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### **The UIS between the 13<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology in Brasilia D.F., Brazil, July 15-22, 2001 and the 14<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology in Athens, Greece, late August, 2005**

The 13<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology was successfully taken part in capital of Brazil. Nearly 600 cavers and cave scientists from 41 countries met in Ulysses Guimaraes Convention Centre. The special topics of the Congress was: Speleology in the third millenium: sustainable development of karst. The event was associated by another important events: the 4<sup>th</sup> Speleological Congress of Latin America and the Carribean and the 26<sup>th</sup> Brazilian Congres of Speleology. The scientific programm was held in 6 specialised symposia: Geoscience, Speleological survey and techniques, 2<sup>nd</sup> Symposium on Archaeology and Palaeontology in Caves, 15<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Biospeleology, 1<sup>st</sup> Symposium on Cave diving and Symposium on Protection and Management of Tourist Caves. There was also SpeleoMedia Brazil 2001. The programm included also General Assemblies of the UIS, Braziliand Speleological Society (SBE) and Speleological Federation of Latin American and Carribean Countries (FEALC). The official programm was accompanied by numerous cultural and social events. Stands of numerous organisations and individuals were located in the ground floor of the Convention Centre. Field excursion before and after the Congress were successful and introduced participants into beauties of Brazilian natural heritage. The Congress was organised by the Brazilian Speleological Society and supported by Brazilian governmental bodies (Ministry of Environment, IBAMA and CECAV). The Congress was successful, attended by plenty of participants, associated by fantastic cultural and social events, not only duiring the Congress itself, but also during pre- and post-Congress activities. We have to admit that any principal document was accepted during the Assemblies General of the UIS, except acceptance of the stable UIS address in Slovenia and improvement of the UIS Ethic Code, but both sessions indicated increased interest in our activities. The composition of new UIS Bureau documents the trend initiated by the past Bureau, i.e., the World wide representation a co-ordination of activities.

*Pavel Bosák*  
*UIS Secretary General*

# Minutes from the UIS Assembly General

## **First session, July 15, 2001**

### **Brasilia DF, Ulysses Guimaraes Congress Centre**

The Assembly General was opened by the welcome speech of Mr. Clayton Lino, the President of the Organising Committee of the 13<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology. He declared the 13<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology as opened.

The General Assembly was introduced by the speech of Mrs. Julia James, the UIS President, who summarised achievements and failures of the UIS Bureau in time between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> International Congresses of Speleology, i.e. for the period of August 1997 to July 2001. She declared the Assembly General as opened. After opening, all participants took a while of silence for all cavers and scientists who left the international audience in between congresses (Faraco, Renault, Dzulyński, Habe, Anavy, Jimenez, Habic, Dell'Oca, Petrochilo, etc.).

In the moment of the opening, totally 33 member-countries (from 56) were registered (Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Spain, USA, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mexico, Norway, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine). During the session, other delegates of 3 member countries appeared.

The Assembly General approved the minutes of the last Assemblies General from La Chaux-de-Fonds 1997 by 30 votes for.

The Secretary General of the UIS presented his report. After the Commission, Working Group and Committee representatives presented reports and information of the activity.

The Assembly General elected two auditors. Andrew Eavis (Great Britain) and Grace Matts (Australia). They were elected, both, by 29 votes for with 1 abstention.

The Assembly General elected the Commission for the elections of the new UIS Bureau composed of Hubert Trimmel of Austria (30 votes), Nicholas White of Australia (30 votes) and Clayton Lino of Brazil (30 votes).

The Cave Expo 2002 in Samchok, Korea, was presented by the City Mayor Kim Il Dong. Short presentation of candidate for the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress of Speleology was shortly presented by the Pau team (France). During the Assembly, the motion on another 2 delegates of candidate country arrived.

Several materials were presented to the Assembly General. Pavel Bosák presented the UIS Bureau proposal to establish stable address in Slovenia (Postojna city) and bank account in Luxembourg. There were presented also proposal for UIS prizes - the best discovery, the best book and the best poster. The Prize Ad-hoc Committee will be chaired by Mrs. Julia Mary James (Australia) as President. Mr. Andrew Eavis (Great Britain) will be responsible for discovery prize, Mr. Urs Widmer (Switzerland) for publication prize and Mrs. Julia James for poster prize.

The last point of the first session was the presentation of candidatures for the next Congress by the representatives of Brazil, Australia and Portugal who officially applied for the organisation of that event.

## **Second session, July 22, 2001**

### **Brasilia DF, Congress Centre**

At the moment of the opening, totally 39 member states were registered (Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Spain, USA, France, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mexico, Norway, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Korea, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, Venezuela).

The second session opened the UIS President, Mrs. Julia M. James. She presented results of the decision of the UIS Prize Committee.

The program continued by the information of the UIS Commissions and Working Groups and by the approval of reports, plans and chair persons by voting. The voting on Commission/Working Group activity was proposed to be approved en bloc by 39 votes. The reports were approved by 39 votes.

Two budget auditors (A. Eavis, Great Britain and G. Matts, Australia) reported on the result of the audit report:

*Report on the audit process of the books of account of  
Union Internationale de Speleologie  
for the period August 1997, to July 2001*

*Having examined the books we wish to report that, in accordance with the recommendations of the previous audit in La Chaux-de-Fonds, the bank accounts have been simplified as follows-*

*The three currencies accounts are*

- Czech USD 28,278 USD
- Czech Crowns 21,186.36 CZK (approx. 500 USD) the working account for the General Secretary
- Austrian Scilings 81,410 ATS (approx. 5,000 USD)
- Cash in hand 200 USD

*The Austrian Shilings account is invested and will mature in October 2002 at which time it will be transferred to the USD account. To do so before this date will incur heavy penalties.*

*Investigations have been made with a view to transferring all accounts (with the exception of the Czech Crowns) to Luxembourg. This is currently ongoing in conjunction with Mr Hubert Trimmel. Completion should occur in 2002.*

*It is opinion of the auditors that, having examined the books and records of account of the Union Internationale de Speleologie, they show a true and correct record of the financial dealings of the organisation for the period August, 1997, to July, 2001.*

Andrew Eavis

Grace Matts

*Mr Pavel Bosak is to be commended for his meticulous record keeping and his dedication.*

*We would suggest that the General Assembly should seek the assistance of one other person in the collection of fees.*

Approving voting resulted as follows: 39 votes for acceptance.

At the end of voting procedure it could be stated that the audit report was accepted as it obtained absolute majority of votes approving properly evidenced financing of the UIS.

The Assembly General than voted for proposals presented during the First Assembly - voting for establishment of stable address in Slovenia - 39 votes for. The voting for establishment of bank account in Luxembourg - 39 votes for.

