

# Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup>

# **OneGeology Steering Group Meeting**

Thursday 15 April and Friday 16 April 2010

Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS) Lower Hutt, Wellington,

New Zealand

## Members present:

Europe: Dr M Komac – Director, Geological Survey of Slovenia and representing

EuroGeoSurveys

North America: Dr S Kimball – Deputy Director, United States Geological Survey and

representing Canada, USA and Mexico

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

and representing Oceania

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

CCOP

South & Central America: Maria-Glicia da Nóbrega Coutinho deputising for Dr A Dantas,

CPRM Brazil and representing South & Central America

Ex-Officio: CGMW: Philippe Rossi; UNESCO: Sarah Gaines

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

Observer: John Broome (NRC Canada)

## Apologies:

Africa: Dr G Schneider – Director, Namibian Geological Survey and representing the

Organisation of African Geological Surveys

South & Central America: Dr A Dantas, CPRM Brazil representing South & Central America

Ex-Officio: IUGS: Prof Alberto Riccardi; UNESCO: Dr R Missotten

#### **Business items**

# 1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

- 1.1 AM welcomed all delegates and provided an overview of GNS, its business structure and work programme.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from Dr Gabi Schneider (African representative who took part in specific agenda items via teleconference); Dr A Dantas (South & Central America representative) who was represented by Maria Glicia da Nóbrega Coutinho; Dr He (Asia/CCOP representative) who was represented by HK; Prof Alberto Riccardi (IUGS ex-officio member); and Robert Missotten (UNESCO ex-officio member).

#### 2. AGREEMENT OF AGENDA

2.1 It was noted that an extra agenda item had been added regarding 'meeting alternates and deputies. This was ACCEPTED.

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- 2.2 An additional discussion paper had been submitted regarding a proposed accreditation system for OneGeology. It was AGREED to take this as an AOB.
- 2.3 The agenda was AGREED.

## 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 26/27 NOV 2009 (TELECONFERENCE)

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were APPROVED with no changes.

#### 4. ACTIONS

4.1 The outstanding actions were reviewed as follows:

Action 2.1 – SK will forward the copies of the USGS MOU agreements to the OneGeology Secretariat for reference. This was assumed by SK to be done but will be checked. **ACTION: SK** 

Action 2.2 – SK and AM will provide marine data to OneGeology as soon as possible.

SK reported that USGS data should be available in the portal within 2 months. AM reported that the item is on the agenda for the next Chief Geologists Regional Meeting and work will be undertaken to achieve this target. **ACTION: SK, AM** 

Other outstanding actions were taken as individual agenda items.

#### 5. STATUS AND PROGRESS OF ONEGEOLOGY - OPERATIONAL AND TECHNICAL

- 5.1 IJ complemented the paper with a PowerPoint presentation (.ppt to be made available) update on progress since the last meeting based on, and measured against, the main OneGeology objectives. It was confirmed that BGS and BRGM will continue to provide supporting funding (secretariat and portal maintenance/development) until at least the next milestone for OneGeology, the International Geological Congress (IGC) to be held in Brisbane, Australia in 2012.
- 5.2 It was noted that two significant tasks have been progressed since the last meeting the ESRI grant offer and the proposal of incorporation of OneGeology, these topics were taken as separate agenda items.
- 5.3 FR presented an update on the technical aspects of progress. The exchange of know-how and skills has, and continues to be hugely successful. New Cookbooks have been published and open technical meetings and seminars have been held (e.g. at the Geological Survey of China in Oct 2009). It is hoped to include these map data in the portal soon. The 'buddy system' has been used by eight nations to date by assisting to serve data. Routes of contact for help and support are via the web, email helpdesk and telephone.
- 5.4 All information resulting from the OneGeology-Europe project will be available to all OneGeology-global participants by the end of the year. In addition, all (c. 27) WFS services will be migrated into the OneGeology-global portal in Summer 2010.

