Proceedings of the 16th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering

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International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering

Minutes of the Council Meeting

Grand Cube, International Convention Centre, Osaka, Japan
Sunday, 11th September 2005

PRESENT:

Professor William Van Impe	- ISSMGE President
Mr Peter Day	- ISSMGE Vice President Africa
Professor Fumio Tatsuoka	- ISSMGE Vice President Asia
Mr Grant Murray	- ISSMGE Vice President Australasia
Professor Pedro Sêco e Pinto	- ISSMGE Vice President Europe
Professor Richard Woods	- ISSMGE Vice President North America
Professor Juan José Bosio	- ISSMGE Vice President South America
Professor Kenji Ishihara	- ISSMGE Immediate Past President
Professor R N Taylor	- ISSMGE Secretary General
Ms P Peers	- ISSMGE Secretariat
Professor Luiz Guilherme de Mello	- ISSMGE Board Member
Professor Harry Poulos	- ISSMGE Board Member
Professor M. Jamiolkowski	- Past President ISSMGE
Dr Nielen van der Merwe	- President ISRM
Professor Ergun Togrol	- Chairman Organising Committee 15th ICSMGE
Professor MR Madhav	- Incoming Vice-President Asia
Professor John Carter	- Incoming Vice-President Australasia
Professor Roger Frank	- Incoming Vice-President Europe
Mr John Seychuk	- Incoming Vice-President North America
Professor Waldemar Hachich	- Incoming Vice-President South America
Professor Hidetoshi Ochiai	- Chair ISSMGE TC9
Professor Christos Tsatsanifos	- Co-Chair ISSMGE TC19 (also voting delegate from Greece)
Professor Yusuke Honjo	- Chair ISSMGE TC23
Professor Robert Mair	- Chair ISSMGE TC28
Professor Jean-Louis Briaud	- Chair ISSMGE TC33
Professor Fusao Oka	- Chair ISSMGE TC34
Professor Malcolm Bolton	- Chair ISSMGE TC35
Professor Gabriel Auvinet	- Chair ISSMGE TC36

MEMBER SOCIETY	VOTING MEMBER	NON-VOTING MEMBER
Albania	Professor Luljeta Bozo	Mr Kujtim Çela
Argentina	Professor Alberto Sayao*	
Australia	Professor. John Carter	Mr Max Ervin
Austria	Dr Dietmar Adam	Dr Manfred Fross
Azerbaijan	Professor V.A. Ilyichev*	
Bangladesh	---	
Belgium	Dr Marc Van Den Broeck (am) Professor Jean Nuyens (pm)	
Bolivia	Professor Juan José Bosio*	
Brazil	Professor Alberto Sayao	Professor Willy Lacerda
Bulgaria	Professor Pedro Sêco e Pinto*	
Canada	Dr Dennis Becker	Dr Suzanne Lacasse
Chile	Mr Issa Kort Kort	Mr. Ramón Verdugo

China	Professor Huang Hongwei	Dr. Zhang Dongmei
Colombia	Mr Issa Kort Kort*	
Costa Rica	Professor Juan José Bosio*	
Croatia	Professor V. Szavits-Nossan	Professor Meho-Sasa Kovaćević
CTGA	Mr Jean Launay *	
Czech & Slovak Republics	Professor Ivan Vanicek	Dr Martin Vavicek
Denmark	Professor Jorgen Steenfelt	Ms Catherina Rotwitt
Ecuador	---	
Egypt	Dr Marawan Shahien	Dr Mohamed A. Sakr
Estonia	Dr Mait Mets	
Finland	Dr Tim Länsivaara	Mr Hans Rathmayer
France	Mr Jean Launay	Professor Roger Frank
Germany	Professor E M Nussbaumer	Professor Georg Heerten
Ghana	Dr. S. Kofi Ampadu	
Greece	Professor Christos Tsatsanifos	Dr Spiros Cavounidis
Hong Kong	Dr L.M. Mak	Dr Charles Ng
Hungary	Dr Peter Scharle	Professor Josef Mecsi
Iceland	Dr Sigurdur Erlingsson	
India	Dr Nitin Som	
Indonesia	---	
Iran	Dr Ali Noorzad	
Iraq	---	
Ireland	Dr Trevor Orr	Dr Brendan O'Kelly
Israel	Professor Amos Komornik	Dr Uri Komornik
Italy	Professor Mario Manassero	
Japan	Professor Hideki Ohta	Prof. M. Kamon (report on 16ICSMGE only)
Kazakhstan	Professor Askar Zhusupbekov	Dr Marat Ashimbaev
Kenya	---	
Korea R	Professor Byung-Sik Chun	Dr Sangseom Jeong
Latvia	Professor V. Szavits-Nossan*	
Lithuania	Dr Liudas Furmonavicius	
Macedonia	Dr Vlatko Sesov	
Mexico	Ing. Juan Schmitter	Ing. Gabriel Martínez
Morocco	Mr Jean Launay *	
Nepal	Dr Tara Nidhi Lohani	Mr Tej P. Gautam
Netherlands	Dr Peter van den Berg	Professor F Barends
New Zealand	Mr Stephen Crawford	
Nigeria	Dr Samuel Ejezie	
Norway	Dr Corneliu Athanasiu	
Pakistan	Dr Aziz Akbar	
Paraguay	Professor Juan José Bosio*	
Peru	---	
Poland	Professor Zbigniew Lechowicz	
Portugal	---	
Romania	Professor Iacint Manoliu	
Russia	Professor V.A. Ilyichev	Dr I Kolybin
Serbia and Montenegro	Professor César Sagaseta*	
Slovenia	Dr Janko Logar	Ms Ana Petkovšek
South Africa	Dr. S.W. Jacobsz	Dr Nico Vermeulen
S E Asia	Ir. Kwet-Yew Yong	Professor D T Bergado
Spain	Professor Cesar Sagaseta	Professor Enrique Dapena
Sri Lanka	Dr S.A.S. Kulathilaka	
Sudan	---	
Sweden	Mr Gunnar Westberg	Professor Bo Westerberg
Switzerland	Dr Peter Brenner	
Syria	---	
Tunisia	Mr Peter Day*	
Turkey	Professor Turan Durgunoglu	
Ukraine	Dr Petro Kryosheyev	Dr Yuriy Slyusarenko
U K	Professor Michael Davies	Dr Jan Hellings
U S A	Mr Arlan Rippe	Prof. B. Holtz
Venezuela	---	
Vietnam	---	
Zimbabwe	---	

* Denotes Proxy vote

APOLOGIES

M. Michel Gambin	ISSMGE Board Member
Professor M. Bouassida	Incoming Vice President Africa
Professor In-Mo Lee	Member of ITA Executive Council

OPENING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT.

1. The President opened the Council Meeting by welcoming all delegates, and acknowledging the presence of Past Presidents (Professor Kenji Ishihara and Professor Michael Jamiolkowski), Sister Societies (Professor Nielen van der Merwe) and the incoming Vice-Presidents (with the exception of Professor Bouassida, incoming Vice-President for Africa, who unfortunately had to cancel his attendance).

2. The President noted there were three candidates for the Presidency. He advised Council that each would make a brief presentation in support of their candidacy prior to the vote being taken.

QUORUM

3. A roll call at the start of the meeting showed 51 voting delegates to be present. As 68 Member Societies were entitled to vote, the number of voting delegates exceeded two-thirds of this number and consequently the voting was quorate to deal with all matters. In addition to the voting delegates, there were 12 proxy votes.

MEMBERSHIP

4. The Secretary General reported that membership of ISSMGE on 31 August 2005 was 16330 in 76 Member Societies (see Appendix 1). This compares with 16242 members in 76 Member Societies reported to the Council Meeting held in Prague on the 24 August 2003. Recently reported significant changes in membership were:

REGION	MEMBER SOCIETY	CURRENT MEMBERSHIP	PREVIOUS MEMBERSHIP
Asia:	China	190	156
	Hong Kong	508	370
	Iran	191	158
	Kazakhstan	40	18
Africa:	Egypt	125	21
Europe:	Belgium	164	70
	Netherlands	688	323
	Spain	404	230
	Germany	745	833
	UK	1314	1428
North America:	Canada	662	829
	Mexico	161	318
	USA	1931	2315

5. Member Societies with fees two or more years in arrears: Indonesia, Kenya, and Zimbabwe. These Member Societies are deemed suspended. It was also noted that no fees had been received from the Kenyan Member Society since 1988. Council was asked to consider terminating their membership. After a brief discussion a vote was taken. Subsequently this vote was questioned, and a re-vote was requested. On the motion to terminate the membership of the Kenyan Geotechnical Society, votes were cast as follows:

For: 30
Against 31
Abstentions: 2

6. The outcome was consistent with the earlier ballot, and the motion was defeated. The Secretary General then requested Council Meeting delegates for their assistance in helping re-establish communication by providing contact details of anyone who may belong to the Kenyan Geotechnical Society.

7. The Secretary General reported that there were four new corporate sponsors of ISSMGE, and a list of all 19 corporate sponsors is also given in Appendix 1. In addition, ISSMGE have benefited from the sponsorship of three contractors for the Touring Lecture held in St Petersburg in 2004, and these are also listed in Appendix 1.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

8. The President presented his report on the activities of Technical Committees, which is given in Appendix 2. Most Committees had provided an Administrative Report on their activities over the previous four years and overall he was very pleased to note the level of involvement of the TC members. He also remarked that some Technical Committees had produced detailed reports on their achievements and that these would be published on the ISSMGE website.

9. The President stated that there had been discussion with the Sister Societies (ISRM and IAEG) on the formation of number of new Joint Technical Committees. Such Joint Technical Committees were consistent with the concept of a Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies that would be discussed later in the meeting. The Joint Committees under consideration are also referred to in Appendix 2.

10. The President then invited comments from the floor.

11. Dr. Steenfelt (Denmark) observed that the activities of TC2 and TC3 included editing their own journal. He questioned whether such activity implied that those TCs gained a life of their own, not connected to the tenure of a particular President. The President replied that for TC2 the journal is to some extent independent of the TC, and that would probably continue even if a President decided to disband that TC. The Secretary General commented that the proposal for a journal led by TC3 was at a very early stage and discussion is still ongoing.

12. Dr. Länsivaara (Finland) noted that for the Joint Technical Committees members would be drawn from the three Sister Societies ISSMGE, ISRM, and IAEG. He wondered if it would be possible for members of other societies (e.g. IGS, ICOLD, etc.) to participate in the Committees. The President agreed that a solution was needed for other professionals to join in TC activities. Professor Frank (incoming VP Europe) thought that TCs could include an additional category of Member, such as "Invited Expert". The President commented that reports written by TCs were under the auspices of ISSMGE and the authors of those reports would need to be ISSMGE members.

13. Dr. Hellings (UK) was concerned at the lack of progress with TC20: Professional Practice, and he offered to make contact with the TC Chairman if required. His suggestion was welcomed but the President remarked that he had already tried this on many occasions without success.

14. Professor Barends (Netherlands) thought it would be useful to have a JTC on Soil Genesis, which could cover issues of soil heterogeneity. The President thanked him for his suggestion though the Presidents of the Sister Societies had not considered this topic for a JTC.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

15. Mr Peter Day presented the Guidelines for Technical Committees given in Appendix 3. The ISSMGE Board had agreed that the Guidelines for Technical Committees (TCs) were needed to amplify the Statutes and Bylaws, establish conditions for membership, encourage participation by industry, and clarify funding issues. At the time of drafting the Guidelines there were 25 existing TCs, and one Joint (with ISRM and IAEG) Technical Committee on Landslides.

16. The purposes of a Technical Committee were to appraise current research and practice, promote dialogue with practitioners, collate information and disseminate their findings. TCs are formed at the behest of the President and/or in response to a request from the membership. TCs are enabled for the four-year term of the President but are often continued by subsequent Presidents. In general, the President invites a Member Society to host a TC, and may suggest a Chairperson. The host Member Society then nominates the Chair and Secretary and assists with administrative backup. Membership is normally restricted to members of ISSMGE who must remain in good standing throughout the term. They are nominated by their Member Societies with the agreement of the Chairperson. TCs usually operate with a small group of core members that can be considered as the executive of the Committee. These core members are suggested by the Chairperson and confirmed by the President. It had sometimes been desirable to invite specialists in the subject area of the TC who are not ISSMGE members. Such action should be initiated by the Chairman and only undertaken with consent of the President. An important point in the guidelines is that the increase in the membership of practitioners in ISSMGE should also be reflected in the TCs. As a guideline, practitioner involvement should preferably exceed 25% on any TC, increasing to 50% or more in the case of a TC of a mainly practical nature.

17. TCs operate within the Terms of Reference agreed with the President. Their activities may include organising discussion sessions and symposia, and undertaking surveys and literature reviews. It is essential that TCs have tangible output at the end of a four-year term, and Mr Day suggested that there should be emphasis on the transfer of research to practice.

18. On undertaking activities of a TC, members' costs are borne by the members themselves or by the sponsoring organisations or the Member Societies. Under special circumstances, application for funding of specific activities may be made to the President and would be subject to approval by the ISSMGE Board.

19. It was also noted that the Presidents of the Sister Societies were planning more Joint Technical Committees; detailed guidelines are yet to be established.

20. Professor Davies (UK) thanked Mr Day for his presentation. As Chairman of the British Geotechnical Association he sought guidelines on financial support expected from Member Societies. Mr Day explained that from his experience, members gave freely of their time and for members from industry this implies financial support in kind. Some members may find it difficult to fully support their travel and a contribution could be sought from Member Societies. The President commented that Member Societies should accept greater responsibility when agreeing to host a TC. For example, he felt that Member Society support could extend to assisting with the publication of TC output. Professor Bolton (Chairman TC35) stated that he had never sought funding from Member Societies. He saw the role of the Chairman as ensuring a membership of enthusiasts who were able to work together effectively and produce output of use to ISSMGE; basically it use to ISSMGE; basically it was the responsibility of the TC Chairman to make the TC work.

21. Professor Heerten (Germany) was of the opinion that the nomination of a member by a Member Society to serve on a TC should always be accepted by the TC Chairman and the President; he therefore questioned the criterion for a member being unsuitable or inappropriate. He also felt that it would be best to establish the membership and Terms of Reference of a TC very soon after a new President was elected. Mr Day stated that it could always be possible to refer questions on the suitability of members for a TC to the ISSMGE Board. Professor Madhav (incoming Vice President for Asia) commented that the "transfer of research to practice" statement may not always apply, and there was scope for pure research for some TCs. Professor Briaud (Chairman TC33) commented that it would be wrong for TCs to be too restrictive in their membership and some TCs have a great need to engage the support of specialists from other societies. He went on to ask about the profits that could be made from ISSMGE conferences. The Secretary General confirmed that in accordance with the Conference Manual organisers of TC conferences were obliged to remit to ISSMGE 2% of the registration fee income and that this was the limit of ISSMGE's financial interest in such conferences.

