

UIS BUREAU MEETING

June 20 – 21, 2015

Postojna, Slovenia

Attendance: Session 1 <i>Saturday, June 20, 2015; 09:20-20:00 (local time)</i>	
President	Kyung Sik WOO
Vice-President of Administration	George VENI
Vice-President of Operations	Efrain MERCADO
Secretary General	Fadi H. NADER
Adjunct secretaries	Giovanni BADINO Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS Nivaldo COLZATO Christian DODELIN Mladen GARAŠIĆ Zdeněk MOTYČKA Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA
Honorary members/Past-presidents	Pavel BOSAK Arrigo CIGNA Andrew James EAVIS José Ayrton LABEGALINI Stein-Erik LAURITZEN
Bureau members not in attendance	John CUGLEY
Guests	Ged CAMPION (FSE, President) Laurence TANGUILLE (FFS, President) Gyula HEGEDUS (UIS Delegate, Hungary) Mario PARISE (UIS Delegate, Italy) Johnsy CARRION (UIS Delegate, Puerto Rico) Lauren SATTERFIELD (Cyprus Cave Project) Joe SYDNEY (ICS17 Organizers)

1) Opening comments of the UIS President/Approval of the Agenda

Kyung Sik Woo thanked all participants for coming to Postojna. He thanked Nadja Zupan Hajna for her hard work and the success of the 23rd Karst School and the 50th Anniversary of the UIS. Then he presented the Agenda of the 2015, which was approved by Bureau members.

2) Approval of Minutes from the 2014 Bureau Meeting (Sydney, Australia)

A few minor corrections were made in the minutes of the 2014 UIS Bureau Meeting. Item #3-b, lacked “not” in the last sentence:

*“After reviewing the requirements for Sportaccord membership, membership requires that organizations are about competitive sports and UIS does **not** view speleology as a competitive sport.”*

Ged Campion noted that Item #15 missed the fact that Ernest Geyer, Vice-Treasurer of FSE attended the previous, 16th ICS in Brno. He proposed to add to this Item:

“Ernest Geyer, Vice-Treasurer of the FSE attended the 16th ICS in Brno, Czech Republic.”

The revised minutes were approved by consensus.

3) Review of Decisions and Action Items of previous UIS Bureau Meeting (2014)

Most of the Decisions and Action Items of the 2014 UIS Bureau meeting were achieved. Only a couple of Actions, which were partially achieved, have been transferred to the 2015 list.

In particular, the actions pertaining to the Spanish version of the book “Cave Geology” of Art Palmer, and the UIS website have been reported on the 2015 list. The work on the UIS statutes and internal regulations also proceeded.

4) ISCA (K.S. Woo, A. Cigna)

Kyung Sik Woo reported to the Bureau his discussions with the new ISCA President and highlighted the need to boost a sustainable relationship between UIS and ISCA. While ISCA’s affiliation has been agreed, no discussions about fees and payments took place.

Arrigo Cigna presented a comprehensive review regarding UIS and ISCA collaboration. The Guidelines for Show Caves were approved in Slovakia in 2014, by ISCA, UIS and IUCN.

Pavel Bosak explained that the previous MOU between ISCA is signed in two slightly different versions. Therefore, a new agreement has to be prepared.

DECISION 1: The UIS will propose a new, up to date Agreement with ISCA.

ACTION 1: Pavel Bosak, Andy Eavis, Kyung Sik Woo, and George Veni will form a working group to prepare new proposal for UIS-ISCA Agreement.

5) UIS Relationships with Regional Organizations and Countries (F. Nader)

- a. European Federation (FSE), affiliated association of UIS: Meeting with the FSE President Ged Campion.

Ged proposed not to have duplications between UIS and FSE. He discussed about what the FSE can do for the UIS. This led to discussion about the Euro Speleo Projects – ESP (funding for expedition) and proposed collaboration with UIS for funding expeditions and speleological activities. The experience of the FSE in processing applications for funds will be available for UIS.

Ged Campion invited the UIS Bureau members to attend the FSE Bureau meetings. He updated the UIS Bureau about the new FSE Bureau members.

Andy Eavis expressed his enthusiasm for a renewed FSE and UIS relationship, with the FSE willing to “work with, rather than against or instead of the UIS”.

