

Minutes 13th General Assembly ICA, A Coruña July 16, 2005

1. Opening

President opens the General Assembly at 9.00 and welcomes all delegates

2. Roll call

Secretary-General performs the roll call

forme courte	short form	Principal delegate	Deputy delegate	present
Afrique du Sud	South Africa	Victor Mowara	Mariana French	x
Albanie	Albania			-
Algérie	Algeria	Mohamed Abdebou	Djilani Benadrabou	x
Allemagne	Germany	Tumasch Reichenbacher		x
Argentine	Argentina	Alfredo Stahlschmidt		-)X
Australie	Australia	William Cartwright	Ron Furness	x
Autriche	Austria	Karel Kriz	Alexander Pucher	x
Belgique	Belgium	Philippe De Maeyer	Frank Canters	x
Bénin	Benin			-
Brésil	Brazil	Paulo de Menezes	Celia Fernandez	x
Bulgarie	Bulgaria	Temenoujka Bandrova	Neli Dimitrova	-
Canada	Canada	Janet Mersey	Eric Kramers	x
Chili	Chile	Luis Alegria Matta		x
Chine	China	WANG Jiayao	LIU Ruomei	x
Chypre	Cyprus	Elykkos Elia		x
Colombie	Colombia	Alberto Boada-Rodriguez		-
Corée du Sud	South Korea			-
Croatie	Croatia	Ivan Landek		x
Cuba	Cuba	Tatiana Delgado		x
Danemark	Denmark	Hanne Brande-Lavridsen		x
Equateur	Ecuador			-
Espagne	Spain	Jaume Miranda	Fernando Aranz	x
Estonie	Estonia			-
États-Unis d'Amérique	United States of America	Cindy Brewer	Amy Lobson	x
Finlande	Finland	Antti Jakobsson	Kirsi Virrantaus	x
France	France	Anne Ruas		x
Ghana	Ghana	Emmanuel Odoi-Yemo		x
Grèce	Greece	Lysandros Tsoulos		x
Guinée	Guinea			-
Hong-Kong	Hong Kong	LEUNG Kwok-Hung		x
Hongrie	Hungary	Arpad Papp-Vary	Bela Pokoly	x
Inde	India			-
Indonésie	Indonesia	Sukendra Martha	Diah Kresnawati	x
Iran	Iran	Mohammad Sarpoulaki	Babak Shamei	x
Irlande	Ireland			-
Islande	Iceland	Agust Gylfason		-
Israël	Israel	Tamar Soffer		-
Italie	Italia	Alberta Bianchin	Andrea Cantile	x
Japon	Japan	Takashi Morita	Koji Hasegawa	x
Jordanie	Jordan	Mohammed Odtalla	Saliem Khalifeh	x
Kenia	Kenya	Kombo Mwero	Joseph K.Mathenge	x
Lettonie	Latvia	Aivars Ratkevics		x
Lituanie	Lithuania	Giedre Beconyte		x
Madagascar	Madagascar			-

Malaisie	Malaysia			-
Maroc	Morocco	Dafir Zahra	Licer Nabila	x
Mexique	Mexico			-
Mongolie	Mongolia			-
Moçambique	Mozambique	Chidimatembue		x
Nicaragua	Nicaragua			-
Nigéria	Nigeria	Henry Fagbola	Richard Olomo	x
Norvège	Norway	Kristoffer Kristiansen		x
Nouvelle-Zélande	New Zealand	Igor Drecki		x
Pakistan	Pakistan			-
Panama	Panama			-
Pays-Bas	The Netherlands			-
Pérou	Peru			-
Pologne	Poland	Adam Linsenbarth	Andrzej Makowski	x
Portugal	Portugal	Jose Manuel Barreiro Guedes	Armenio Dos Santos Castanheira	x
Qatar	Qatar			-
République tchèque	Czech Republic	Lucie Friedmannova		x
Roumanie	Romania	Constantin Nitu		-
Royaume-Uni	United Kingdom	Dr Christopher Board	Dr David Forrest	x
Russie	Russia	Alexander Borodko	Vladimir Pankin	x
Salvador	El Salvador			-
Slovaquie	Slovakia			-
Slovénie	Slovenia	Dusan Petrovic	Primož Kete	x
Soudan	Sudan			-
Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka			-
Suède	Sweden	Elizabeth Argus Långberg	Patrick Ottoson	x
Suisse	Switzerland	Lorenz Humi		x
Tanzanie	Tanzania			-
Thaïlande	Thailand	Col.Kriith Bunthid		x
Tunisie	Tunisia			-
Turquie	Turkey	Lt.Col Servet OZAGAC	Major Dursun Er ILGIN	x
Ukraine	Ukraine			-
Venezuela	Venezuela			-
Viêt Nam	Vietnam			-
Yémen	Yemen			-
Yougoslavie	Yugoslavia			-
Members present				46
Total membership	(after acceptance of point 8)			80
Total eligible to vote	(after dealing with points 5-8)			58