REGIONAL REPORTS BY VICE PRESIDENTS

22. Brief summaries of their Regional Reports (Appendix 4) were given by the Regional Vice-Presidents.

23. The President asked if there were any comments from the floor; there were none. The President went on to welcome Professor Togrol to the meeting and noted that he had attended all Council Meetings of the Society since 1965. Professor Togrol replied that it had been a privilege to be active in ISSMGE's affairs for such a long time. He had enjoyed serving on the Council and had had the honour of meeting many eminent geotechnical engineers over the years.

ELECTION OF REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS 2005-2009

24. The President advised the meeting that the elected ISSMGE Regional Vice-Presidents for 2005-2009 were:

Africa Professor Mounir Bouassida
Asia Professor M R Madhav
Australasia Professor John P Carter
Europe Professor Roger Frank
North America John Seychuk
South America Professor Waldemar Hachich

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT FOR THE PERIOD 2005 – 2009

25. The President reminded the Council Members of the relevant Statutes and Bylaws (8C1, 8C2, 12I, and 12K) and he thought it would benefit the members to hear presentations by the three candidates. These were done in alphabetical order:

Max Ervin
Suzanne Lacasse
Pedro Sêco e Pinto

26. Election papers were distributed and the results for the first round of the secret ballot were:

	Votes
Max Ervin	12
Suzanne Lacasse	23

Pedro Sêco e Pinto	27
Abstentions	1

27. Max Ervin was eliminated, and Council proceeded to the second round of the secret ballot, with the following results:

	Votes
Suzanne Lacasse	26
Pedro Sêco e Pinto	35
Abstentions	2

28. Thus Professor Pedro Sêco e Pinto was duly elected President of ISSMGE for the period 2005 – 2009. This was greeted by acclamation.

TASK FORCE: EDUCATION

29. Professor Sêco e Pinto presented his report, which is given in Appendix 5. This Task Force had endeavoured to offer support to national societies with the purpose of improving geotechnical activities by developing ideas for the Model Library Scheme and promoting Touring Lectures. The Model Library Scheme had in the past involved the donation of a number of textbooks to Member Societies in developing countries. Although these had been well received, it had proved difficult to ensure effective use by large numbers of members. The Board had considered alternative schemes such as journal subscriptions and the distribution of state-of-the-art lectures prepared for ISSMGE. However, several aspects of these proposals still needed to be resolved.

30. The idea of Touring Lectures dated back to 2000 and the first Touring Lecture was arranged in Nigeria in 2001. A highly successful second Touring Lecture was arranged in St Petersburg in June 2004 with considerable help from the President. A number of other Member Societies have expressed interest in hosting a Touring Lecture including Croatia, Paraguay, Argentina and Venezuela.

31. The Task Force endeavoured to interact with TC31: Education especially on issues of curriculum development. However, limited progress had been made. Nevertheless, Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conferences, both Regional and International, have continued to thrive and these are seen as excellent initiatives for enhancing the education of young geotechnical engineers.

TASK FORCE: PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

32. Professor Poulos presented his report, which is given in Appendix 6. The main activities of the Task Force were the development of "messages" from ISSMGE to promote understanding of the role and importance of geotechnical engineering in society, and the development of policy documents for professional practice. With regards to communication there were five different groups to influence: geotechnical professionals, professionals in other disciplines, clients, the general public, and government and decision makers. Different messages were required for each group that addressed the group's key concerns and interests. The messages had been prepared as PowerPoint presentations which were now available on the ISSMGE website. The messages covered the role of ISSMGE, the scope of geotechnical engineering, the interaction between geotechnical engineers and other professionals, geotechnics in everyday life, the consequences of ignoring geotechnics and the role of geotechnics in society. Policy Documents had been developed covering Guidelines for Ethical Professional Practice, Recommended Procedure for Geotechnical Ground Investigations, and Appointment of Geotechnical Consultants. These had been publicised in the ISSMGE newsletter and made available on the ISSMGE website.

TASK FORCE: INDUSTRIAL LIAISON

33. Mr Day presented his report, which is given in Appendix 7. The objectives of the Task Force were to ascertain Industry's needs, to ensure that ISSMGE meets these needs, and to encourage greater industry participation. A number of surveys had been carried out. From these, it seemed that a common perception was that ISSMGE focused on researchers and academics, while neglecting practitioners and suppliers. There was a strong preference for more speciality conferences, as well as symposia dealing with lessons from failures, courses on practical design and construction. Services requested included: a library of geotechnical literature, news of geotechnical projects, specialised journals and a newsletter. In general, respondents did not feel the need for a web based forum, a supplier database, nor a professional register. To address Industry's needs, the Task Force proposed new guidelines for Technical Committees (see Appendix 3), and a new package for Corporate Sponsors.

TASK FORCE: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

34. Professor Poulos presented his report, which is given in Appendix 8. The main objectives of the Task Force had been to increase participation in the International Conference, to encourage presentations on current state-of-the-art and state-of-practice, to raise awareness among decision-makers and to allow more wide-spread participation in technical sessions. The Task Force suggested modifications to the format of the international conference, some of which had been adopted for Osaka 2005. The role of the international conference was to summarise state-of-the-art and practice, to enable interaction among professionals, to provide means of public exposure and to enable social interaction. The main suggestions adopted for Osaka were the poster presentation sessions that now included actual presentation of papers, and the Academic-Practitioner Forum. Other suggestions for future conferences were to have all the plenary sessions on first two days, followed by two days of technical sessions running in parallel. This format implied that a large conference hall would only be needed for two days, which might result in reduced costs. The plenary sessions would include authoritative lectures given by leading academics and practitioners, with invited participation by decision-makers. The technical sessions would allow in-depth issues to be presented and discussed, and would wherever possible involve the Technical Committees. Also, consideration should be given to integrating a Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference with the main International Conference.

35. The Secretary General went on to give a brief update on the use of the Conference Manual that had been introduced following the 2003 Council Meeting. The purpose of the manual is to set guidelines for conferences organised under the auspices of ISSMGE, and to set the percentage of registration fee income to be remitted to ISSMGE. The Manual had been distributed widely and the guidelines for organisation were being adopted. ISSMGE Conferences initiated after 2003 were generally committed to the percentage of registration fees to be paid to the Society, which should go toward improving the Society's finances.

TASK FORCE: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

36. Mr Murray presented his report, which is given in Appendix 9. The objectives of the Task Force had been to provide an effective and efficient modern means of communicating with all members, to improve administration of the society, to dis-

seminate information on the activities of the Technical Committees and their publications and to provide a calendar of activities. These had largely been achieved with the introduction of the new ISSMGE website, and Mr Murray thanked Dr Rainer Massarsch and Professor Neil Taylor for their invaluable assistance.

37. ISSMGE had approximately 16000 "shareholders" (members) with 76 "companies" (Member Societies) governed by a Board that changed every four years. The Council provide the backbone to ISSMGE and the TCs its lifeblood, which should benefit members with accessible output. The new website, designed as an information and communication system could help with this, but it needed dedicated individuals to support these tools and could be developed to allow individual password protected log-on for some services. Development is constrained by three factors: costs, competition, and inertia. The hoped-for income from Geotechnical Services Directory had not been forthcoming and the incoming Board would need to review the Budget allocation for on-going development of the website. Mr Murray was strongly of the opinion that ISSMGE should lead the way and not be left out by other competition.

16TH ICSMGE, OSAKA 2005

38. Professor Kamon gave a brief overview of the 16th ICSMGE. The Conference had attracted a large number of delegates. (Post conference figures confirmed by Professor Kamon were 1534 regular delegates and 102 students. There were approximately 150 accompanying persons.) In addition there were approximately 100 delegates registered for the International Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference. In addition, there were 90 exhibitors. Professor Kamon expressed his pleasure at the large number of delegates which should ensure the financial success of the conference. The President thanked Professor Kamon and the Japanese Geotechnical Society for their hard work and commitment for what he was sure would be a highly successful Conference.

SUBSCRIPTION FEES

39. The issue of Subscription Fees had been considered during the Council Meeting in Prague, August 2003. A Task Force of the ISSMGE Board had taken into account the comments made at that meeting and reviewed a number of suggestions for changing the method of determining subscription fees payable by the ISSMGE societies. A summary report, prepared by the Task Force is given in Appendix 10. This gives details of the new proposed fee formula and was presented by Professor Woods.

40. The present formula included GNP and GNP/capita, as an attempt to enable less affluent societies to participate in the society. However, poorer societies were often faced with a greater per capita fee relative to the more affluent member societies which generally had a much larger membership. In order to develop a new formula for fees, the Board considered the following:

- The subscription fee of a society should be a direct function of the number of members;
- The relative wealth of Member Societies would be based on Purchasing Power Parity (PPP);
- All members must pay, but a sliding scale would be used to reward large Member Societies;
- Maximum and minimum fees would be established;
- A minimum size for a Member Society would be established.

41. The new proposed formula uses a Basic Fee per Capita (BFC) of CHF 22.20. The Fee per Capita (FPC) used to determine the fees for a Member Society is the BFC less any discounts for low Purchasing Power Parity (DPPP) and for high membership numbers (DMembers). The discount for relative wealth (DPPP) is applied to Member Societies with a PPP less than 15000 and has a maximum value of 75% of the BFC. The discount for members (DMembers) applies to Member Societies with a membership larger than 250 and the members above the 250 threshold are charged at 40% of the Basic Fee per Capita. The Fee per Capita is then given by:

$$FPC = BFC - DPPP – DMembers$$

42. The Member Society Annual Subscription (MSAS) is then calculated from the Fee Per Capita (FPC) times the number of members in the society NM. It was proposed that the minimum size of a Member Society should be 30 members.

43. This new proposal would apply as from the 2007 invoices (to be issued in January 2007) to allow Member Societies to prepare for budgetary changes. Introducing the new formula would involve the following changes to the Statutes and Bylaws:

Present Statute 5C
"At any time the subscription shall be computed on the basis of the number of designated Individual Members of each Member Society and on the basis of the allocation of Group Numbers most recently agreed at a meeting of the Council. (5C.1)"

Proposed Amended Statute 5C
"At any time the subscription shall be computed on the basis of the number of designated Individual Members of each Member Society and on the basis of a Basic Fee per Capita adjusted by discounts most recently agreed at a meeting of the Council. (5C.1, 5C.2)"

Present Bylaw 5C.1
"Group numbers are based on Gross National Product with a modifying factor based on GNP per head of population."

Proposed Bylaw 5C.1
"The Basic Fee per Capita is set to meet the budgetary needs of the Society. Discounts agreed by Council are applied to allow for low Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) and for large Member Societies.2

Proposed new Bylaw 5C.2
"The minimum subscription fee payable by a Member Society shall be based on 30 members."

44. These changes had been circulated with the Agenda. Since the proposed changes were interrelated, the Board recommended that the proposal and associated changes should be voted on as a whole.

45. The President then invited comments from the floor.

46. Professor Barends (Netherlands) asked for the reasoning behind establishing 30 as a minimum number of individual members, and whether this condition could be waived for the first few years of membership. The President replied that this was means of encouraging smaller societies to declare all their membership.

47. Dr Erlingsson (Iceland) pointed out that as Iceland only has a population of 300,000, it would be very difficult for there to be many more than 10 members in the society, and that they would in fact be facing a 60% increase.

48. Professor Hachich (incoming Vice-President for South America) commented that it was important not to simply look at any percentage increase, but also at the actual price increase. He congratulated the Board on analyzing information received from the Member Societies and coming up with a proposal that was very fair: it would not make much difference to the richer groups, but could possibly make a great difference to the poorer members. With a fairer fee structure, clearly Member Societies would be expected to pay, or have their membership terminated.

49. Mr Crawford (New Zealand) commented that some societies were relatively wealthy, and had large memberships, and so both discounts would apply. He proposed an amendment, such that if a country's PPP is greater that 25000, the PPP discount would not apply. Professor Hachich felt that such an amendment was rather difficult as it could have an effect on the total income, and therefore on the budget. Dr Steenfelt (Denmark) agreed and felt that there was no real need to change the proposed formula.

50. The Secretary General commented that it was necessary to have a clear expression from Council on how to apply discounts and whether they supported the suggestion from New Zealand. Dr Lohani (Nepal) thanked the Board for their efforts in devising a new formula for subscription fees and felt the new proposal was especially helpful for small member societies. However, he suggested that the minimum membership requirement be reduced to 20, as it would be difficult to have 30 members in Nepal.

51. The amendments suggested by New Zealand and Nepal were not seconded, so the vote proceeded on the motion as presented with the following result:

	Votes
For:	55
Against:	4
Abstentions:	4

52. Thus the motion was carried, and the new formula will be applied from the beginning of 2007.

VENUE OF MID-TERM COUNCIL MEETING

53. Mr Day presented the report, which is given in Appendix 11. The Board had reviewed the record of venues to show that, in the history of the Society, there never had been a mid-term Council Meeting in Asia or South America, nor had Australasia hosted the Quadrennial International Conference. In order to achieve a more equitable distribution of venues between the regions, the Board proposed that any Region that had recently hosted a mid-term council meeting or an International Conference should "sit out" on the next two occasions. This would involve the introduction of two new Bylaws as follows:

Bylaw 12B.2
"With a view to distributing meetings evenly among the Regions, Member Societies from a Region that has recently hosted a mid-term Council Meeting (i.e. a meeting held between International Conferences) shall refrain from offering to host the next two mid-term Council meetings unless no acceptable invitation is received from the remaining Regions."

Bylaw 14B.3
"With a view to distributing International Conferences evenly among the Regions, Member Societies from a Region that has recently hosted an International Conference shall refrain from offering to host the next two International Conferences unless no acceptable invitation is received from the remaining Regions."

54. The President invited discussion from the floor.

55. Professor Madhav (incoming Vice-President for Asia) commented that the word "refrain" should not be used and that all member societies should be invited to offer to host the meetings. Mr Day replied that such a system existed at present and it clearly did not work. If the term refrain were removed, that would mean that the present system would remain unchanged.

56. Dr Steenfelt commented that since international travel was much easier these days, the proposal to have a greater distribution of Council Meetings was a good idea.

57. Dr Becker (Canada) enquired whether the Board had considered a rotation system. The President replied that this had been considered, but felt that it would not be straightforward to operate in practice. Mr Day said that the proposal could be considered as a means of weighting the dice, not one of removing choice.

58. Dr Cavounidis considered that the proposed Bylaw 12B.2 was reasonable, but that the proposed Bylaw 14B.3 which applied to the ICSMGE was too restrictive.

59. The President invited Council to vote on the proposed new Bylaws. The vote proceeded on each proposed Bylaw separately, with the following results:

		Votes
Bylaw12B.2	For:	53
	Against:	4
	Abstentions:	6
Bylaw14B.3	For:	52
	Against:	8
	Abstentions:	3

60. The motion was carried and both new Bylaws would therefore come into effect at the end of this Council Meeting.

VENUE FOR 2007 COUNCIL MEETING

61. The President confirmed that two offers to host the 2007 Council Meeting had been received, from the 10th ANZ Conference, Brisbane, Australia, and from the 14th European Regional Conference, Madrid, Spain. Organisers of the 13th Pan-American Conference and of the 13th Asian Regional Conference had both expressed their regret at being unable to extend an invitation to host a Council Meeting. The Secretary General had not had a response from the organisers of the 14th African Regional Conference in this regard.

