

## UIS BUREAU MEETINGS AT THE 16<sup>th</sup> ICS

July 20-28, 2013

*BVV Trade Fairs – Brno (Czech Republic)*

	<b>Attendance: Session 1</b> <i>Saturday July 20, 2013; at 9h25 (local time)</i>
<b>President</b>	Andrew James EAVIS
<b>Vice-President for Operations</b>	Christian DODELIN
<b>Vice-President for Administration</b>	George VENI
<b>Secretary General</b>	Fadi NADER
<b>Adjunct Secretaries</b>	Giovanni BADINO Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS Alexander KLIMCHOUK Stein-Erik LAURITZEN Efrain MERCADO Paul WILLIAMS Kyung Sik WOO Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA
<b>Honorary &amp; Past-President</b>	Hubert TRIMMEL Pavel BOSAK José Ayrton LABEGALINI
<b>Bureau members not in attendance</b>	

### **1) Opening speech of the UIS President / Approval of Agenda**

Andy Eavis thanked all participants for coming to Brno. He expressed his satisfaction to see all Bureau members present at this first session of the annual UIS Bureau meeting. Andy Eavis thanked also the organizers of the 16<sup>th</sup> ICS for their efforts and congratulated them for all their efforts leading to an excellent congress.

The Agenda of the Meetings during the Congress were then approved by the present Bureau members.

### **2) Approval of Minutes from Regular Bureau Meeting of 2012 (Cancun, Mexico)**

A few minor comments were made on the minutes of the last UIS Bureau Meeting (Cancun – Mexico; 2012), which were noted by Fadi Nader.

Fadi Nader, then, proposed a motion to accept the minutes. Andy Eavis seconded this motion and it was passed by the Bureau.

Together with the minutes, the list of decisions/actions was sent to the Bureau members by emails.

### **(3) Review of Finances (Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA)**

Nadja Zupan Hajna ran through the detailed budget and expenses since 2009, which she also presented (later on) to the General Assembly.

**UIS Bureau Annual Meeting – Minutes  
Brno (Czech Republic) – July 20-28, 2013**

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**UIS FINANCIAL REPORT, BRNO 2013**

Prepared by Nadja Zupan Hajna, UIS Adjunct Secretary – Treasurer (after Kerrville 2009); authorized representative of UIS in Slovenia from 2011 (before was Andrej Mihevc).

**Bank account in Slovenia:** at **Banka Koper**, Poslovna enota Postojna, Tržaška cesta 1, 6230 Postojna, Slovenia  
**Account name:** Mednarodna speleološka zveza (International Union of Speleology) – UIS, Titov trg 2, Postojna  
**Account No.:** 10100-0037861520  
**IBAN:** SI56 1010 0003 7861 520  
**BIC:** BAKOSI2X

**Financial situation on UIS account: 1. 7. 2013**

- 45.614,95 USD (45,614.95 USD)
- 16.458,04 EUR (16,458.04 EUR)

USD from 1. 7. 2009 to 1. 7. 2013

01.07.2009 = 18.623,34 USD  
 31.12.2009 = 59.200,24 USD  
 31.12.2010 = 34.227,88 USD  
 31.12.2011 = 25.533,35 USD  
 31.12.2012 = 10.964,94 USD  
 01.07.2013 = 45.614,95 USD

EUR from 1. 7. 2009 to 1. 7. 2013

01.07.2009 = 1.717,11 EUR  
 31.12.2009 = 6.303,07 EUR  
 31.12.2010 = 5.785,75 EUR  
 31.12.2011 = 10.764,40 EUR  
 31.12.2012 = 12.964,39 EUR  
 01.07.2013 = 16.458,04 EUR

**Annual Financial Reports from 1. 7. 2009 to 1. 7. 2013**

Account 2009	EUR from 1.7.
Before 1.7.2009	1.717,11
Plus after 30.6.	4.645,62
Minus after 30.6.	-59,66
<b>31.12.2009</b>	<b>6.303,07</b>
Bank 31.12.2009	6.303,07
difference	0

Account 2009	USD
Before 1.7.	18.623,34
Plus after 1.7.	40.653,52
Minus after 1.7.	-76,45
<b>31.12.2009</b>	<b>59.200,24</b>
Bank 31.12.2009	59.200,24
difference	0

Account 2010	EUR
From 2009	6.303,07
Plus in 2010	885,18
Minus in 2010	-1.402,50
<b>31.12.2010</b>	<b>5.785,75</b>
Bank 31.12.2010	5.785,75
difference	0

