

OneGeology meeting summary

OneGeology recently met to drive forward the OneGeology Initiative and determine its future development and focus. In August 2012, at the IGC in Brisbane, it was agreed that OneGeology would create a new consortium that would sign up to an agreement. This was put into place and the first meeting of this consortium was held in Paris on 21st October 2013. Agenda items focussed on the new objectives, consortium membership, appointment of board members, funding and governance structure.

The 2nd day of the meeting encompassed an open meeting on 22nd October to which all Onegeology participants and other interested parties could attend and discuss future focus and development.

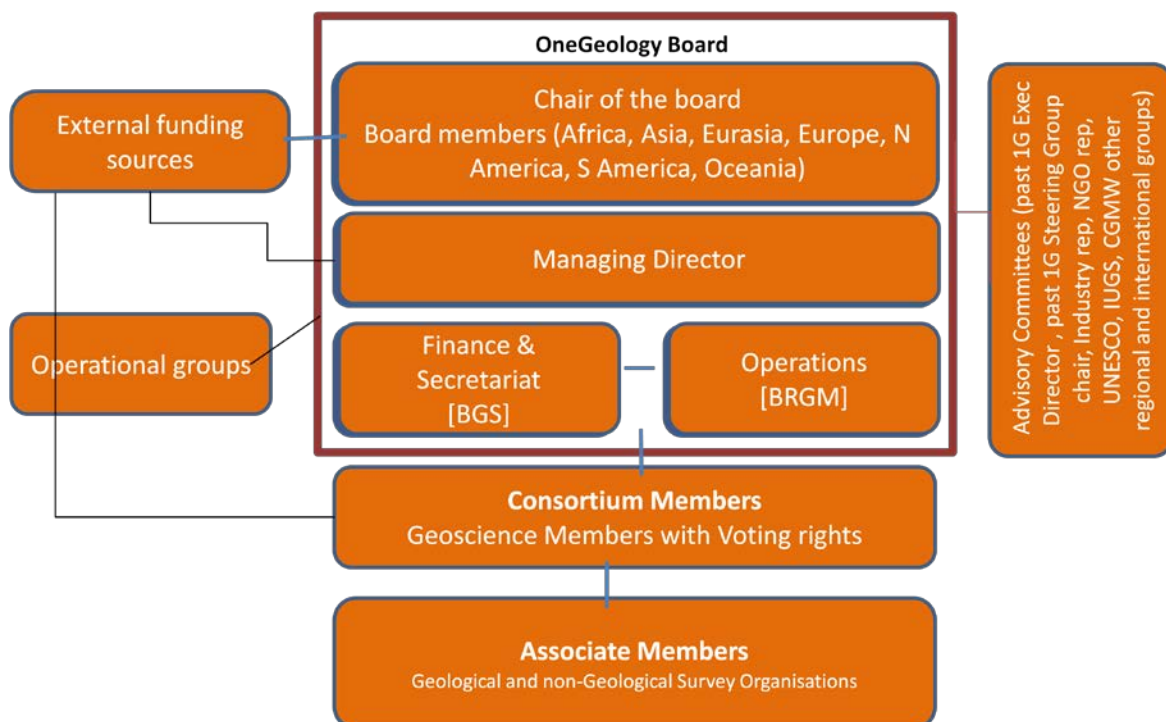
OneGeology's Objectives

Initial discussions focussed on revisiting the broad-level OneGeology objectives. These were revised and agreed :

1. To be the provider of geoscience data globally
2. To ensure an exchange know-how and skills so all can participate
3. Use of the global profile of 1G to increase awareness of the geosciences and their relevance

A new governance structure

Governance discussions considered the different entities, their linkages and broad relationships and roles. After detailed discussions, the following structure was agreed:





OneGeology Meeting, Paris, October 21st and 22nd 2013

Nominations were requested for the role of the new managing director of OneGeology, taking over from Ian Jackson. Dr Marko Komac (Geological Survey of Slovenia) was proposed by Dr J Ludden (BGS) and P Landais (BRGM). This proposal was agreed unanimously by all present. The position will be for a nominal period of 3 years until the IGC 2016.

A Board of representatives from the consortium were appointed as follows:

Asia: Japan – Dr Eikichi Tsukuda (Geological Survey of Japan), Eurasia: Dr Oleg Petrov (VSEGEI), Europe: Dr Andrzej Przybcin (Geological Survey of Poland), Oceania: Dr Chris Pigram (Geoscience Australia), North America: Dr Lee Allison (Geological Survey of Arizona). No representation is currently available for South America or Africa and it is hoped that organisations from these regions will become consortium members soon. The representative for the British Geological Survey is Mr Matthew Harrison and for the French Geological Survey, BRGM is Mr François Robida. The Board will appoint a chair in the coming month.

Funding

It was agreed that minor amendments to the Consortium Agreement would be implemented to reflect this governance structure and that the fees for 2014 will be due by January 1st 2014. Fees will remain the same as 2013. A significant difference in the new structure is that a OneGeology consortium member will have an active role in the AGM and in influencing the direction the project takes.

Discussions on the future development of OneGeology

All attendees were asked to consider and discuss a range of options for the future development. These discussions helped to identify items to take forward and research in greater detail.

Technical ideas/proposals/feasibility

- *Consider the feasibility of moving towards open data/creative commons, cloud technology, Crowd-sourcing.*
- *Should 1G provide a single platform or multiple platforms?*
- *How should the portal be developed, what functions need to be included?*

Scientific proposals

- *What other types of information should OneGeology look to provide and from whom?*
- *How do we achieve QC for non geological survey data?*
- *Should 1G develop global thematic maps e.g. hydrogeology, tectonic activity maps, mineral resources, etc.*
- *What other developments should OneGeology look to evolve in the longer-term?*
- *What is a tangible timeline to develop a virtual global geological survey?*

The Board members agreed that their next meeting should be held in January 2014 (dates TBC) before which a series of documents will be prepared.