62. Professor Dapena (Spain) announced that in the spirit of the previous item, as organisers of the 14th Regional Conference, they were withdrawing their bid in favour of that of the Australia□New Zealand conference. Professor Carter (Australia) thanked Spain for their generous offer. The President then announced that the 2007 Council Meeting would be held in Brisbane on the occasion of the 10th ANZ Conference, and this was greeted with applause.

63. Professor Carter proceeded with a presentation for the 10th ANZ, which had the theme "Common Ground".

CONFERENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL CONFERENCES

64. The President reported that the Board had considered introducing the following new Bylaw that would clarify the establishment of a Conference Advisory Committee for the Regional Conferences.

Bylaw 15A.3
"A Conference Advisory Committee (CAC) shall be set up by the Vice- President at the time of acceptance of the host Member Society invitation. This Vice-President shall chair the CAC until the name of the new Vice- President is known, when that person shall take the chair, but the retiring Vice-President will remain on the CAC. Other members of the CAC will be the Secretary or Chairman of the Organising Committee for the previous Regional Conference, two members of the Organising Committee of the Host Country and the Secretary General. Normally, one or two other senior people should be invited to join the CAC. The Regional CAC shall be responsible for advising on the conference programme but is not concerned with the detailed organisation of the conference, which is the responsibility of the Member Society hosting the Regional Conference."

65. The President then invited discussion from the floor.

66. Dr Steenfelt (Denmark) remarked there should be obligations placed on a CAC. If there were no indication of what a CAC should deliver, they would just become a burden to conference organisers. The President replied that there were many benefits, including ensuring conferences were held at suitable venues, that Vice Presidents could ensure appropriate involvement of TCs in Technical Sessions, and that both incoming and outgoing VPs could add their experience and insight into conference organisation.

67. Professor Barends (Netherlands) asked what would be the consequences if the conference organisers did not take the advice of the CAC. The President replied that the CAC could only strongly advise, as the organisers are always ultimately responsible for the Conference.

68. Dr Becker (Canada) suggested that an amendment to the ISSMGE Conference Manual would be sufficient rather than introducing a change to the Society's Bylaws. The Secretary General explained that the Statutes and Bylaws are specific with regard to the Conference Advisory Committees of International Conferences, and not for CACs for Regional Conferences, even though they are run along similar lines.

69. Professor Carter (Australia) commented that because of Sister Society involvement, this could present problems, but that these need not be insurmountable if their role was only advisory. Professor Woods (Vice President for North America) remarked that for the Pan-American Conference the proposed Bylaw would still be workable even though four Vice Presidents would be involved.

70. Professor Madhav (incoming Vice President for Asia) felt that the proposed Bylaw was a way of emphasising that the Regional Conferences are working within a certain framework as required by ISSMGE. If the CACs were removed, this would also remove ISSMGE involvement.

71. Council proceeded to vote on the Bylaw with the following result:

	Votes
For:	43
Against:	4
Abstentions:	6

72. The motion was carried and the new Bylaw would apply to the organisation of the 2007 and subsequent Regional Conferences.

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL GEO-ENGINEERING SOCIETIES

73. The President introduced the proposal for forming the Federation of International Geo-Engineering Societies (FIGS) that had been circulated with the Agenda (see Appendix 12). He pointed out that this subject had already been considered by the Council Meetings of the other two sister societies ISRM and IAEG. Although an overriding concern of the Sister Societies continued to be the retention of each society's autonomy, the three Presidents had developed a good symbiosis (through six meetings over the past three years), and considered that such concerns could be addressed within the proposed framework.

74. The concept of a Federation had a long history. Previous attempts at forming a Federation had not progressed, for various reasons, possibly due to a mutual fear of professional overlap. The Presidents of the Sister Societies were now keen to establish a structured format for future collaboration, and the name FIGS had been chosen to reflect broadly the activities of the three founding societies. The President believed that this new Federation would give Member Societies a higher level of support, via better interaction with other geotechnical groups.

75. The main functions of the Federation would be to:

- to promote awareness of the importance of geo-engineering among professionals in associated areas, clients, decision-makers and politicians, and to enhance its public image;
- to develop guidelines and codes for professional practice as well as to agree on policy statements in geo-engineering;
- to suggest items for curricula for higher education in geo-engineering taking into account the views of industry and practitioners

76. In addition, FIGS would be responsible for coordinating technical activity in areas of common interest by establishing Joint Technical Committees.

77. The Board of the Federation would consist of the President, the Immediate Past-President and the Secretary General from ISSMGE, ISRM, and IAEG. The Secretaries General ensure a degree of continuity and "memory" of the founding societies and are present as advisory members to the Board. The Board would be assisted by a Liaison Committee, comprised of Chief Executive officers of major geo-engineering companies, as well as representatives of interested international geo-engineering groups, representatives of public opinion groups and international organizations.

78. The ISSMGE Council will be asked at this meeting to approve in principle the formation of a Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies. If approved, a sub-committee will then be commissioned to draft a constitution for FIGS and to identify any changes in Statues and Bylaws of the Sister Societies that will be required following the formation of the federation. The ISSMGE Council will then be asked at its meeting in 2007 to formally approve the establishment of the Federation.

79. The President then invited Professor Nielen van der Merwe (President of ISRM) to address the meeting. Professor

van der Merwe stated that at their many meetings, the Presidents of the Sister Societies had been mindful of the differences between their organizations, but had concentrated on the similarities on putting together the proposal for FIGS. He paid particular tribute to Professor Harry Poulos as co-chair of the Joint Task Force for producing such a clear report on possible structure and working of a Federation. ISRM considered that autonomy was a big issue, particularly when considering the size of the different societies (ISSMGE with 16000 members, ISRM with 5000). FIGS was a not only a means of coordinating conferences and JTCs, but presented an opportunity of gaining strength from mutual collaboration.

80. The President then invited comments from the delegates.

81. Professor Barends (Netherlands) noted that the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) were developing an initiative connected to the United Nations that was promoting many areas in which geologists could serve the community. It would be beneficial to ISSMGE to gain strength from cooperation, to be able to promote more effectively its messages of the role of geotechnical engineering.

82. Dr Cavounidis (Greece) expressed strong reservations about FIGS. His main concerns centred around the role of geologists in Greece. In Greece, any geologist can to be an engineering geologist and have an active role in design and construction but without an appropriate technical background. He feared that formal cooperation between ISSMGE and IAEG would provide further justification for geologist being considered as civil engineers. The President understood his concern, but thought that such problems were fairly unique to Greece and were not a reason to discontinue the FIGS initiative.

83. Professor Davies (UK) commented that in the UK there was close cooperation with the local groups of ISRM and IAEG, and he applauded the FIGS initiative. However, he was concerned about some aspects of policy and structure implied in the proposal. At the Prague Council Meeting, he had gained the impression that Member Societies would be consulted during the development of the FIGS initiative and he know sought reassurance from the President that there would be thorough consultation with the Member Societies in future.

84. The President replied that it would be difficult to draft a constitution without consulting the Member Societies. The proposal at present was only an attempt at setting out a framework and providing this framework were approved, then there would be future consultation with Member Societies regarding the constitution. Professor Davies thanked the President for his reassurance.

85. Dr Becker (Canada) wanted to echo the previous comments, and needed the reassurance of consultation. The Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS) wanted a clearer definition for example of whether the links between the Federation and Sister Societies would be top down, as it appeared in the present proposal, or bottom up, as it appeared in the report of the Joint Task Force, in terms of responding to the needs of the individual members. The CGS felt that FIGS as it appeared now presented a new level of administration and cost, and that there was a need to communicate how the costs would be met. The President replied that it would be a lengthy process to engage in bottom up consultation, and consequently not very workable.

86. Professor Jamiolkowski (Past President) commented that there seemed to be a problem with geology and organisations involving engineering geologists, but not with organisations concerned with rock mechanics.

87. Dr Länsivaara (Finland) commented that the proposed Federation seemed restrictive and that in Finland, for example, there would be greater benefit in cooperating with structural engineers. He also felt that it was unclear how this extra level of administration would be of benefit to their members.

88. The President responded that there would not necessarily be any additional administration. With the Liaison Committee it should be possible to reach out towards other groups, even non-engineering groups such as UNESCO and the United Nations. He felt that ISSMGE needed to grow in stature which may involve taking on additional duties, but he hoped it would not be a significant additional burden.

89. Professor Togrol commented that he could not see the concerns expressed previously by Greece. Neither ISSMGE nor FIGS had a formal mandate over professional life, and therefore the issues raised should not be a problem.

90. Professor Briaud (Chairman TC33) expressed the view that ISSMGE interacts with many international societies, not just ISRM and IAEG. The President confirmed that the International Geosynthetics Society, for example, had already expressed a wish to be involved.

91. Professor Harry Poulos spoke from his position as Co-Chair of the Joint Task Force that had reported to the Presidents of the Sister Societies. It had been noted that there were many ISSMGE Member Societies that had significant and successful interaction with local branches of ISRM and IAEG. It was clear that forming a larger group would create a stronger presence in order to promote the profession. There was overlap in many areas of interest, so it was quite logical to join forces via the Technical Committees, particularly with regard to Education. Overall, the FIGS initiative was not an attempt to add to bureaucracy but to develop a critical mass that would be recognised more effectively.

92. He noted the problem commented on by Greece, but felt that FIGS would not aggravate it. In fact, it might even be seen as beneficial, since the Policy Document concerning General Professional Ethics stated that geotechnical professionals should "act only within areas of their competence and in a diligent and careful manner", implying that pure geologists should not act as engineers.

93. The President then invited Council to vote on whether or not to continue progressing the FIGS initiative, with the following result:

	Votes
For:	38
Against:	6
Abstentions:	8

94. The discussions on the formation of a Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies, within the ISSMGE, were therefore approved to continue.

AUDITED ACCOUNTS.

95. Audited accounts for 2003 and 2004 were presented and given in Appendix 13. PKF (London) had audited the accounts for 2003 and 2004. The Secretary General went on to discuss the actual income and expenditure for the years 2003 and 2004 compared to the previously agreed budget. Overall there were no great surprises, there were no inexplicable discrepancies and the comparison with the budget and associated notes are also given in the Appendix 13. Council was then asked to approve the accounts. Dr Orr (Ireland) proposed the accounts be ac-

cepted, and this was seconded by Dr Noorzad (Iran). On a show of hands, 48 votes were cast in favour, 0 against, and 3 abstentions. The accounts were therefore accepted.

BUDGET

96. The proposed budget, which had been circulated in advance and which is given in Appendix 14, was presented by Professor de Mello. The Budget had been drawn up for the next two years (i.e. up to 2007) with a forecast to 2009. The currency used for establishing the budget was Sterling; some items were priced in Euros and their sterling equivalent was shown. The Budget envisaged a small increase in membership numbers (approximately 200 per year). The Budget had allowed part-time support for the current President (but not for the next Presidential period), and inflation-only related increase for the UK Secretariat. A small increase was proposed for the Secretary General.

97. Professor Holtz (USA) asked why there was both conference income and conference support, for example in 2009. Professor de Mello explained the former referred to the 17th Conference to be held in Alexandria, which would be expected to generate income, and the latter to the International Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference, which would benefit from financial help.

98. Dr Rathmayer (Finland) asked whether it would be possible to reduce the budgeted funding of Heritage Museums by GBP1000 and allocate that to website development. Professor de Mello explained that the ISSMGE budget is traditionally prepared, and that no allowance was made for contingencies. Mr Murray explained that the website content was continually being updated by the Secretariat. Improvements to the website were therefore more a matter of upgrading the available technology, and would require an initial expenditure of between EUR12,000 – EUR15,000 for the upgrade, and then EUR8,000 – EUR12,000 per annum for maintenance. The President suggested that the incoming Board might wish to undertake a cost/benefit analysis of the website.

99. Mr Jean Launay (France) queried why item 1.3 Presidential Office Expenses was omitted after 2005, and whether the incoming President would need assistance with those costs. The President replied that the costs involved in the running of the Presidential Office depended on the home institution.

100. Dr Dennis Becker (Canada) enquired whether or not there should necessarily be an allowance for the President. Professor de Mello commented that the budget was designed to keep reasonable reserves but that even with some modifications, the situation on reserves was unlikely to alter greatly. The President pointed out that it was always hoped that the relevant university would provide support with time, travel and secretarial help, but it was not always possible, and was different from one president to the next.

101. Professor Nuyens (Belgium) raised a question he had been expressing since 1989. He realised that this was a delicate question, and there was no intention of personal criticism. He considered that the Secretariat accounted for 50% of the budget and felt that this could be reduced; he made particular reference to the cost of the Secretariat Office of GBP 5000. He felt that other institutions might consider hosting the society without this cost. Professor de Mello assured Council that the Board had had many discussions towards optimising such costs. Mr Day commented that the matter had been discussed before. The Council had to honour the present agreements, and when the time came for these agreements to expire, then the Board could make appropriate reconsiderations. Council was looking at an administrative budget, and hence the costs were associated with administration. Other aspects of ISSMGE activity, such as Technical Committees and Conferences, took place outside the presented budget.

102. Council was then asked to approve the budget. Professor Davies (UK) proposed the budget be accepted, and Professor Carter (Australia) seconded this. On a show of hands, 43 votes were cast in favour, 2 against, and 4 abstentions. The budget was therefore accepted.

LIST OF MEMBERS

103. The Secretary General began by reminding Council that the ISSMGE Statutes required that each year each Member Society shall send to the Secretary General and the Vice-President an up-to-date list of its designated Individual Members. He continued to state that in practice this generally did not occur but that when lists were sent there were often discrepancies between a membership list and number of members declared and collective or corporate members were included. This had prompted the questions:

> What constitutes a Member of ISSMGE?
> Are Member Societies willing and able to produce lists of their ISSMGE members?
> How should the List of Members be published (hard copy, CD-ROM, web-site) and with what details (name, address, telephone, email etc.)?

104. Mr Day went on to present his report (Appendix 15) on the proposal for introducing an ISSMGE Membership Card. In his presentation, he hoped to clarify why it was considered necessary to introduce a membership card, what form it was expected to take, how it will be issued, what will be the period of validity, and issues regarding privacy legislation.

105. Mr Day explained that the Board felt it necessary to introduce a Membership Card to allow individual members of ISSMGE to be identified, to ensure members had access to benefits and to promote a sense of belonging to the members. The membership number will be included in an electronic list and it will be possible (optionally) to use this list to print a card. The membership number will be supplied by the Secretariat on receipt of a Member Society's list of members and the Member Society will be responsible for circulating this information to its members. The card and membership number will remain valid provided the member is up-to-date with subscription fees. Regarding privacy legislation, a Member Society can choose not to submit any details other than list of names. In addition, it should be noted that web-site listing would be of names and membership numbers only.

