michel Kasser

2. Confirmation of Agenda

Confirmed.

3. Action items from previous Steering Committee minutes – Athens WW and Paris (Dec04). Refer to Cairo Action Items spreadsheet.

Meeting Adjourned at 1830.

Meeting Reconvened on 21 April 2005 at 0840 (Pool Room) and re-commenced at Action Item 13.1 Athens.

Present – Mikael Lilje, Cyril Romieu, Matt Higgins, Rob Sarib and Rudolf Staiger

Apologies – Michel Kasser, Naser El Sheimy, Dan Schnurr, Vaclav Slaboch

4. Report on ACCO and Council

Matt provided a brief Council report.

Matt referred to his and Rob's notes taken at the ACCO meeting.

Action 4.1 - Rob to circulate Matts 'final' ACCO and Council notes to all Steering Committee members.

5. Future workings of Commission 5 and 2006 to 2010 Workplan

Discussion topics were -

- New subjects such as Navigation / guidance systems ; laser scanning
- A separate working group for GNSS with subgroups relating systems and applications ; infrastructure ie GPS and Galileo ; location based services.
- Maintain working groups such as reference frame ; standards ; mobile mapping ?
- Review the role of Mobile Mapping ? working group 5.3 ? – should it be referred to ISPRS ? more liaisons with ISPRS ?
- Remove 5.4 once Dan's document has been completed – should these be converted to a task force rather than a working group ?

- Should there be more task forces ? ie focussed groups and projects with shorter time frames and concise objectives.
- The role of Vice Chair of Admin to also maintain website rather than FIG Office ?
- Should we focus on more applications / training / how to do things ?
- Review Comm 5's structure towards conference sessions ie make them more focussed.
- Create a Comm 5 liaisons officer to communicate with IAG, UN, Corporate Members, ISPRS etc – in fact should there be a liaison person representing all Commissions ?
- Who is available to Chair Standards ? potential members need to be advised.

Note – Refer to Open Meeting work plan comments as well.

Action 5.1 – Rudolf to draft a work plan by IAG in Cairns, August 2005 for circulation and Steering Committee to discuss.

6. FIG Liaisons update – ie with UN and IAG

Matt reported that liaisons with these ‘sister’ organisations were going well, but expressed concern that to continue this role (especially UN GNSS) he would need to source additional funding / resources so as not to draw on Commission funds required by Rudolf term during his term as Chair. He advised of the signing of several MOUs, FIGs recent involvement at technical events with these organisations (e.g. Cairo and Cairns) and highlighted that other key initiatives such as the UN OOSA /GNSS workshops are indicators of good relations and co-operation. Matt referred to his reports on the Commission 5 website for more detail.

Matt, Rob and Rudolf discussed the possibility of developing better relations with ISPRS, especially with respect to providing assistance with the management of papers and technical sessions at FIG conferences and relevant issues pertaining to remote sensing.

Action 6.1 - Matt to formalise initial contact with Ian Dowman (President ISPRS) and to ask for relevant contacts within ISPRS to address the above (email address – idowman@ge.ucl.ac.uk)

Action 6.2 – Rudolf to consider formalising this relationship and arrangements with ISPRS as part of Commission 5's 2006-10 work plan.

7. Discussion and follow up of AFREF meeting.

Matt, Cyril, Mikael and Rob attending the AFREF meeting. It was an open meeting that saw good representation from decision makers from the majority of the 50+ countries in Africa as well as the Presidents of IAG (Gerhard Beutler) , ISPRS (Ian Dowman) and ICA (Milan Konecny). IGS (Ruth Neilan) and Commission 1 of IAG (Herman Drewes) were also represented. The open meeting and a meeting of the project steering committee enabled discussion of the next steps in the establishment of an ITRF based single reference frame for the African continent. The meeting was led by IAG and FIG's role at this meeting was primarily to facilitate and provide technical assist were possible.

Action 7.1 – Rob to circulate the minutes and summary of the meeting and address for AFREF web site, once they have been received.

8. Discussion and follow up any issues arising from Open Meeting.

Refer to Open Meeting minutes and action items.

Action 8.1 – Rob to also circulate Open Minutes / Actions to all open meeting participants.

9. FIG Surveyors Reference Library –

Matt, Rudolf and Rob referred the Steering Committee to the Matt's ACCO notes on this subject. Generally, this project / library will now be a 'collection of papers' and thus most papers will be accepted. However authors may need to comply with more stringent guidelines.