There are various realms of cooperation, such as cave and karst protection and cave rescue.

- b. Meeting President of the French Speleology Federation (Laurence Tanguille): Intention to organize the 18th ICS, in 2021

Laurence showed a presentation and two films expressing France's will to be a candidate for organizing the 18th ICS in 2021. The possible venues, dates (August 2021) and attractions were presented to the UIS Bureau by Laurence and her accompanying team.

She expressed also her readiness to discuss with Slovenians and Italians in order to submit a European proposal – if they wish so.

Nadja Zupan Hajna told that the Italians and Slovenian potential organizers had ruled out the collaboration with a third party and that the choice of the venue would be a town on the border between Slovenia and Italy.

- c. Cyprus Cave Project: Lauren Satterfield

Lauren Satterfield presented her ongoing (Fulbright) project in Cyprus which is supported on moral basis by the UIS and the new proposed EU-funded project for 2016/17. She explained that the project includes equally Scientific-Research and Public Outreach activities.

Fadi Nader thanked the Bureau members for their reactivity in processing the EU project application and proposed to organize an International Expedition to Cyprus for training Cypriot future cavers within the EU-project, next year. This activity can still take place – similar to previous UIS International Speleological Expeditions – even if the EU-project is not attributed.

- d. New membership of the Philippines and other countries, discussion how to approve (K. S. Woo).

Kyung Sik Woo informed the Bureau Meeting that the Philippines Speleological Society would like to be affiliated to the UIS and that the Philippines become a UIS Member Country. This is after he had met with the PSS President earlier this year. Some misunderstanding happened in the past concerning the fees to pay, which led them not to pursue their request of becoming member country. The discussion proceeded whether to accept their request and organize an Extraordinary General Assembly by electronic vote or wait two years for the 17th ICS (Sydney, Australia) for officially accepting the Philippines as a UIS Member Country. The General Assembly of the UIS approves new member countries through voting.

Fadi Nader proposed to start communication with the PSS and Philippines caving community, and work together in preparing all needed documents ahead of the 17th ICS General Assembly.

- e. Asian Federation of Speleology (AFS), a future meeting (K. S. Woo)

Kyung Sik Woo informed the Bureau Meeting about the developments concerning the Asian Federation of Speleology (AFS). He highlighted the upcoming AFS Transkarst Conference in November 2015 (see below) and invited UIS Bureau members to consider attending.

- f. Request for support to International Congress of Speleology in Artificial Cavities Hypogea 2017 – 6 to 8 March (Turkey)
Mario Parise presented the request by the Turkish cavers and his commission for the UIS support (moral) for the upcoming Hypogea 2017 conference. He submitted a letter to Secretary General.

DECISION 2: The UIS Bureau approves the request of moral support for Hypogea 2017 (Turkey) under the condition that Turkey pays its debts to UIS Treasury.

6) UNESCO International Year for Caves and Karst (K.S. Woo)

- a. Announcement
Kyung Sik Woo thanked the Bureau Members for their support with respect to the IYCK proposal. George Veni and Kyung Sik Woo had prepared an “Announcement” to declare at the 50th Anniversary of the UIS and then to be sent later on to National Delegates.

ACTION 2: Kyung Sik Woo will send IYCK 2021 proposal to UIS Bureau Members (after late July).

- b. Task-Force team
Kyung Sik Woo will form a task-force team to start preparation for the official proposal to UNESCO.

ACTION 3: Kyung Sik Woo will form a Task Force for proposing the IYCK 2021 (before next UIS Bureau Meeting in 2016).

7) UIS Commissions (G. Veni)

- a. News and Updates (Reports)
- ✓ Archaeology and Paleontology (Donald McFarlane - USA): Commission will participate in the International Cave Bear Symposium, The Netherlands, September 2015.
 - ✓ Artificial Cavities (Mario Parise – Italy): Organized a successful Hypogea conference in Rome, in March 2015 in Rome, Italy. Has begun planning the March 2017 Hypogea in Cappadocia, Turkey, and asks if someone from the Bureau will attend to represent the UIS.
 - ✓ Arts and Letters (Ian Chandler – UK): No activities reported.
 - ✓ Bibliography (Patrick Deriaz – Switzerland): Working to finish Speleological Abstracts 51-52.
 - ✓ Biology (John Holsinger – USA): No activities reported.