106. Introducing a Membership Number and Card would require amendment of the Statutes and Bylaws. These changes had been circulated with the Agenda. Since the proposed changes were interrelated, the Board recommended that the proposal and associated changes should be voted on as a whole.

107. The President then invited discussion from the floor.

108. Professor Barends (Netherlands) asked whether it would be possible to go ahead with the list of members, and not to have cards. He feared that if it was essential to issue cards, then they would witness a drop in membership numbers of the Netherlands member society. Mr Day replied that it was absolutely essential to have an accurate record of members, to be able to obtain full benefits.

109. Professor Madhav (incoming Vice President for Asia) commented that members of the Indian Geotechnical Society

paid their subscription fees every 4 years. Mr Day replied that that was not a problem since the same list could be submitted each year.

110. Professor Dapena (Spain) sought clarification on how to deal with corporate members. The President that, as membership numbers were devised for individuals to be able to claim their ISSMGE membership benefits, then corporate members would have to designate a named individual to be associated with those benefits.

111. Dr Steenfelt (Denmark) commented that often they had difficulty in communicating with their membership. This could hinder gathering of personal information and subsequent distribution of cards. Professor Carter (Australia) asked whether an individual member of ISSMGE could opt out of being included on the list. Professor Roger Frank (incoming Vice President for Europe) commented that CFMS would ask its members on their membership renewal whether the society could make the personal contact details available to ISSMGE. He felt that this was an individual's decision, not that of a Member Society.

112. Professor Nussbaumer (Germany) noted that there were advantages to a membership card and this may make it easier for members to access benefits of ISSMGE.

113. Professor Madhav (incoming Vice President for Asia) questioned whether the introduction of the Membership Card would imply an increase in administration and considered that the wording of the proposed Statutes and Bylaws could be improved.

114. There followed considerable discussion on the actual wording to be used in the proposed new Statutes and Bylaws with many contributions from Professor Barends, Mr Carter (New Zealand) and Dr Länsivaara (Finland). Some minor changes were suggested to the proposed new Statutes and Bylaws that had been circulated with the agenda and the following wording was proposed by Dr Länsivaara and seconded by Professor Nuyens (Belgium):

Present Statute 17A
Each year each Member Society shall send to the Secretary General and the Vice-President an up to date list of its designated Individual Members, in the form set out in Bylaw 17A.1. The lists shall be reproduced and distributed as directed by Council. (17A.l)

Proposed Statute 17A
"Each year each Member Society shall send to the Secretary General and the Vice-President an up to date list of its designated Individual Members, in the form set out in Bylaw 17A.1."

Proposed Statute 17B
"The Secretary General shall assign a membership number to each Individual Member in accordance with Bylaw 17B.1. The list of the names and membership numbers of Individual Members from each Member Society shall be dispatched to that Member Society. (17B.2)"

Proposed Statute 17C
"Upon receipt of the list referred to in 17B, the Member Society can compile membership cards and distribute a card to each Individual Member. (17C.1 and 17C.2)"

Proposed Statute 17D
"The Secretary General shall compile a list of Individual Members grouped according to Member Society and shall make this list available to Members of the Society in a form directed by Council. (17D.1)"

Bylaws

Present Bylaw 17A.1
"The list shall be in a form as requested by the Secretary General (e.g. to include addresses, occupations of members, etc.). It shall include the name and permanent address of the secretary of the Member Society and of its officers where appropriate."

Proposed Bylaw 17A.1
"The list shall be in a form as requested by the Secretary General. It shall include the name and permanent address of the secretary of the Member Society and of its officers where appropriate."

Proposed Bylaw 17B.1
"The membership number shall reflect the year of membership, the Member Society to which the Individual Member belongs and a unique membership number."

Proposed Bylaw 17B.2
"The list of names and membership numbers shall be distributed to the Member Societies in an electronic format suitable for the compilation of membership cards."

Proposed Bylaw 17C.1
"The layout and wording of the Membership Card shall be in a form prescribed by the Secretary General. The card can be distributed in a form deemed appropriate by the Member Society."

Proposed Bylaw 17C.2
"The membership card, if issued, shall remain valid for the year of issue plus the period extending into the following year specified in Bylaw 4H.1 as the period within which fees are to be paid."

Proposed Bylaw 17D.1
"The list shall be in electronic format and subject to the approval of the Member Society shall be posted in an appropriate section of the Society's web site."

115. These changes were voted on as a whole. On a show of hands, 54 votes were cast in favour, 3 against, and 6 abstentions. The motion to accept the new Statutes and Bylaws was carried.

YOUNG MEMBERS AWARD

116. The Chairman of the adjudicating panel, Mr Day, introduced this item. The purposes of the Young Member Award were to encourage research in geotechnical engineering and to acknowledge the contribution of outstanding Young Members. The awards are made every four years and recipients must be under 36 years of age; the basis of the award is a paper at an ISSMGE conference. Mr Day thanked his co-adjudicators: Professor Sêco e Pinto, Mr Murray and Professor de Mello. He was pleased to announce the following awards:

- Dr Ellen Rathje (USA), Associate Professor at University of Texas, Austin for her paper "Creep behaviour of recycled asphalt pavement backfill" (with C. Viyanant and A. F. Rauch) submitted to the 16th ICSMGE, Osaka.

- Dr Susan Gourvenec (AUS), Lecturer, University Western Australia, Perth for her paper "Bearing capacity under combined loading – a study of the

effect of shear strength" submitted to the 9th ANZ Conference, Auckland.

- Dr SW Jacobsz (S. Africa), Associate, Jones & Wagener Consulting Engineers for his paper "The influence of tunnelling on piled foundations" (with J.S. Standing and R.J. Mair) submitted to the 16th ICSMGE, Osaka.

117. The announcement of the recipients of the Young Members Award was met with warm applause from Council. Mr Day informed Council that the scrolls would be handed out at the Conference's closing ceremony.

17TH ICSMGE - ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT 2009

118. The Egyptian Geotechnical Society had prepared a brief report on the 17th ICSMGE, Alexandria, October 2009 and the President presented this. The conference would be held in the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. The conference centre had a main meeting room with seating for 1700 people and three additional meeting rooms each seating 300. Other areas were available for the exhibition and poster presentation sessions. The conference centre had excellent audio and visual facilities and there were many restaurants available. The proposed dates for the conference were 5 – 9 October 2009. The main objectives of the conference were to promote the translation of geotechnical theory and research into practice and to encourage international and regional dialogues on challenging geotechnical issues. A preliminary conference advisory committee meeting was held in October 2004.

5TH ICEG CARDIFF, UK 2006

119. The President made a brief presentation on the 5th Congress on Environmental Geotechnics to be held in Cardiff, 26-30 June 2006. The conference had been awarded to the British Geotechnical Association in 2001 and was being organised by the Geoenvironmental Research Centre, Cardiff University with support from the Transport Research Laboratories and the Building Research Establishment. The conference theme was "Opportunities, Challenges & Responsibilities for Environmental Geotechnics". There had been a number of meetings of the Conference Advisory Committee and the key speakers identified and invited.

VENUE OF 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL GEOTECHNICS

120. The President reported that no firm proposals had been received yet, although there was no lack of interest. A vote on the venue would be taken at the Council Meeting in 2007. That would mean there were only three years left for its organisation but the interest and ideas put forward implied that it should not be a problem. TC5 should be heavily involved.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

121. Year of Planet Earth: This is a joint initiative of the International Union of Geological Sciences and UNESCO with a stated main aim "to demonstrate the great potential of the Earth sciences to lay the foundations of a safer, healthier and wealthier society, which explains the Year's subtitle: Earth sciences for society." The purpose was "to raise awareness among politicians of the huge potential offered by the application of the vast knowledge store held by the world's 400,000 geoscientists for improved decision making leading to great benefits for humankind". The initiative had been announced in August 2000 at 31st International Geological Congress in Rio de Janeiro. The main events associated with the Year of Planet Earth would take place in calendar year 2008. Overall the emphasis was on promoting earth sciences.

122. The Presidents of the Sister Societies had discussed the initiative and had concluded that it would be best to be involved. As a consequence, ISSMGE, ISRM and IAEG are now committed as partners to the initiative and have representation on the management team. The next meeting of the management team was likely to be September 2006.

DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING.

123. The next Council Meeting would take place on 21 October 2007, Brisbane Australia on the occasion of the 10th ANZ Conference.

124. Professor Hachich (incoming Vice-President for South America) proposed a vote of thanks to the President and Board for their efforts over the past four years.

APPENDIX 1: MEMBERSHIP

REPORT BY SECRETARY GENERAL

The accompanying Table indicates that the present ISSMGE membership is 16330 in 76 Member Societies.

The current list of Corporate Members is:

S.N. Apageo S.A.S., France
Bauer Spezialtiefbau GmbH, Germany
Fugro N.V., Netherlands
GeoDelft, The Netherlands
Geo-Research Institute, Japan
Golder Associates Inc, USA
Keller Group Limited, UK
Kiso-Jiban Consultants Co., Ltd, Japan
Klohn-Crippen Consultants Ltd, Canada
Terre Armée & Menard Menard Soltraitment
NECSO Entrecanales Cubiertas, Spain
Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, Norway
Sinotech Engineering Consultants, Inc., Republic of China
SOLETANCHE BACHY SA, France
Tokyu Construction Co., Ltd., Japan
Tractebel Development Engineering SA, Belgium

The sponsors of the St Petersburg Touring Lecture (17-19 June 2004) were:

DEME – Dredging International, Belgium
FRANKI – Belgium,
FUNDEX – Belgium
ENPC CERMES – France

Member Society	No. Members	Africa	Asia	Australasia	Europe	North America	South America
Albania	25				25		
Argentina	25						25
Australia	787			787			
Austria	100				100		
Azerbaijan	13				13		
Bangladesh	33		33				
Belgium	164				164		
Bolivia	13						13
Brazil	678						678
Bulgaria	63				63		
Canada	662					662	
Chile	53						53
China	190		190				
Colombia	16						16
Costa Rica	20						20
Croatia	126				126		
CTGA	28	28					
Czech & Slovak Republics	43				43		
Denmark	308				308		
Ecuador §	20						20
Egypt	125	125					
Estonia	30				30		
Finland	177				177		
France	473				473		
Germany	745				745		
Ghana §	21	21					
Greece	167				167		
Hong Kong	508		508				
Hungary	106				106		
Iceland	10				10		
India	225		225				
Indonesia¤	20		20				
Iran	191		191				
Iraq §	11		11				
Ireland	22				22		
Israel	35		35				
Italy	256				256		
Japan	1427		1427				
Kazakhstan	40		40				
Kenya ¤	21	21					
Korea Rep	267		267				
Latvia	31				31		
Lithuania	40				40		
Macedonia	72				72		
Mexico	154					154	
Morocco	12	12					
Nepal	22		22				
Netherlands	688				688		
New Zealand	298			298			
Nigeria	25	25					
Norway	342				342		
Pakistan	80		80				
Paraguay	18						18
Peru ¤	25						25
Poland	298				298		
Portugal	223				223		
Romania	140				140		
Russia	305				305		
Serbia & Montenegro (formerly Yugoslavia)	30				30		
Slovenia	105				105		
South Africa	262	262					
South-East Asia	250		250				
Spain	404				404		
Sri Lanka	34		34				

Member Society	No. Members	Africa	Asia	Australasia	Europe	North America	South America
Sudan*	25	25					
Sweden	350				350		
Switzerland	234				234		
Syria	17		17				
Tunisia	20	20					
Turkey	181				181		
Ukraine	97				97		
U K	1314				1314		
U S A	1931					1931	
Venezuela	24						24
Vietnam*	18		18				
Zimbabwe¤	17	17					
TOTAL	**16330**	**556**	**3368**	**1085**	**7682**	**2747**	**892**

* Member Societies with unpaid fees from 2004
§ Member Societies with unpaid fees from 2003
¤ Member Societies with unpaid fees pre-dating 2003

APPENDIX 2: TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITY - REPORT BY PRESIDENT

Technical committees in the 2001/2005 period

- A first category of TC's, was taking up the challenge to emphasize more on socially relevant, very recognizable topics :
  (mobility, safety, environmental considerations, efficiency, ethics, ...)
- A second category of TC's has a more generative character, mainly working on the scientific "fundamentals" of the art of geotechnics

TC1: Offshore and Nearshore Geotechnical Engineering - H. Kolk, The Netherlands
- Engaged with drafting a 100 page report that will be distributed in Osaka
- Planning a workshop in Osaka to highlight key aspects of the report
- Intending to participate in the IFOGS conference immediately after Osaka ; already supported OSIG conference in 2002

Conclusion
The work of the committee has been concentrated mainly on the production of a document on "Geotechnical investigations for offshore and nearshore developments" handbook for non-specialists. The committee work, within its terms of reference, would be more or less completed with the presentation of the handbook at the Osaka conference.

TC2: Physical Modelling in Geotechnics - C.F. Leung, Singapore
- Successfully running the International Journal on Physical Modelling in Geotechnics
- Planning to meet as a committee in Osaka
- Planning to produce a report on scaling laws including their validation
- Planning an international conference in Hong Kong, August 2006

Conclusion
It had been very active in promoting geotechnical physical modelling having organised several major international conferences. Members had initiated and continue to manage the publication of the International Journal on Physical Modelling in Geotechnics.

TC3: Geotechnics of Pavements - A. Correia, Portugal
- Regular meetings (4) were held and a number of workshops and seminars (6) was organised, including a workshop during this Osaka conference.
- A Journal will be starting up, under the TC3/ISSMGE sponsorship.

TC4: Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering - L. Finn, Canada
- TC4 has been working in close cooperation with ATC-3 which is an Asian Committee concerned with geotechnical natural hazards
- TC4 is planning a satellite conference during this Osaka conference (10/9) and a workshop on 14/9.

Conclusion
Work continues in developing the concept of performance based design for the design and evaluation of earth structures and foundation

TC5: Environmental Geotechnics - M. Manassero, Ch. Shackelford, Italy - USA
- The committee appeared to be very active, participation in many symposia and conferences.
- An eight-chapter book giving major recommendations for engineering practice was being drafted. The full book would be completed and distributed at the 5ICEG, June 2006.
- A workshop is scheduled here in Osaka, where one could acquire the CD-rom of the book in draft version

Conclusion
Organisation of the V ICEG, Cardiff (2006). Cooperation in organising the next International Conference on Geosynthetics (Yokohama, 2006). Supporting activities for the implementation of JTC 10 on Geo-Environmental engineering and interaction with the Sister Societies (ISRM and IAEG).

TC6: Unsaturated Soils - E. Alonso, Spain
- This TC cooperated in about 12 symposia and conferences
- The TC was active in practical implementation of unsaturated soil mechanics theories. To this extent case histories were being analysed and discussed.
- A workshop is planned for this Osaka conference.

Conclusion
The TC6 committee exists to promote exchange of knowledge in the area of mechanics of unsaturated soil.