The elections of the New UIS Bureau was introduced by Mr. Hubert Trimmel (Austria) by explanation of the procedure following the UIS Constitution (20 votes minimum for election in the first round). Three scrutators were selected: Mr. Arrigo Cigna (Italy), Mrs. Helena Hercman (Poland) and Mr. Amos Frumkin (Israel). He introduced candidates for the UIS President (Mr. Aleksander Klimchouk, Ukraine, Mr. José Ayrton Labegalini, Brazil, and Mr. Claude Mouret, France), for the UIS Vice-Presidents (A. Eavis, Great Britain, Zhang Shouyue, China), the only nomination to the UIS Secretary General (Mr. P. Bosák, Czech Republic), and nominations for UIS Secretaries Adjoin (Mrs. K. Bolner-Takácsné, Hungary, Mr. R. Hapka, Switzerland, Mr. G. Huppert, USA, Mr. R. Ko, Indonesia, Mr. S.E. Lauritzen, Norway, Mr. A. Mihevc, Slovenika, Mr. F. Nader, Lebanon, Mr. B.P. Onac, Romania, Mr. A. Osborne, Australia, Mr. J.P.v.d. Pas, the Netherlands, Mr. G.J. Redonte, Argentina, Mr. Y.Y. Shopov, Bulgaria, Mr. Song Lin-Hua, China, Mr. A. Vale Portorico, and Mr. C. Mouret (France).

The UIS President - Mr. José Ayrton Labegalini of Brazil - was elected in the first round obtaining 30 votes. The UIS Vice-Presidents were elected in two rounds. The Senior Vice-President - Andrew Eavis of Great Britain - was elected in the first round by 32 votes, representing necessary absolute majority. In the second round, there were nominations of Mr. Aleksander Klimchouk (Ukraine), Mr. Claude Mouret (France) and Mr. Zhang Shouyue (China). Aleksandser Klimchouk was elected the UIS Vice-President in the second round 17 votes, more than any other candidate (3 invalid votes). The UIS Secretary General - Pavel Bosák of Czech Republic - was elected in the first round obtaining 35 votes, i.e. absolute majority of votes, with 4 abstentions. The UIS Secretaries Adjoin were elected in two rounds. During the first round, following members were elected: Mr. Roman Hapka (25 votes), Mr. George Huppert (22 votes), Mr. Andrej Mihevc (24 votes), Mr. Fadi Nader (31 votes), Mr. Armstrong Osborne (25 votes), Mr. Song Lin-Hua (28 votes), and Mr. Abel Vale (24 votes), all obtaining necessary absolute majority of votes. The unsuccessful candidates from the first round were nominated to the second round of election. Mr. Claude Mouret was elected by 13 votes obtaining more votes than any other candidate.

During elections, there were some additional votings. The ammendment to Code of Ethis proposed by the FEALC was approved by 38 votes, 1 vote was against.

During the elections, short presentation of candiadte countries for organisation of the next Congress took place, i.e. Greece (Athens, Mr. Theodorou) and France (Pau, Mr. Mouret). Elections of the country organising the 14<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology 2005 followed elections of the Bureau. Delegates voted by 25 votes of 39 for Brazil, Australia obtained 11 votes. After voting, the Greek representant, Mr. G. Theodrou presented short welcome.

The Statement of the new UIS President was presented by José Ayrton Labegalini in Portugese with short summaries in English, Spanish and French.

Mr. Arrigo Cigna (Italy) proposed to elect Mrs. Julia Mary James, the UIS Past-President as the UIS Honorary Member, which motion was accepted by 39 votes.

Mrs. James thanked in a short speech to all organisers the successful congress, which was attended by more participants than we expected.

The UIS Past-President - Mrs. Julia Mary James - in a short conclusive speech declared the Assembly General as closed at about 11:45 a.m.

# **Documents approved by the General Assembly of the UIS, during the 13<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology, Brasilia DF, July 15-22, 2001**

## **UIS Code of Ethics for Cave Exploration and Science in Foreign Countries**

UIS support the international activities of speleological societies, caving groups and karst scientists because they are important for; discovering new caves and extending old caves; investigating their contents, for example, minerals, biota and archaeological and anthropological remains; distributing knowledge of karst and caves throughout the world; enabling the exchange of safe caving practices and assisting in the protection and preservation of caves and karst.

To avoid misunderstanding by indigenous and local people, government and local and national caving organisations in the country in which the proposed cave exploration or scientific investigation is to take place. The UIS Bureau has prepared the following recommendations.

### **1. Before leaving your country**

In many cases it will be necessary to obtain official permission from the authorities in the country being visited. In addition, inform the national speleological organisation of the country to be visited, if there is no national organisation contact the UIS national delegate.

If possible organise joint expeditions with cavers from the country to be visited. The national speleological organisations will be familiar with the official requirements for visiting expeditions. They will be well-versed with the requirements for the lodging of expedition reports and other published material and the regulations pertaining to the removal of materials by the expedition from the caves and to other countries for scientific studies.

### **2. During expedition**

The expedition members should respect the laws of the country and local traditions and understand that some caves may be sacred sites and be of religion and/or cultural significance; exploration and research studies in these caves may be restricted.

The expedition members should not damage either the karst or its caves. They should where possible educate and advise local communities in the protection and preservation of their karst and caves.

### **3. After the expedition**

Samples from the caves and karst collected by the expedition should only be taken out the cave and country if the correct export procedures are followed and their export is permitted.

Copies of all printed material produced by the expedition, together with the location and maps of the caves should be sent to the participating caving clubs and the national speleological organisation and/or the UIS national delegate. Assistance received from the organisations within the country visited should be acknowledged in all the expedition publications.

### **4. The respect for the work of other groups**

Before undertaking an expedition to a region, a group should do research on previous work or current explorations by local or foreign cavers, in order not to interfere with current projects.

Credit for previous explorations should be given in expedition reports.

If several groups happen to be working in the same area, then the opportunity should be taken to learn from each other and to co-ordinate further work.

### **Addenda to the UIS Code of Ethics**

*Accepted by the Assembly General, Brasilia DF, Brazil, 2002*

- 1.** The UIS urges all their Bureau Members and National Delegates, that if they know of any expedition being organised to foreign countries, to immediately contact and inform the National Delegate of the target country.
- 2.** If a member of the UIS Bureau discovers a violation of its Code of Ethics regarding a foreign expedition, it will contact the delegate of the expedition's country of origin suggesting that the expedition findings and reports shall not be accepted in their official publications, nor shall they be accepted in any UIS sponsored publication or event.
- 3.** For expeditions organised by countries of high speleological development to countries of lower speleological development, the expedition group shall do its best to offer transfer of knowledge and promote local speleological activity.