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- 5.5 OneGeology has been invited to run workshops at Colloquium of African Geology (CAG) and American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAG) next year.
- 5.6 The portal has been tested to cope with new data content. BGS has provided nationwide coverage of 1:50,000 scale map data which has proven that all data scales can be integrated from a technical point of view. The new 1:50M scale CGMW map of structural elements has been added. Version 3 of the portal is currently undergoing testing and includes a gazetteer, optimisation of queries, control of visibility according to scale, and enabling the use of the latest standards. Work is also progressing on options to select by 'region' rather than country.
- 5.7 JB presented an update on the global profile and awareness of OneGeology. Huge media interest was generated at the IGC in 2008 and current communications and publicity uses the web, newsletters, presentations, abstracts, articles, twitter and blogs, and the release of the 1Gkids web pages. Continued and new linkages with other organisations are important eg CGMW, Geoparks, YES Network and ICSU strategic coordinating committee on data and information.
- 5.8 JB also acknowledged the continued substantial contributions to OneGeology of BGS and BRGM. The importance of this was recognised and appreciated.

## 5.9 Discussion

HK raised the issue of data integration when different schemes, legends and contents are published. From the outset, OneGeology has been clear that its prime objective is the accessibility of information and that scientific harmonisation is a subsequent challenge.

AM asked about the availability of funding for training and workshops. There certainly is demand and willingness to deliver these but a lack of funding severely restricts OneGeology's ability to act.

IJ relayed GS congratulations on the informative newsletters and recently released 1Gkids web pages. It was noted that the next meeting of the African Geological Surveys will take place in May and GS will raise OneGeology at the meeting. It is quite difficult to get involvement from some African surveys but the reasons for this are multiple and varied.

# 6. ONEGEOLOGY STATUS, PROGRESS AND ISSUES IN EACH OF THE SIX REGIONS

(GS was present via teleconference for this item)

# 6.1 Oceania region

Mark Rattenbury of GNS presented a report using PowerPoint for the Oceania region (.ppt to be made available). The current data, provided as a WMS to the OneGeology portal, is the 1972 1:1M scale map. A new series, QMAP, at 250K, is nearing completion which also provides a host of thematic maps and derived data and the aim to provide some data layers to OneGeology in the near future. WFS

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data for New Zealand should be available ready in the next 3 months. Australia is currently serving a variety of map data, including some WFS.

OneGeology communication within the Oceania region is coordinated through the Chief Government Geologists (includes State geological surveys, Australia, New Zealand and PNG (observer)) and the CGIC. There are no formal communications or contacts with/between the other islands of Oceania. However, there is awareness that this issue needs to be addressed imminently. GNS noted their intention to raise efforts and follow up their contacts made through mapping contracts etc. Many islands have also worked with BRGM and the USGS eg New Caledonia. FB will discuss with PR.

ACTION: All regions to collaborate to provide information for the islands of Oceania. **ACTION: AM, AK, FB, PR.** 

It was reported that GNS marine data is available now and will be provided to OneGeology. **ACTION: AM/MR** 

## 6.2 Africa region

GS presented the report for Africa via teleconference (.ppt to be made available). The statistics for the Africa region show that it is very difficult to engage with many countries for diverse reasons (limited web access, lack of technical skills, non-awareness of the benefits of OneGeology, etc). GS recommended that innovative thinking was required and a more non-web based approach to communications.

Ongoing promotion of OneGeology will be through the Organisation of African Geological Surveys Association and their next meeting will be held in May 2010 in Algeria.

GS noted that a plan to engage with the Geological Society of Africa and, through this organisation, reach more universities, should help to further increase awareness in OneGeology. The AEGOS project is also working in Africa.

It was recognised that in many countries where geological data are hard to locate in country it may often be held by other surveys. It was AGREED to compile a list of such data and countries (for those countries not yet participating) and draft a letter template that could be sent to relevant countries from BRGM, BGS, BGR, etc. GS AGREED to also contact the country on behalf of OneGeology to explain the situation as personal contact is preferred. **ACTION: IJ, GS**.

