

# IAHS BUREAU 2002

(Initial version modified according to ICSI's President remarks)

Date and time: Sunday 16 June 2002 from 9 am

Place: Room III UNESCO Headquarters, 1 place de Fontenoy, 75007 Paris

**Participants** : J. Boehler (Secretary), M. Bonnell (UNESCO), L. Gottschalk (IAHS Vice-President), W. Grabs (WMO), A. Gustard (ICSW), P. Hubert (IAHS SG), G. Jones (ICSI), Z. Kundzewicz (IAHS Edidor), J. Mc Donnell (ICT), M. Menenti (ICRS), L. Oyabande (IAHS Vice-President), J. Rodda (IAHS Past-President), D. Rosbjerg (ICWRS), Y. Rubin (ICGW), J. Steenworden (ICWQ), F. Stewarts (ICASVR), W. Summer (ICCE), A. Szöllösi-Nagy (UNESCO), K. Takeuchi (IAHS President)

**Excused** : P. Aggarwal (IAEA), A. Hall (GEWEX WG), E. Kontar (IAPSO-IAHS WG), E. O'Connell (Theoretical Hydrology WG), C. Onstad (IAHS Treasurer), T. Oki (Hydrology 2020 WG), D. Walling (IAHS Ltd),

1- Adoption of [agenda](#)

2- Reports

## **Andras Szöllösi-Nagy (UNESCO)**

- The new Director General of UNESCO defined five new principles one of which concerns the natural science division: Water is now considered as the priority of the whole science program. Consequently the budget got 45% increased.
- The first version of the world water report is ready. Thousand pages will be presented at the WWF3 in Kyoto.
- UNESCO has created new institutions: the UNESCO institute for water and education, the Regional Center on urban water problems, and IHE Delft becomes part of UNESCO.
- During the Kovacs Colloquium on 14 et 15 of June the fifth face of the IHP program has been evaluated. The implementation plan is ready.

*IAHS President:* IAHS is glad to hear that water is now UNESCO's highest priority. IASH is willing to cooperate with IHP.

## **Wolfgang Grabs (WMO)**

- The new initiative is an associated program on flood management with GWP and WMO. Concerned regions are southern Africa, South Asia, Central America, and parts of Europe. It was submitted to GWP to take care of the fund raising.
- A second expert from Japan will arrive next month.
- Another initiative concerns a joint UNESCO program on water and climate (Netherlands). A joint statement on 19 sessions has been adopted with IPCC.
- A global observing system will be created, kind of a network on existing networks.
- They will try to organize a technical conference on global studies.
- The second face of a hydrology program in South Africa is/will be launched.

*IAHS President:* IAHS has a tight collaboration with the 6<sup>th</sup> IHP program, but collaboration with UNESCO could be better in some other directions, like water and climate.

#### **K. Takeuchi IAHS President:**

- The president thanks IAHS members for supporting his presidency.
- The last IHP bureau meeting said that IHP would collaborate for implementing the PUB initiative. The president would appreciate if this statement became realized. The leadership of this initiative can't be taken by one person. The outcome of the preparation meeting will be discussed later.
- Concerning the Kick-off meeting in Brasilia, there was a proposal for financial support of the order of 10.000 to 15.000 \$.
- The president has attended several meetings including yje WWC Board of Goàvernors and he was nominated as a jury member of the Hassan II award ceremony.
- For the WWF3, IAHS has submitted a PUB session and asked for 100.000\$ of financial support.
- At the meeting for ICSU joint water programs in Paris last month the president represented IAHS and IHP.
- At the jury's meeting in Budapest on 15 and 16 of June someone from Hong Kong represented IAHS. The president proposes that this commission should be represented in Kyoto in March 2003.
- The Tehran regional center for urban water management has made an agreement with IASH. They request to draw down a mode of collaboration with IAHS.
- The major concern of the 6<sup>th</sup> IHP program is the identification of human influence on global hydrology and water environment. The new joint water initiative has no coordination nor association with ongoing UN programs.

*Someone:* IAHS is not involved in ICSU activities and often ICSU activities go against IAHS.

*Wolfgang:* This new joint water project has not advanced much, even though it has not too much overlap with other programs. The major concern of those who initiated it is the human aspect.

*IAHS President:* The IAHS bureau could make a decision of options. The association needs to commit on some action.

*Andras S. N. :* There is a need of coordination with all the ongoing water programs. ICSU ignore us

*John:* [He is going to write a letter to them](#)

*Someone:* Maybe IAHS should think about how to change itself in order to better engage ICSU.