**Table - results of votings and elections**

|   | +  | - | abst. | inv. | approved |
|---|----|---|-------|------|----------|
| <b>Voting</b>                                     |    |   |       |      |          |
| Minutes 1997                                      | 30 |   | 1     |      | yes      |
| Audit   | 39 |   |       |      | yes      |
| Stable address - Slovenia                         | 39 |   |       |      | yes      |
| Bank account - Luxembourg                         | 39 |   |       |      | yes      |
| <b>Auditors</b>                                   |    |   |       |      |          |
| Andrew Eavis                                      | 29 |   | 1     |      | yes      |
| Grace Matts                                       | 29 |   | 1     |      | yes      |
| <b>Commission for Elections</b>                   |    |   |       |      |          |
| Hubert Trimmel                                    | 30 |   |       |      | yes      |
| Nick White  | 30 |   |       |      | yes      |
| Clayton Lino                                      | 30 |   |       |      | yes      |
| <b>The First Round of Elections 2001</b>          |    |   |       |      |          |
| <i>President</i>                                  |    |   |       |      |          |
| KLIMCHOUK Aleksander                              | 2  |   |       |      | no       |
| LABEGALINI José Ayrton                            | 30 |   |       |      | yes      |
| MOURET Claude                                     | 7  |   |       |      | no       |
| <i>Vice-President</i>                             |    |   |       |      |          |
| EAVIS Andrew                                      | 32 |   |       | 1    | yes      |
| ZHANG Shouyue                                     | 9  |   |       | 1    | no       |
| <i>Secretary General</i>                          |    |   |       |      |          |
| BOSÁK Pavel                                       | 35 |   | 4     |      | yes      |
| <i>Adjoint Secretaries</i>                        |    |   |       |      |          |
| BOLNER-TAKÁCSNÉ Katalin                           | 10 |   |       |      | no       |
| HAPKA Roman                                       | 25 |   |       |      | yes      |
| HUPPERT George                                    | 22 |   |       |      | yes      |
| KO Robby  | 12 |   |       |      | no       |
| LAURITZEN Stein-Eric                              | 19 |   |       |      | no       |
| MIHEVC Andrej                                     | 24 |   |       |      | yes      |
| NADER Fadi  | 31 |   |       |      | yes      |
| ONAC Bogdan P.                                    | 7  |   |       |      | no       |
| OSBORNE Armstrong                                 | 25 |   |       |      | yes      |
| PAS Jan Paul van der                              | 9  |   |       |      | no       |
| REDONTE Gabriel J.                                | 11 |   |       |      | no       |
| SHOPOV Yavor Y.                                   | 2  |   |       |      | no       |
| SONG Lin-Hua                                      | 28 |   |       |      | yes      |
| VALE Abel   | 24 |   |       |      | yes      |
| <b>The Second Round of Elections 2001</b>         |    |   |       |      |          |
| <i>Vice-President</i>                             |    |   |       |      |          |
| ZHANG Shouyue                                     | 6  |   |       |      | no       |
| KLIMCHOUK Aleksander                              | 17 |   |       |      | yes      |
| MOURET Claude                                     | 15 |   |       |      | no       |
| <i>Adjoint Secretaries</i>                        |    |   |       |      |          |
| BOLNER-TAKÁCSNÉ Katalin                           | 5  |   |       | 3    | no       |
| KO Robby  | 5  |   |       | 3    | no       |
| LAURITZEN Stein-Eric                              | 5  |   |       | 3    | no       |
| ONAC Bogdan P.                                    | 7  |   |       | 3    | no       |
| PAS Jan Paul van der                              | 1  |   |       | 3    | no       |
| REDONTE Gabriel J.                                | 6  |   |       | 3    | no       |
| SHOPOV Yavor Y.                                   | 2  |   |       | 3    | no       |
| MOURET Claude                                     | 13 |   |       | 3    | yes      |
| <b>Selection of country hosting next Congress</b> |    |   |       |      |          |
| France  | 11 |   |       | 1    | no       |
| Greece  | 25 |   |       | 1    | yes      |

# The Report of the UIS Secretary General

for period from August 1997 to July 2001

July 15, 2001

Dear Cavers and National Delegates  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Distinguished Guests

It is a traditional duty of the UIS Secretary General, to present short but exhaustive report to the Assembly General on the activity of the whole Union Internationale de Spéléologie, especially of its UIS Bureau and the UIS Secretary General. The task seems to be simple, but only up to the moment when you start to compile it. At the present time, my task is relatively more simple, as the UIS Bureau informed regularly on its activities and resolutions in the UIS Bulletin, which is the tradition since Beijing Congress. Therefore, I will comment only highly important items. But at the beginning allow me, please, a short note.

The time from the last speleological congress in beautiful La Chaux-de-Fond, Switzerland in 1997, passed fast. According to the number of participants, the event was the greatest Congress since the beginning of that tradition in 1951, Paris, France. We spent 4 years of intensive caving and/or research, looking forward and thinking on the new Millenium and on the next meeting in 2001 in Brazil, for the first time on the Southern Hemisphere in South America. Our time was filled with lot of discoveries; we found karst and caves even in the centre of deserts, where the occurrence of caves was accepted only by crazy persons. Now we know lot on fantastic caves e.g., in Saudi Arabia and other regions of Arabian Penninsula. We improved our knowledge on tropical karsts, subterranean flooded world, on speleogenesis, hydrothermal karst and on other aspects of caving and karstology, sometimes very special and specific. We push our knowledge on forms similar to karst also in other rocks, in salt, gypsum, sandstones, volcanic rocks, magmatites and metamorphics and even in ice. We contributed important data for deciphering and predicting global changes and evolution of the past, modern and future climates and climatic trends. Speleothems represented one of the first objects for such analyses. Commissions and Working Groups have been pushing the limits of our knowledge up, we have to thank all of them. New discoveries and research results have been presented in numerous national and international conferences, symposia, workshops and meeting, in numerous cases during events having nothing common with karst research and speleology. The results of research was smoothly incorporated to main streams of our present science. How simple, but without the effort of many cavers, any achievement in research can be done. The scientific mainstream in research connected somehow with the karst is a result of hard work in deep shafts in cold mountains, in hot and wet caves in tropics, in flooded karst both offshore and inland. The co-existence of fun and sport with research and science is unique for speleology, it is the principle of our Union; we cannot meet such conditions in other branches of human activity. This activities and co-operation were utilized also for nature conservation, another important issue in our Union life. Also thanks to the UIS bodies, numerous parts of our unique and wonderful World were introduced to the UNESCO World Heritage List, e.g., caves of Slovak and Aggtelek Karsts, Mulu karst, several other proposals were compiled, too. I am looking forward to SpeleoBrazil 2001, to meet all of you – cavers and scientists – in nice number during pleasant and successful event. I am looking forward to exchange experience, knowledge, results as usual, but also to have fun and entertainment, to meet new friends. The preparation of the SpeleoBrazil 2001 was nothing easy. The UIS Bureau took care on the whole procedure. Although slow at the beginning, the organization accelerated in last several month promising the successful event. Nevertheless, the UIS Bureau followed all the caving activities in member and also non-member countries. We worked in nice harmony, using the advantages of recent electronic and global World. We were in daily touch by electronic post. Therefore I am looking forward to the SpeleoBrazil 2001 and period after with optimism. I am not taking care at all to the number of our 2001 Congress. I would like to thank all of you very much, indeed, for your willing co-operation to know our nice karsts, pseudokarsts, historical underground and caves, for protection and conservation of nature on our planet Earth.

