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This informal newsletter is intended to keep IUGG Member National Committees informed about the activities of the IUGG Associations, and actions of the IUGG Secretariat. Past issues are posted on the IUGG website (<http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/>). Please forward this message to those who will benefit from the information. Your comments are welcome.

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1. Cooperation of IUGG with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

WMO Executive Council Meeting

The Executive Council (EC) Meeting of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) was held from 13 to 24 June 2016. It was dedicated to several important topics related to weather, climate, water, and cryosphere. Detailed information on the agenda and accepted resolutions can be found at: <http://ec-68.wmo.int/home>. The 2016 WMO Prize was presented to Dame Julia Slingo, Chief Scientist of the UK MetOffice, who delivered a lecture on the history of meteorology and current challenges in atmospheric sciences. The presentation by Julia Slingo can be downloaded from the website: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B66DdLLUhSOtdjFxeKF3QW5xV00/view?pref=2&pli=1>. IUGG Secretary General Alik Ismail-Zadeh attended the meeting from 21 to 23 June 2016.

Business meetings with the WMO leadership

During the meeting, the IUGG Secretary General met Dr. Petteri Taalas, WMO Secretary General, and Dr. Xu Tang, Director of the WMO Department “Weather and Disaster Risk Reduction Services”. The main message was to assure the WMO leadership that IUGG wishes to continue and strengthen the productive cooperation with WMO, based on the Working Agreement adopted by the 10th IUGG General Assembly in Rome, Italy, in 1954, and the Second World Meteorological Congress in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1955, and also to develop cooperation in other WMO activities, such as disaster risk reduction and the Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW) project. It was noted that among about 15 major programs/commissions of WMO, IUGG contributes to about 10 programs in weather, climate and water. Particularly, the IUGG’s initiative on an intergovernmental

disaster risk assessment mechanism was discussed. Later, Dr. Tang arranged a discussion on the topic of disaster risk reduction with Dr. Alasdair Hainsworth, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction Services Division of the Weather and Disaster Risk Reduction Services Department, and two experts from the Division. It was agreed to hold a meeting of potential UN and NGOs partners to discuss the topic of science-based risk assessments.

The IUGG Secretary General met Dr. Miroslav Ondráš, WMO Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW) Project Officer to formalize cooperation between IUGG/IACS and WMO/GCW. Namely, the collaboration will be conducted under the umbrella of the existing working agreement between WMO and IUGG; a contact will be established at the level of the IUGG Secretary General and the GCW Project Office / GCW Steering Group Chair; a focal point will be established between GCW Project Office and IUGG/IACS. IUGG appointed Dr. Charles Fierz (Switzerland) and Prof. Xiao Cunde (China) to liaise with the GCW Project Office on technical issues for the term of 2016-2019.

2. IUGG and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

On 23 June, IUGG Secretary General Dr. Alik Ismail-Zadeh met Dr. Mannava Sivakumar, IPCC Acting Secretary, and Mr. Abdallah Mokssit, IPCC Secretary-Elect (in office from 1 July 2016). The discussion was related to strengthening the cooperation and involvement of IUGG experts in the IPCC work on climate change assessment. As recently announced at a meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, IPCC will commission a special report on the oceans and the cryosphere, A. Ismail-Zadeh presented to A. Mokssit the Report on Future of the Seas and Oceans prepared by a group of IUGG/IAPSO - ICSU/SCOR experts on the occasion of the G7 Science Ministers meeting in Tsukuba, Japan in May 2016.

3. News from the International Council for Science (ICSU)



Extraordinary General Assembly

ICSU will hold its Extraordinary General Assembly on 24 October 2016, as part of a joint General Assembly with the International Social Science Council (ISSC). This event is hosted by the Research Council of Norway, a member of the ISSC. The Extraordinary General Assembly is convened in the context of discussions regarding the future relationship between ICSU and the ISSC, following the recommendation of the respective executive bodies to merge the two organisations. Members of ICSU and of ISSC will be asked to vote whether they agree in principle with the recommendation to merge the two organisations and to appoint a task force that will develop the transition plan in case of agreement by both sides to pursue the merger. ICSU Membership will also vote on the extension of the mandate of the ICSU Executive Board by one year, to October 2018. For more information on the proposed merger, please see the information in the background motivation (<http://www.icsu.org/general-assembly/extraordinary-general-assembly-oslo-2016/enabling-and-advancing-science-for-the-future>) and the draft planning framework (<http://www.icsu.org/general-assembly/extraordinary-general-assembly-oslo-2016/icsu-issc-draft-planning-framework-for-merger>).