-)X the representative of Argentine came in later

3. Adoption of the Agenda

President proposed to keep to the provisional agenda as distributed, and to deal under 'Other matters' with the items on which handouts had been distributed, that is with the proposed Working Groups on Mapping Africa for Africa, Early warning and risk management, Use and user issues, Geospatial analysis and the one on Digital technologies in the cartographic heritage. This was accepted by the General Assembly.

4. Nomination of two Scrutineers

President proposed as scrutineers Janet Mersey from Canada and Antti Jakobsson from

Finland, which was graciously accepted by them. The General Assembly agreed to the proposal.

5. Adoption of the relevant part of the minutes of the 12th General Assembly, 2003

Secretary-General explained that in order to be able to vote on the proposed addition to the name of ICA and on the proposed change to article 24 of the statutes, the number of members with voting rights had to be determined first. This was dealt with partly in items 5, 6 and 8 of the provisional minutes of the 12th General Assembly held in Durban August 10 and 16, 2003. Secretary asked for a proposal to accept this part of the minutes. This proposal came from New Zealand and was seconded by Norway and Finland. Secretary asked for a vote; there were no abstentions and no votes against, so this part of the provisional minutes was accepted. So Albania, El Salvador, Estonia, Guinea, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Qatar, Sudan, Tunisia, Ukraine and Vietnam were still without voting right. This meant that of the 78 ICA members, 13 had no voting rights, and this results in 65 countries with voting right. As Ukraine had paid up since, its voting right was restored, and this resulted in 66 countries with voting rights.

6. Members ineligible to vote

Secretary-General indicated that the following countries had not paid up their membership dues for more than 3 years: Colombia, Ghana, Iceland, Kenya, Mongolia, Peru, Romania, Tanzania, Venezuela and Yemen. According to the statutes the Executive Committee had the right to suspend the voting rights of these members. Secretary-General asked for the support of the General Assembly for this proposal, it was proposed by Spain and seconded by the United Kingdom. A majority supported the proposal, no votes against and one abstention (Hungary). So the proposal was accepted. This left the number of members with voting rights at 66 less 10 i.e. 56.

7. Withdrawal of Membership

There were no proposals for withdrawal of membership

8. New member nations

There were applications from two member nations, who both had paid their membership dues: Cyprus, represented by the Dept of Lands and Surveys, and Benin, represented by the Association Béninoise de Cartographie. President first asked for a proposal to have Cyprus as a new member, this was done by Greece. There was one vote against this proposal (Turkey), and 1 abstention (Slovenia) but all other countries agreed to the proposal. Turkey then handed in a declaration regarding the new membership. President then asked for a proposal to accept Benin as a member which, when put to the vote, was accepted by general acclamation.

President congratulated the two new members, especially Mr Elykkos Elia, the representative of Cyprus who attended the general assembly. The addition of these two members resulted in an increase of the number of members with voting rights to 58.

9. New affiliate members

President stated that since the 12th General Assembly at Durban two companies had

applied for affiliate membership, both from Poland. These were PPWK, the national mapping organization, and Eko-Graf which produces road maps and tourist guides. The first opted for two membership units and the second for one. President asked the general assembly to ratify this application, which was agreed by acclamation. President then welcomed the new affiliate members.

10. ICA Statutes

Past President then put to the vote the proposal to change the statutes and modify the name of ICA by adding the subtitle International Association for Cartography and Geographic Information. Following a request made at the national delegates meeting during the week, the ballot now allowed for separate votes on the two issues. As both proposals would result in changes to the statutes, they could only be accepted when more than half of the members with voting rights (that is more than half of 58, or more than 29) accepted the proposal.