- ✓ Cave Diving (Maxime de Gianpietro – Switzerland): Activities reported in the UIS Bulletin.
- ✓ Cave Mineralogy (Bogdan Onac – Romania): No activities reported.
- ✓ Cave Rescue (Christian Dodelin – France): Organized a cave rescue meeting in Switzerland in April 2015.
- ✓ Cavers' Dictionary (Mladen Garasic – Croatia): No activities reported. **Two new languages: Arabic, Hebrew.**
- ✓ Department of Education (Marcel Meyssonnier – France): No activities reported.
- ✓ Department of Protection and Management (Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns – Belgium): **Organizing 2015 Habe Prize – Guidelines for ISCA – Jeita project.**
- ✓ Glacier, Firn, and Ice Caves (Valter Maggi – Italy): No activities to report.
- ✓ History of Speleology (Bernard Chirol –France): Activities reported in UIS Bulletin and organizing a collection of old cave maps.
- ✓ Informatics (Peter Matthews – Australia): Working on a publications exchange.
- ✓ Karst Hydrogeology and Speleogenesis (Alexander Klimchouk – Ukraine): Assisting with organizing the DeepKarst 2016 conference, in April 2016 in Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA.
- ✓ Longest and Deepest Caves (Pat Kambesis – USA): No activities reported.
- ✓ Microbiology and Geomicrobiology (Hazel Barton – USA): No activities reported.
- ✓ Paleokarst and Speleochronology (Stein-Erik Lauritzen – Norway): No activities reported.
- ✓ Physical Chemistry and Hydrogeology (Yavor Shopov – Bulgaria): No activities reported.
- ✓ Pseudokarst (Jan Urban – Poland): Published Newsletter 25, arranged to post all commission publication on the Karst Information Portal, and organizing the 13th International Symposium on Pseudokarst for September 2016 in the Beskydy Mountains of the Czech Republic.
- ✓ Speleotherapy (Iuri Simionca – Romania): Activities published in the UIS Bulletin.
- ✓ Techniques and Materials Development (Aaron Bird – USA): Trying to organize a project.
- ✓ Volcanic Caves (Jan Paul van der Pas – The Netherlands): Organizing 17thSymposium on Vulcanospeleology for February 2016 in Hawaii, USA, and published Newsletter 69.

b. Requests for funding

This item is discussed below, in the section dedicated to the UIs Finance.

8) Code of Ethics and Cave Rescue (C. Dodelin and E. Mercado)

Based on the recent accidents and cave rescue operations across country borders, Efrain Mercado and Christian Dodelin proposed to prepare a general review and present recommendations to be proposed for inclusion in the UIS Code of Ethics.

ACTION 4: Efrain Mercado and Christian Dodelin will propose recommendations for cave-rescue cross-borders to UIS Bureau (in 6 months).

9) Review of modified UIS Statutes (N. Zupan Hajna, Fadi Nader, G. Veni)

The UIS Bureau acknowledges that UIS Statutes should be reviewed and modified according to the state of the art. Since the 2013 Bureau meeting in Brno, a group was formed to review both Statutes and Internal Regulations documents and propose revised documents.

The revised UIS Statutes was reviewed in this Bureau meeting session, and the final draft form was approved by Bureau members. However, this document has to be shaped up to the Slovenian laws with a Slovenian lawyer.

Nadja Zupan Hajna, had already discussed with a lawyer and was able to provide a format that she showed to the Bureau members. Still, it is advisable to involve a professional lawyer from Slovenia to finalize the new proposal for Statutes before submitting it to UIS General Assembly and seek for its approval by voting.

DECISION 3: The revised document of the UIS Statutes – by UIS Bureau in Postojna (2015) – is to be transferred to Slovenian lawyer for final modifications and formatting.

ACTION 5: Nadja Zupan Hajna will ask about the costs of a lawyer in Slovenia to take care of the new Statutes (by end of September 2015), in order to design the lawyer to be hired by UIS.

ACTION 6: To transfer the revised draft proposed Statutes (approved at the UIS Bureau meeting in Postojna, 2015) to a professional lawyer in Slovenia.