Account 2010	USD
From 2009	59.200,24
Plus in 2010	27,64
Minus in 2010	-25.000,00
<b>31.12.2010</b>	<b>34.227,88</b>
Bank 31.12.2010	34.227,88
difference	0

1. deposit

Account 2011	EUR
From 2010	5.785,75
Plus in 2011	5.379,34
Minus in 2011	-400,69
<b>31.12.2011</b>	<b>10.764,4</b>
Bank 31.12.2011	10.764,4
difference	0

Account 2011	USD
From 2010	34.227,88
Plus in 2011	1.349,42
Minus in 2011	-10.043,95
<b>31.12.2011</b>	<b>25.533,35</b>
Bank 31.12.2011	25.533,35
difference	0

donation to IJS

Account 2012	EUR
From 2011	10.764,40
Plus in 2012	3.661,84
Minus in 2012	-1.461,85
<b>31.12.2012</b>	<b>12.964,39</b>
Bank 31.12.2012	12.964,39
difference	0

Account 2012	USD
From 2011	25.533,35
Plus in 2012	26.236,95
Minus in 2012	-40.832,36
<b>1.1.2012</b>	<b>10.964,94</b>
Bank 1.1.2012	10.964,94
difference	0

1. deposit back  
2. deposit

Account 2013	EUR on 1.7.
From 2012	12.964,39
Plus in 2013	4.435,16
Minus in 2013	-941,51
<b>30.6.2013</b>	<b>16.458,04</b>
Bank 30.6.2013	16.458,04
difference	0

Account 2013	USD on 1.7.
From 2012	10.961,07
Plus in 2013	35.213,88
Minus in 2013 till 1.7.	-560,00
<b>1.7.2013</b>	<b>45.614,95</b>
Bank 1.7.2013	45.614,95
difference	0

George Veni informed the Bureau members that some commissions have asked for funding (following UIS Bureau decision to financially assist commissions with up to 2000 Euros for the year 2013).

The Bureau agreed to provide the following requested funds:

- Karst/Cave Protection (France Habe Prize): 250 Euros
- Pseudokarst: 225 Euros
- Artificial Cavities: 500 Euros

The Bibliography Commission had also asked for a budget of 1500 Euros, which is very high with respect to the agreed overall budget. Thus, the Bureau decided to consider this request pending until further clarifications are obtained from Patrick Deriaz (head of the Bibliography Commission).

Nadja Zupan Hajna also explained about the situation of the Spanish version of the book “*Cave Geology*” by Art Palmer. Previously, the UIS Bureau agreed to help in financing the publishing of this book, but extra costs for shipment were needed. Selling Spanish version volumes of “*Cave Geology*” is supposed to pay back UIS. Nevertheless, the UIS cannot sell books according to its status as a non-profit organization. A large number of the volumes have been given to UIS and brought by Nadja from Postojna.

- Efrain Mercado volunteered to find a solution for these books and find a way to get them sold on the behalf of the UIS.

An overview on the payment of fees of member-countries took place and Nadja pointed out more than a dozen member countries which did not pay for the last 5 years. A unanimous decision was made to remove these countries from the list of the UIS and ask them to request to join the Union when they are able to contribute and maintain contact. In addition, those countries which did not pay for three years consecutively, will not be given the right to vote at the General Assembly sessions.

The following decisions/actions were made:

**ACTION 1: The amount of 45,000 USD will be deposited in our bank in Postojna (SLOVENIA) for a duration of two years. Acting Treasurer, Nadja Zupan Hajna will proceed with this decision.**

**ACTION 2: Fadi Nader, Secretary General, will send a payment order of 500Euros/year for UIS-ICSU membership fees to Acting Treasurer, Nadja Zupan Hajna. The payment order will cover the duration between congresses (until the 17<sup>th</sup> ICS in 2017).**

**ACTION 3: Fadi Nader, Secretary General, will send a payment order of 320Euros/year for account auditing expenses to Acting Treasurer, Nadja Zupan Hajna. The payment order will cover the duration between congresses (until the 17<sup>th</sup> ICS in 2017).**

#### **4) Previous meetings and events**

***a. 20<sup>th</sup> International Karst School, Postojna, Slovenia (June 2012):***

Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns, Nadja Zupan Hajna and Stein-Erik Lauritzen attended this event.