# 6.3 **South & Central America region**

M-GC presented the report for South & Central America (.ppt to be made available). The work of CPRM was outlined briefly, particularly the borders project in which CPRM (Brazil) is collaborating with its neighbouring countries to produce a harmonised geological GIS. CPRM also works closely with CGMW and are now beginning to look at providing offshore data. The main issue limiting contributions to OneGeology by the neighbouring countries is said to be lack of technical equipment.

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# 6.4 North America region

SK presented the report for North America (.ppt to be made available). All three countries within this region are participating in OneGeology. Within approximately 2 months both the northern and southern North America map sheets will also be digitised and available for registration in the portal. Ways to show offshore data are being investigated and some areas. This will be used to develop the marine component in collaboration with other organisations. There is some very detailed marine mapping including the Gulf of Mexico. The USGS are also working with Russia on detailed marine mapping North of Alaska. This data will be completed this year and available for OneGeology.

Canada has been working to engage its Territories and the resulting map data from the Tri-Territorial bedrock geology project will be systematically added into the OneGeology portal. GeoCanada will be held in May 2010. Mark Diorio, Director General ESS, has identified some marine datasets that can be made available. ACTION: SK to pursue provision of US and Canada marine data and subsequent registration in the portal. **ACTION: SK** 

It was reported that the last Tri-national meeting was attended by the new Director of the Mexican Geological Survey and that Mexico were actively working towards serving their data. **ACTION: SK to continue to encourage Mexico to serve a national data set.** 

The US GIN continues to provide protocols and standards for interoperability and provides a framework for the 50 states to provide data using GeoSciML as an adopted operating mechanism.

The question of whether OneGeology should provide additional data layers and features has been debated within State Surveys. The opinion is divided. SK will continue one-to-one discussion with the State Surveys in order to provide more individual State data to the portal.

# 6.5 **Europe region**

MK presented the report for Europe (.ppt to be made available). The major driver for the progress in Europe has been the OneGeology-Europe project, through which, all 20 partners are committed to serve data. The major objectives for the project and the work package tasks were described. Progress and current status of data services were noted. The next steps to completion of the project later this year include: ensure all geological survey consortium members are providing a WFS according to the specification; document the major harmonisation issues and propose a process for tacking them; finalise the Code of Practice for data access; produce a book illustrating use of geological spatial data. All data documentation and guidance will be available to all OneGeology global participants.

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## 6.6 Asia region

HK presented the report for the Asia region. It was noted that Dr He of the China Geological Survey was now the Secretary General of CCOP. The Geological Survey of Japan is currently digitising the 1:1M map of Mongolia (as part of a CCOP project) and has permission to serve it to OneGeology. CCOP is also progressing communication with PNG regarding data availability. HK also stated that he had recently attended the working group of minerals and resources meeting involving Japan, Korea and China in which CCOP presented OneGeology. Meeting attendees expressed interest and he will follow up contacts made. **ACTION: HK** 

Information and communication for Pakistan is not forthcoming but attempts will continue. Communication with Vietnam has been established. GSJ are assisting Indonesia with their 1:50K scale data and the Indonesian government have requested this data be available within 3 years. At the CGMW meeting earlier this year, OneGeology was introduced to representatives from Iran and Iraq. GSJ has a long history of working with Turkey (MTA), HK AGREED to follow up. **ACTION: HK to contact MTA Turkey regarding data provision**.

AM noted he will be leading a New Zealand delegation to Vietnam and will also promote OneGeology. HK recommended that AM speak with Koji Wakita of GSJ to discuss further.

# **7. Additional agenda item: MEETING ALTERNATES AND DEPUTIES** (GS was present for this item via teleconference)

Recent difficulties had prompted the need to discuss and agree a process for alternates and deputies. It was AGREED that all Steering Group members have been nominated by their regional geological surveys and that any deputy must be at Director level to avoid diminution of the Steering Group.