10) Review of modified UIS Internal regulations (F. Nader / N. Zupan Hajna)

The UIS Bureau members decided to tackle first, as priority, the UIs Statutes amendments. While the Internal Regulations, which have already been reviewed by George Veni and Fadi Nader, are inter-connected to the Statutes and are tuned to the latters, a decision was made to first finalize the Statutes and then form a working group to work out the review of the Internatl Regulations.

ACTION 7: The UIS Bureau will form a Working Group for revising the Internal Regulations (after coping with Statutes).

11) Procedure for applying for UIS Bureau (J.P. Bartholeyns)

Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns, had proposed setting a standardized format poster for candidates who wish to be part of the UIs Bureau prior to the second session of the General Assembly at the ICS.

ACTION 8: Nivaldo Colzato and Efrain Mercado will prepare a sample standardized format for candidates' posters, aspiring to be elected as Bureau members.

12) Review of Finances (Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA)

- a. Simplified summary of past year and current financial status:

Euro Sub-Account

- **2014**
 - 1.1.14: 12047,90 €
 - 31.12.14: 9374,80 €
- **2015**
 - 1.1.15: 9374,81 € (20000 € in deposit; interest rate = 32€/month)
 - 31.5.15: 29304,99 € (20000 € released from deposit; blocked for a year)

USD Sub-Account

- **2014**
 - 1.1.14: 16854,60 \$ (30000 \$ in deposit; interest rate = 15\$/month)
 - 31.12.14: 16612,05 \$ (30000 \$ in deposit; interest rate = 15\$/month)
- **2015**
 - 1.1.15: 16612,90 \$ (30000 \$ in deposit; interest rate = 15\$/month)
 - 31.5.15: 46781,32 \$ (30000 \$ released from deposit; blocked for a year)

- b. Outstanding payments:

UIS 50th Anniversary Celebration

- **Total: 2397,23 €**

UIS Bureau agreed in 2014 to release a budget of 3000 € for the celebration, whose costs were partially and generously supported by the Slovenian Karst Research Institute.

The Bureau members also acknowledge the excellent management of the budget and costs by Nadia Zupan Hajna.

ACTION 9: Fadi Nader will draft a letter to thank the Karst Research Institute for the 50th Anniversary of UIS Celebration support.

50 Years of the UIS (Labegalini Book)

- **Total: 5527,82 €**

Printing costs of the “50 Years of the UIS” book were paid by the UIS. This book will be sold by the Editing House of the Karst Institute at 40 € and 50% of the earned money will go back to UIS treasury.

The UIS Bureau congratulated Nadja Zupan Hajna, for the financial situation of the UIS. Ideas were discussed about the need to evaluate the yearly income of the UIS, in order to know how much financial support can be attributed to commissions and projects.

ACTION 10: Fadi Nader and Nadja Zupan Hajna will prepare a yearly input/output balance sheet for the UIS finance status, in order to visualize the yearly earning capacity of the union.

ACTION 11: The UIS Bureau decided to transfer from UIS sub-accounts to blocked deposit in the Bank 20000 € and 40000 \$.

c. Commissions financial support:

- Bibliography: 500 Euros (delayed)
- Karst Hydrogeology Speleogenesis: 1000 US D – only 500 Euros approved
- Habe Prize: 250 Euros / previously approved
- Karst Hydrogeology Commission: 150 Euros / previously approved
- Speleotherapy: 400 Euros / previously approved

DECISION 4: George Veni will notify the relevant commissions about the status of their requests and Nadja Zupan Hajna will send payments. Zdenek Motyčka will continue to financially assist the Pseudokarst Commission.

ACTION 12: The UIS Bureau approved the support the Karst Hydrogeology and Speleogenesis Commission for conference on Hypogene Karst (500 Euros). Nadja will send money.

a. Other expenses:

1.

- d. Status of sales of *Cave Geology* in Spanish as translated and printed by the Cuban Speleological Society (N. Zupan Hajna): The books are available on Amazon.com

ACTION 13: Efrain Mercado will promote the book through FEALC.

13) ICS 2017 (J. SYDNEY)

Joe Sydney, informed the UIS Bureau about the status of the organization of the 17th ICS in Australia (2017). He delivered a presentation with updates and news concerning the organization work.

A group discussion followed concerning the actions to be proposed as a follow up and the way forward ahead of the ICS.