***b. NSS Convention – Lewisburg, West Virginia, USA (25-29 June 2012):***

George Veni, Pavel Bosak and Zdenek Motycka attended the convention. Pavel Bosak was awarded Honorary Member of the NSS.

***c. 13th Swiss National Congress of Speleology – Muotathal (29 September to 1 October 2012) – FSE Meeting:*** Andy Eavis, Christian Dodelin and Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns

***d. Geological Society of America Convention – Charleston, South Carolina, USA (4-7 November 2012):***

George Veni attended the GSA 2012 convention.

***e. Carbon & Boundaries in Karst – Carlsbad, NM, USA (7-11 January 2013):***

George Veni attended this event. The proceedings from the conference will be published in upcoming issues of Acta Carsologica.

***f. 11<sup>th</sup> Congress of UMAE, Merida, Mexico (1-4 February 2013):***

Efrain Mercado attended this event.

***g. 13<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst – Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA (6-10 May 2013):***

George Veni attended this event.

***h. 16<sup>th</sup> ACKMA Conference, New Zealand (12-18 May 2013):***

Andy Eavis and Paul Williams attended this event.

***i. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary FFS, Millau, France (11-18 May 2013):***

Christian Dodelin attended this event.

***j. ASF Convention, Jenolan, Australia (23-25 May 2013):***

Andy Eavis and Julia James attended this event.

***k. 21<sup>st</sup> International Karst School, Postojna, Slovenia (15-20 June 2013):***

Nadja Zupan Hajna attended this event.

#### **5) Preparation for the General Assembly (Agenda)**

The Agenda of both sessions of the General Assembly was reviewed and amended to fit with the current situation (the minutes of the GA are in a separate report).

Fadi Nader and George Veni informed the Bureau that the following commissions had submitted their reports ahead of the ICS:

- Informatics
- Pseudokarst
- Diving
- Bibliography
- Karst Hydrogeology and Speleogenesis

- Speleochronology and Paleokarst
- SpeleoTherapy
- Vulcanospeleology
- Cave Rescue
- Karst and Cave Protection

Important issues discussed concerning the General Assembly at the 16<sup>th</sup> ICS:

1- Speleo Nederland Request:

Developing UIS relationships with International Sports Unions in order to be able to have better conditions for funding from national sports authorities and insurance.

2- French Speleological Federation (FFS; President Laurence Tanguille):

Having the UIS establish an official relationship with the International Olympic Commission, and consider adopting canyoning activities within the realm of the Union or become affiliated with the international union/federation of canyoning.

3- Brazil Speleological Federation (SBE):

Offer to organize the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS in Brazil and nomination of Adj. Secretary for the 2013 General Assembly UIS Bureau election

**DECISION 1: The Bureau will invite Speleo Nederland and the FFS to address the UIS General Assembly during its first session. The Bureau will discuss their issues with both Federations, which will be also referred to the UIS Advisory Committee.**

Concerning the sporting aspect of the UIS, after a long discussion the UIS Bureau agreed on the following motions:

**"Caving has the aspect of an adventurous sporting activity – but not competitive. The UIS at this stage will not apply for affiliation in any international sport union"**

**"Confirm the Code of Ethics, Clause D2: Competition should not be held inside caves..."**

#### **(6) Code of Ethics and Internal Regulations**

Fadi Nader and George Veni informed the Bureau members about the progress of the new Code of Ethics and the amendments proposed on the Internal Regulations. Fadi Nader explained that the new version of the Code of Ethics (and amendments on the Internal regulations) have been published in January 2013 (in the UIS Bulletin 55) and were on the UIS website since that time. Having sent them by email twice to all Delegates and National Organizations, and not receiving any complaints, these documents will be voted at the second session of the General Assembly. The vote will be for adopting or not adopting them without asking further modification at this stage. Of course this is after having the approval of the Advisory Committee.

#### **(7) UIS Prizes**

Fadi Nader reported that Julia James took care of preparing the UIS prizes (Poster-, Book-, and Exploration-Prizes). The UIS Bureau agreed to grant the winners of the three mentioned prizes 100, 100, and 200Euros, respectively. She had prepared certificates and will finalize the presentation in Brno, which will be delivered at the ICS Banquet.

**(8) Requests for UIS Membership**

Fadi Nader informed the Bureau members that he has received written official requests to join the UIS from established national organizations from Iran and Mongolia.

Tunisian covers also contacted the Secretary General and discussed returning to the UIS, but the official decision is expected to take place during the 16<sup>th</sup> ICS in Brno.