*Someone:* Of course IAHS could change and become an operator, but the main problem is to become a partner right from the beginning when programs are created.

*President:* A written proposal should be made concerning this statement.

#### **L. Ovebände IAHS Vice-President**

#### **P. Hubert Secretary General**

- The actual main occupation is the preparation of [Sapporo General Assembly](#).
- The deadline for abstracts for the symposium and the publication of the red book is 31 July. [Note 11 August 2002 Too few abstracts were submitted ([see situation on 6 August](#)).

*The dead line for abstracts submission to prepublished Symposia HS01, HS02, HS03 and HS04 has been postponed to the 31 of August]*

- For the updating and managing of the IAHS web site, which remain one of the major tasks of the secretariat, members are asked to send information, documents, pictures, etc. The frequentation of the Web Site, with between 50 and 100 members a day seems to be satisfactory.

### **C. Onstad Treasurer**

- The global situation is good.
- Maastrich was very positive even on the financial point of view: the benefit was about 20.000 US\$.

### **Z. Kundzewicz IAHS Editor**

- Commercial aspects: the number of subscribers should increase faster.
- The number of new journals is regularly increasing which heightens the competition on a small market.
- IAHS will publish 7 issues. The special section on Eco-hydrology provoked editorials. There were very good responses. A special section is more flexible than a special issue.
- Since Maastricht the red book has had six new publications. 14 new red books are actually in preparation.
- A blue book exists on Eco-hydrology
- 200% improvement of the long term average.

*Pierre Hubert:* IAHS has received an invitation for the international science editorial conference. The IAHS will attend this meeting

*Someone:* Has the IAHS journal electronic access or only hardcopy?

*Editor:* For the moment only hardcopy. Many universities would be very interested in electronic access, but for IAHS running both would be very expensive. If free electronic access is given, a main income is lost. To ensure electronic publishing, IAHS would have to recruit someone. There should be open competition.

*Someone:* IAHS press produces no more than three volumes a year. Maybe the production capacity should be increased because often interesting proposals have to be refused.

### **IAHS Limited**

## **International Commissions and Working Groups**

### **Hydrology 2020**

### **IAHS/WMO Working Group for GEWEX**

### **ICSW Surface Water**

- The next international symposium of the British hydrology society will be held in London
- The proposal for the contribution of the PUB initiative was accepted by the comity in London.
- At the meeting with DFID the support for IAHS was discussed

- A summary of the IAHS activity report for 1999 is needed by 31 July in order to write a progress report.
- Members of IAHS are asked to make proposals for the reduction of poverty (period 2003-2006). Support from DFID can be more easily obtained if proposals are related to development in poor countries. (meeting in New Delhi)
- Within the countries which support IAHS almost none give direct money into the secretariat. Under these conditions it is difficult to obtain money from DFID.

*Someone:* What is the definition of a poor country? Is there any classification?

*Someone:* IAHS should not decide itself which are poor countries and which are not, but use an official list. For example the World Bank List of less developed countries.

### ICGW Groundwater

- Promoting conferences in form of sponsorship can be profitable for IAHS. But lending a name should also mean to have some involvement in managing the conference for example as a representative in the scientific comity. Lending IAHS name implies to give its mailing list. Therefore IAHS should at least have some benefit from sponsoring conferences. IAHS needs a common policy about cosponsoring meetings. Maybe a specific fund should be created for participation in meetings. A proposal will be drawn down.

*Someone:* Every commission should have its own policy because the different commissions don't have the same problem.

*P. Hubert:* The more meetings are mentioned on the web site, the more people will be attracted, but two different colors could be used to indicate those meetings which are really organized by IAHS.

Yoram Rubin, ICGW president is requested to write a paper on IAHS Sponsorship of Scientific Meetings within the end of this year. This paper will be then widely disseminated within IAHS and discussed in Sapporo.

### **ICCE Continental Erosion**

- Some publication is about to be prepared with UNESCO
- In the 6<sup>th</sup> IHP program, continental erosion is not a specific topic, therefore it is difficult to raise funds. Still basic research is needed particularly in social and economical aspects of erosion.