Now we will return to our duties. The Report concerns the time period from mid-August 1997 when the Assembly General during the 12<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology elected the new UIS Bureau up to the present time, i.e., the beginning of July 2001. The Report and financial reviews finish by July 4, 2001.

The activity of the UIS, its bodies and member countries can be deciphered from the List of Events, regularly published on the UIS web pages, in the UIS Bulletin and in other speleological magazines, journals and newsletters. There were organised several tens of events each year, some of them very important and internationally acknowledged (I do not want to mention only some of them), some of them with local or regional importance. Nevertheless, only a few of them were organised under the auspices of the UIS or of the UIS body, which is probably caused by the motion from Bowling Green concerning the per capita payments to the UIS budget.

The UIS Bureau acted in a following composition: Julia Mary James (Australia) as the President, James Andrew Eavis (Great Britain) as the Senior Vice-President, responsible for contacts with the SFEU, Claude Mouret (France) as Vice-President responsible for contacts with the UNESCO, and Stephen A. Craven (Republic of South Africa), George Huppert (the U.S.A.), Aleksander Klimchouk (Ukraine), Robby T.K. Ko (Indonesia), José Ayrton Labegalini (Brazil), Franco Urbani (Venezuela), Abel Vale (Portorico) and Urs Widmer (Switzerland) as Secretaries Adjoint. The Report was prepared by Pavel Bosák (Czech Republic), the UIS Secretary General. The function of the UIS Secretary General and Treasurer was not divided. The sessions were attended also by Honorary

Presidents (Paolo Forti, Italy, and Hubert Trimmel, Austria) and by some of our Honorary Members (e.g., Arrigo A. Gigna, Italy, Vladimír Panoš, Czechia, Adolfo R. Eraso, Spain).

The UIS Bureau met personally three times, i.e., in August 1997 in La Chaux-de-Fionds for the inaugural meeting, in 1999 in Jedovnice, Czech Republic and several hours ago, in 2001 here in Brasilia DF (Brazil). Nevertheless, the UIS Bureau members were in contacts by electronic post; this is the real advantage of the global World. Finally all members of the UIS Bureau and Honorary Members were accessible by e-mail. We also used all the possibility to discuss the UIS affairs when more members of the UIS Bureau met in one place, for example in Australia 2000, Poland 2000, Lebanon 2001, Slovenia 1998-2000, Turkey 2000, South Korea 1999.

After the reduction in 1997, the UIS consists now of representatives of 56 member countries from all continents. Nevertheless the UIS Bureau has no contacts for a long time with some of them, especially with Albania, Algeria, India, Lithuania, Uzbekistan and Vietnam. Those countries have also substantial financial debts concerning the annual contributions. Nevertheless the financial debts have also other countries, some of them more than 5 years. It means that they act against the UIS Constitution, article 1, paragraph (f). I will not mention the names of countries here, but the membership of most of them is proposed to be canceled by the Bureau. Totally, the debts of member countries in annual payments for period 1999 and before are 6,480 USD now, which represents the rise of debts in about 1,000 USD since August 1997; we are not calculating debts in payments for period of 3 and less years.

I have to repeat here again, like 4 years ago, that the form of contacts with member countries via national delegates is sometimes very problematic, especially when there are several so-called national federations or associations in the country. In some countries the legality of so-called elected or selected national delegate(s) is questionable, e.g., in Albania, Croatia, Mexico, Lebanon. To be the national delegate to the UIS represents duty and no honour, it represents the service for national caving bodies and cavers and no income. In some cases the national delegate, like the members of the UIS Bureau and Presidents of Commissions and Working Groups, must see deeply in own pocket to cover the service duties and expenses. Like Gremans say: *Titel ohne Mittel* (Title without funds).

The UIS Bureau focused its main efforts to solution of several problems and tasks, e.g., establishment of stable address, diversification of financial sources, financial state-of-the-art, Commissions and Working Groups, UIS future, co-operation with other non-governmental institutions, connection to national delegates, public relation. Common operational agenda was discussed, too.

The finances. The UIS at this moment has one account in USD in the Czech Republic and one bankbook in ATS in Austria. At the present time, the account totals 28,278.00 USD, when the total income was 22,814.25 USD and total expenses reached the sum of 4,482.39 USD. From the income, annual member state contributions and per capita payment from the 12<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology were 18,799.29 USD. The transfer of USD to CZK reached a total sum of 650.00 USD. The total income in CZK was 129,234.51 CZK and payments totalled the sum of 108,375.90 CZK, resting in cash 21,186.31 CZK (i.e., about 536 USD). From the expenses in CZK, the most substantial was the mail of four numbers of the UIS Bulletin, vols. 44 to 47/2 in a total amount of 102,378.00 CZK. The state of the ATS bankbook will be presented by Hubert Trimmel (81,410 ATS). We obtained also totally 9,495.04 ATS, 1,000.00 DEM, 1,520.00 CHF and 14,172.00 SKK, which were transferred to the CZK to cover expenses of the mail (including UIS Bulletins) and office expenses, which were connected with the distribution of the UIS Bulletin, too.

The annual income of the UIS is now from 2,562 to 5,781 USD and 0 to 45,000 CZK. Expenses are from 592 to 1,063 USD and 1,700 to 47,200 CZK, when costs of the print and mail of the UIS Bulletin are recalculated to proper years. It means, that average annual income of the UIS is 6,265 USD and expenses 1,643 USD. Nevertheless, the positive saldo of about 4,600 USD per year is insufficient to support all organisation bodies of the UIS, especially Commissions and Working Groups as we have 24 active Commissions and Working Groups. If we dissolve all our saldo, there are only less than 200 USD of contribution to Commission activities. The task for future UIS Bureau will be in the optimisation of fund management and search for additional money income, which was not so successful in the past.

Commissions and Working Groups. The structure of UIS Commissions and Working Groups was traditionally the same as in the past. A lot of Commissions and Working Groups worked nicely with substantial outputs (publications, symposia, conferences, workshops, field trips, etc.). As an example, the UIS Commission on Bibliography can be mentioned here. The progress in bibliography and publication of BBS is worth of mentioning, in spite of personal problem connected with the retirement of Reno Bernasconi, we have to thank all persons involved, especially to Patrick Deriaz.

Nevertheless, some Commission were completely inactive with no or very limited contact with the UIS Bureau, e.g., Commission on Artificial Cavities, Commission on Cave Diving, and Working Group Children and Caving. Several Commissions did not deliver summary reports for 1997-2001, although Presidents were kindly requested by the Secretary General. Nevertheless, we have to mention extraordinary efforts of some commissions.