10. Update and critical review of WG's - progress, workplans and achievements.

Refer to Matts Cairo report to the GA.

WG5.1 – Rudolf added that the standards on reference frames will need monitoring.

WG5.2 – Mikael advised that the 5.2 web site structure has been finalised and a work schedule prepared. The web content and fact sheets are still in draft form.

WG5.3 – Naser was not available. However the Mobile Mapping Symposiums are functioning well and other sub-working groups appear to be progressing (including the new sub-group on GNSS Development). It should be noted that Naser also reported on latest progress with the technology in a technical session during the Cairo conference.

WG5.4 – Dan was not present, however refer to Action Item Athens 9.2.. It should be noted that Dan also reported on latest progress with WG5.4 publication in a technical session during the Cairo conference.

11. Website upgrades – general discussion on proposals.

Refer to Action Items Athens 4.3, 6.1 and 7.3

Action 11.1 – All to supply 4 to 5 highlight photos of the Cairo Working week to Rob so that the Comm 5 photo gallery can be organised. Also, ALL are to supply some photos of previous regional conferences and working weeks that were attended for the 2002-06 term to populate the gallery.

12. Discuss next Regional Conference and Coming Events

Cuba, Havana

- Rudolf proposed to conduct training seminars / sessions on 'how to use' total stations.
- It was also suggested by Antonio Hernandez at the Commission 5 Open meeting that a work shop on regional reference frame issues and SIRGAS be investigated.
- Also refer to Action Item Athens 18.1

Action 12.1 – Rob and Rudolf to find out who in the region can assist with these projects and provide more information on session formats and potential topics.

Accra, Ghana

- It was suggested by Stephen Djaba at the Commission 5 Open Meeting that a reference frame workshop on AFREF be held at this conference.
- The Steering Committee also discussed the possibility of conducting workshops or training sessions on fundamental survey techniques (ie EDM, levelling etc) and also terrestrial laser scanning.

Action 12.2 – Matt and Rob to liaise with Stephen Djaba on the above and potential topics and session formats.

It was also noted by the group that the workshops / sessions in the above regional areas should consider using interpreters or local presenters so that the content can be effectively communicated. Mikael and Cyril suggested that courses could be done in several languages spoken by steering committee members ie French, English and German. For Cuba none of the steering committee members speak Spanish.

IAG Cairns

- Refer to Action items Athens 4.4, 4.5 and 18.1

General discussion on Conferences

- Develop technical, Comm 5 core business symposiums with like organisations such as IAG, IGS or potentially ION. Note ION or IGS role could be the facilitator or take the lead. The level of input from each participating body at such conferences needs to be defined.

Action 12.3 – All to monitor and develop. This item can be amalgamated with Action Item Athens 4.5

Note – Matt advised that Council is looking at reviewing the frequency of Regional conferences to possibly every 2 years. This will then allow each commission to potentially focus on co-sponsoring a core business symposium every other year. Matt has had initial discussions with Beutler, Neilan and Rizos from IAG/IGS on possible symposium series on high accuracy GNSS applications.

- It was noted that there is no apparent difference between WW and Regional conferences.
- The issues of servicing ‘the outreach philosophy’ vs core members need to be better balanced; the equation needs to be redefined to be more equal for both stakeholders.
- Examine model used by ISPRS for their technical conferences.
- More speakers on applications
- More time should be allocated for focussed / topical workshops and ‘reflection’ on proceedings during WW.

Action 12.4 - Matt and Rudolf to report the above points to Council and ACCO.

- Management of ‘poster’ presentations needs to be re-assessed by ACCO / Council. Some suggestions are -
 1. The format of posters needs to be more specific and improved.
 2. Clear guidelines for presenters need to be established

3. Posters should only be called for and accepted for 'focussed' workshops only. They are to be posted on the walls of the room for ½ to 1 day workshop. This workshop should have 3-4 case studies / presentations on the work shop issue. The workshop needs to be focussed thus the posters need to be relevant and targeted. After presentation of case papers an open discussion is then encouraged to examine the case studies or explore the relevant posters. This concept should be trialled in Munich and possibly use the theme RTK / CORs networks. Munich brochure currently mentions a RTK Network Providers Forum.

Action Item 12.5 – Rudolf to write a proposal by September 2005 (Cuba) for circulation and ACCO.

13. Next Steering Committee meeting

Scheduled for Cairns 2005.