TC8: Frost Geotechnics - S. Saarelainen, Finland

- Some committee meetings had been held.
- Some papers, published at several occasions by individual members of the TC, have been put available.
- A symposium is planned for Maine, USA 2006

TC9: Earth Reinforcement - H. Ochiai, Japan

- Many meetings have been held over the past 4 years (at the occasion of supported conference sessions).
- 7 publications from the TC can be listed.
- A fifty-page technical report is prepared for Osaka conference.
- A co-sponsored conference (with IGS) and sessions in Yokohama - 18/9/2006.

Conclusion

Most interaction with IGS and so : Geosynthetics reinforcements.

TC10: Geophysical Testing in Geotechnical Engineering - R. Massarch, Sweden

- The TC was very active. They will asked to consider forming a Joint TC with the Sister Societies. In this term of office 2001-2005, the work was however still limited to typical "top layers" problems.
- It was planned to disseminate a document on guidelines for Seismic Downhole Testing.

Conclusion

The primary objective is to inform geotechnical and geo-environmental engineers about the potential applications and limitations of geophysical field and laboratory methods. An important aspect of future activities would be to establish active information channels with other geophysical societies.

TC16: Ground Properties from In-situ Testing - P. Mayne, USA

- An active and quite interdisciplinary group has been working in this TC.
- A successful conference had been held in Porto.
- A number of other symposia are still planned.

Conclusion

Many of the activities of TC16 are conducted in strong cooperation with affiliated TC's (TC10 - TC29, …) and with important engineering Societies (ASCE Geo-Institute and ASTM, ISO/CEN) contributing a lot in helping to rewrite and amend standards etc…

TC17: Ground Improvement - J.M. Debats, France

- The committee has mainly co-sponsored 7 seminars or workshops.

Conclusion

The work of TC17 is another example of an excellent opportunity to join efforts with Sister Societies and affiliated technical committees.

TC18: Deep Foundations - A. Holeyman, Belgium

- The committee focused mainly on screw pile installation effects and piled raft issues has scheduled a meeting here in Osaka.
- Has met 3 times.

TC19: Preservation of Historic Sites - C. Viggiani, Ch. Tsatsanifos, Italy - Greece

- A symposium was being planned for St Petersburg.
- It was planned to create a library of key texts on preservation of monuments and historic sites.

TC20: Geotechnical and Professional Practice - J. Bachner, USA

- No response received as far (May 2005)

TC23: Limit State Design in Geotechnical Engineering - Y. Honjo, Japan

- A successful symposium had been held in 2002 (IWS).
- A CD has been produced at this occasion.
- Many co-sponsored events in 2003-2004-2005 with active sessions participations.
- A workshop scheduled here in Osaka.

Conclusion

As is observed from the records of the activities, the terms of reference set by the committee have been largely met. The amount and speed of information related LSD in geotechnical engineering will now been widely shared.

TC28: Underground Construction in Soft Ground Conditions - R. Mair, UK

- A symposium had been held in Toulouse, 2002 and another symposium has been held in Amsterdam, June 2005.
- 6 technical papers of the TC members are listed.
- A major technical report will be produced following the Amsterdam symposium.

Conclusion

The key commitment of TC28 has been the collection and exchange of information and experience of all geotechnical aspects of underground construction in soft ground which is of vital importance.

TC29: Laboratory Stress Strain Strength Testing of Geomaterials - R. Jardine, UK

- It was noted that a workshop is to be held during this Osaka conference.
- Several committee meetings and workshops at NTU - Singapore 2002, London 2003, Lyon 2003 and Porto 2004.
- Great emphasis has been put on the use of advanced lab testing and its application for practitioners.

Conclusion

TC-29 has promoted cooperation and exchange of information on advanced laboratory geotechnical testing, including apparatus, techniques, data acquisition and interpretation ; all through participation in conferences and meeting held by other groups (and through our practice) to encourage the application of advanced laboratory testing in research, integrated site characterisation studies and ground modelling.

TC31: Education in Geotechnical Engineering - J.P. Magnan, R. Lancelotta, France - Italy

- No response received as far (May 2005)

TC32: Engineering Practice of Risk Assessment and Management - F. Nadim, Norway

- 3 technical meetings of the TC.
- A comprehensive glossary of Risk Assessment Terms had been published on their website.
- An extensive set of case histories and course notes are under development.
- Some very useful links were established to JTC1: Landslides.

Conclusion

The TC32 is trying to implement the risk assessment theories into the real engineering practice ; some starting valuable steps were accomplished.

TC33: Geotechnics of Soil Erosion - J.L. Briaud, US

- 4 TC committee meetings.
- Mainly involved with organising own conferences. It was noted that their activities were not restricted to only ISSMGE members.
- This is anyhow a very active committee in organising interdisciplinary discussion forums, which possible has to be handled in the frame of a FIGS cooperation.

- Fifth Geotechnics of Soil Erosion Event
- Third International Conference on Scour and Erosion, 2006, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Conclusion
The series of ICSE conferences every two years represents a very good incentive to meet regularly ; they also document the latest development in the scour and erosion issues.

TC34: Prediction Methods in Large Strain Geomechanics - F. Oka, Japan
- 6 meetings and session participations
- A fifty-page state-of-the-art report was being prepared for the Osaka Conference
- A committee meeting is planned here in Osaka.

TC35: Geotechnics of Particulate Media - M. Bolton, UK
- No report received by the President.
- The Secretary General reported that a local workshop had been held in London in December 2004.

Conclusion
Modern technology has delivered means by which soil grains and microstructure can be described objectively, and simulated to link different aspects of soil behaviour at macro-scale to aspects that can be observed at micro-scale. Furthermore, cross-disciplinary discussions with chemical engineers, material scientists and physicists are an opportunity to bring more of their knowledge for development into geotechnical engineering.

TC36: Foundation Engineering in Difficult Soft Soil Conditions - G. Auvinet, Mexico
- Three meetings were organised. In the working context of this TC, six task forces were established :
  Soft soils characterization
  Numerical modelling of soft soils behaviour
  Improvement of soft soils
  Design of foundations on soft soils
  Instrumentation of foundations on soft soils
  "Foundation Engineering in Difficult Soft Soil Conditions", edited by G. Auvinet and B. Indraratna and to be presented at the Osaka International Conference in 2005 was published by TC36 with the assistance of the Mexican Society for Soil Mechanics and the Institute of Engineering, UNAM.
  Case Histories CD Rom
- It is the aim of the committee to come out with a state-of-the-art report, available to the TC members by Osaka.

TC37: Interactive Geotechnical Design - A. Szavits, H. Brandl, Croatia - Austria
- Interesting ongoing discussion on the definition of "observational methods based design"
- A successful workshop was held during the Prague 2003 conference, and in Paris, May 2005.
- The committee is lacking well established real examples of the observational method.

JTC1: Joint TC with Sister Societies ISRM and IAEG on Landslides - R. Fell, Australia
- Two meetings held ; well working committee, structured around 8 state-of-the-art papers.
- Workshop planned on predicting the velocity of very large landslides.

Scheduled New Joint Technical Committees:

JTC2 on Representation of Geo-Engineering Data in Electronic Form - lead by ISSMGE
JTC3 on Education and Training - lead by ISRM
JTC4 on Professional Practice - lead by ISSMGE
JTC5 on Sustainable Use of Underground Space - lead by IAEG
JTC6 on Ancient Monuments/Historic Sites - lead by IAEG
JTC7 on Soft Rocks and Indurated Soils - lead by ISRM
JTC8 on Offshore Geotechnical Engineering - lead by ISSMGE
JTC9 on Geophysical Methods - lead by ISRM
JTC10 on Geo Environmental Engineering - lead by ISSMGE

APPENDIX 3: TECHNICAL COMMITTEE GUIDELINES. REPORT BY P. DAY

The following guidelines provide a framework for the functioning of technical committees within the ISSMGE. They should be read in conjunction with ISSMGE statutes and by-laws, extracts from which are given at the end of this document.

INTRODUCTION

The ISSMGE has between twenty and thirty technical committees, which deal with specific subject areas in the field of geotechnical engineering. These committees provide a forum for discussing, developing and applying specialist geotechnical knowledge.

Broadly, the purpose of a technical committee is:
- to gather, discuss and appraise current research findings and practices in the TC's subject area,
- to promote dialogue among and between researchers and practitioners,
- to collate information gathered in a form that can be used by the geotechnical professional, and
- to disseminate this information to the membership of the ISSMGE.

FORMATION, DISSOLUTION AND TERM OF OFFICE

Technical Committees are created at the behest of the President of the ISSMGE. At the commencement of the Presidential term, the President compiles a list of technical committees for the ensuing four years. This list is generally based on review of TC activities for the preceding term, discussions with hosting Member Societies and perceived needs within the geotechnical community. ISSMGE members may also request the President to consider the formation of a specific technical committee. Such requests should be submitted to the Secretary General six months before the President takes office.

Technical Committees normally operate for a four year period that coincides with the Presidential term. The period of operation may be extended for a further four year period at the discretion of the new President.

Any TC whose term of office is not so extended is deemed to be dissolved and shall cease operation. The President may also elect to dissolve any technical committee whose mandate has been fulfilled or one that is seen to be inactive.

MEMBERSHIP

All office bearers and members of TCs must be members of the ISSMGE and must remain in good standing throughout their term of service.

Chairperson and Secretary

When creating a TC, the President invites a Member Society to take responsibility for the specific committee and will normally suggest who should chair the committee. The Member Society takes responsibility for providing the Chairperson, Secretary and the necessary administration to ensure efficient operation of the committee.

The choice of a suitable Chairperson is crucial to the operation of the committee. The chairperson should have sufficient knowledge of the subject area, should be well respected in the geotechnical community and have a firm commitment and the necessary capacity to organise the activities of the TC.

The Secretary of the TC need not necessarily come from the hosting Member Society. The Chairperson can nominate a Secretary and/or a co-Chairperson from another Member Society if he or she deems fit.

In some instances, it may become necessary to appoint a new Chairperson part way through the four year term. The President should be advised of such circumstances as soon as they become apparent.

Core members

Most TCs rely on a small group of core members (general six to eight persons) to co-ordinate the activities of the TC. These core members may chair subgroups or task forces, organise specific activities or be assigned particular tasks by the Chairperson. Unless there is compelling reason, there should be no more than one core member from any Member Society. The Chairperson submits the nominations for core membership to the President for approval.

General membership

Once the list of TCs has been drawn up by the new President, the Secretary General invites each Member Society to nominate members to serve on the TCs. Nominations should be sent to the Secretary General accompanied by a brief (half page) CV and confirmation by the Member Society that the nominee is a member of the ISSMGE. Only those Member Societies in good standing with the ISSMGE may submit nominations.

The Chairperson of the TC reviews the list of nominees and invites individual members to join the TC. Reasonable effort should be made to include a nominee from each Member Society unless the Chairperson regards the nominee as unsuitable. Unless there is good reason, only one members should be chosen from any Member Society.

The Chairperson submits the list of TC members to the Secretary and President of the ISSMGE. The President may intervene if he regards the selection of members to be inappropriate. The Chairperson then sends a letter of invitation to each TC member to confirm their availability and their willingness to join the TC. Thereafter, the Chairperson advises the Secretary General of the final composition of the TC. The process of forming the TC should generally be completed within three months of the appointment of the Chairperson.

The Secretary General advises all Member Societies of the composition of each of the TCs.

Corresponding and seconded members

The Chairperson may, at his discretion, invite members of the ISSMGE to become corresponding members of the TC.

With the consent of the President, the Chairperson may second specialists in the subject area of the TC who are not ISSMGE members to contribute to the work of the committee.

Involvement of Industry

The ISSMGE caters for the needs of all members of the geotechnical community. The composition of TCs should ensure a mix of academics, researchers and practitioners on the committee appropriate to the subject area of the TC. As a guideline, practitioner involvement should preferably exceed 25% on any TC increasing to 50% or more in the case of TC of a mainly practical nature.

The Chairperson of the TC should likewise be drawn from a sector of the profession appropriate to the subject area of the committee.

ACTIVITIES OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Terms of Reference & Programme

At the commencement of the TC's term, the Chairperson submits terms of reference to the President for his approval. Once agreed, these terms of reference are circulated to the TC membership by the Chairperson. The Secretary General will advise Member Societies of the terms of reference of all TCs and update the ISSMGE website accordingly.

The work of the TC commences as soon as possible after approval of the Terms of Reference and Core Members by the President.

The Chairperson also submits a list of proposed TC meetings to the President. Although these meetings may change, it is important to notify the general membership at an early stage of potential meetings to allow for appropriate planning and co-ordination of ISSMGE events.

Responsibilities

A TC is responsible for discussing, advancing and developing knowledge in its specialist subject area. Wherever possibly, it should seek to synthesise this information into a form that is of use to the geotechnical profession and to disseminate it to the membership of the ISSMGE. There should be a balance between the advancement of academic research and the translation of appropriate research findings into practice. Technical Committees which are purely research orientated and contribute nothing to the state of practice have failed in their mandate.

Activities

Technical Committees may use a variety of means for achieving their aims. Typically these would include specialist discussions, symposia, academic/practitioner forums, speciality conferences, surveys, etc. Active involvement by the TC in International and Regional Conferences organised by the ISSMGE is encouraged.

All conferences, symposia, etc organised under the auspices of the TC must adhere to the principles set out in the ISSMGE conference manual. The TC shall seek approval from the President and Secretary General before it gives official endorsement to any conference or activity organised by bodies outside the ISSMGE.

Deliverables

The terms of reference of the TC should include tangible deliverables such as reports, proceedings or other visible output.

Particular emphasis should be placed on co-ordination of research efforts and the translation of research findings into practice.

Each TC is required to submit an administrative report to the Secretary General six months prior to the International Conference for presentation at the Council meeting. The President may also request the submission of administrative reports prior to the mid-term Council meeting.

FUNDING OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

In agreeing to host the TC, the host Member Society accepts the responsibility of providing the necessary administrative support for the operation of the TC. Members' costs are borne by the members or their sponsoring organisations or Member Societies.

Under special circumstances, application for funding of specific activities may be made to the President and are subject to approval by the ISSMGE Board.

JOINT TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Joint Technical Committees (JTCs) sponsored by the ISSMGE, ISRM and/or the IAEG are formed where the subject area of the TC extends into the fields of interest of the Sister Societies.

The rules governing the formation and the operation of Joint Technical Committees are agreed between the Sister Societies.