The UIS Informatics Commission runs the UIS web pages, now also the UIS domain is functioning ([www.uis-speleo.org](http://www.uis-speleo.org)). Thanks to Peter Matthews of Australia, we are present in a World web. It is strongly recommended to all the UIS and national bodies to collaborate with Peter. The nice progress was made also by the UIS Commission on Hydrogeology and Speleogenesis of Karst headed by Aleksander Klimchouk of Ukraine, who prepared an excellent book on Speleogenesis in collaboration with the NSS (USA). Excellent results can be mentioned also in Commission on Pseudokarst, the newly erected body in 1997, Permanent Commission on Speleotherapy, Commission on Cave Rescue, Commission on Volcanic Caves, Commission on Glacier Caves and

Karst in Polar Regions.

The new UIS Bureau has to deeply analyse the situation of individual Commissions and Working Group and to search for future solutions.

Relations with UNESCO. The relation with cultural and educational organisation of the United Nations is at zero level. The UIS is now under informal contacts with UNESCO, which means nothing. The responsible for the UNESCO from the UIS Bureau – Claude Mouret – was unable to change anything, although he tried.

The UIS Bulletin. The Bulletin was published more or less regularly. I have to apologise for some smaller troubles in distribution of Vols. 45 and 46. The delay was caused by total collapse of electronic database of addresses. This year we published two numbers of Vol. 47, nevertheless the number 2 of Vol. 47 is just now in the print owing to failure of server of our publisher. Nevertheless, the volume can be copied on xerox here. Except of 2001 (Vol. 47), one volume (two numbers in one) was published, similarly to the past. Some volumes are available on the UIS web pages, the rest, which is available in electronic form, will be available this year. Totally 2,000-2,200 copies has been printed for each volume and distributed to approximately 1,600 addresses available in the UIS Data Base. Some about 200 copies have been distributed personally in Europe. The costs of each copy represents now about 0.24 to 0.26 USD in average, i.e., on comparable level as in 1993-1997 period. Nevertheless, the mailing expenses are higher as the cost of the Bulletin production, i.e., about 0.40 USD per copy.

International Journal of Speleology. As you know, the UIS established years ago the International Journal of Speleology as the top medium for publication of latest scientific achievements. There are two series of the Journal – Physical Speleology and Biospeleology. The editing and publishing now is the task of our Italian colleagues, especially of the Italian Speleological Society. Nevertheless, in last years long delays in print can be observed. The solution of the problem should be also a priority task of the new UIS Bureau.

Co-operation with other NGOs, governmental and private bodies. As you know, we signed an agreement with the International Union of Geography (IGU) in 1997. The co-operation brought numerous fruits during the organisation of international scientific events and participation of the UIS Commission and Working Group persons on the IGU activities and publications. Also the contacts with the International Association of Hydrogeologists (AIH) improved a lot. Numerous our colleagues co-operated with the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN) on the preparation of protected areas in karst and with the Commission of UNESCO for World Heritage List. Also thanks to the UIS some important places were inscribed into the UNESCO World Heritage List. As I am informed, the results of collaboration with national governmental bodies concerning the conservation issues in karst are numerous and in some cases also full of sense (Indonesia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Belgium Portorico, ...). On the other hand, the collaboration with private mining companies on exploration of exposed karst features can be prevent by owners or shareholders, as they are afraid of eventual problems with the site developments. We have to make more intensive public relations to inform private bodies on importance of exhausting all available information on karst in mined areas.

The UIS future. The future of our non-governmental organisation was the notorious theme of the UIS Bureau session in the past periods. The UIS has all disadvantages of the international body, which integrates all speleologists of the whole World, on the other side the UIS has a great profit from such situation, which I mentioned at the beginning of my report. We can see that both the scientific and sportive activities improved in a past period after La Chaux-de-Fonds. Cave scientists and karstologists co-operate with the UIS on a broader scale, which is visible on international congresses, conferences and symposia, as well as on UIS publications.

Dear colleagues, at the end of this week you will elect the new UIS Bureau. I have one comment to the composition of this body. Please, elect persons who are geographically dispersed over all continents. The concentration of members from one continent is not very useful for the Bureau activities, our operations need persons from Europe, Asia, Australia, North America, South America/Caribbean and also from Africa. There are established regional speleological bodies, like Speleological Federation of European Union (SFEU) or Federation of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (FEALC), the second body has its meeting also in the time of this Congress. More tight collaboration can utilise the effect of synergy. We are friends and no enemies.

Dear Colleagues, I hope that I gave you information concerning the most important topics of the UIS life. Commentary to all our activities can be given on request.

## UIS Prizes

### **Most Significant Speleological Discovery**

Ukrainian Speleological Association – the deepest World cave – Voronja Cave –1,710 m.

### **Best Book**

#### **First Prize**

SPELEOGENESIS: Evolution of Karst Aquifers.

Klimchouk Aleksander, Ford DerekC., Palmer Aarthur, Dreybrodt Wolfgang, Editors

January 2000

National Speleological Society, the USA

Prize for scientific relevance and importance for the world speleology.

#### **Second Prize**



GRANDES CUEVAS Y SIMAS DE ESPAÑA  
1998  
Federation Española de Espeleología, Spain  
A well produced publication about the great caves of Spain.

**Third Prize**

LIVING WITH KARST  
Veni George et al.  
2001  
A booklet about the understanding of caves and karst for the general public.

**Best Poster**

Public inquiry - votes for 24 posters, 6 posters clear favorites

**First Prize**

*Reconstruction of Palaeoclimatic Changes in Europe for the Last 200 kyrs Basing on U-series Dating for Speleothems* - No. 085 S1  
Hercman Helena (PL)

**Second Prize - Equal**

*New Rafts and Old Rafts* - No. 012 S1  
Contos Annalisa, James Julia Mary (AUS)  
*Dark Coloured Laminae Within Speleothems as an Indicator of the Prehistoric Man Activity: Case Study from Domica Cave* - No. 206 S2  
Gradziński Michal (PL)

**Highly Commended**

*Uso da Música de Caverna no Processo de Educacao Ambiental* - No. 129 S6  
CECAV + IBAMA (BR)  
*Comparison of Culturable Bacterial Flora from 3 Microenvironments from Pečina v Botštu Cave (Slovenia)* - No. 073 S3  
Mulec Janez, Rupnik Maja, Zupan-Hajna Nadja (SI)  
*A Novel Method of Radon Sampling in Caves*  
Barnes Craig, James Julia Mary, Hyde Michael, Whittlestone Stewart, Zaharowski Wlodek (AUS)

Julia James

## UIS Bureau 2001-2005

*Honorary Presidents*

Paolo FORTI (Italy)  
Hubert TRIMMEL (Austria)

*President*

José Ayrton LABEGALINI (Brazil)

*Vice-Presidents*

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Aleksander KLIMCHOUK (Ukraine)

*Secretary General*

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George HUPPERT (USA)  
Andrej MIHEVC (Slovenia)  
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Fadi NADER (Lebanon)  
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Paolo FORTI (Italy)  
Mrs. Julia Mary JAMES (Australia)  
Vladimír PANOŠ (Czech Republic)  
Hubert TRIMMEL (Austria)

## Reports from UIS Bureau meetings

### July 15, 2001

The session started with the information on establishment of the *stable address*. Invited guest Dr. Andrej Kranjc (SI) explained the situation, presented short information and review, after the approval by the Assembly General, the Slovenian Speleological Association with the help of the Karst Research Institute will apply to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prof. Cigna (I) reviewed the origin of idea, explained why (problem of taxes, the UIS was established in Ljubljana), there can be no objections against the idea. Dr. Bosák (CZ) explained situation in Czech Republic and Luxembourg (no taxes or tax bureaucracy when stable address in other country). It was agreed for General Assembly to establish stable address in Slovenia (address: UIS c/o Karst Research Institute, Titov trg 2, 6230 Postojna, Slovenia) and stable bank account in Luxembourg after the stable address is set up.