GS preferred the option of having an elected deputy representative for Africa whereas other regions would prefer to contact a peer if they themselves are unable to attend.

It was AGREED that the prime task of the Steering Group member is to attend the annual meetings. Only in extenuating circumstances should deputies be sent. It was AGREED to appoint deputies in whatever way is most suitable to the region but that a deputy must be a peer (Director of Survey or equivalent level). Video and teleconferencing were also to be considered only as a last resort.

Ex-officio member attendance protocol would remain as at present.

It was noted that the Sec General CCOP was perhaps not the correct representative for Asia and HK AGREED to discuss this matter with IJ and to set out a proposal to change the current situation. **ACTION: HK, IJ.** 

### 8. Reports from the ex-officio members

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8.1 SG presented a report on behalf of UNESCO (.ppt to be made available). SG reported on the recent 4<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Geoparks Global conference held in Malaysia, outlining the regional approach of Geoparks in the Global Geoparks Network to managing sites, encouraging tourism, and the promotion of the fun aspects of geology. The delegation at the conference was also wide-ranging from geologists to tourism experts to politicians. It was noted that a memo of understanding and website proposal had been discussed between Geoparks and OneGeology. Geoparks are excited about the prospect of working together with OneGeology.

It was felt that more lobbying of GEO/GEOSS was needed to ensure inclusion and a higher profile for geological data. UNESCO is happy to set up meetings between OneGeology and their permanent delegations where appropriate.

UNESCO's involvement with YES (Young Earth Scientist) Network was also described. The next meeting of the YES Network is in Vienna at the EGU in May 2010 where YES are running a roundtable discussion focussing on OneGeology and has invited OneGeology members to participate. This roundtable may develop ideas for future partnership between YES and OneGeology. **ACTION: SG, 1G** 

SG is involved in the UNESCO Education Initiative in Africa, which has been scoped through a series of regional workshops that included participants from both industry and universities and highlighted the need for such things as primary education in geosciences, outreach explaining the relevance of the earth sciences, better global collaboration between researchers, and better partnership between the industry and universities. The launch event which will synthesis the findings of the workshops and plan the future actions of the Initiative will take place at UNESCO, Paris 28-29 October 2010. A OneGeology training workshop could be included. **SG and FR agreed to discuss options and agree a workshop programme for this meeting. ACTION: SG, FR**.

It was noted that it will be important in the future that UNESCO can justify involvement in OneGeology with its member states by demonstrating the societal relevance and application (eg thematic maps, etc). The OneGeology kids web pages were positively noted and it was suggested that an additional practical aspect could be added eg tutorial, or lab-pages. KB will discuss further with SG. **ACTION: KB, SG**.

8.2 PR presented a report on behalf of CGMW (.ppt to be made available).

The new 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> edition) CGMW world geology map is now available on the OneGeology portal. It was recognised that the aims of OneGeology fit and compliment the aims of CGMW very well. CGMW would like to submit to consideration the possiblity of organizing the OneGeology portal according to a "zoom-like presentation". The CGMW Geological map of the World at 1:25 M would constitute the starting view of the portal from which successive enlargements would progressively provide data of CGMW -or other- 1:5 M continental maps, or 1:20 M oceanic maps. Further enlargements of the latter would lead to examine the 1:1 M or more detailed scales of national maps. CGMW are currently preparing the structural map of the South Atlantic for release at the IGC in 2012. The geological map of the Middle East is being upgraded

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and the international geological map of Asia at 1:5M scale is being coordinated by the China Geological Survey.

8.3 Prof A Riccardi could not attend the meeting but provided a report on behalf of IUGS – attached as Appendix 1.

#### 9. INCORPORATION OF ONEGEOLOGY

Present for this item were GNS legal and business experts Peter Barker and Des Darby.