Extract from ISSMGE Statutes & Bylaws

STATUTES

16 COMMITTEES

16A In order to further the aim of the International Society the President may appoint Committees. Such appointments shall be reported at the next Council meeting

16B Technical Committees shall have an international membership and shall deliberate on technical or professional matters which are of international interest and relevance. The responsibility for each Technical Committee shall be assumed by a specific Member Society which shall provide the chairman, secretary and the necessary administration. (16B.1, 16B.2, 16B.3, 16B.4)

16C The President is authorised to set up Committees to deliberate on administrative and policy matters which are of interest and relevance to the International Society. (16C.1, 16C.2)

16D Regional Committees may be set up by a Vice-President in consultation with the President and Secretary General to deliberate on technical or professional matters which are of interest and relevance to that Region. (16D.l)

Bylaws

16 COMMITTEES

16B.1 Technical Committees may be instituted at the request of a group of members interested in a specific topic and with the knowledge and agreement of the President and Secretary General. Suggestions of topics for the work of Technical Committees should be submitted by Member Societies to the Secretary General six months before the President takes office.

16B.2 A short administrative Report summarising the work of each Technical Committee shall be submitted by the Committee Chairman to the Secretary General six months before the next International Conference for presentation at the Council meeting. The incoming President has the authority to decide if the work of any Technical Committee should continue and which Member Society shall have responsibility for it.

16B.3 Technical Committees may be called upon to organise speciality sessions at an International Conference. (Ref. BL 14A.3 (iii)).

16B.4 If appropriate, technical reports of a Technical Committee will be the subject of open discussion at an International Conference or other venue approved by the President before final publication.

16C.1 Members of Administrative Committees shall normally be appointed by the President after consultation with the Secretary General and the Board to insure an input from several countries and an appropriate representation of Member Societies.

16C.2 Administrative Committees shall report to the President who may submit the report, with amendments, to the Council. Normally such reports will be subjected to open discussion at a Council meeting before acceptance and, if appropriate, publication.

16D.1 The responsibility for each Regional Committee will be assumed by a specific Member Society which will provide the chairman, secretary and the necessary administration.

APPENDIX 4 – REGIONAL REPORTS BY VICE-PRESIDENTS

AFRICAN REGION – P DAY

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the Africa region from the prospective of the outgoing Vice-President with reference to regional activities during the period 2001 to 2005.

2 OVERVIEW

Africa is often referred to as the Dark Continent. After four years as Vice-President, I have grown to realise that it is also the silent continent. Communication within the region is extremely difficult due to three main reasons. The first is that correspondence with many of the member societies in the region is either completely ignored or goes unanswered. The second is

frequent changes in contact addresses, fax numbers etc. Finally, there are challenges to communication posed by the use of French in some areas of the continent and English in others. Fortunately, the improvement of internet based translation programmes has done much to alleviate this latter problem and, with sufficient determination, it should no longer be cited as an obstacle.

During the course of the last four years, only four of the ten African Member Societies have participated in any significant way in the affairs of the International Society. The remainder provide occasionally snippets of news, mainly promises of restructuring, and very little else.

3 MEMBERSHIP

According to the 2001 list of members, the total membership of the African Region is 581 individual members from ten member societies. The largest member society by far is the South African member society with 390 members (as at 2001). The membership of all remaining societies ranges between 10 and 33 members.

The question must arise why, in a Continent with so many geotechnical challenges and so much mining activity, is the membership of the International Society so sparse. I suggest that there are three main reasons:

- The member societies lack any formal structure within their own country. Often, the member society consists of a group of individuals with an interest in geotechnics rather than a branch of the local institution of civil engineers. This absence of formal structure also contributes to difficulties with communication.

- Even in societies where a formal structure exists, the individual membership of the International Society is confined only to leading academics and high ranking members in official structures. Reports have been received of countries which claim to have over 500 registered geotechnical engineers and yet less than 20 of these are registered as members of the ISSMGE.

- Some countries are unable to afford the foreign exchange required to pay membership fees.

4 REGIONAL CONFERENCES

The 13th African Regional Conference was held in Marrakech, Morocco, in December 2003. Despite a slow initial start and some difficulties in communication with the organisers, the event itself was a success on both the technical and professional level. As always in the African Regional Conferences, there was a fair balance between academics and practitioners and a number of the papers which were presented at the conference had a very practical ring to them.

The use of simultaneous translation on the first two days of the conference proved highly successful. Even in sessions where simultaneous translation was not available, many authors made the effort to present their papers in a way that could be understood by both French and English speaking delegates.

The 14th African Regional Conference is scheduled to be held in 2007 in the Cameroon. To date, all efforts to either communicate with the organisers or to convene a meeting of the conference organising/consultative committee have been unsuccessful. Should no action be forthcoming by the time of the Council meeting, the future of this conference must hang in the balance.

5 VICE-PRESIDENT ELECT

The Vice-President elect for the Africa region is Professor Mounir Bouassida of Tunisia. Professor Bouassida has shown himself to be an enthusiastic champion of geotechnical engineering in the region and is fluent in both English and French. Both these attributes will serve him well during his vice-presidency.

6 THE WAY AHEAD

In my opinion, there are three things which the Africa region needs to concentrate on if it is to become a larger role player within the International Society.

The first is for there to be a concerted effort to improve communications between the Vice-President and the Secretariat of the International Society on the one hand and the member societies on the other. Although this was set as a goal for the 2001-2005 period, this goal has not been achieved.

Secondly, member societies should be encouraged to register all their national members with the International Society. Possibly, recent moves by the International Society to introduce a membership card, to limit participation on conference organising committees and technical committees to registered members and to offer more privileges for registered members will have a positive effect in this regard.

Finally, the region needs to concentrate on encouraging young geotechnical engineers. The South African Member Society has been particularly successful in this regard with the average age of the National Committee being less than 35 years. Regional and National young geotechnical engineers conferences should be encouraged and young geotechnical engineers sponsored to attend international events.

7 THANKS

Over the last four years, the region has relied heavily on assistance from the French Member Society, particularly from Michel Gambin and Jean-Pierre Magnan. In addition, the untiring efforts of the Secretariat of the International Society to facilitate to communications is greatly appreciated.

ASIAN REGION – F. TATSUOKA

a) What are the main needs/issues of the region?

a-1) Greater efforts to increase the member societies and individual membership of the ISSMGE: The growth in geotechnical engineering activities in a number of Asian countries in general reflect a high growth rate in a number of Asian countries. Among the recently created new countries in the central Asian region from the former Soviet Union, only Kazakhstan has a member society of the ISSMGE (the Kazakhstan National Geotechnical Society). In addition, several countries among those constituting the Southeast Asia Geotechnical Society have grown enough to form independent member societies of the ISSMGE, as typically shown by the incorporation of Hong Kong Geotechnical Society to the ISSMGE 2003. It is encouraging for the ISSMGE to note that the ISSMGE membership in Hong Kong has jumped from less than forty to more than five

hundred individuals as of 2005. Moreover, a number of countries in the Southwest Asia region have a number of geotechnical engineering firms and enough individual geotechnical engineers and researchers to form new member societies of the ISSMGE. On this basis, the Asian region has a very high potential for more member societies and more individual members of the ISSMGE, perhaps the greatest potential of all six regions. However, according to the present subscription fee system, the fee per individual member for these potential ISSMGE member societies is generally very high, and as such presents a major obstacle for new societies joining the ISSMGE. Therefore, a more intense campaign to promote the ISSMGE may be necessary. As Vice-President, I undertook some campaigning: an example being a visit to Uzbekistan to see the leading figures of the geotechnical engineering community. However, more systematic efforts will be necessary for successful results.

b) What is working well in the region, i.e. under control?

b-1) Management of regional conferences: The 12th Asian Regional Conference on SMGE, organized by the Southeast Geotechnical Society, was held in August 2003 in Singapore. It was extremely successful with a large delegation representing nearly all the Asian Member Societies, with some delegates from outside the region (as reported to the last council meeting held in Prague 2003). The 5th Asian YGE Conference, organized by the Southeast Asia Geotechnical Society and the Taiwan Geotechnical Society, was held in June 2004 in Taipei, Taiwan. This conference was also very successful, attracting a great number of young geotechnical engineers and researchers in the Asian region, in particular from Taiwan.

The upcoming 13th Asian Regional Conference on SMGE, 2007 will be held in Kolkata, India. The first meeting of the Conference Advisory Committee (CAC) was held at Warangal, A. P., on Thursday 16 December 2004, attended by me (VP for Asia of the ISSMGE) in the chair, Prof. N. Som, Chairman Organising Committee for the 13th ARC, Prof. A. V. Shroff, President of the Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS), Prof. M. R. Madhav, Past President of the IGS and the next VP for Asia of the ISSMGE and Prof. K. S. Rao, Hon. Secretary of the IGS. The Conference is proposed to be held from 10 to 14, (Monday-Friday) December 2007 at ITC Sonar Bangla Sheraton & Towers, Kolkata. The proposed conference theme was GEOTECHNIQUE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT and the following broad topics were approved: in-situ characterization of soils, laboratory and field testing methods; foundation and soil-foundation interaction; geotechnics for transportation and infrastructure; underground construction and tunnelling; geotechnical earthquake engineering; environmental geotechnics; land reclamation and ground improvement; natural disaster mitigation and management; Instrumentation, monitoring and performance study; tropical and problematic soils; geosynthetics and natural fibres; rock engineering; expert systems and neural network; and failure investigation and case histories. In conclusion, preparations for the 13ARC are progressing very well.

b-2) Management of the 16th ICSMGE, Osaka, September 2005: The preparation for the conference has been smooth. Some complicated procedures were necessary to introduce some new systems, including; 1) many more opportunities for authors to present their papers on stage; 2) the introduction of two plenary sessions for the academic-practitioner forum as an attempt, inasmuch as possible, to close the gap, recently identified by some leading practitioners, between geotechnical academics and practitioners; and 3) organization of the international young geotechnical engineers conference (iYGE conference) in parallel to the 16th ICSMGE. It is expected that these new initiatives will be successful, but serious evaluation will be necessary after the conference.

b-3) Asian technical committees (ATCs): In the present term (2002 – 2005), the following eight Asian region technical committees (ATCs) have been acting at different degrees of activities; ATC3 on Geotechnology for Natural Hazard (chair: Prof. Kokusho, Japan); ATC6 on Dam Safety (chair: Mr. Altaf-ur-Rahman, Pakistan); ATC7 on Thick Deltaic Deposits (chair: Prof. Sang-Kyu Kim, Korea); ATC8 on Groundwater Environment and Quality Management (chair: Prof. Nishigaki, Japan); ATC9 on Protection of Cultural Heritage Sites from Landslides (chair: Prof. Chigira, Japan); ATC10 on Urban Geo-Informatics (chair: Prof. Yasuda, Japan); ATC11 on Professional Practice (chair: Dr. V.V.S. Rao, India); and ATC12 on Land Reclamation and Coastal Structures in Asia (officially started on 30th September, 2002, chair: Dr. Hiroyuki Tanaka). Most of them sponsored technical sessions or held workshops during the 12ARC Singapore. It is necessary to have more active ATCs on a greater variety of topics that are relevant to the Asian region with a wider distribution among member societies sponsoring the ATCs.

c) What is not working well, i.e. needs improving?

c-1) Communications and member fee: Some member societies are not very responsive to the letters and e-mails from the VP. Some member societies have difficulty making regular payments of the ISSMGE subscription fee. It is often claimed that this delay in payment is due mainly to too high a fee per individual member.

c-2) Activities of ATCs: Despite most ATCs being very active, it has to be admitted that that is not the case for all of them.

c-3) CAC for the next ARC on SMGE: As the term for a VP becomes effective after the contents of the first bulletin, including the main theme and topics of the conference, and the paper allocation procedures have been decided, it becomes very difficult to make amendments if the new VP considers necessary to do so. To alleviate as much as possible this potential problem with the next 13 ARC, it was resolved at the first CAC, held December 2004, that Prof. M. R. Madhav, the next Vice-President for Asia, ISSMGE (for the term starting this September 2005), would serve as Chairman of the CAC while Prof. F. Tatsuoka (the outgoing VP for the Asia) would continue to be a member as per provisions of the proposed by-law (Item 18 – Osaka Council Meeting).

d) Suggestions for activities/focus during the next term.

d-1) More efforts to increase both the member societies and individual membership of the ISSMGE in the Asian region: It will be necessary for the incoming VP to continue intensive efforts to increase the number of member societies and individual members of the ISSMGE, bearing in mind the high potential of the Asian region.

d-2) ATCs: It may be the time to review the ATCs that have been active for the last several terms with no changes to the host country and terms of reference, so that fresh air can be introduced into the ATC activities.

d-3) Change in the fee system: This is not an issue that is exclusive to the Asian region. It is necessary to amend the present fee system so that the ISSMGE can encourage new member societies, which are now mostly from developing countries.

ACTIVITIES OF THE MEMBER SOCIETIES:

The following member societies submitted activity reports to the VP of the last term (F. Tatsuoka); Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, Kazakhstan, Korea, India, Iran, Japan, , Nepal, Pakistan, South East Asia and Sri Lanka. Only a summary of the submitted reports for the term 2001 – 2005 is given below due to the page limitation.

Bangladesh Society for Geotechnical Engineering (BSGE):

1) General

1. Participating actively in a significant volume of development works involving the discipline of geotechnical engineering helping in organizing periodic seminars and discussion meetings.

2. Introducing student memberships and affiliate memberships of organizations such as firms.

3. Collaboration with Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) in:

a) Geotechnical awareness to Bangladeshi engineers by a series of geotechnical lectures by A.M.M. Safiullah, the President of the Society.

b) Strengthening the capability of local contractors involved in geotechnical engineering works (14 engineering organizations have become affiliated members of BSGE).

2) Seminars and workshops

1. Soil-structure interaction for buried pipes (26th May 2003)
2. Geotextile-reinforced earth retaining walls (23rd July, 2003)
3. Design and construction practice of high-rise building foundations in Bangladesh (25th June, 2003)
4. Formation of Dhaka sub-soil (25th October, 2003)
5. Design methods of PVC pipes (18th November, 2003)
6. Trenchless Technology (28th July, 2003)

Chinese Institution of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (CISMGE):

1)Domestic conferences and symposia

1. 7th national conf. on geotechnical computational and analytical analysis (Dalian, Sept. 2001)
2. 6th national conf. on soil dynamics (Nanjing, May 2002)
3. 7th national ground improvement conf. (Lanzhou, August 2002)
4. First symposium on geo-environmental engineering and application of geosythetic material (Hangzhou, Nov. 2002)
5. 9th Chinese national conf. on soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering on geotechnical engineering associated with sustainable development (Beijing, Oct. 2003); held every four years since 1962. 271 papers with over 594 authors and co-authors.
6. Fifth young geotechnical engineers conf. (Xi'an, 2004)
7. 24th geotechnical testing conf. (Nanjing, Nov. 2004)
8. 8th national ground improvement conf. (Changsha, Oct. 2004)
9. 8th national conf. on geotechnical computational and analytical analysis (Shanghai, Nov. 2004)
10. 2nd symposium on unsaturated soil mechanics (Hangzhou, April 2005)
11. 2nd second symposium on geo-environmental engineering and application of geosythetic material (to be held, Dalian, Sept. 2005)

2) Bilateral conferences

1. First Sino-Japanese symposium on geotechnical engineering under the joint auspices of CISMGE) and JGS (Beijing, Oct. 29-30th, 2003). 70 papers by over 200 authors and106 participants.
2. 2nd Sino-Japanese symposium on geotechnical engineering will be held in Shanghai, Oct. 2005.