Review of *finances* was present by Secretary General (see minutes from Assembly General). *UIS Bulletin*. The Bulletin will be distributed both via classical post (packages) and by e-mail. Most of respondents of public inquiry printed in the Bulletin wish to obtain hard copies, some both hard copy and electronic form by e-mail. Nevertheless, there can be problems with the size of attachments to e-mail. The final data base has been under process of preparation. The Secretary General presented the *review of member countries* and problems of annual fee payments. Assembly General. The problem of presentation of absent member countries was discussed. Each proposed candidate for the function in the UIS Bureau has to deliver his/her agreement. The *UIS Prizes* - Prof. James has to decide the form of preparation. *International Journal of Speleology* - Prof. Cigna (I) informed on state of the art - the financial situation and legal registrations stabilised. Need of contributions. *Co-operation with the ISCA* (International Show Cave Association) - Prof. Cigna (I) informed on proposal of co-operation presented in letter of Jorge Cabeza (B), the ISCA President.

### July 16, 2001

The session was dedicated to review of activity of individual UIS Bureau members for a period of 1997-2001. There were presented statements of: Prof. James (AUS), Mr. Eavis (GB), Dr. Mouret (F), Dr. Bosák (CZ), Dr. Huppert (USA), Mr. Labegalini (BRA) and Dr. Bosák presented activities of Dr. Ko (IND) and of Dr. Klimchouk (UA). There was broad discussion so individual themes open by speakers.

### July 17, 2001

Presentation of activities of the UIS Bureau, continued by short reports of Dr. Urbani (VEN), Mr. Vale (PR), Mr. Widmer (CH). Then started the *control of Minutes* from the last session (Jedovnice). The *use of the UIS logo* was discussed. The use has to be specified in Interim Reglement. According to Prof. Cigna, not only the use of the UIS logo must be specified, but also utilisation of logos of other organisations. *The UIS Statute* - to be translated, but translation should be consulted with some law office. Italian version was presented by Prof. Cigna (I). Prof. Urbani (VEN) will try to translate to Spain and Dr. Mouret (F) to English. *Financing of Commissions*. There is a letter of the Commission on cave rescue to be funded from sources of the UIS. There was discussion concerning the concept, in general with no clear decision.

### July 19, 2001

*Advertisement - information booklet*. The booklet will be prepared by Julia James and she will discuss the layout with Mr. Widmer. Some help can be contributed by other Bureau members, too. *Code of Ethics*. Foreign Expeditions, regulations. There was the proposal to implement several additional sentences into this document. There is question how to arrange. There is also some other FEALC comments concerning the application of the Ethic Code. The discussion was very broad, concerning especially the adventure and trekking caving. They were found as a global problem. Most of countries have been not approving any legal constraints. It was agreed that the UIS is strictly against making business from such activities. The problem rests for next Bureau. It was recommended to insert this point into agenda of Assembly General. *Commission activity*. There was the proposal: „Commissions who do not report over a period of 4 years should be deleted from the U.I.S. list of Commissions. Not reporting over such a time shows a disregard to U.I.S., or the lack of requirement of such a commission.“ Proposed by: Jan Paul van der Pas, supported by: C. Chabert, S. Zhang. The proposal was accepted. In discussion it was stated that each commission should consist also from national delegates of member countries who will represent the member country during voting (according to valid Internal Reglement). There was a proposal, that national delegates to the UIS should report their activities. *Co-operation with the ISCA*. The proposal of collaboration - there is no problem. There have been intensive contacts among the UIS Bureau Members and UIS Commissions with the ISCA

Bureau (Prof. Cigna, J.-P. Bartholeyns). The relations of cavers and owners of caves have improved a lot during last 30 years.

*Pavel Bosák*

## Reports on Commission Meetings

### **Cave Rescue Commission**

July 20, 2001 - following persons were elected: Perseident: André Slagmole (B), Vice-Presidents: Grace Matts (AUS), Efrain Mercado Vazquez (PR). Report by C. Dodelin (Chairperson of the session)

### **Commission on Archeology and Paleontology in Caves**

July 18, 2001 - Co-Presidents were elected: Dave Hubbard (USA) and Roman Hapka (CH). Main plans for 2001-2005: promotion of archeology and paleontology in caves, establish www page. Report by R. Hapka (Co.-Prasident).

### **Commission of Lava Caves**

July 16, 2001 - President elected: Jan Paul van der Pas (NL), organisation of Lava Caves Symposium in Iceland September 2002. Report by Jan Paul van der Pas (President).

### **Commission on Pseudokarst**

July 17, 2001 - President elected: István Eszterhász (H), organisation of symposia 2002 in Austria. Report by Jan Paul van der Pas (Chairperson of the session).

### **Informatics Commission**

July 20, 2001. President elected unanimously: Peter Matthews (AUS). General wish of participants to contribute the activities. Report by Philipp Häuselmann (Chairperson of the session).

### **Department of the Protection**

July 21, 2001 - participants decided to have only one commission: Commission on protection, exploration and touristic caves and karst regions. There is the proposal of the ISCA to collaborate with the UIS with the main aim to proclaim International Year of Caves for 2005 or 2009 within activities of the UNESCO. Commission board was elected - President: Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns (B), Members: Badr Jabbour Gedeon (Lib), Olimpio Martins (P), Marc Metni (Lib), Evelyn Moreno (BRA), Marlo Petersen (ARG), Nikos Poulianos (GR), Nicholas White (AUS). Reported by Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns (President).

### **Commission on Speleochronology and Paleokarst**

July 19, 2001 - President was elected: Stein-Erik Lauritzen (N), proposed project of book: Climate Change, the Karst Record. State-of-the art and case studies (time-window compilations), interlaboratory calibration of U-series, alpha and TIMS. Reported by Stein-Erik Lauritzen (President).