In addition to the meeting paper IJ presented the latest news on progress. (.ppt to be made available). At the teleconference in November 2009, the Steering Group had AGREED to take forward the option for incorporation as a UK company limited by Guarantee. This is a not-for-profit entity. Following the teleconference agreement the NERC lawyers and legal team were briefed and confirmed that a Company Limited by Guarantee Charity was the best course. IJ met with the legal team most recently on 6 April. The draft articles were not at an appropriate stage in time for this meeting but will be provided as soon as possible.

Although the details of the proposed incorporation articles were not yet ready for consideration, IJ presented the likely structure and responsibilities. As members of a CLG, GSOs would be required to sign a constitution document. It was acknowledged that the task of getting formal sign up by GSOs would be a long one and may in some cases prove impossible. All representatives AGREED that the UK CLG Charity proposal and structure appeared workable and should be taken forward to the next step.

It was re-affirmed by the Steering Group that incorporation would provide stability and sustainability for OneGeology and allow it to raise sponsorship funds in order to sustain, grow and support training and development where needed across the World.

Following discussions it was agreed that one country, one vote was equitable and that the situation of state/provincial surveys and their representation would be discussed with the lawyers. **ACTION: IJ.** A modified version will be circulated to SK, JB for initial comment. **ACTION: SK, JB**.

IJ will also confirm that the 'Board' does not need a UK citizen on it. ACTION: IJ.

After further legal advice, a new version of the basic structure, principles and an overview of the articles will be circulated to all as soon as possible. Once this has been agreed, the go-ahead for the preparation of the full articles will be given to the lawyers.

Each Steering Group representative will inform members within their region and explain the reasons for moving forward with a UK CLG Charity and to obtain an agreement in principle from their region.

IJ and JB will draft a workflow process/indicative timeline for the sequence of steps in the process. **ACTION: IJ, JB.** 

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It was AGREED to set up a teleconference to further discuss these issues in early July. **ACTION: KB to arrange a date and time for the teleconference.** 

AM will be attending a Chief Government Geologists conference on 24 May in Wellington and would like the next version of the draft structure for then. **ACTION: IJ** to send relevant information to AM.

#### **10. ESRI GRANT OFFER**

10.1 IJ presented an update regarding the grant offer from ESRI which has now been agreed (.ppt to be made available). Applications will be made via the ESRI regional offices (rather than through 1G). Oman has already taken up the offer. The OneGeology secretariat will now publicise this offer on the website and by email. **ACTION: KB**. The Steering Group re-affirmed their approval.

It was AGREED that a point of contact for technical issues between OneGeology and ESRI should be set up and FR would do this. **ACTION: FB to arrange**.

### 11. LINKAGES WITH OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

KB provided a brief overview of recent collaborations. OneGeology has established strong linkages with over ten regional and global organisations who have pledged their support. Most recently, OneGeology has become more closely involved with GEO/GEOSS (Global Earth Observations), having been officially recognised as a 'subtask' and represented at a number of GEO/GEOSS meetings. OneGeology has recently been asked to contribute information on how it measures its progress and is also investigating ways of contributing OneGeology information and expertise at a 'showcase' event at the next Ministerial Summit in Beijing in November 2010.

Additionally, closer links with Geoparks and the YES Network (Young Earth Scientist) have been established. OneGeology and Geoparks are to set up a MoU and a series of new web links and pages. The YES Network have organised a roundtable discussion and invited OneGeology representatives to present and take part.

On GEO/GEOSS, it was noted that EuroGeoSurveys (EGS) had taken the decision to draft a joint letter (to be signed by IUGS, USGS, UNESCO, EGS and others) to the Secretary General of GEOSS calling for more increased inclusion of the geosciences within GEOSS. The concern is that GEO/GEOSS is too focussed on remote sensing and insufficiently on in situ data.

The MoU with Geoparks needs to be clarified and finalised. It was noted that Geoparks is clearly linked to OneGeology outreach and the role for information on geological maps could be an important part of the development of the OneGeology portal. It was recognised that this will move OneGeology away from the 'only geology map data' role but all AGREED that this was an appropriate outreach activity and beneficial to OneGeology as Geoparks agreed and that the development of the web pages should go ahead. **ACTION: KB**.

