

MINUTES

Regular Session of the UIS Burelu Athens, Greece, October 15-19, 2003

1st Session October 16, 2003 Morning

Present: according to present list

Labegalini, Eavis, Bosák, Hapka, Mihevc, Mouret, Song, Trimmel, guests: Widmer, Batholeyns

(1) Approval of Agenda 2003

Agenda was completed and approved.

(3) Finances - review

information was taken into account.

(11) Greece 2005

Eavis explained situation since October 2002

Bosák completed this info

Hapka – concerning the 3rd Symposium on Cave Archaeology and Palaeontology: Greeks never contacted UIS Commissions for official cooperation, respective UIS Commission did not agree with organisation. Therefore the event is illegal and official representative of the respective UIS Commission will not participate. It is technically possible to cancel Greece as organizer of the International Congress of Speleology (ICS) in 2005.

(2) Control of Minutes from Regular Session in 2002 (Samchok, Korea)

Point (4) Mihevc informed on opening of the UIS stable address in Postojna, Slovenia and on opening ceremony with erection of UIS table on building of Institute of Karst Research in Postojna.

Point (5) It was stated that there is no progress, Hapka proposed to cancel the discussion.

Point (6) There exists now new translations to English and Spanish, all the versions have to be corrected by local lawyer. Spanish text was corrected by Eraso. English text must have the sense of the original (Eavis), grammar correction of French text must precede translations not to lose the time (Veni), the original text was 3 times changed /corrected/ for English inserts (Trimmel), it is not necessary to change the UIS Statute/Constitution, all items can be included to lower level acts (Bosák), the UIS Statute must be the stable document, all other items to be included in lower level acts (Trimmel).

Point (13) After the study of Reglement Interieur we will state what is necessary.

Point (20) UIS lists – missing items to be included in WWW pages (Bartholeyns), SpeleoDigest complete on the WWW (Veni).

Point (21) UIS history – we have UIS Bulletins, to complete I need cooperation of UIS past-presidents and past-Secretaries General, after compilation it should be included in our WWW (Bosák), it is worth to have primary documents on WWW (Mouret), I have been preparing some part of history, interesting details from correspondence

(Trimmel), Cigna with daughter of Geze should select UIS documents from materials for digitization or copying (Bosák), Bosák urged material to UIS Archive in Postojna. Point (22) WWW pages were updated on October 2003.

Point (23) – International Day of Speleology. We have to forget Greeks involved in, but we shall continue with UNESCO headquarters in Paris; as Brazil has no tradition, the progress is lying on countries like Italy or Slovenia (Labegalini), it is necessary to obtain contacts to new Executive Bureau of the UNESCO (Bartholeyns), the contacts with the UNESCO should be stopped, we are too small for UNESCO interest (Hapka), we have to forget our previous ideas and we shall continue in that activity until declaration by UN and UNESCO, individual countries can support the idea (Trimmel), it is necessary to approve all the idea by ourselves (Labegalini), letter prepared by Eavis and Labegalini will be sent to Greek ambassador at UNESCO (Bosák).

Point (26) FEALC member countries, which are not member countries of the UIS will become regular UIS member countries (Labegalini).

2nd Session

October 16, 2003

Afternoon

Present: according to present list

Labegalini, Eavis, Bosák, Hapka, Mihevc, Mouret, Song, Trimmel, guests: Widmer, Batholeyns

(4) Recommendations for Organizers of Events

(5) UIS Principal documents

- UIS Constitution/Statute – translations
- Internal Regulations/Reglement Interieur
- Corrections to UIS Ethic Code
- Standards for Extra Assembly General

Hapka – it is necessary to include – what we will do, purpose, who will realise, we cannot give to Greeks (is too late), we have to have technically perfect document before next General Assembly, to follow it for next ICS its selection.

Mouret – there are missing comments to application for the ICS.

Bosák – proposal to be delivered 6 months before voting, UIS Bureau can ask for additional data and approval of capability to organize.

Widmer – speleology has been developing rapidly, to be taken into account.

Hapka – to establish Feasibility Committee for the ICS.

Bosák – when representative of country organizing next ICS is not elected to the UIS Bureau, he/her will be co-opted to Bureau under conditions of specified within the Reglement Interieur; in previous debate Trimmel stated that Adjoint Secretary is elected, so we can support representative of hosting country and Veni supported the co-optation.