DECISION 5: Promote the 17th ICS (2017, Australia): Letter/Message by UIS President, Promotion at Speleo meetings by Bureau Members, and by Australian (Organizers). In addition, the UIS Bureau recommends searching for cost reduction incentives.

ACTION 14: Kyung Sik Woo will write a letter to encourage cavers to attend the 2017 ICS in Australia. This letter will be posted on the ICS website, UIS websites and UIS Bulletin.

The meeting was adjourned at around 20h00 (local time).

Attendance: Session 2 <i>Sunday, June 21, 2015; 09:00-13:00 (local time)</i>	
President	Kyung Sik WOO
Vice-President of Administration	George VENI
Vice-President of Operations	Absent
Secretary General	Fadi H. NADER
Adjunct secretaries	Giovanni BADINO Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS Nivaldo COLZATO Christian DODELIN Mladen GARAŠIĆ Zdeněk MOTYČKA Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA
Honorary members/Past-presidents	Andrew James EAVIS José Ayrton LABEGALINI
Bureau members not in attendance	Efrain MERCADO, John CUGLEY
Guests	Joe SYDNEY (ICS17 Organizers)

14) Fund-raising (Z. Motyčka)

Zdeněk Motyčka have worked out a document that discusses a system for fund-raising and providing financial support for international speleological activities by the UIS. His idea has been discussed among Bureau members before the meeting, and he presented a reviewed document in Postojna.

His thesis concerns with the following question points:

- 1) Which kind of projects will be supported?
- 2) Who will be funded?
- 3) What will be the criteria for projects? (required, recommended)
- 4) What will be a support of UIS (financial, non-financial)
- 5) What will be an outcome from supported projects?
- 6) What will be a process of decision in UIS Bureau

Then, a group discussion followed aiming at debating each of the above questions. Zdeněk Motyčka will prepare a final document by the year end, and the Bureau members decided to ask Zdeněk to start forming a working group for UIS fund-raising.

ACTION 15: Zdeněk Motyčka will prepare document with details concerning the Fund Raising Strategy and send to UIS Bureau (end of 2015).

ACTION 16: Zdeněk Motyčka will form a team for UIS Fund Raising.

It also appeared imminent to discuss about the possibilities to receive payments (donations) for the UIS by internet, through the UIS website or a new, separate website.

Nadia Zupan Hajna noted that if the UIS accounts will receive considerable amount of money, the UIS should hire a professional accountant. The UIS acting treasurer will not be able to cope with additional work resulting from fund-raising.

ACTION 17: The UIS Bureau asked Zdeněk Motyčka to define technical possibilities for website fund raising (end of 2015).

15) UIS Media

Following the resolutions taken at the previous UIS Bureau meeting (Sydney, 2014), several issued related to the website, bulletin, logo as well as flag and anthem were updated and discussed at this meeting.

a. Websites (F. Nader for E. Mercado)

While the payment transfer for hosting the UIS website, Charles Goldsmith did not have time to do the transfer (which takes about a day work by an experienced IT person on Linux). If no solutions are found with Charles, the UIS Bureau will see for another website hosting possibility.

ACTION 18: George Veni will meet Charles Goldsmith and give him deadline from Bureau until end of August 2015 for transferring the domain of the UIS website to USA.

The UIS Webmaster (Jasmina Rejavec) is receiving a lot of instructions from different members of the UIS Bureau, which is making difficulties in prioritizing such instructions. The UIS Bureau decided to keep only one focal point for the Webmaster.

It was also note that the website should be edited since a lot of outdated information is still there. Yet, editing and modifications are better to be achieved once the transfer is executed.

ACTION 19: Efrain Mercado will be the focal point for the website. Fadi Nader will help in the editing of the website. Emails/Instructions should be sent to Efrain Mercado and cc-ed to Fadi Nader.

Fadi Nader informed the UIS Bureau that the **UIS FaceBook** page has already **1086 members** by the time the meeting was taking place. He showed the Bureau members the page, which has become a very active, international platform for info exchange among cavers.

b. Bulletin (N. Colzato and E. Mercado)

The UIS Bureau congratulated Nivaldo Colzato for the excellent work done on the UIS Bulletin, with its modern format.

The discussion followed on the numbers of issues per volume and the size of the Bulletin.