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SG was asked to report back to the Steering Group on the outcome of the YES roundtable discussions. The Secretariat was to ask the OneGeology presenter to ask the YES session group to report back. **ACTION: SG, KB**.

#### 12. RECRUITING NEW NATIONS AND INCREASING DATA SERVICES

- 12.1 Recruitment and participation remains an issue in Africa GS had noted that OneGeology will be promoted at the next AGSA meeting in Algeria. CGMW will also be attending and UNESCO will actively encourage participation. PR was asked to provide feedback from this meeting. **ACTION: PR**. MK was noted that PGI (Polish Geological Institute) works closely with Angola and has offered assistance. There may be opportunities to promote OneGeology through UNESCO events in Africa. KB to discuss possibilities with SG. **ACTION: KB, SG**.
- 12.2 HK reported that Iran will participate through CCOP, as will Malaysia and PNG. Links have been lost with Singapore, HK will attempt to reconnect. **ACTION: HK**. China has received training and their data should now be available but no communication has been received since the visit. AM AGREED to write to CGS encouraging them to register their data services. The USGS has also worked closely with China, SK offered to consult the Director of International Programmes (USGS). HK said he could also ask CCOP to contact China and will provide the Secretariat with contact details. In conclusion it was AGREED that OneGeology would write to the China Geological Survey through CCOP. KB to draft letter on behalf of AM. **ACTION: HK, KB**.
- 12.3 Central Asia is not part of CCOP and no connections are known (eg Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan). Despite approaches by the Secretariat, no information or contact has been successful with Saudi Arabia. CGMW reported that they have incurred similar problems. F R said that BRGM will be working there soon and will action a colleague to attempt to contact the geological survey organisation. **ACTION: FR**.
  - PR also noted that the "6 continent" model OneGeology as adopted for the Steering Group left North Western Asia (and in particular Russia) somewhat excluded. IJ proposed that the Steering Group should consider a seven continent model at their next teleconference. **ACTION: KB to place item on agenda.**
- 12.4 Several conversations/emails have taken place with Russian and the hope is that they will be serving data by the end of this year at 1:5 and 1:2.5M scale.
- 12.5 Effective communication with the Indian Geological Survey is a problem; contacts appear to change continuously. CGMW noted a problem in India also.
- 12.6 Lebanon has data and CGMW have contacts. There may be technical issues. PR will make contact. HK will also email any contacts to the Secretariat. **ACTION: PR, HK**.
- 12.7 SK said she would promote and discuss OneGeology at the next discussions regarding the Global Seismic Network and climate activities. **ACTION: SK**.
- 12.8 The provision of the digital data for the new circum-polar-Arctic map was discussed.

  The map has been available for some time and there were requests to see the data

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# available in the OneGeology portal. **ACTION: AM will write to the Canadian Geological Survey (IJ to draft letter).**