**(9) Information about Delegates, Member Countries, and Other Business**

Several news and informative issues were discussed by the UIS Bureau members concerning international expeditions and the situations of some Member Countries (e.g. Argentina, Portugal, Serbia).

The Euro-Speleo Magazine was also presented to the UIS Bureau.

The UIS Bureau agreed to grant the use of the UIS Logo to the organizers of the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Climate Change (the Karst Record): 29 September – 30 October, 2014.

A discussion with David Summers (ISCA) tackled the new show-cave guidelines, with which the UIS will collaborate (with Dr. Arrigo Cigna).

**(10) Finalizing the UIS General Assembly Agenda**

This follows on Item#5 above. The General Assembly Agenda was prepared and finalized by the UIS Bureau members.

**(11) Closing**

The first session of the annual UIS Bureau Meeting for the year 2013 ended at 15h35 (local time).



*UIS Bureau (2009-2013 and 2013-2017) at the 16<sup>th</sup> ICS (Brno, Czech Republic).*

	<b>Attendance: Session 2</b> <i>Sunday July 28 at 14h10 local time (after second session of General Assembly and election of new Bureau)</i>
<b>President</b>	Kyung Sik WOO
<b>Vice-President for Administration</b>	George VENI
<b>Vice-President for Operations</b>	Efrain MERCADO
<b>Secretary General</b>	Fadi NADER
<b>Adjunct Secretaries</b>	Giovanni BADINO Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS Nivaldo COLZATO Christian DODELIN Stan FLAVEL Mladen GARASIC Zdenek MOTYCKA Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA
<b>Honorary &amp; Past-Presidents</b>	Pavel BOSAK José Ayrton LABEGALINI Andrew James EAVIS
<b>Previous Bureau Members</b>	Paul WILLIAMS, Stein-Erik LAURITZEN

### **(12) Welcoming New Bureau Members**

Kyung Sik Woo opened the second session of the Bureau meeting (and the first meeting with the newly elected Bureau) in Brno by welcoming all new Bureau members and thanking all previous members for their work and dedication to the UIS. He asked Fadi Nader to prepare letters of thanks to all members who have now left the Bureau.

**ACTION 4: Fadi Nader (Secretary General) will write letter of thanks to all UIS Bureau members who have left the Bureau after the elections at the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the General Assembly of the 16<sup>th</sup> ICS.**

After the election at the second session of the General Assembly at the 16<sup>th</sup> ICS, Nivaldo Colzato (Brazil), Stan Flavel (Australia), Mladen Garasic (Croatia), and Zdenek Motycka (Czech Republic) joined the Bureau. Some shuffling in positions occurred as Efrain Mercado was elected Vice-President for Operations and Christian Dodelin was elected Adjunct Secretary. Andy Eavis was elected by the General Assembly as Honorary Past President.

Andy Eavis noted that in the previous years the Bureau has continuously evolved into a better, efficient, and increasingly pleasant working group. He expressed how difficult it would be for him to leave the UIS Bureau as President and congratulated Kyung Sik Woo.

### **(13) Operations and Responsibilities**

***a. Review job responsibilities following the Internal Regulations***

George Veni reviewed the job-description of the members of the UIS Bureau as indicated by the Internal Regulations. UIS Adjunct Secretaries were asked to take some weeks to propose specific activities that they would take in charge.

***b. UIS Website + Informatics Commission***

Fadi Nader reported about the progress regarding the UIS website and the recommendations made by the Informatics Commission.

- Voting should be possible by emails.
- Zdenek Motycka suggested investigating upgrading the UIS website.

***c. UIS Bulletin: News***

Efrain Mercado (VP Operations) will be in charge of the upcoming issues of the UIS Bulletin.

- Two numbers/issues per year make each yearly volume of the UIS Bulletin.
- The possibility to publish them on html format rather than PDF is to be studied by Efrain Mercado.

***d. Follow-up on Commissions***

George Veni (VP Administration) remains in charge of following up on Departments, Commissions and Working Groups.

The Bibliography Commission revised its budget request to 500 Euros. This amount fits with the allocated budget by previous Bureau.

**DECISION 2: The Bureau accepted the request made by the Bibliography Commission and asked the Acting Treasurer, Nadia Zupan Hajna to proceed with the payment of 500Euros to the mentioned commission.**

***e. National Delegates, Organizations and Regional bodies***

With respect to delegates and member countries, the UIS Bureau agreed on:

- 1- Remove all previous member countries (which no longer are considered as member countries, e.g. failure of payment for more than 5 years) from the UIS list of member countries (on website).
- 2- Remove contested delegates from the list of national delegates of the UIS – until the contesting parties agree on one delegate.