### ICSI Snow and Ice

- The workshop in Katmandu was focused on education and training. These activities are financially supported by UNESCO
- There are difficulties in financing the publication of Volume VIII of the 'Fluctuations of Glaciers' series by WGMS in 2003. ICSI has requested support from IPCC.
- ICSI has set up a Task Force to examine the difficulties that the Commission faces in not being able to attract scientists of all disciplines in the cryospheric sciences, particularly glaciologists, to ICSI symposia that are held during IAHS Scientific Assemblies. The President noted that the mandate of the Task Force is flexible with regard to the possible options for ICSI that the Task Force will examine. Thus, it could well be that of all the

options in question, the option of seeking some status for glaciology in IUGG distinct from IAHS be a preferred recommendation of the final report (due, October 2002)

### **ICWQ Water quality**

- The commission has two major activities: a joint project with UNESCO on ground water indicators (WWAP) and a symposium on methodology for ground water problems in collaboration with IAHS

*P.Hubert:* There will be a red book related to that symposium in Sapporo.

### **ICWRS Water Resources Systems**

- The commission is sponsoring a meeting in Dresden.

*IAHS President:* At an institutional level IAHS is not invited at the meeting in Stockholm.

### **ICRS Remote Sensing**

- The fifth workshop commission has sponsored a smaller event and three events will be cosponsored next year.
- The commission is looking for opportunities to play a more visible role

*IAHS president:* project of a joint symposium with the Continental erosion commission in Sapporo.

### **ICASVR Atmosphere-Soil-Vegetation Relations**

The commission proposed to support a workshop but not to organize it. Therefore the commission is not responsible if the workshop is not being prepared yet. The proposal was noted but not specifically encouraged.

### **ICT Tracers**

- It is important for the group to disseminate the material.
- ICT proposes a workshop to bring in hydrologists from developing countries.
- ICT would like to link as far as possible with the JIHP meetings. If other commissions are interested they are welcome.

### **IAHS/IAPSO Joint Commission on Groundwater-Seawater Interactions**

## **3. DISCUSSION MATTERS**

1.- Sapporo:

The scientific comity met twice. Four IAHS symposia and eight IAHS workshops are planned. All of these events will take place during the second week except the some joint symposia. The second circular will be received soon. The deadline of abstracts for the red books of Symposia HS01, HS02, HS03 and HS04 is 31 July [postponed 31 August]. The format and schedule of the 2020 sessions has to be defined in order to give them a maximum visibility.

The plenary sessions of the international commission will all take place the same day. If two sessions are held in parallel people can't attend them both. Therefore some plenary sessions could be joint together.

A time for elections has to be reserved somehow. Every commission has to prepare the process by consultation.

Poster sessions are not presented in the program yet. They often get very little attention. Therefore posters should be placed just outside the session room. To be really progressive, posters should be weighted equally and an announcement should officially value posters.

In some conferences guides lead groups through the poster sessions at dedicated times and the authors of posters make short presentations. If people are not guided, they often run through poster sessions without reading them. IAHS will have 4 or 5 rooms at its disposal. One of them could be entirely used for posters. These ideas will be forwarded to the local organizing committee

## 2.- Election matters

Concerning the organization of elections, in some case, a person goes from one room to another to let people make their vote. This is possible only if meetings are not all held the same day. Another solution could be to put the vote-box in an indicated room where all commission members meet after the commission conferences. Eventually the election could be organized within the frame of a free lunch.

Meetings should be held before the elections, but on the other hand elections shouldn't take place the last day because some people might leave the conference earlier.

It is necessary to have a nomination panel (IAHS Bureau) and nomination groups (IAHS Commissions). The commissions are encouraged not to establish their own nomination groups because that would lead to geographical, gender and age redundancies. On the other hand if the nomination panel deals with topics that refer to the commissions, it will take their power away. In the past there was one nomination panel for the bureau and one nomination group for each commission.

If each commission wishes to establish its own nomination group, they can do so. But the nomination panel should keep the power to make a final check in order to avoid for example that the presidents of all commissions come from the same country. The nomination panel decides. The nomination group of each commission is formed by the commissions themselves except if the commission wants the nomination group to be the same as the nomination panel. The nomination panel needs to check the global coherence.

The reason why the nomination committee is only composed by five people is that good elements are needed for this function and at the same time these people can't be candidates.

Concerning the nomination panel, last time Andras S.N. was a member and valuable part of it. Maybe this time someone from WMO should be part of it in order to balance these two organizations. Wolfgang Grabs accepts this role but has to check it with his colleagues because it involves an organization membership.

By electing people, the association should be careful not to choose people who are too busy because they might get elected but never be active. Other voices rise to say that it is not the association's role to judge if people are busy or not.

The president encourages the 2020 group to provide a list of candidates and 2020 members are encouraged to become candidates themselves.

[Note 11 August. [Present status of Nomination Panel and Nomination Committees](#)]

3.- PUB presentation [See the program draft](#) (11 June) and [the revised draft program](#) (9 August)

Observational network I

*IAHS president:* The PUB program can be synthesized as follows

Assemble technology jobs to get necessary data, promote the scientific frontier of hydrology and encourage capacity building.