- 12.9 Brazil (CPRM) has received a request from Bolivia for technical training. This training is available to other countries too if requested. Paraguay doesn't have a geological survey and have proved difficult to contact. Uruguay has a geological map but in paper format. CPRM are currently trying to kick-start a project with Venezuela. A new project to create a hydrogeological map for South and Central America is just beginning. ASGMI is responsible for the coordination of the project and the first step is to collate the basic geology map which should ultimately be available in OneGeology. However, M-GC noted some countries, mainly in Central America, have technical difficulties and human resources are not available. It was noted that the Spanish Cooperation Development Agency are funding technical training workshops, in Colombia soon (see the OneGeology website for more information). This is tremendous support for OneGeology and South and Central America countries that need training are encouraged to attend. As a result of discussion of the role of Steering Group members it was emphasised that all Steering Group members need to be pro-active supporters of OneGeology and have an obligation to encourage membership and the serving of data for all nations within their global region at every opportunity. The secretariat can help in this wherever possible. M-GC AGREED to forward details of forthcoming conferences and meetings to the 1G secretariat. The secretariat can provide appropriate materials and presentations in Spanish. ACTION: M-GC
- 12.10 Within the European region Belarus are not members of EGS and contact with them has been difficult. It is hoped that Montenegro will be actively participating soon. Most of the remaining countries are small and do not have geological surveys but EGS will encourage those neighbouring countries to help out and engage. Monaco, Gibraltar and Malta data will be progressed by CGMW and BGS. **ACTION: PR and KB**. By the end of August the Portal should have a further 20+ data services in WFS, as a result of OneGeology-Europe which it is planned will be free to download under a harmonised access statement.
- 12.11 Within the Oceania region many islands (e.g. American Samoa, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Micronesia, etc) are US territories. AM and SK AGREED to pursue and inform the secretariat of the outcome. **ACTION: AM, SK**. New Zealand should have map data for some of the Islands (eg the Cook Islands, Western Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, etc) and AM will try to make progress. **ACTION: AM**.
- 12.12 AM AGREED to serve marine data in the ownership of GNS (sea floor geology or bedrock and/or sediments, WMS or WFS). Having this data in the portal will encourage others also. **ACTION: AM**.
  - M-GC said that CPRM has already started providing offshore data nationally and will look at providing it to the portal. **ACTION: M-GC**.
- 12.13 Discussions concluded that the OneGeology primary aims globally are to secure data services for China, Russia, Saudi Arabia and India plus some marine data services by 2012. Progress on this will also be discussed at the teleconference in July. **ACTION: All.**

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### 13. DEVELOPING THE FUNCTIONALITY OF ONEGEOLOGY

13.1 The model and approach which OneGeology has adopted is seen by others as an appropriate way to make other data accessible – both enhanced geological (eg 3D data) and non-geological data. Suggestions and requests continue to be made in relation to this, but OneGeology resources to deal with it are limited. Requests have included the following; to serve increasing resolution data, to serve applied geological data (e.g. landslides, resources), to serve geophysical, mineral resource, hydro data, to improve portal functionality, harmonized access conditions, provide other domains or allow others to adopt the 1G model for their area of science/expertise, beyond geosciences.

PR explained that some data types, eg geophysical data, would be difficult to present and coordinate. CGMW have had experience of these issues.

SK noted that many of the US State surveys are moving towards 3D modelling of the geology, especially in areas where the surficial cover is extensive. Geological information is also important for water supply, energy development, resource supply, etc. so real value would be gained from access to different types of maps.

The core purpose of OneGeology was discussed and it was AGREED that the most important objective is getting basic global 2D coverage, to provide a platform for other information which can enrich the basic 2D geological data.

The Steering Group AGREED that OneGeology should stay with its current remit (to IGC 2012) and pursue a global coverage of basic geological map data. All were happy for other domains to use the OneGeology methodologies and structure etc as long as they fully acknowledge OneGeology. Once the prime objective has been achieved, OneGeology can then go on to evolve and expand. HK recommended developing a clearing house of metadata to allow access directly to the right survey.

FR added that when comprehensive geology map data was available, many other types of information could be linked eg reference papers and a variety of other functionalities can be added. We also have to think about the technical aspects, the tools and the supporting functionalities. BRGM will focus on developments such as creating a web service from a simple GIS file whereby a participant can send a file, complete a metadata form and the service will be created. This service could be added as a complementary service provided by OneGeology.

In summary, the major focus is confirmed as completing the basic 2D geological map data coverage and increasing marine data coverage but, in the future, to move into other geosciences data.

# 14. AOB

14.1 The concept note: A OneGeology data provider accreditation scheme was discussed.

FR presented the concept. At a recent meeting with the global Geoparks executive OneGeology heard how they have a scheme to accredit all geological parks that wish to become Geoparks through a set of best practice specifications and evaluation against

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those specifications, so encouraging and maintaining best practice. This resulted in an idea – could we devise and introduce a similar scheme within the OneGeology community to use OneGeology as a pro-active (as opposed to a passive) force for good to progressively improve the accessibility of geological data and raise standards.