Fadi Nader stressed on the fact that the Bulletin should remain essentially the archiving/referencing document of the UIS – where the minutes and documents of the UIS are published.

Coming Issues/Volumes:

- a. Last one Volume 57(2015), No. 1 (next, No. 2, on 50th Anniversary)
- b. Next Volume 58 (2016) – 3 Numbers

ACTION 20: The UIS Bulletin will be published in three numbers as of 2016.

c. UIS Logo and Identity (N. Colzato)

The question about who created the UIS Logo was discussed; it appeared that it had to be created by Hubert Trimmel.

Nivaldo Colzato presented to the UIS Bureau, the work he has done on the definition of the UIS Logo and UIS Visual Identity. The Bureau members decided to approve the UIS Logo definition at the present meeting and to keep further discussion on the remaining elements of the UIS Visual Identity.

DECISION 6: UIS Bureau approves on the UIS Logo Guidelines prepared by Nivaldo Colzato and asks to add "the logo is believed to be created by Hubert Trimmel"

ACTION 21: The Bureau members will review the Visual Guidelines proposed by Nivaldo Colzato and send suggestions (by end of September).

d. UIS Flag and Anthem (N. Colzato)

Following the decisions taken at the previous UIS Bureau meeting (Sydney, 2014), Nivaldo Colzato prepared a document that presents the concerning the UIS Flag and Anthem. The UIS Bureau thanked Nivaldo for the hard work and asked for a few months to review the document.

ACTION 22: The Bureau members will review the UIS Symbols (Flag and Anthem) and send suggestions to Nivaldo Colzato by end of September, 2015.

ACTION 23: George Veni will ask about producing two more big flags and three small flags.

16) Speleological events since the last Bureau meeting

There was consensus that reports on past events should be limited to those where some presentation or promotion was made on the UIS and not just where Bureau members attended.

- a. ISCA Congress, 2-8 November 2014 (Jenolan Caves, Australia), <http://www.i-s-c-a.com/event/39-isca-7th-congress>: All of the Bureau, except Fadi Nader, George Veni, Christian Dodelin. Arrigo Cigna, Andy Eavis and José-Ayrton Labegalini attended this event.
- b. Hypogea2015, International Congress on Artificial Cavities, 11-17 March 2015, (Rome, Italy), <http://hypogea2015.hypogea.it/>: This is an event of the UIS Commission on Artificial Cavities. Giovanni Badino, Mladen Garasic, and Zdenek Motycka.
- c. Cuban Speleological Society 75th Congress, April 2015 (Camaguey, Cuba): Efrain Mercado attended.
- d. Philippines 15th speleological society annual meeting, April 2015 (Surigao): Kyung Sik Woo attended.
- e. 13th International Cave Rescue Conference, 16-19 April 2015 (Le Camp, Vaumarcus, Switzerland), www.riss2015.ch: Christian Dodelin attended.
- f. EuroSpeleo Forum 2015 and XXII Italian National Congress of Speleology, 30 May - 2 June 2015 (Pertosa-Auletta, Italy), <http://www.congressospeleo2015.org/english/index>: Arrigo Cigna, Paolo Forti, and Mladen Garašić attended.
- g. 23rd Karstological School and UIS Celebration, 15-19 June 2015 (Postojna, Slovenia): The 2015 UIS Bureau Meeting was held at this event in the UIS office at the Karst Research Institute.

17) Future speleology events until end of 2015 that UIS should consider attending

- a. KG@B, International Conference on Groundwater in Karst, 20-26 June 2015 (Birmingham, UK), <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/kgatb/index.aspx>: Andy Eavis and George Veni, Derek Ford will attend this event.
- b. NSS Convention, 13-17 July 2015 (Waynesville, Missouri, USA); <http://nss2015.caves.org/>: George Veni will attend this annual convention.
- c. 33rd Congress of the Brazilian Speleological Society, 15-19 July 2015 (Eldorado, Sao Paulo, Brazil), <http://www.cavernas.org.br/33cbe.asp>: Nivaldo Colzato, José-Ayrton Labegalini, and Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns attended.
- d. 21st International Cave Bear Symposium, 10-13 September 2015 (Hellevoetsluis, The Netherlands), <http://icbs2015.pleistocenemammals.com>
- e. 13th Symposium on Pseudokarst, 16-20 September (Czech Republic), <http://www.pseudokarst.de.vu/>: This is an event of the UIS Commission on Pseudokarst and Zdeněk Motyčka will attend.
- f. 14th Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst, 5-9 October 2015 (Rochester, Minnesota, USA), <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>: NCKRI is jointly organizing this event with the Minnesota Ground Water Association and