Before the ballots were handed out, Lorenz Hurni, the delegate from Switzerland, read a statement in which he advised to keep to the old name (see appendix).

The scrutineers reported the results of the ballot in which 46 votes had been received. The president announced the results as follows: 42 members had voted for accepting the change in article 24 of the statutes, with no abstentions and 4 votes against. 26 members had voted for the addition of the subtitle to the name of ICA, 2 had abstained and 18 had voted against. As this number of 26 was below the required number of more than half the members with voting rights, this second proposal to add the subtitle to the name was not accepted; the name would remain without a subtitle.

Awards

While the votes were being counted, President invited Dr David Rhind, to come forward, and presented him with the Carl Mannerfelt Gold Medal, and Past-President Bengt Rystedt did likewise with Prof Ernst Spiess. Their respective citations were read and the diplomas handed over, and they were congratulated by the EC members and the General Assembly at large.

Venue of 2009 conference

Mr Luis Alegria Matta showed a DVD on Santiago and Chile, after President had announced that Santiago in Chile had been selected as venue for the 2009 international cartographic conference. The images of Chile were much appreciated and President thanked Chile for its willingness to organise this conference.

11. Any other business -

11.1 WG on Mapping Africa for Africa

The Executive Committee had informed the previous General Assembly in Durban about the institution of a working group on Mapping Africa for Africa, to be headed by Haggai Nyapola. It now also submitted the terms of reference that had been drawn up for this working group. EC Liaison is Bengt Rystedt.

Kenya suggested that Haggai Nyapola should not longer be a member of the Executive

Committee as he ceased working for the Survey of Kenya. President answered that he had been elected as vice-president by the General Assembly in his personal capacity and not as Surveyor-General of Kenya. Past-President added that Mr Nyapola had also been designated by the Executive Committee as chair of the Working Group on Mapping Africa for Africa because of his personal qualities, and that he was doing an excellent job in that capacity.

11.2 WG on early warning and risk management

The EC submitted the terms of reference of this working group established by the EC since Durban, chaired by Wilbur Ottichilo (Kenya) and with Ute Dymon (USA) as a vice-chair. EC liaison is Bengt Rystedt.

11.3 WG on Use and user issues

The EC submitted the terms of reference of this new Working Group chaired by Corné van Elzaker (Netherlands), established by the EC in A Coruña. EC Liaison is Ferjan Ormeling.

11.4 WG on Geospatial analysis and Modeling

The EC submitted the terms of reference of this working group, established in A Coruña, chaired by Bin Jiang (Sweden). EC Liaison is Kirsi Virrantaus

11.5 WG on Digital technologies in cartographic heritage

The EC had established this working group in A Coruña, with Evangelos Livieratos (Greece) as chair, and now submitted its terms of reference. EC Liaison is Ferjan Ormeling.

Alberta Bianchin from Italy asked whether it was indeed wise to establish this working group because of two considerations: In the first place in Durban a debate questioned the desirability of continuing work on the history of cartography within ICA now that the international conferences on the history of cartography covered that field satisfactorily. This debate is ongoing. In the second place she warned against a working group that would concentrate on the digital analysis of old maps, because for old maps the cultural context in which they have been produced is just as important, if not even more so, than the geometrical aspects. Therefore it might be counterproductive to have a separate group to look at the digital analysis of the geometrical aspects.

Secretary-General answered that in his opinion every discipline needs its history, and therefore to leave our history to another body would be a mistake. An impressive amount of work has been done within the commission on the history of cartography, when chaired by Robinson, Wallis and Pelletier, and that had been possible because of the special commission structure ICA has and which is lacking in the ICHC group, and which allows experts to work together on specified projects, like the book on innovations in cartography. It would have been better if the working group established now would have been part of the commission on the history of cartography, but that had not been possible.

Mme Ruas from France asked on what principles Working Groups were started. Secretary-General answered that this was a rather subjective procedure. The Executive Committee discerns gaps in the activities of the commissions or identifies new groups of scholars prepared to collaborate, and uses the instrument of the working group in order to see whether the results these groups come up with merits the proposal to turn them into a commission.

11.6 Commission on Geovisualization and Virtual environments

President stated that at the request of the current chair, the chair and the vice-chair of the Commission on Geovisualization and Virtual Environments would change places. Menno-Jan Kraak would now chair the commission henceforward until the Moscow Conference.