Mouret – the right to organize the ICS only Countries of UIS Cat. A.

Hapka – It is necessary to check capability (especially financial) to organize the ICS.

Bartholeyns – it is lay to pay than to organize.

Trimmel – psychological problem, we exclude too much countries form possibility to organize the ICS, Countries B and C can have sources, e.g., in government.

Veni – I agree, but we have to have insurance act that country is able to organize the ICS.

Widmer – we have to avoid problems of later/late cancellation.

Veni – in the last time too much event in close time and generally.

Mouret – to have 2 categories of Congresses – main and subsidiary.

Trimmel – to link more congresses in one period each after the previous.

Hapka – did we need more official events – it is enhancing the UIS activity. We need more international events.

Labegalini – agrees, we have to involve in other activities (to enhance the UIS general activity), we can have more activities between ICS.

Widmer – at important events we should have link to our WWW or to announce our WWW in principal events organized by other bodies.

Veni – the knowledge of the UIS among other organizations is small, like in the NSS, it is necessary to improve.

Labegalini – we have to utilise national events for our advertisement.

Trimmel – this is the task of the UIS Bureau with national delegates to distribute information.

Song – before voting on the ICS the Bureau has to check the proposal, find the problem, and after we can act and the assumptions on 2 congresses are now too far.

Veni – the proposal for next Congress, why 6 months before the Assembly General and not 1 year? And to assume that Bureau can expel the proposal.

Hapka – in general it is technical not political question.

Eavis – to propose for selection only 1 country is far from democracy.

Trimmel – and what about situation when Bureau proposed and conditions change since that time?

Eavis – this is our risk.

Mouret – we must not rank any country.

Hapka – to establish group and compile rules.

Eavis – such commission is represented by elected Bureau.

Conclusions: Commission is composed of Eavis, Hapka, Mouret and Widmer. It prepares the questionnaire for pre-selection and filtration of the ICS site. Bureau after decides on Pre-selection Commission.

(6) Commissions and Working Groups

State of the Art

Future

Support

Mouret – asked Commission by e-mail and obtained answer from Shopov, van der Pas, Esterházs and Matthews.

Bartholeyns informed on his Department and Commission. He will send report by post.

Veni – there have to be regulations, clearly stating that inactivity means automatic end of Commission or WG.

Labegalini – this has to be included in Reglement Interieur.

Hapka – in conditions to include organisation of meeting and special symposia during the ICS.

Trimmel – originally the idea of Commissions was to work on certain theme inbetween ICS, therefore is the report during the ICS.

Song – after reports, the delegates of the Assembly General fill single form (classification scheme), which bofdy has the lower number of point it is automatically ending.

Bartholeyns – to establish dead-line for the WWW presentation for Commissions and Bureau (January or so).

Trimmel – to renew presentation of Commissions and WG on the Congress (not within Assembly General), in that time no other program can be organized, with presentation of Commission/WG outputs.

Eavis – to discuss during 2004 session.

(7) UIS Prints

State of the Art

Future – UIS Bulletin (print, distribution)

International Journal of Speleology

Labegalini proposed to organize cooperation in the UIS Bulletin print and distribution with Spanish Speleological Federation.

Mouret proposed to wait until conditions are not completely clear.

Widmer – there must be known details, costs of print and distribution, problem of advertisement (expected too much).

Conclusion: to wait for Spanish proposal.

(8) Web pages and related items

State of the Art

Proposal of Klimchouk

Conclusions: Approval of DOI – will be organized electronically.

(9) International co-operation

ISCA – Memorandum, Agreement

Labegalini explained the history, achievements, problems and proposed to wait for 2005 Bermuda ISCA General Assembly, but not to allow disconnection in relations.

(12) Varia – according to proposals

Information of Fadi Nader on expected future UIS member countries

Date of the next meeting (Vietnam September 2004?)

Request to help in protection of karst in Guatemala

Nader – informed on the state of the art.

Guatemala – request of more data from French cavers (Veni), to ask some conservationist for consultation (?Hamilton Smith by Vale?)

Veni gave primary information on idea of Speleo2009 in the USA.