3) International conference

10th International symposium on landslides and engineered slopes to be held June 30- July 4, 2006, Xi'an, China.

Hong Kong Geotechnical Society (HKGES):

1) General

1. Application to become a member society of the ISSMGE ratified by the ISSMGE Council, 24 August 2003 in Prague. The total individual memberships is 508 as of January 2005.
2. A strategy and promotion committee (SPC) formed to devise strategies and plans to further develop the HKGES locally and to promote the HK geotechnical community internationally. The SPC has proposed to organize a joint seminar or workshop with the Association of Geotechnical and Geo-environmental Specialists, ASCE HK Chapter, HK Geological Society London, HKIE Geotechnical Division and the IMMM (HK Branch). In the long-term, with the aspiration to unite geotechnical/ geological sister societies in HK, the SPC feels that HKGES should play a key role to unite all local societies and would invite sister societies to jointly organize various events and activities as appropriate.

2) Domestic conferences, seminars, symposia and workshops

1. A one-day seminar on ground treatment (April 2004): over 300 participants including those from Japan, Malaysia, mainland China and Germany.
2. Geotechnical annual seminar in Hong Kong (May 2004), with an invited lecture by Tatsuoka,F.
3. irst HKGES WS on modern in-situ testing method (HKUST, January 2005).
4. one-day WS on design of excavation and lateral support (works to CIRIA Report No. C580, 18 June 2005): Over 300 participants with proceedings.

3) International conferences

1. International conference on physical modelling in geotechnics, HKUST, TC2 ISSMGE (4-6 Aug. 2006)
2. 6th int. symp.on geotechnical aspects of underground construction in soft ground, Shanghai or Hong Kong, TC28 ISSMGE (September 2008).

Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society:

1) General

1. Issues in the next term:
   a) Uzbekistan, a possible new ISSMGE member society.
   b) Need to help in establishing geotechnical societies in Kirgistan, Tadjkistan and Turkmenistan.
2. More cooperation needed between the KGS and other active Asian ISSMGE member societies in a number of geotechnical engineering fields, including construction technologies and laboratory soil tests.

2) International conferences, symposia and seminars

1. Kazakhstan-Japanese geotechnical seminar: Astana, L.N. Gumileyov Eurasian State University, Kazakhstan (2001), 50 participants.
2. International geotechnical conference on geotechnics of caspian, Atyrau, Kazakhstan (2002), 100 participants.
3. Japanese-Kazakhstan Geotechnical Seminar, Tokyo, the Japanese Geotechnical Society, Japan (2003), 50 participants.
4. Int. sympo. on foundation engineering in difficult engineering and geological conditions, devoted to the Year of Kazakhstan in Russia and 300 years of Saint Peterburg, Saint Peterburg, Russia (2003). 150 participant.
5. Int. conf. on geotechnical problems of large scale and unique projects, devoted to the Year of Russian in Kazakhstan, Almaty, Kazakhstan (2004) 200 participants.
6. Kazakh-Belgium geotechnical seminar with an invited lecture by van Impe, W., Eurasian National University (8 April 2005). 100 participants.

3) Other international acitivities

A number of young scientists and specialists (post-graduate students, doctor degree students) participated into 1st iYGEC Southampton (2000) and 4th and 5th Asian YGECs, Seoul (2001) and Taipei (2004).

Korean Geotechnical Society:

1) Domestic conferences, symposia and seminars

1. National conf.: bi-annually (in March and October), with international participation (some invited lecturers and guests), 350-450 participants and an exhibition of geotechnical firms.
2. Annual seminars and WSs with international participation with some invited lecturers and guests. Usually 100-150 participants.

2) International activities

1. Delegations of post-graduate students and doctor degree students) to 1st iYGEC Southampton (2000) and 4th and 5th Asian YGECs, Seoul (2001) and Taipei (2004).

3) ISSMGE TC and ATC activities:

1. ATC 7: national symposia on soil characteristics of deposits and ground improvement (13 Sept. 2001); thick deltaic deposits and reclaimed soils -settlement and improvement (13 Sept. 2002); and geotechnical problems and practice on soft deposits (9 Sept. 2004); Korea-Japan joint WS on characterization of thick clay deposits - reclamation and port construction-, (8-10 April 2003); Joint symposium of ATC-7 and KGS TCs on current geotechnical issues of thick clay deposits (21-22 Sept. 2005); a short course on soil investigation and determination of design parameters (26-27 Feb. 2004); and, foundation design on the soft ground in Nakdong deltaic deposit (23-24, Feb. 2005).

4) Publications

Email-Newsletter, regularly, every bi-month.

Indian Geotechnical Society:

1) Conferences
1. Annual geotechnical conf. since 1960: IGC-2001 (Indore); IGC-2002 (Allahabad); IGC-2003 (Roorkee); and IGC-2004 (Warangal, 46th) with 152 papers and 17 theme lectures with a lecture by Tatsuoak,F., several awards including the special IGS-Prof. G.A. Leonard's Prize to the best Ph.D. thesis. IGC-2005 at Nirma Institute of Technology, Ahmedabad from December 17-19, 2005.
2. 13th ARC 2007, Kolkata, hosted by the IGS. The first CAC meeting 16th Dec. 2004 during IGC-2004 at Warangal. The Organising Committee: N. Som (chairman) and K.S. Rao (secretary). The first bulletin released in Osaka during 16 ICSMGE.

2) Seminars and workshops (2004-2005)

1. Two day int. WS on risk assessment in site characterisation and geotechnical design, Bangalore (26-27 Nov. 2004)
2. Two day int. conf. on geosynthetics and geoenvironmental engineering, Mumbai (08-10 Dec. 2004)
3. Baroda Chapter, a one day national seminar on geotechnical engineering – emerging techniques (14th Aug. 2004)
4. Indore Chapter, a two day training WS on soil and highway material testing (21-22 Aug. 2004)
5. Allahabad Chapter, a two day national conf. on geotechnics in environmental protection (09-10 April 2005)
6. Delhi Chapter, a seminar-WS on geotechnical engineering practice with geosynthetics, New Delhi (27-30, Oct. 2004)
7. Guntur Chapter, a one day WS on ground improvement techniques (17th July 2004).
8. Indore Chapter, a unique national level paper presentation contest in geotechnical engineering (20th March 2004)

3) Journal & publications

1. The Indian Geotechnical Journal of IGS (ISSN 0971-9555), a quarterly publication in English, covering all topics in geotechnical engineering. The current volume number is 35.
2. Quarterly Newsletter in English for all its members.

4) ISSMGE Vice-President, Asia (2005-2009)

Prof. M.R. Madhav, who was the president of the IGS during 2001-2002, has been elected as the next Vice-President for Asia for the term 2005-2009.

Iranian Geotechnical Society (IGS):

1) General
1. Research and development in geotechnical engineering is being promoted by organizing meetings, lectures and courses and producing and publishing geotechnical reports.
2. The Board is working with industry experts by developing a forum well-suited to advance geotechnical agenda. A good growth resulted in the IGS activities achieved by intensive works and endeavors of the members.
3. A very comprehensive website (www.igs.ir) and an active email newsgroup (info@igs.ir) are working well.
4. Six active technical committees on earthquake geotechnics, environmental geotechnics, laboratory investigations, field investigations, soil improvement and foundation engineering. These committees are generated a wealth of information.
5. A number of technical lectures organized on various geotechnical topics.
6. Six young engineers participated into the iYGEC in Osaka.
7. The Journal of Geotechnical Engineering is going to be published this year.

2) Conferences

4th International Conference on new developments and lessons learned in geotechnical engineering is being organized to be held in Tehran on November 7-9, 2006.

Japanese Geotechnical Society (JGS):

1) The JGS supported a number of ISSMGE TCs and ATCs by organizing the following domestic supporting committees and supporting the conferences, symposia and WSs organized by these ISSMGE TCs and ATCs (*: the chairman of the respective ISSMGE TC or ATC; and +: the secretary of TC29).

Committee name		Chairman	Secretary	Conferences, symposia & WSs
Earth reinforcement	TC9	H. Ochiai*	J. Otani	Seminar (April 2004, Hong Kong)
Limit state design in geotechnical engineering Practice	TC23	Y. Honjo*	K. Matsui	LSD2003 (2003.6, Boston) LSD2006 (2006.6, Shanghai)
Laboratory stress-strain and strength characterization of geomaterials	TC29	A. Shibuya+	R. Kuwano	IS-Lyon 03 (2003.10, France) IS-Atlanta 07 (2007, USA)
Prediction methods in large strain geomechanics	TC34	F. Oka*	A. Murakami	Int. WS on prediction and simulation methods in geomechanics (Oct. 2003, Greece)
Geomechanics of the particulate media	TC35	M. Hyodo*	N. Yasufuku	IS-Yamaguchi 06 (Sept. 2006 Japan)
Geotechnology for natural hazards	ATC3	T. Kokusho*	M. Kanatani	WS (Taiwan. Nov. 2004, Taiwan); Int. sympo. on geotechnical aspects of natural and man-made disasters (June, 2005, Kazakhstan) 6 keynote lectures by the Japanese delegates
Groundwater environment and quality managemen	ATC8	M. Nishigaki*	N. Tanaka	International symposium on safe & sustainable exploitation of soil & groundwater resources in Asia (May 2003, Japan); IS-Okayama 2003, int. symp. on groundwater problems related to geo-environment, chaired by Y. Kono. (May 2003, Japan), 82 papers:(16 oversea & 243 participants (16 oversea)
Protection of cultural heritage sites from land -slides and weathering	ATC9	M. Chigira*	T. Kamai	Session in 12thARC(2003.8.7,Singapore)
Urban geo-informatics	ATC10	S. Yasuda*	H. Todo	Workshop (Nov. 2004, Thailand)
Land reclamation and coastal structures in Asia	ATC12	H. Tanaka*	Y. Watabe	ATC session in ARC12 (2003.8, Japan)

2) International conferences, symposia and workshops held 2004 – 2005

1. Two delegations sent to 4th and 5th Asian YGECs in Seoul (2002) and Taipei (2004).
2. First Sino-Japanese Symposium on Geotechnical Engineering chaired by A. Asaoka(JGS) and Z.-M. Zhang (CISMGE), Beijing (29-31Oct. 2003). A special lecture by G. W. Wilson and six keynote lectures and construction site visit. 70 papers and 115 participants from five countries.
3. 16th ICSMGE, Osaka, 12-16, Sept. 2005 organized and held fully supported by the JGS.
4. 3rd iYGEC organized fully supported by the JGS in conjunction of the 16th ICSMGE, Osaka (Sept. 2005).
5. IS-Osaka, int. sympo on engineering practice and performance of soft deposits, chaired by T. Matsui, Osaka (June 2004). 97 papers (40 oversea) and 326 participants (58 oversea)
6. Int. symposium on geotechnical aspects of natural and man-made disasters, Astana, Kazakhstan (June 2005)
7. Int. seminar on slope disasters in geomorphological/geotechnical engineering, chaired by T. Okimura, Kobe (Sept. 2005)
8. 1st and 2nd JGS-GI (ASCE) WSs on testing, modeling and simulation in geomechanics, Boston (June 2003, 47 participants, 20 from JGS and 27 from GI) and Kyoto (Sept. 2005, about 45 participants), and on ground improvement- new applications and challenging soils for ground improvement technologies, Kyoto (Sept. 2005, 20 participants). These WSs were organized based on the cooperative agreement between JGS & ASCE Geo-Institute signed in March 2002.

3) International conferences, symposia and workshops to be held

1. Int. symp. on environmental vibrations: prediction, monitoring, mitigation and evaluation, chaired by H. Takemiya, Okayama (Sept. 2005)
2. IS-Yamaguchi, int. symp. on geomechanics and geotechnics of particulate media, chaired by H. Murata, Ube (Sept. 2006)
3. 2nd Sino-Japanese sympo. on geotechnical engineering will be held in Shanghai, Oct. 2005.

3) Publication

Bi-monthly Journal, Soils and Foundations, has been regularly published, rated as one of the well established geotechnical international journals like ASCE, Geotechnique, Canadian Geotechncal Journal.

Nepal Geotechnical Society (NGS):

1) Participations in international events

1. Participation in iYGECs (2000).
2. Six NGS members working with JTC01, TC 01, TC 04, TC 05, TC 23 and TC 32.

3. NGS Homepage at URL http://www2.kobe-u.ac.jp/~lohani/NGS/.
4. More than 15 NGS members participated in the 8th national convention of Nepal engineers' association and federation of engineer institutions in South and Central Asia, FEISCA meet 2003.
5. For a high demand of the specialized engineers in the field of geotechnics, Tribhuwan University, the Institute of Engineering, has introduced Master's Degree Course in Geotechnical Engineering for the first time in Nepal beginning 2002.

2) Conferences, seminars, symposia and workshops

1. National seminar on Geotechnical Engineering Practice in Nepal (Nov. 2005)
2. A three-day Int. conf. on disaster management: achievements and challenges is being organized jointly by Nepal Engineering College, Ehime University of Japan, NGS, UNDP-Nepal, and N-SET at Kathmandu, Nepal from 18 to 20 November 2005.
3. The first int. geotechnical conference in Nepal on role of geotechnical engineering in design and Construction of Civil Structures' has been planned for 15-17 October 2006 so as to address prime geotechnical problems in Nepal, supported by the international geotechnical community including the Japanese Geotechnical Society.
4. A one-day seminar on geotechnical aspects for the infrastructure development in Kathmandu (1 April, 2003). Five technical papers and more than 50 participants.

3) Publications

1. Web-based newsletter since 2001.
2. The third issue of NGS publication, GeoHimal in the journal format published and the next issue ready to come out.

Pakistan Geotechnical Engineering Society:

1) Conferences, symposia, seminars and WSs

1. A five-day WS on slope stability and dam engineering, Engineering Univ. Lahore (Dec. 2004)
2. A one-day national seminar on geotechnical aspects of hydro-power projects, Engineering Univ. Lahore (Feb. 2005)

The South East Asian Geotechnical Society (SEAGS):

1) General

1. The SEAGS, founded in 1967, covers Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines and Taiwan. The SEAGS has three distinct groups: Engineering Geology, Soil Engineering, and Rock Mechanics, affiliated with the International Association of Engineering Geology (IAEG), the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE), and the International Society for Rock Mechanics (ISRM).
2. The SEAGS hosted the 12th Asian Regional Conference on SMGE, 4 to 8 August 2003 in Singapore. The conference theme was geotechnical infrastructure for the new millennium.
3. The SEAGS hosted the 5th YGEC, 14 to 16 June 2004 in Taipei, Taiwan.