ICSU supports integrated science in Africa

As part of its mission to support integrated, solutions-oriented science globally, ICSU has signed a 5-year agreement with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) for a 5-million-EUR program to strengthen research capacity for sustainability in Africa. The program will be delivered by ICSU in conjunction with its Regional Office for Africa (ICSU ROA), the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC), and the International Social Science Council (ISSC). By providing support for integrated research projects on global sustainability across Africa, the program seeks to develop the potential of next-generation scientists in Africa in production and communication of policy-relevant knowledge. More information on the program can be found at: <http://www.icsu.org/what-we-do/projects-activities/leading-integrated-research-for-agenda-2030-in-africa>
<http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/news/top-news/apply-now-for-grants-to-research-the-2016-energy-health-natural-disasters2016-d-nexus-in-african-cities>

ICSU urges Turkey to restore the Principle of Universality of Science

Recalling its Principle of Universality (freedom and responsibility) of Science (Statute 5) and Agenda 2030 (Sustainable Development Goal No. 16), ICSU joins other international and national scientific organizations in expressing grave concern regarding the current situation in Turkey. ICSU deplores the attempted *coup d'état* in Turkey on 15 July 2016, but is deeply concerned about developments since then and, particularly, about reports of Turkish academics and educators having lost their positions in a summary fashion in recent days. ICSU respectfully urges the Turkish authorities to exercise restraint, observe the rule of law, and fully uphold the civil liberties and academic freedom of educators and researchers and to consider the harm contrary actions would do to their scholars, their institutions, and to the reputation of Turkey's higher education and research sector. In this context, efforts by the ICSU Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) and the Turkish Local Organizing Committee towards maintaining the 41st COSPAR Assembly, scheduled to open in Istanbul on 30 July 2016, are to be commended, and it is understandable that under the conditions now prevalent in Turkey, cancellation was required. ICSU expresses its solidarity with the academic and research community of Turkey, especially with ICSU National Member, the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey, TÜBİTAK, and calls on other organizations to do the same.

See also statements by:

- European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA) (<http://www.allea.org/Pages/ALL/33/621.bGFuZz1FTkc.html>)
- European University Association (<http://eua.be/activities-services/news/newsitem/2016/07/19/eua-statement-condemning-the-forced-resignation-of-1577-university-deans>)
- International Astronomical Union (<http://www.iau.org/news/announcements/detail/ann16033>)
- InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) (<http://www.interacademies.net/2952/30509.aspx>)
- International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies (http://www7.nationalacademies.org/humanrights/cs/groups/chrsite/documents/webpage/chr_173505.pdf)

ICSU at the High Level Political Forum: SDGs and the science-policy interface

The annual session of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), the deliberating body for sustainable development at the UN, took place in New York from 11-20 July. ICSU was an active participant in several events during the session. In partnership with the French Institut de Recherche pour le Développement and the Government of Colombia, ICSU organized a side event on 15 July to present a draft framework for understanding SDGs interactions (<http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/news/top-news/new-icsu-paper-published-draft-framework-for-understanding-sdg-interactions>). This framework was the subject of a recently published commentary in *Nature* (<http://www.nature.com/news/policy-map-the-interactions-between-sustainable-development-goals-1.20075>). The event was moderated by Felix Dodds and introduced by ICSU President Gordon McBean, who highlighted the Council's work to promote integrated science in key areas of the SDGs. At a science-policy interface session chaired by Hector Alejandro Palma Cerna, Deputy Permanent Representative of Honduras to the UN and Vice President of the UN United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), there was a discussion moderated by Lucilla Spini, Head of Science Programmes at ICSU. Fumiko Kasuga (a Member of ICSU-CSPR and Director of the Future Earth Japan Global Hub) and Stewart Lockie (ICSU-CSPR member) participated in the Ministerial Segment "Prospects for the future (projections, scenarios and new and emerging issues)", a session on 20 July that was moderated by UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova. A call for stronger science advisory capacities was also voiced by a number of countries, including a delegate [South Africa] acknowledging ICSU's International Network for Government Science Advice (<http://www.icsu.org/what-we-do/projects-activities/international-network-for-government-science-advice-ingsa>) as an initiative worth sharing with all member states.

