

# OneGeology Steering Group

## Meeting 1

Paris, 23-24 April 2009

## Summary Minutes

### **Members present:**

Africa: Dr G Schneider - Director of the Namibian Geological Survey and representative of the Organisation of African Geological Surveys

Asia: Dr H Kato – Director General of the Japanese Geological Survey and representative of CCOP

Europe: Dr M Komac – Director of the Geological Survey of Slovenia and representative of EuroGeoSurveys

North America: Dr S Kimball – Director of the United States Geological Survey

Oceania: Prof A Malahoff – Chief Executive of Geological and Nuclear Sciences, New Zealand

### **Ex-Officio**

UNESCO: Dr R Missotten (and Dr Sarah Gaines)

CGMW: Dr Manuel Pubellier

### **OneGeology Secretariat:**

Ian Jackson (BGS), Francois Robida (BRGM) and Katy Booth (BGS)

### **Apologies**

South America: Dr Agamenon Dantas – President, CPRM, Brasil and representative of ASGMI

#### **1. Introductions**

1.1 Brief introduction by all attendees.

1.2 Apologies were received from Dr Agamenon Dantas (South American representative). Regret was expressed by all that he could not attend and it was AGREED to write, expressing disappointment. **ACTION: IJ/AM.**

1.3 Professor Riccardi (President of IUGS) emailed reinforcement of IUGS support of OneGeology and offered further assistance where possible. It was AGREED to reply to Professor Riccardi, thanking him for his support. **ACTION: IJ/AM.**

#### **2. Agreement of Agenda**

2.1 All AGREED the agenda with no changes.

#### **3. Terms of Reference**

3.1 The Steering Group were requested to discuss, modify and/or agree their Terms of Reference. Several changes were proposed and AGREED. The revised Terms of Reference will be promulgated to the Steering Group and OMG. **ACTION: IJ.**

3.2 The Steering Group requested a dedicated web page to be set up to carry resources for them. Password protected Steering Group page(s) on the OneGeology website will be set up. **ACTION: KB.**

3.3 All presentations and material from the meeting will be placed on the Steering Group pages. **ACTION: KB.**

#### **4. Election of Chair**

4.1 Alex Malahoff and Gabi Schneider were elected as Chair and Deputy Chair respectively. The OneGeology community and other bodies are to be informed. **ACTION: IJ.**

4.2 It was suggested that at the end of the normal term (4 years coinciding with the IGCs) the Deputy Chair will take over the role of Chair and a new Deputy will be appointed. This will ensure continuity. All AGREED.

#### **5. Global status and progress**

5.1 Ian Jackson presented the latest position of OneGeology, and François Robida presented the technical aspects.

5.2 The Steering Group requested an explanatory list of all acronyms related to OneGeology. **ACTION: KB.**

5.3 Manuel Pubellier stated that Cuba intend to register their participation imminently. He will ensure that this is followed up if necessary. **ACTION: MP.**

5.4 The following issues were DISCUSSED:- successfully contacting the right people in countries not yet involved in OneGeology; countries not yet serving data, sustaining OneGeology; relationships; how to deal with other types of data e.g. universities, commercial companies (it was AGREED that non-geological survey and CGMW channels were not to be pursued by OneGeology in the next few years), 3D, thematic map data; the long term plans/strategy post 2012. CGMW offered assistance to encourage Russian participation and serving of data (using liaison by EuroGeoSurveys and letter from Chair of OneGeology Steering Group if helpful). **ACTION: MP (MK/AM).**

#### **6. Regional status and progress**

6.1 Each Steering Group member presented the status of OneGeology in their region.

6.2 The Steering Group requested a list of countries which are proving difficult to contact/engage so that they could assist in encouraging participation. **ACTION: KB.**

6.3 The Steering Group will attempt to directly enlist countries on the list and/or pass contact details on to the OneGeology Secretariat for action where possible/appropriate. **ACTION: All Steering Group.**