It should be stated somewhere that the PUB initiative is coordinated with IHP, UNESCO and other Agencies because these links will be helpful to raise funds. To make the program powerful it also has to be linked up with ongoing initiatives which are already funded.

“Some very big birds are too big to fly”. If the PUB initiative wants to fly for over ten years then it should be put into parcels. The initiative can't be led by a single researcher. The initiative could be approached with a regional logic.

It is necessary for IAHS to make the national commission work on this initiative. Maybe some money could then come from these countries.

The role of ICSI in the PUB initiative was discussed. The President of the Commission pointed out that the absence of ICSI in PUB is due to the current priorities of the Commission. ICSI attempts to develop these priorities with respect to its mandate and to best serve the community it represents. Current priorities are: the UNESCO programmes that have been set up in the Himalayas and soon to be in the Andes on the Glacier Monitoring Networks, WGMS financing and other activities such as the ICSI Task Force, SNOWMIP, the Sapporo Symposium and Workshop. This leaves little time for other activities due to limited time and resources. However, the President agreed that the nomination of a representative of ICSI to the PUB Committee was a positive suggestion. The Commission is thus to nominate a representative as soon as possible. The president underlines that the PUB initiative isn't an obligation but an opportunity. Two comments on the PUB draft program: the implementation of PUB should be encouraged instead of concentrating only on concepts and the study should include information about synergies with existing programs.

More information is needed about the deliberations of the different meetings planned in 2003 because IAHS members can't attend all of them. The milestone meetings for the PUB initiative are the kick-off meeting in Brasilia, the WWF in Kyoto and Sapporo. The other meetings are just forwarding the process.

Probably ICSU could be encouraged to work more closely on the PUB initiative. This matter should be included in the letter which will be sent to them.

4.- Vitalization of IAHS

IH Prize and Tison Award

The bureau hasn't received any nomination for the international hydrology prize this year. The system of international representatives has to be revitalized. More contacts could be established with individual members. Probably the rules of the nominations should get changed. But in 2002 the prize should not be awarded. For next year, two options should be considered for the nomination: left over candidates from previous years and active middle age international hydrologists which are numerous in having published very interesting papers. There are always a lot of potential candidates, young peoples with very good papers, but it seems as if the responsible commissions have not done its best. The president proposes that a nomination comity should be formed, but on the other hand the existing rules should be respected. The deadline for nominations was 31 December. Not having a prize this year should be considered as a wakeup call to prepare things correctly next year and to reengage national commissions which are not working. Probably next time the bureau could alarm people just before the deadline in case no nomination have been proposed.

As a compromise IAHS could leave the IH prize for this year but at least give some junior prize (Tison Award) to encourage young peoples work ?

Other voices wonder why the rules should be so strict. Of course quality has to be saved but still the rules could be canceled next year. In any case what happened this year should never happen again.

### Publications

New titles of journals come up every year. Numerous titles cover the same area. The title of IAHS journal might be changed.

Maybe the Nordic Hydrology association could join IAHS as a regional comity. That could be a good example for Africa where national commissions don't work so well. But the Nordic Hydrology Association is a member based association.

### IAHS structure

[See Jeff's Mc Donnell proposals presented in Maastricht.](#)

### WWF3,WWC, etc

For the WSSD, the Dutch have rented out the water dome in Johannesburg. The world is divided into six themes. WMO works on water climate and energy. Within each of the full day themes, sessions and workshops will be organized. The individual events are financed by leading agencies. Water will be an integrating factor at WSSD. Even though the WSSD is a large and important event, IAHS can't afford to be present in the dome.

## **4.- Other matters**

The regional center for urban water management in Tehran has an agreement with IAHS. Any commission which is interested in helping the regional urban center in Teheran can look into the possibility of cooperation. The water resource commission and the commission for continental erosion should contact Teheran to know what they expect of IAHS.

The president replaced the last issue in the newsletter by an invitation letter. John Rodda offers to edit the material if somebody else takes the burden to carry it out.

In 2005 IAHS would have a common scientific assembly with IAPSO and IAMAS in Beijing. But IAPSO has decided not to go there any more. In that case IAHS can change its mind as well. If Brazil or Argentina are suitable the direction could be switched to those countries.

[Note 11 August 2002] Two documents submitted by W. Summer, ICCE Vice president who attended after the Bureau the JIHP (Joint International Isotopes in Hydrology Program) Steering Committee.

[IAHS Statement](#)

[Proposal to IAHS](#)