All AGREED that the concept should be adapted and a four star system introduced. Taking comments on board, a revised proposal will be circulated and aim to achieve final sign off at the teleconference in July. **ACTION: IJ, FR, JB** 

14.2 Within the concept note the term 'reliability' of the data was questioned as its meaning is ambiguous. It was agreed to modify this to 'availability'. Targets will be set as an incentive but should not be unattainable and an amount of tolerance will be given. Periodicity of evaluation could be about one year. No penalties will be introduced if a problem is not within the control of the organisation eg internet connection problems. The 'access conditions column' was not considered necessary.

# 15. Date and location of the next meeting

- 15.1 At the 2009 Paris meeting HK (Japanese Geological Survey) offered to host the 2011 meeting. HK confirmed that this offer remained. GSJ fully support the Steering Group meeting and suggest an excursion to one of Japan's geoparks. This offer was ACCEPTED with thanks.
- 15.2 An initial date was AGREED of the week 3 8 April 2011. Secretariat and HK to confirm arrangements. **ACTION:** HK, KB.
  - Close of meeting -

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# Appendix 1

### Report by the IUGS President Alberto C. Riccardi (ex-officio member)

In August 2008, when I was elected IUGS President during the quadrennial IUGS Council meeting, I clearly stated that in my view IUGS Commission and Tasks Groups mainly respond to specific needs of the international geological community with regards to establishment and source of information on international standards for the Geological Sciences, that this role cannot be performed by other bodies, and that this type of activity, as well as those on capacity building and management and application of geoscience's information should be maintained and reinforced by IUGS.

As a consequence of this idea on 29 June-3 July 2009 I attended a meeting of the OneGeology Operational Management Group which was held in Buenos Aires together with a meeting of the IUGS Commission on the Management & Application of Geoscience Information (CGI). There I became acquainted with the activities both groups are developing in close collaboration and I exposed my view that it was of foremost importance for IUGS to support and become actively involved in the OneGeology initiative.

As result, on October 2009 I was kindly invited in my role of IUGS President to become an ex-officio member on the OneGeology Steering Group.

Since then my main goal in relation to OneGeology has been to support not only its interaction with the IUGS Commission on the Management & Application of Geoscience Information (CGI), but also with other IUGS bodies and with the 34<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress (Brisbane 2012).

As one of the main contributions IUGS could provide to OneGeology is in the field of standards in the geosciences it has been considered a priority to establish a close interaction of OneGeology with the IUGS Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS) — a body working in stratigraphic standards which are basic to geological mapping. Here it is expected an OneGeology-ICS interaction similar to the one existing between ICS and the Commission of the Geological Map of the World (CGMW).

At the same time the IUGS has become involved in a larger initiative on geological standards that has a direct bearing on OneGeology. Thus IUGS has identified as priority tasks (1) to make an inventory of all geostandards sponsored by IUGS in the past; (2) to identify existing geostandards which could be endorsed by IUGS; and 3) to propose new geostandards for future development. All these tasks are well underway.

It is expected that all these developments will result in one or several sessions on geostandards to be organized for the 34<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress (Brisbane 2012), with an active participation of OneGeology.

Attendance of the last IUGS Executive Committee meeting (Paris, 22-25 February 2010) by the Executive Secretary of OneGeology, the Chairs of IUGS Commissions on the Management & Application of Geoscience Information (CGI) and on Stratigraphy (ICS) and the Secretary General of the 34<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress surely has helped all these matters to move forwards.

Directed to strengthen even more coordination of all these activities at the international level is IUGS intention to establish formal relationships with National Geological Surveys through organizations such as the EuroGeoSurveys and the Iberoamerican Association of Geological Surveys (ASMGI, "Asociación de Servicios de Geología y Minería Iberoamericanos").

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