- George Veni is co-chairing it. It is the longest-running international meeting on engineering and environmental problems in karst.
- g. Asian Conference on Speleology, 6-8 November 2015 (China): Kyung Sik Woo, Zdenek Motycka, Jean-Pierre, Christian Dodelin, Andy Eavis will attend.
 - h. National Cave and Karst Management Symposium, 19-23 October 2015 (Cave City, Kentucky, USA), <http://nckms.org/>: George Veni will attend this meeting.
 - i. 2nd International Planetary Caves Conferences, 20-23 October 2015 (Flagstaff, Arizona, USA), <http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/2ndcaves2015/>:
 - j. Geological Society of America (GSA) Convention, 1-4 November 2015 (Baltimore, Maryland, USA), <http://www.geosociety.org/>: The new GSA Karst Division is already planning several cave and karst sessions and two field trips. George Veni will attend.
 - k. Karstology in Arid Regions, January 2016 (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates), <http://abudhabi.zrc-sazu.si/>: Nadja Zupan Hajna will attend.
 - l. Karst, Groundwater, Contamination, and Public Health, 27-30 January 2016 (San Juan, Puerto Rico), <http://karstwaters.org/conferences/kgcph/>: Efrain Mercado may attend.
 - m. DeepKarst 2016, 11-14 April 2016, (Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA), <http://deepkarst.org/>: George Veni is chairing this meeting for the UIS Karst Hydrogeology and Speleogenesis Commission.
 - n. 24th Karst School 2016, June 2016, (Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA), <http://deepkarst.org/>: Nadja Zupan Hajna.
 - o. NSS Convention, 18-22 July 2016 (Ely, Nevada, USA); <http://nss2016.caves.org/>: George Veni, Motycka Zdenek, will attend this annual convention.
 - p. 5th European Speleological Congress, August 2016 (Yorkshire Dales National Park, UK) <http://www.eurospeleo2016.eu/>: Andy, Zdenek, Christian Dodelin, Mladen Garasic will attend.

18) Venue and Date of the 2016 UIS Bureau Meeting:

The UIS Bureau members accepted the invitation by the organizers of upcoming European Congress (2016) and will organize the 2016 Bureau meeting in the UK, coinciding with the European Congress (UK): Saturday 13th to Saturday 20th August, 2016.

DECISION 7: The next UIS Bureau meeting will take place in the UK at the 2016 European Congress (between 13th and 20th August, 2016). It will be organized on two days (or equivalent).

19) Other business:

- a. Fadi Nader proposed to compile a DVD with the presentations and events of the 50th Anniversary day of the UIS. The DVD will also include the photographs and films.

- b. Jose-Ayrton Labegalini proposed to add two plates on the Proteus Sculpture in front of the Karst Institute in Postojna: 1965 and 2002. The first to mark the UIS birth and the second for the establishment of the UIS in Slovenia.
- c. Memberships of Pakistan, Philippines and Monte Negro were discussed and it was agreed to follow up on these issues and help in providing sustainable approaches for their (re)integration into the UIS.
- d. Nivaldo Colzato also showed to UIS Bureau members, a leaflet that he has prepared to present the UIS.

ACTION 24: Fadi Nader will prepare a DVD for the 50th Anniversary of the UIS.

ACTION 25: Nadja Zupan Hajna will see for the possibility to add two plates on the Proteus Sculpture in front of the Karst Institute, in Postojna, for commemorating the 1965 birth of UIS and its 2002 establishment in Slovenia.

ACTION 26: Fadi Nader will follow up on requests for UIS memberships from Pakistan, Philippines and Monte Negro.

20) Closing Statements (K.S. Woo)

Kyung Sik Woo closed the 2014 UIS Bureau meeting at 13h15, and thanked everybody for their presence and their contribution.

ACTION 27: Fadi Nader will prepare the minutes of the 2015 Bureau meeting and the Action List for 2015-2016.