Source: ICSU website

4. Report on the Workshop “Arctic Subarctic Ocean Flux Study”

The Atlantic sector of the northern hemisphere is a key area for the exchange of heat between the Subarctic and the Arctic, in both the atmosphere and the ocean. In particular, the oceanography and meteorology of the Nordic Seas, Fram Strait, and the Barents Sea exert pivotal constraints on heat exchange with the Arctic Ocean. This heat exchange influences the northern climate system, which is undergoing rapid and widespread change. The workshop “Arctic Subarctic Ocean Flux Study” (ASOF) was held on 30-31 March 2016 in Lerici, Italy, and was dedicated to the challenges associated with observing, modeling, understanding, and predicting these heat exchanges. The workshop addressed the questions: Where are we? What do we know? and What needs to be done? In addition, the workshop featured other contributions relevant to ocean fluxes between the Arctic and Subarctic seas. The main topic was “Arctic–Subarctic Heat Exchange in the Atlantic sector: from Understanding Processes to Predicting Change.” Three solicited presentations set the scene. They focused on the role of northward heat transport variability and its influence on climate predictability, the dynamics and variability of Atlantic Water flow in Fram Strait, and the coupling between the Atlantic Water inflow and the overflow in the Iceland-Scotland region. On a larger-scale perspective, an overview of the water mass transformation in the entire northern hemisphere ocean basins was given, the problems of transient tracers, the stability of the thermohaline flow regimes and thermobaricity issues were discussed, identifying ocean transition zones between Alpha and Beta Oceans relevant for vertical property exchange. Updates were provided on the US and international observational activities in Bering and Davis Strait, as well as in the Beaufort Sea. The meeting concluded with a discussion of building an Arctic observing system, in the face of funding squeezes to important long-term observational programs (e.g., the Faroe Island gateways, Davis Strait, Switchyard, and North Pole Observatory). The group resolved to write a position paper

from the point of view of ASOF. IUGG/IAPSO supported financially the workshop. More detail about the workshop can be found at: <http://asof.awi.de/outputs/asof-issg-meetings-workshops/lerici-march-2016.html>.

Submitted by Michael Karcher and Thomas Haine

5. Awards and Honors

Tom Beer, IUGG President (2007-2011), was awarded the 2016 International Award of the American Geophysical Union for sustained international scientific and societal impact through innovative cross-disciplinary science including climate change, natural hazards and risk. Congratulations to Tom!

6. Jubilees

Uri Shamir -80th birthday



Uri Shamir, President of IUGG (2003-2007), and a distinguished hydrologist, who significantly contributed to water resources management and policy, celebrated his 80th anniversary on 10 July. Uri was born in Jerusalem, Israel. He graduated from the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology in 1962, and received his PhD in 1966 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA. Since 1979 Uri Shamir is Professor - Emeritus since 2004 - in the Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Founding Director (1992-2003) of the Stephen and Nancy Grand Water Research Institute, at the Technion.

In 1992, Prof. Shamir became a consultant to the Israeli Water and Sewage Authority (IWA) on matters of operation, planning and policy, and previously (1967-92) was consultant to Mekorot, the National Water Supply Company. Uri was Visiting Professor in various universities and research institutes in the USA and Canada, and has published widely on research and applications in hydrology of surface and ground water, water supply systems, planning, design and operation of water resources systems, water policy, and management of international waters.

Uri Shamir was Chairman of the Israeli Association of Hydrology (1984-1986), IAHS President (1991-1995), IUGG Vice President (1995-2003), and a Member of the Executive Board of the International Council of Science (ICSU) for the periods 2005-2011, representing the ICSU GeoUnions in the Council, Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee of the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP-TAC), the UN water programme led by UNESCO. He is Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and IUGG; Foreign Member of the Spanish Academy of Science, Honorary Member of the Israel Water Resources Association, recipient of the 2000 International Hydrology Prize awarded by IAHS, UNESCO and WMO, recipient of the 2003 Julian Hinds Award for significant contributions to water resources management from the American Society of Civil Engineers, Fellow of the Environmental and Water Resources Institute of the ASCE, and recipient of the Life-Long Achievement Award of the Israeli Water Association. Congratulations to Uri Shamir!

7. Meeting calendar

A calendar of meetings of interest to IUGG disciplines (especially those organized by IUGG Associations) is posted on the IUGG website (<http://www.iugg.org/calendar.php>). Individual Associations also list more meetings on their websites according to their disciplines.

August

- 1-12, ICTP, CODATA, Trieste, Italy, The CODATA-RDA School of Research Data Science. Web: <http://indico.ictp.it/event/7658/>
- 14-20, IAGA, IUGG, Chiang Mai, Thailand, The 23rd Electromagnetic Induction Workshop – EMIW2016. Web: <http://emiw2016.org/>
- 15-17, IASPEI, Taipei, Taiwan, 5th IASPEI/IAEE International Symposium “Effects of Surface Geology on Seismic Motion (ESG5)”. Web: <http://esg5.ncree.org.tw>
- 20-30, SCAR, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, XXXIV SCAR Meetings and Open Sciences Conference. Web: <http://scar2016.com/>
- 21-25, IGU, Beijing, China, 33rd International Geographical Congress. Web: <http://www.igc2016.org/dct/page/1>
- 21-26, IAHS, Incheon, Republic of Korea, HIC 2016 12th International Conference on Hydroinformatics. Web: <http://www.hic2016.org/html/index.php>
- 21–27, IAGA, Dinant, Belgium, 15th Castle Meeting - New Trends on Paleo, Rock and Environmental Magnetism. Web: <http://www.meteo.be/meteo/view/en/20068474-Castle+meeting+2016.html>
- 23-25, EMSEV, CSES, Beijing, China, 2nd International Workshop on China Seismo-Electromagnetic Satellite Mission. Web: www.aconf.org/en-us/conf_73066.html
- 25-29, EMSEV, IUGG, Lanzhou, China, International 2016 EMSEV Workshop. Web: <http://www.emsev2016.com/>
- August 27 - September 4, IUGS, Cape Town, South Africa, 35th International Geological Congress. Web: <http://www.35igc.org/>