### **Commission on Cave Diving**

July 21, 2001 - Board was elected: President: Jean-Jaques Bolanz (CH), Vice-Presidents: Owen Clarke (GB), Michal Piškula (CZ), Arjan van Waardenburg (NL). Regulation of cave diving by public authorities is undesirable. Commission will improve international contacts. List of national cave diving bodies will be prepared. The www page will be prepared (in co-operation with the Informatics Com.). Reported by Arjan van Waardenburg (Vice-President).

### **Commission on Bibliography**

July 19, 2001 - there are numerous countries willing to co-operate on the BBS. Problems of accents was discussed. Each collaborator will obtain free copy of the BBS. Reported by Jacques Deriaz (President).

### **Commission on Education**

July 21, 2001 - the commission analysed the activity and decided to held Speleology international teaching meetings during each next UIS Congresses.

## National Delegates and Substitutes

### **Albanie-Albania**

no data

### **Algérie-Algeria**

no data

### **Allemande-Federal Republic of Germany**

Délégué titulaire: Michal LAUMANN

Délégué suppléant: Guido HOFFMANN

Membre votant:

### **Argentine-Argentina**

Délégué titulaire: Gabriel Jose REDONTE

Délégué suppléant: Carlos A. BENEDETTO

Membre votant: Gabriel Jose REDONTE

### **Arménie-Armenia**

no data

### **Australie-Australia**

Délégué titulaire: Grace MATTS

Délégué suppléant: Nicholas WHITE

Membre votant: Grace MATTS

### **Autriche-Austria**

Délégué titulaire: Hubert TRIMMEL

Délégué suppléant: Günther STÜMMER

Membre votant: Hubert TRIMMEL

### **Belgique-Belgium**

Délégué titulaire: Alphonse DOEMEN

Délégué suppléant: Jan VLOEBERGS

Membre votant: Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS

### **Bolivie-Bolivia**

Délégué titulaire: Rodolfo BECERRA DE LA ROCA

Membre votant: Rodolfo BECERRA DE LA ROCA - 2

### **Bosnie et Herzégovine-Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Délégué titulaire: Jan Paul van der PAS  
Délégué suppléant: Jasminko MULAOMEROVIČ  
Membre votant: Jan Paul van der PAS

**Brésil-Brazil**

Délégué titulaire: José Ayrton LABEGALINI  
Délégué suppléant: Augusto S. AULER  
Membre votant: José Ayrton LABEGALINI

**Bulgarie-Bulgaria**

Délégué titulaire: Yavor Y. SHOPOV  
Délégué suppléant: Alexei JALOV

**Canada**

Délégué titulaire: Daniel CARON  
Membre votant: Kirk MacDouglas (CAN)

**Chine, République Populaire - Peoples Republic of China**

Délégué titulaire: ZHANG Shouyue  
Membre votant: ZHANG Shouyue

**Costarica-Costa Rica**

Délégué titulaire: Guillermo CORTES PADILLA  
Délégué suppléant: Franklin CHANTO DURAN  
Membre votant: José Ayrton LABEGALINI (BR)

**Croatie-Croatia**

Délégué titulaire: Mladen GARAŠIČ  
Délégué suppléant: Tihomir KOVAČEVIČ  
Membre votant: Mladen GARAŠIČ

**Cuba**

Délégué titulaire: Ercilio VENTO CANOSA  
Délégué suppléant: Angel GRAÑA GONZALES  
Membre votant: Abel VALE (PR)

**Espagne-Spain**

Délégué titulaire: Juan Carlos LOPEZ CASAS  
Membre votant: Juan Carlos LOPEZ CASAS

**Etats-Unis -USA**

Délégué titulaire: John MOSES  
Membre votant: George HUPPERT - 1  
John MOSES - 2

**France**

Délégué titulaire: Claude MOURET  
Délégué suppléant: Paul DUBOIS  
Membre votant: Claude MOURET

**Grande-Bretagne - United Kingdom**

Délégué titulaire: Andy J. EAVIS  
Membre votant: Andy J. EAVIS

**Grèce-Greece**

Délégué titulaire: George THEODOROU  
Délégué suppléant: Nicolas SIMEONIDIS  
Membre votant: George THEODOROU - 2

**Hongrie-Hungary**

Délégué titulaire: László KORPÁS  
Délégué suppléant: Péter BÖRCsök  
Membre votant: Szabolcz LÉEL-ÖSSY - 1  
Katalin BOLNER-TAKÁCSNÉ - 2

**Inde-India**

Délégué titulaire: M. Narayna REDDY

**Indonesie-Indonesia**

Délégué titulaire: M.R.K.T. KO  
Délégué suppléant: Ir HANANG SAMODRA

**Irlande-Ireland**

no data

**Islande-Iceland**

Délégué titulaire: Sigurdur Svein JÓNSSON  
Délégué suppléant: Gudmundur LOEVE

**Israël**

Délégué titulaire: Amos FRUMKIN

Délégué suppléant: Azriel REIKIN

Membre votant: Amos FRUMKIN

**Italie-Italia**

Délégué titulaire: Arrigo A CIGNA  
Délégué suppléant: Franco CUCCHI  
Membre votant: Arrigo A. CIGNA

**Japon-Japan**

Délégué titulaire:

Délégué suppléant:

Membre votant: Shun-Ichi UÉNO

**Liban-Lebanon**

Délégué titulaire: Hughues BADAOUI

Délégué suppléant: Fadi NADER

Membre votant: Fadi NADER

**Lithuanie-Lithuania**

Délégué titulaire: Encas LAICONAS

**Luxembourg**

Délégué titulaire: Claude BOES

Délégué suppléant: Frank ERNZER

Membre votant: Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS (B)

**Malaysie-Malaysia**

Contact person: Liz PRICE

**México-Mexico**

Délégué titulaire: José PALACIOS VARGAS

Délégué suppléant: José Antonio GAMBOA V.

Membre votant: Juan Antonio MONTAÑO-HIROSE

**Namibia**

no data

**Norvège-Norway**

Délégué titulaire: Age KARLSEN

Membre votant: Henriette LINGE

**Nouvelle-Zelande - New Zealand**

Délégué titulaire: Paul W. WILLIAMS

Membre votant: Paul W. WILLIAMS

**Pays-Bas - the Netherlands**

Délégué titulaire: Jan Paul van der PAS

Membre votant: Jan Paul van der PAS

**Pologne-Poland**

Délégué titulaire: Michał GRADZIŃSKI

Délégué suppléant: Jerzy GŁAZEK

Membre votant: Michał GRADZIŃSKI

**Portugal**

Délégué titulaire: Orlando Caetano CORDEIRO

Délégué suppléant: José Antonio CRISPIM

Membre votant: José Antonio CRISPIM

**Puerto-Rico - Portorico**

Délégué titulaire: Abel VALE

Délégué suppléant: Efrain MERCADO

Membre votant: Abel VALE

**République de l'Afrique Sud-South African Republic**

Délégué titulaire: Stephen A. CRAVEN

**République du Corée-Korean Republic**

Délégué titulaire: Kyung Sik WOO

Délégué suppléant: Deok-Hyun YOON

Membre votant: Paul WILLIAMS (NZ) - 2

**Républic Tchèque-Czech Republic**

Délégué titulaire: Michal PIŠKULA

Délégué suppléant: David HAVLÍČEK

Membre votant: Pavel BOSÁK

**Roumanie-Romania**

Délégué titulaire: Bogdan P. ONAC

Délégué suppléant: Calin VODA

Membre votant: Bogdan P. ONAC - 1

George PONTA - 2

**Russie-Russia**

Délégué titulaire: Bulat MAVLYUDOV  
Délégué suppléant: Grigori SIGALOV

**Slovaqui-Slovakia**

Délégué titulaire: Ján TULIS  
Membre votant: Jozef HLAVÁČ - 2

**Slovénie-Slovenia**

Délégué titulaire: Andrej MIHEVC  
Délégué suppléant: Dorotea VERSA  
Membre votant: Andrej MIHEVC