11.7. Commission on Cartography from satellite imagery

President stated that the chair and the vice-chair of the Commission on Cartography from Satellite Imagery would also change places. Graciela Metternicht (Australia) will chair the commission until 2007.

It is for the very reason that if commission chairs are impeded to do their work, their vice-chairs can take over, that the post of commission vice-chair has been established (see ICA Directory, Duties and responsibilities of ICA officers, Commissions and Working Groups).

11.8 - Other matters

-Mr Emmanuel Odoi-Yemo from Ghana stated that participation from Ghana was minimal, because of problems with visa and costs. He asked what the Executive Committee could do to improve this situation for future conferences. President answered that steps would be taken, by sending lists of potential participants to embassies in advance, to establish the bona fides of those asking for visa.

-Mr Adam Linsenbarth from Poland remarked that national committees should be more proactive to get ICA affiliate members, in order to improve the financial situation. He also complained that ICA's official documents were not coherent; he had sent in a list of potential corrections to the statutes.

-President answered that his letter was passed on to the ad-hoc commission working on a proposal to amend the statutes in time for the General Assembly in 2007.

-The representative from Poland also argued for the rights of national and affiliate members to propose persons as members of commissions.

-Secretary-General answered that that right existed, but that the final say in accepting commission members rested with the commission chair, who was responsible for realizing the targets stated in his/her commission's terms of reference.

-Mr Karel Kriz from Austria asked Commissions to help African countries

-Mme Anne Ruas from France asked how the EC proposed to deal with the 'no shows' in future.

-Vice-President Lorenzo explained, that the no shows in A Coruña consisted of people that had paid their registration costs and even had arrived in A Coruña. It was then very

difficult to prevent that they would not turn up when their papers were due.
-Christopher Board from the UK proposed to have a number of reserve papers, as had been the case in earlier conferences. This would necessitate having adequate notices advertising programme changes. No response was noted.

12. Closure

No other matters being raised, the president closed the General Assembly at 11.15, thanking all national delegates for their cooperation and support.

Ferjan Ormeling
ICA Secretary-General
Utrecht, November 3, 2006
(gratefully acknowledging the grammatical corrections made by Chris Board)

Appendix 1:

Statement from Switzerland regarding the vote on the name of ICA
ICA General Assembly
A Coruña, Aug. 16 2005

Statement of the Swiss Society of Cartography
concerning the change of the name of ICA
presented by Lorenz Hurni

Dear colleagues

Since ICA was founded 46 years ago in Berne, the Swiss Society of Cartography feels somehow obliged to let you know its opinion about the change of the name of ICA.

We think that instead of discussing formal aspects we should rather concentrate on contents in ICA. ICA lives through well selected papers presented in well organised and well navigated conferences and commission workshops. Furthermore we should use our strength to influence organisations and institutions who actually lead the agenda in GI science such as OGC, ISO, INSPIRE etc. etc.

This conference has shown that the technological hype of the last ten years is now lowered to a reasonable level. We can now concentrate again on our core business, the application of our cartographic know-how to all kind of old and new media. And we are sure that our knowledge is more appreciated than ever.

ICA is a well-known brand. We therefore ask you to keep a name which properly fits the brand: International Cartographic Association.

Thank you!

Appendix 2

Is it really necessary to change the name of ICA?

I'm not a very well known and experienced cartographer and therefore my opinion may not be a very relevant one, but I have decided to express my doubts about changing the name of ICA nevertheless.

The valid official definition of ICA says: "ICA is the world authoritative body for cartography, the discipline dealing with the conception, production, dissemination and study of maps." Since the scopes of cartographers have expanded from maps to other geo-information products and activities the proposal is to extend the name to *International Association for Cartography and Geographic Information*. But, there are other international associations dealing with geographic information and I'm afraid that in near future the names, missions and aims of all these associations will overlap in such a way that this will finally lead to one, huge and heterogeneous association. I'm afraid that such organization won't be able to enable any research cooperation and cartography as a science discipline might disappear.

My suggestion is to leave the existing name and extend the definition of the term cartography. All cartographers nowadays work with different geo-information products (not only maps) but we still remain cartographers. I believe that such decision will further promote cartography as an independent science in the group of geo-information sciences.

Dr Dusan Petrovic, Ljubljana, Slovenia