September

- 2-10, IAVCEI, Shikotsu and Toya Calderas, Japan, 6th Workshop & 4th Course on Collapse Caldera. Web: <https://staff.aist.go.jp/geshi-nob/CCC/>
- 4-7, IAG, Wroclaw, Poland, IAG Commission 4 Positioning and Applications Symposium. Web: <http://www.igig.up.wroc.pl/IAG2016/>
- 4-9, IAMAS, IUGG, Edinburgh, UK, Quadrenial Ozone Symposium 2016. Web: <http://www.ozone-symposium-2016.org>
- 4-11, IASPEI, Trieste, Italy, 35th General Assembly of the European Seismological Commission. Web: <http://www.35esc2016.eu>
- 4-10, IAGA, Dourbes, Belgium, XVIIth IAGA Workshop on Geomagnetic Observatory Instruments, Data Acquisition and Processing. Web: <http://www.meteo.be/meteo/view/en/20342754-IAGA+2016.html>
- 5-9, IACS, Reykjavik, Iceland, 6th International Conference on Mars Polar Science and Exploration. Web: <http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/marspolar2016/>
- 11-17, CODATA, WDS, Denver, CO, USA, International Data Week 2016. Web: <http://www.internationaldataweek.org/>
- 12-15, IAG, Sao Miguel, Azores, Portugal, 18th General Assembly of WEGENER. Web: <http://wegener.segal.ubi.pt/>
- 19-24, IAGA, IUGG, URSI, Hermanus, South Africa, 7th biennial VERSIM and Radiation Belt Symposia. Web: <http://events.sansa.org.za/versim-information>
- 19-23, IAG, Thessaloniki, Greece, 1st Joint Commission 2 and IGFS Meeting. International Symposium on Gravity, Geoid and Height Systems 2016. Web: <http://gghs2016.com/>
- 23-25, Chinese National Committee for IUGG, Nanjing, China, 2nd Congress of China Geodesy and Geophysics. Web: <http://cnc-iugg2.csp.escience.cn/dct/page/70016>
- 26-27, IAHS, Quebec City, Canada, STAHY 2016 Workshop. Web: <http://stahy2016.ca/>

October

- 3-9, IAVCEI, IUGG, Rhodes, Greece, Advanced International School on “Early Warning Systems for Geohazards”
- 5-6, IAG, Bonn, Germany, First International Workshop on VLBI Observations of Near-field Targets. Web: <http://www3.mpifr-bonn.mpg.de/div/meetings/vonft/>
- 9-14, GFZ, Potsdam, Germany, 20th International Workshop on Laser Ranging. Web: <http://iwslr2016.gfz-potsdam.de/international-workshop-on-laser-ranging/>
- 10-23, IAVCEI, Olot, Spain, 5th International Course on Volcanology (in Spanish). Web: http://www.gvb-csic.es/CURSO/CURSO_OLOT/Home.html
- 11-13, IAPSO, IUGG, Brest, France, ACO2016. A connected Ocean. Web: <http://aconectedocean.sciencesconf.org>
- 24-25, CCEC, IAG, IUGG, Luxembourg, Luxembourg, 2nd Workshop of the IUGG Union Commission on Climatic and Environmental Change. Web: <http://ccec-iugg.org/content/ccec-2016-luxembourg>
- 24-28, IAG, Cambridge, MA, USA, GGOS Days
- 24-28, ICTP, IUGG, Trieste, Italy, School on Recent Advances in Analysis of Multivariate Ecological Data: Theory and Practice. Web: <http://indico.ictp.it/event/7617/>
- 26-28, IAHS, Gaborone, Botswana, Integrated Water Resources Management: Water Security, Sustainability and Development in Eastern and Southern Africa. Web: <http://www.waternetonline.org/>
- 31 October – 4 November, IAG, La Rochelle, France, International Doris Service Workshop (IDS). Web: <http://www.ostst-altimetry-2016.com/>

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