#### **7. Future governance of OneGeology**

7.1 The Steering Group discussed the future governance and operation options for OneGeology. It was AGREED that a not-for-profit legal entity, with an associated but separate OneGeology “Foundation” to raise funds should be pursued (this allows Geological Survey Organisations

separation from the fund-raising). The Steering Group and the ‘Foundation’ would be separated by a ‘firewall’, communicating only through the OneGeology Secretariat (or its equivalent). It was AGREED that an options paper for the Steering Group was required so that this governance construct can be taken forward. **ACTION: IJ.**

7.2 The Steering Group members AGREED that they would brief their respective global regions on the decision above and inform them that necessary detailed options and implications of implementation are being explored prior to final recommendations. **ACTION: All Steering Group.**

7.3 On receipt of the options paper on governance model, the Steering Group will take final decisions, brief and make recommendations to each global region. **ACTION: All Steering Group.**

7.4 Caution was NOTED regarding the need for a ‘Firewall’ between the Steering Group and the fundraising ‘Foundation’. It was AGREED to ensure that the ‘Firewall’ between the SG and fund-raising ‘Foundation’ is both clearly defined and transparent (learning from IYPE experience). **ACTION: IJ.**

7.5 Regional representation and its basis was discussed. The current representatives are as follows:

Europe – representatives of EuroGeoSurveys
North America – representatives of USA, Canada, Mexico. (meet once per year)
South America – representatives of ASGMI
Africa – representatives of OAGS (meet once per year)
Oceania – representatives of Chief Government Geologists Office (encompasses all Oceania including smaller islands and nations)
Asia – representatives of CCOP

7.6 Current issues relating to representation include the involvement of India, Pakistan, Russia and the Middle East. Dr H Kato AGREED to attempt to improve Asian representation, through discussion within CCOP. **ACTION: HK.**

7.7 Dr Kato also AGREED to look at ways to increase involvement of India and Pakistan. **ACTION: HK.**

7.8 Manuel Pubellier AGREED to investigate how to involve more Middle Eastern countries (including through regional meetings if necessary) through CGMW and UNESCO. **ACTION: MP (RM/SG).**

7.9 The Chair of the Steering Group AGREED to write to the Central American countries encouraging participation, secretariat to draft. **ACTION: KB (AM).**

7.10 It was AGREED that OneGeology must as far as possible distance itself from political issues. The following statement “The prime focus of OneGeology is improving access to scientific data and scientific advancement, and that OneGeology should be as free from political and commercial influence as is possible” was ENDORSED. There is a need to ensure that this statement is widely understood and promulgated in the OneGeology community and beyond. **ACTION: IJ.**

## **8. Funding**

8.1 The Steering Group discussed the options for the future funding of OneGeology with a view to making recommendations to Survey Directors and the OMG on the most appropriate future funding policy and strategy. Ian Jackson outlined the possibilities and issues including funding from geological surveys, international agencies, and commercial funding.

8.2 It was NOTED that ESRI has offered software and training to all OneGeology participants and a meeting has been arranged to further discuss options. It was AGREED that each funding source/offer should be judged on its own merits. It was AGREED that IJ should meet with ESRI, listen to their offer on software and training and report back to the Steering Group. **ACTION: IJ.**

8.3 Another option discussed was the setting up of a MoU with each individual/company/organisation, similar to practice used by the USGS. It was AGREED to send copies of USGS MoU agreements and similar to the Secretariat for reference. **ACTION: SK.**

8.4 It was NOTED that IYPE already have similar experiences, precedents and models that might be of use to OneGeology. It was AGREED to contact and discuss with Dr Ed de Mulder the IYPE model and experience (what proved acceptable to their user community, how their new fundraisers have performed and of any parallels/conflicts with OneGeology). **ACTION: IJ.**

8.5 Robert Missotten AGREED to report back on related UNESCO experience in setting up secure frameworks and agreements between ESRI and the UN. It was also AGREED to establish closer liaison and relationship for OneGeology and UNESCO and also links to UN, GeoParks. **ACTION: RM/IJ.**

8.6 The Steering Group requested that a strategy paper on funding OneGeology, with analysis of the different potential strands (geological survey, international bodies, commerce), is produced. **ACTION: IJ/FR.**

## **9. Relationships with associated international bodies**

9.1 Ian Jackson outlined current OneGeology relationships and the Steering Group were asked to AGREE on the position and policy of OneGeology. Manuel Pubellier gave a brief presentation on the CGMW perspective.