The last time the UIS Statutes were modified goes back to 1996. The new UIS Bureau decided to work on proposing a new version of the UIS Statutes that is up to date. A small group for revising the Statutes was established.

**DECISION 3: Pavel Bosak, Fadi Nader, George Veni and Nadja Zupan Hajna will form a group that will review the UIS Statutes and suggest a revised form to the UIS Bureau at the 2014 annual Bureau meeting.**

**(14) UIS Advisory Committee**



The UIS Bureau agreed on adding Paul Williams and Andy Eavis to the UIS Advisory Committee.

**DECISION 4: The UIS Advisory Committee (2013) includes: Dr Hubert Trimmel (AUT); Dr. Pavel Bosak (CZE); Dr. Arrigo Cigna (ITA); Dr. Friedrich Oedl, jr. (AUT); Dr. Paul Williams (NZL); and Mr. Andy Eavis (GBR).**

**(15) Running Projects:**

***a. UIS Book (José Ayrton Labegalini):***

Jose Ayrton Labegalini informed the Bureau about the progress of the UIS book project. He distributed paper copies of the draft version to several UIS Bureau members.

A tentative schedule was proposed:

- Review 1 (30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2013)
- Final Review (Nov 2014 – Bureau Meeting)
- Print (2015 – before June/ Bureau Meeting UIS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

***c. ICSU:***

Andy Eavis reported to the Bureau his experience at the latest ICSU Convention (27-30 September, 2011) and strongly recommended the participation of the UIS at the upcoming meeting.

Kyung Sik Woo, Andy Eavis and Paul Williams will represent the UIS at the next ICSU Convention.

**DECISION 5: Dr. Paul Williams was asked to stand as the UIS Advisor to ICSU.**

**(16) Future Meetings and Events of Interest**

***a. Hypogene Cave Morphologies; 2-7 February 2014 (Bahamas)***

Alexander Klimchouk will attend this meeting

***b. Volcanic Caves Symposium; 15-27 March 2014 (Galapagos)***

Kyung Sik Woo, Stein-Erik Lauritzen and Andy Eavis will attend this symposium.

***c. Balkan Speleological Conference; 28-30 March 2014 (Sofia, Bulgaria)***

Efrain Mercado is considering attending this conference.

***d. Karst without Borders; 11-15 June 2014 (Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina)***

This is a UNESCO supported meeting of the Karst Commission of the International Association of Hydrogeologists. Mladen Garasic will attend this meeting.

***e. 22<sup>nd</sup> International Karst School, Postojna, Slovenia (June 2014): Microbiology***

Nadja Zupan Hajna, Pavel Bosak, and Zdenek Motycka will attend this event.

***f. NSS Convention; 14-18 July 2014 (Huntsville - Alabama, USA)***

George Veni and Zdenek Motycka will attend this event.

*g. International Workshop on Ice Caves VI; 17-22 August 2014 (Idaho Falls, USA)*

George Veni will attend this event.

*h. Karst Record Conference (7); 29 September - 3 October 2014 (Melbourne, Australia)*

Paul Williams and Andy Eavis will attend this conference.

*i. ISCA Convention – in association with ACKMA; 2-8 November 2014 (Jenolan Caves, Australia)*

George Veni and Zdenek Motycka will attend this event.

**(17) UIS Bureau 2014 meeting (Sydney, Australia)**

**DECISION 6: The UIS Bureau members decided that the upcoming meeting will take place in conjunction with the 2014 ISCA Convention (Jenolan Caves / Sydney), which will take place between 2-8 November 2014 in the Jenolan Caves (Sydney, Australia). The UIS Bureau meeting is expecting to meet just before the ISCA Convention (end of October).**

**ACTION 5: Stan Flavel will discuss with the ASF and ISCA/ACKMA about the possibility for having the 2014 UIS meeting in Sydney and will report to the UIS Bureau as soon as possible in order to start organizing the meeting.**

**(18) Closing Session (President) + Setting the Action List for 2014**

At 16h00, Kyung Sik Woo closed the second session of the Brno, 2013 UIS Bureau meeting and thanked everybody for their presence and their contribution.

**ACTION 6: Fadi Nader will prepare the minutes of the meetings and the Action List for 2014.**