**Suède-Sweden**

Délégué titulaire: Rabbe SJÖBERG  
Délégué suppléant: Anders LINDÉN  
Membre votant: Rune MAGNUSSON

**Suisse-Switzerland**

Délégué titulaire: René SCHERRER  
Délégué suppléant: Patrick DERIAZ

Membre votant: Philippe HÄUSELMAN - 1  
Patrick DERIAZ - 2

**Turqui-Turkey**

Délégué titulaire: Bihan ALTAY  
Délégué suppléant: Beril BASKURT

**Ukraine**

Délégué titulaire: Aleksander KLIMCHOUK  
Délégué suppléant: Bogdan RIDUSH  
Membre votant: Andrej MIHEVC (SI)

**Uzbekistan**

Délégué titulaire: Vladimir DOLGYI

**Vénézuela-Venezuela**

Délégué titulaire: Rafael CARRENO  
Délégué suppléant: Ilich RAMÍREZ  
Membre votant: Rafael CARRENO - 2

**Vietnam**

no data

## UIS Departments, Commissions, and Working Groups

The Commissions and Working Groups are where the actual speleological work is done. Anyone who wants to contribute is invited to collaborate in the work of a commission under the co-ordination of its President(s)

**UIS domain: <http://www.uis-speleo.org>**

**<http://rubens.its.unimelb.edu.au/~pgm/uis/comms.html>**

### Departments:

Protection and Management.  
Research  
Documentation  
Exploration  
Education  
Advisory Committee

### **Department of Protection and Management.**

#### **Département de la Protection.**

President: Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS, Belgium

*COMMISSION ON PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND TOURISM IN CAVES AND KARST REGIONS  
COMMISSION POUR LA PROTECTION, L'EXPLOITATION ET LE TOURISME DES CAVITÉS ET DES  
ÉGIONS KARSTIQUES*

Presidents: Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS, Belgium

### **Department of Research**

#### **Département de la Recherche Scientifique**

*COMMISSION ON PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY AND HYDROGEOLOGY OF KARST  
COMMISSION DE LA PHYSICO-CHIMIE ET DE L'HYDROGÉOLOGIE DU KARST*

President: Yavor Y. SHOPOV, Bulgaria

*COMMISSION ON PALEOKARST AND SPELEOCHRONOLOGY  
COMMISSION DU PALÉOKARST ET DE LA SPÉLÉOCHRONOLOGIE.*

President: Stein-Erik LAURITZEN, Norway

*COMMISSION ON GLACIER CAVES AND KARST IN POLAR REGIONS  
COMMISSION DES GROTTES EN GLACIÈRES ET DU KARST DES RÉGIONS POLAIRES.*

President: Adolfo ERASO ROMERO, Spain

*COMMISSION ON VOLCANIC CAVES  
COMMISSION DES GROTTES VOLCANIQUES.*

President: Jan Paul van der PAS, Netherlands

*WORKING GROUP ON HYDROTHERMAL KARST*  
*GROUPE DE TRAVAIL: KARST HYDROTHERMALE*  
President: Yuri Viktorovich DUBLYANSKY, Russia

*COMMISSION ON HYDROGEOLOGY AND SPELEOGENESIS*  
*COMMISSION POUR LE HYDROGÉOLOGIE ET SPÉLEOGENIE*  
President: Alexander KLIMCHOUK, Ukraine

*COMMISSION ON CAVE MINERALOGY*  
*COMMISSION POUR LA MINÉRALOGIE DANS LES GROTTES*  
President: Carol HILL, USA

*COMMISSION ON „PSEUDOKARST“*  
*COMMISSION DU „PSEUDOKARST“*  
Honorary President: Jiří KOPECKÝ, Czech Republic  
President: István ESZTERHÁS, Hungary  
Secretary: Tiberiu TULUCAN, Romania

*COMMISSION ON ARCHEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY IN CAVES*  
*COMMISSION POUR L'ARCHÉOLOGIE ET LA PALÉONTOLOGIE DANS LES GROTTES*  
Presidents: Roman HAPKA, Switzerland; David HUBBARD, USA

*PERMANENT COMMISSION ON SPELEOTHERAPY*  
*COMMISSION PERMANENTE DE SPÉLÉOTHERAPIE*  
Honorary President: Beata SANDRI, Austria  
President: Svetozár DLUHOLUCKÝ, Slovakia

*COMMISSION ON ARTIFICIAL CAVITIES*  
*COMMISSION DES CAVITÉS ARTIFICIELLES*  
President: Joep ORBONS, Netherlands

***Department of Documentation***  
***Departement de la documentation***

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*COMMISSION DE LA BIBLIOGRAPHIE*  
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*COMMISSION ON LONGEST AND DEEPEST CAVES*  
*COMMISSION DES GRANDES CAVITÉS*  
Presidents: Claude CHABERT, France; Philippe DROUIN, France; Alan WARILD, Australia

*COMMISSION ATLAS OF KARST REGIONS*  
*COMMISSION POUR L'ATLAS DES RÉGIONS KARSTIQUES*  
President: Karl-Heinz PFEFFER, Germany

*INFORMATICS COMMISSION*  
*COMMISSION POUR L'INFORMATIQUE*  
President: Peter MATTHEWS, Australia  
*WORKING GROUP: SURVEY AND MAPPING*  
*GROUPE DE TRAVAIL: TOPOGRAPHIE ET DESSIN*  
President: Philipp HÄUSELMANN, Switzerland

*COMMISSION ON HISTORY OF SPELEOLOGY*  
*COMMISSION POUR L'HISTOIRE DE LA SPÉLÉOLOGIE*  
President: Karl MAIS, Austria

***Department of Exploration***  
***Departement de l'exploration***

*COMMISSION OF CAVE RESCUE*  
*COMMISSION DE SPÉLÉO-SECOUR*  
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## UIS WEB DOMAIN

We have now got a preliminary working of the UIS domain name. If you go to address: <http://www.uis-speleo.org> you get redirected to the existing UIS pages, i.e. both old and new addresses point to the same original site

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