9.2 The Steering Group DISCUSSED the “Relationships with Associated International Bodies” paper and AGREED that it should be converted into a final document and issued as an OneGeology policy document to the OMG and web site. **ACTION: IJ/KB.**

- 9.3 Technical links between the Portal and CGMW map data was DISCUSSED. Further discussion outside this meeting was recommended in order that the OneGeology portal links are appropriate and acceptable to both CGMW and OneGeology (FR and Philippe Rossi of CGMW to DISCUSS). **ACTION: FR (PR).**
- 9.4 The roles of the 'observers' (UNESCO/CGMW) were DISCUSSED. It was AGREED that their involvement has greatly aided discussions and it was recommended that they should be given ex-officio status (official Steering Group member without voting powers). This was AGREED. RM and MP thanked the Steering Group for this acknowledgement and support.
- 9.5 The Terms of Reference will be amended to include CGMW and UNESCO as ex-officio Steering Group members. **ACTION: IJ.**
- 9.6 A new draft MoU and structure will be developed (i.e. revising MoU of 2007 to reflect decision 9.5 and the up-to-date reality of OneGeology operations). **ACTION: IJ.**
- 9.7 Manuel Pubellier recommended that the Steering Group Chair, or his representative, represents OneGeology at the CGMW Board meetings.
- 9.8 It was suggested that other groups/bodies may be invited as observers initially, and that the Steering Group will have the authority to offer ex-officio status if it becomes clear it is necessary. This was AGREED.

## **10. IPR and Copyright**

- 10.1 The Steering Group DISCUSSED the issues relating to IPR. The draft Policy document was APPROVED unanimously. The IPR and Copyright paper/policy will be converted to a final document and issue to the OMG and web site. **ACTION: KB.**

## **11. Success Criteria**

- 11.1 The Steering Group DISCUSSED the Success Criteria presented and suggested several changes. It was AGREED that OneGeology is not currently at the stage where it can accept multi-source data but that various channels and option are being investigated. It was AGREED to produce a draft policy on this for the Steering Group to agree. It was AGREED to add 'ocean floor data' as an additional criterion. Suzette Kimball and Alex Malahoff AGREED to organise their marine map data and provide to OneGeology as soon as possible. **ACTION: SK/AM.**

- 11.2 Amend the Success Criteria in line with Steering Group discussion/comments and promulgate to Steering Group and OMG. **ACTION: IJ.**

## **12. Future work and actions**

- 12.1 The Executive requested the minutes NOTED their appreciation of the comprehensive papers and information provided for the meeting. Especial thanks should be extended to John Broome for his work in preparation of the papers for this meeting. IJ would draft email for Steering Group. **ACTION: IJ.**

- 12.2 It was requested that a draft Action list should be circulated as soon as possible after meeting (meeting notes to follow later). **ACTION: KB.**

12.3 OneGeology will endeavour to engage more specifically with GEO/GEOSS. IJ and RM will DISCUSS. **ACTION: IJ.**

12.4 The Steering Group AGREED to assist in representation of OneGeology at international conferences such as the AGU and EGU. The Steering Group are to be notified of forthcoming conferences/presentations/etc. for potential representation and the Secretariat will make material available. **ACTION: KB.**

**13. A.O.B.**

13.1 None.

**14. Date and location of next meeting**

14.1 The Chair of the Steering Group offered to host the next meeting in Wellington, New Zealand in April 2010. All AGREED.

14.2 AM to advise the Steering Group of the date ASAP. **ACTION: AM.**

14.3 HK offered to host the following meeting in 2011. HK will discuss arrangements for 2011 Steering Group meeting in Japan with JGS colleagues and advise the Steering Group. **ACTION: HK.**

14.4 MK suggested after the meeting that the Steering group could consider holding a half yearly telephone conference. IJ will arrange if Steering Group agree. Please let the Secretariat know. **ACTION: Steering Group/IJ.**

Dated 15/05/2009

Katy Booth

OneGeology Secretariat