2) Conferences and symposia

1. Symposium on soft ground improvement and geosynthetic applications, Bangkok (22 & 23 Nov. 2001, Thailand.
2. 14th SEA geotechnical conf., Hong Kong (10 – 14, Dec. 2001).
3. Symposium on soil/ground improvement and geosynthetic Applications, Bangkok (12 & 13 Dec. 2002).
4. 14th regional sympo. on infrastructure development in civil engineering, Bangkok (3 to 5 April 2003).
5. 2nd conf. on soft soil engineering and technology, Kuala Lumpur (2 - 4 July 2003).
6. 12th Asian regional conf. on SMGE, Singapore (4 to 8 Aug. 2003).
7. 15th SEA geotechnical conf., Bangkok (22 - 26 Nov. 2004).
8. 5th sympo. on soil/ground improvement and geosynthetics, Bangkok (2 & 3 Dec. 2004).

3) Short courses and workshops

1. Ground improvement using prefabricated vertical drains, Bangkok (Nov. 2001).
2. Geoenvironmental engineering, Bangkok (July 2002).
3. Designing with geosynthetic, Bangkok (Dec. 2002).
4. EIT-Japan-AIT WS on geo-engineering in groundwater, land subidence, exploration geophysics and underground rock engineering, Bangkok (Sept. 2004).
5. Pre-conference short course 2004 on dam safety risk assessment, Bangkok (Nov. 2004).
6. Geosynthetics-reinforced structures to be held, Bangkok (7 Dec. 2005)

4) Journals and Newsletters

The tri-annual Geotechnical Engineering Journal and bi-annual SEAGS Newsletters were published and circulated to the members of SEAGS. The SEAGS Newsletter is edited and published by the SEAGS Secretariat.

The Sri Lankan Geotechnical Society (SLGS):

1) International activities

Three delegations to 2nd iYGEC (2003) and one delegation to Asian YGEC in Taipei (June 2004).

2) Conferences, symposia, seminars and workshops

1. A two-day WS on landfill designs, chaired by Jayantha Kodikara at the University of Moratuwa (12 & 13 Jan. 2004)
2. A one-day int. seminar and WS on landslide risk management, Colombo (June 2005), organized jointly with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, Norwegian Geotechnical Institute and National Building Research Organisation under the Asian Program for Regional Capacity Enhancement for Landslide Impact Mitigation. Three technical sessions, thirteen papers and around hundred invited participants.

3) Other events

1. A field visit to soil nailing work at Gampola-Nuwara Eliya Road and rehabilitated Pussellawa landslide site (14th Aug. 2004). 35 paritipations.
2. The Geotechnical Engineering Project Day to promote geotechnical engineering research among young engineers and to enhance their presentation skills. Students doing final year projects in geotechnical engineering at various Sri Lankan Universities invited, reviewed by a panel made of senior engineers and academics with selected awards to the winners.
3. Geotechnical forum every month since January 2005; e.g., seismological implications of earthquake-tsunami events and the need for better ground improvement and geotechni-

cal design by Buddhima Indraratne, University of Wollongong, Australia

4) Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter of SLGS is published in a new format since July 2005.

AUSTRALASIAN REGION – G. MURRAY

1 INTRODUCTION

The Australasian Region comprises two Member Societies, Australia and New Zealand. This is the Region with the smallest number of Member Societies in the ISSMGE but the contribution to the ISSMGE of the Australian Geomechanics Society (AGS) and the New Zealand Geotechnical Society (NZGS) is none the less significant.

Both the AGS and NZGS remain highly effective, well-organised, coordinated and successful professional societies. The NZGS in particular has seen steady growth in membership over the last four years and for a country with barely 4 million people it is quite remarkable that 1 in 8000 is a member of the NZGS. For comparison, if China enjoyed the same ratio their National Society would have over 160,000 members and the Geo-Institute's membership would be nearly 37,000.

Whilst perhaps not enjoying quite such a high patronage the AGS is no less successful with thriving and active Chapters operating in all the main population centres of this geographically vast and diverse country.

This report attempts to summarise the key issues facing the Member Society's in the Region and provides some brief highlights of the key principal achievements and activities that have occurred over the last four years.

2 REGION ISSUES

2.1 *Member Societies*

One of the biggest issues for the Region is the lack of member societies. There are two potential "targets" where small, developing countries in the region could support professional Geotechnical Societies, namely Papua New Guinea and Fiji / Pacific Islands.

Given the relative strength of the AGS and NZGS and the many professional and economic ties that exist between these countries and PNG / Fiji and the Pacific Islands, it is hoped that there will be sufficient interest and momentum for each of the two existing member societies to sponsor and support the establishment of two new societies.

As this term of office comes to end, contacts are being made in both countries and it is hoped that there will be sufficient interest to form fledgling societies over the next 12 to 18 months.

2.2 *Sister Societies*

One of the most successful aspects of both the AGS and NZGS is that they represent the host society for all geo-professionals operating in Australia and New Zealand. Through membership of the AGS or NZGS individuals can affiliate to any one of the three international societies (ISSMGE, IAEG or ISRM).

It is a pre-requisite of membership to the NZGS that an individual must affiliate to at least one of the international societies. An individual membership fee for the AGS is inclusive of membership to any one of the three international societies.
Since there is a mix of Engineers and Geologists in the AGS and NZGS, it is not uncommon for most of their activities to have some common appeal across the spectra of geo-professional interests. Conferences and symposia will be organised with common themes that attract participation from Geotechnical Engineers, Geologists, Rock Mechanics and Environmental Scientists.

The officers and management of the AGS and NZGS reflect the diverse interests of the individual members of the societies. Also, the active participation of the ISSMGE, IAEG and ISRM VP's for the Australasian Region in the committee meetings of the AGS and NZGS contributes to effective communication and collaboration across the region and disciplines.

2.3 *Education*

Education is an issue that is starting to impact on the Region in a number of ways and it will remain difficult for the ISSMGE or individual Member Societies to influence education problems without some concerted effort.

There are two University Engineering Schools in New Zealand and the numbers of Civil Engineering undergraduates and Geotechnical Engineering Post-Graduates has been falling for some time. The situation in Australia is no less of a concern – there is a wider selection of larger Engineering Schools but the availability and number of post-grad studies in Geo-sciences and Engineering has fallen dramatically in recent years.

In an effort to keep numbers up – entry level standards appear to have fallen. Successful degree courses are not measured by the quality but by the number of graduates. As a consequence there is the suspicion that examinations have become less rigorous.

In parallel with declining numbers of students it is also becoming harder for the Engineering Schools to attract and retain the highest quality educators. The Civil Engineering design and construction market is competitive and the most successful companies are actively recruiting at salary levels that cannot be matched in education.

There are increasing pressures and demands being made on the range of courses that must be covered in Civil Engineering disciplines resulting in too many topics being taught to only a basic or superficial level. There is evidence in the market place amongst recruiters that the quality and quantity of graduates is falling.

Graduates and post-graduates are not as smart as they used to be, they are not as useful as they used to be and there are not so many of them as there used to be. These are serious problems for the Australasian Region and the wider industry.

2.4 *Landslide Risk Management*

Under the direction of former AGS Chairman Andrew Leventhal, the AGS has established a Landslide Task Force to prepare two sets of guidelines. The first is to provide guidance on landslide hazard zoning and the second will provide guidance and advice on the management of properties subject to landslide hazards.

The Task Force is made up of eminent professionals from Australia and New Zealand. Funding for the Task Force activities has been obtained under a Grant from the Natural Disaster Mitigation Programme of the Australian Government Department of Transport and Regional Services.

3 REGION ACTIVITIES

3.1 *Conferences*

The Australasian (ANZ) Regional Conference was held in Auckland in 2004. At the event the NZGS also hosted a Board Meeting of the ISSMGE.

There have been two Australasian (ANZ) Young Geotechnical Professional Conferences – in Rotorua, NZ 2002 and Brisbane, Australia 2004. Both of these events were well organised and attended by 45-50 Young Geotechnical Professionals from both societies. Representatives from the AGS and NZGS were selected to attend the subsequent International events.

The AGS hosted the 2nd ANZ Geo-environment Conference in Newcastle in 2001.

3.2 *Seminars & Symposia*

The NZGS hold a geotechnical symposium every two years. These are hosted on rotation by the regions. Christchurch (Canterbury) hosted in 2001 and Tauranga (Waikato/Bay of Plenty) hosted in 2003.

The AGS has held a series of symposia on Landslide Risk Management. This was a hugely popular touring event that was hosted by most of the Chapters.

3.3 *Technical Meetings / Presentations*

There are seven active Chapters that make up the membership of the AGS. The Chapters are mostly representative of the states within Australia and each Chapter is responsible for organising Technical Meetings and Presentations for its local members. The frequency of meetings varies across each Chapter but they are generally not less than six per year.

In a similar manner the NZGS is made up of six regions. The three most active regions are the Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington – being the three largest cities in the country. Auckland hosts a technical meeting once a month whilst the remainder hope to manage at least six per year.

Both the NZGS and AGS in recent years have established a regular pattern of inviting high profile international speakers to present a series of touring lectures to the region. In particular, the Rankine Lecture Downunder has become a very popular event where the Rankine Lecturer is invited to present to the different Chapters across the AGS.

Over the last four years the NZGS have invited and supported technical lectures from a number of eminent speakers including William Van Impe, Mark Randolph, Professor Kenji Ishihara and David Hight.

4 AWARDS

Both member societies make a number of prestigious awards. Over the last four years the AGS has made the following awards:-

- John Jaeger Award 2004 – For a lifetime commitment and contribution to the AGS: Professor Ted Brown
- EH Davis Lecture 2003 – For a distinguished recent contribution to the theory and practice of geomechanics: Professor Scott Sloan,
- EH Davis Lecture 2003 – For a distinguished recent contribution to the theory and practice of geomechanics: Prof John Small.
- Geotechnical Practitioner of the Year 2004 – Professor Harry Poulos.
- Trollope Medal 2004 – For an outstanding paper by an author under 35 years old: Dr Richard Merifield.
- Trollope Medal 2002 – For an outstanding paper by an author under 35 years old: Dr Glen Peters.

Over the last four years the NZGS has made the following awards:-

- NZGS Geomechanics Lecture 2004 – Geotechnics from the Ivory Tower - Laurie Wesley
- NZGS Geomechanics Lecture 2002 – Geotechnolgy in a Hazardous Terrain – Warwick Prebble
- NZGS Lifetime Membership Award 2004 – John Blakeley.

EUROPEAN REGION – P SÊCO E PINTO

1 INTRODUCTION

The first report of the European Regional activities was presented and discussed during the first Board meeting that took place in Hong Kong on 8th December 2001.

The second report of the European Regional activities was presented and discussed during the second Board meeting that took place in Ghent on 8th June 2002.

This third report was submitted to discussion for 3rd Board meeting that took place in Kruger Park, on 16th November 2002.

A fourth report was submitted for the Prague Council meeting that took place on 24th August 2003, covering the activities of the European Member Societies related with the period September 2001 to July 2003.

A fifth report was presented during the Costa Rica Board meeting in San José that took place on 31 July 2004.

This report, to be submitted for the Osaka Council meeting that will take place on 11th September 2005, covers the activities of the European Member Societies related the period August 2003 to August 2005. Also the ISSMGE Technical Committees and European Region Technical Committees activities are analysed. The meetings with the Societies, the European Council meetings and the Joint Working Group IAEG, ISRM and ISSMGE work are described.

The main Conferences in European Region are addressed.

A balance of the current situation, concerns, difficulties, needs and suggestions to promote future activities is given.

2 SUMMARY OF EUROPEAN GEOTECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

The European Region has 34 Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Societies integrating 7300 members (around 45% of ISSMGE members). The activities undertaken by the different Societies are summarised in Annex 1.

3 ISSMGE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The following ISSMGE Technical Committees have a European host member society:

ITC1 - Offshore and near shore geotechnical engineering – The Netherlands (chairman Mr. H. J. Kolk)
ITC3 - Geotechnics of pavements – Portugal (chairman Prof. António Correia)
ITC5 - Environmental geotechnics – Italy (Prof. Mario Manassero)
ITC6 - Unsaturated soils – Spain (Prof. Eduardo Alonso)
ITC8 - Frost geotechnics – Finland (Prof. S. Saarelainen)
ITC10 - Geophysical testing in geotechnical engineering – Sweden (Prof. K.R. Massarsch)
ITC17 - Ground Improvement – France (Prof. J.M. Debats)
ITC18 – Deep Foundations – Belgium (Prof. A. Holeyman)
ITC19 - Preservation of historic sites – Italy (Prof. C. Viggiani, Prof. Ch Tsatsanifos)
ITC28 - Underground construction in soft ground conditions – UK (Prof. R.J. Mair)
ITC29 - Laboratory stress strain strength testing geomaterials – UK (Prof. R. J. Jardine)
ITC31 - Education in geotechnical engineering – France (Prof. J. P. Magnan)
ITC32 - Engineering practice of risk assessment and management – Norway (Dr. Farrokh Nadim)
ITC35 - Geotechnics of particulate media – UK (Prof. Malcom Bolton)
ITC37 - Practice of active geotechnical design. Case histories – Croatia (Prof. Vlasta S: Nossam, Prof. Heinz Brandl)

It represents 15 of a total of 24 ISSMGE Technical Committees.

Following my invitation and of the Organising Committee the Technical Committees ITC3, ITC4, ITC5; ITC10, ITC 17, ITC31, ITC34, ITC35 and ITC37 have organised workshops during the 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference in Prague, August 2003.

Organised by the ISSMGE Technical Committee TC16 and the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto, with the support of ITC10 and the Portuguese Society for Geotechnique took place in Porto, Sept 20-22, 2004, the 2nd International Conference on Geotechnical Site Characterisation.

The Conference was composed of 9 main sessions and 12 lectures.

The Interactive Design Method Symposium took place in Paris, on 9 - 10 May organised by IREX, ITC37 and French Committee on Soil Mechanics.

4 EUROPEAN TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The following European Technical Committees were set-up. The chairmen as well the host European societies are mentioned beneath:

-ERTC3 - Piles foundations - Chairman: Dr. Flor De Cock (Belgium)
-ERTC7 - Numerical methods in geotechnical engineering - Prof. Cesar Sagaseta(Spain)
-ERTC10 – Evaluation committee for the application of EC-7 - Dr. Trevor Orr (Ireland)
-ERTC12 – Evaluation Committee for the application of EC-8 – Prof. George Gazetas and George Bouckovalas (Greece)
-ERTC15 –Interaction of shield machines and soil of soft rocks– Prof. W. Wittke (Germany).

Following my invitation the ERTC3, ERTC7, ERTC10 and ERTC15 have organised workshops during the 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference in Prague, August 2003.

A seminar took place in Tirana, on 6-8 September 2004, on Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering, with the support of ERTC12 – Evaluation Committee for the application of EC-8, following the request of Albanian Geotechnical Society.

In Annex 2 a report of ERTCs activities is presented.

5 MEETINGS WITH THE SOCIETIES

On 25th April 2002 I had a meeting, in Ljubljana, with the Slovenian Geotechnical Society and the following topics were discussed: Application of the Slovenian Geotechnical Society to organise the 13th Danube European Conference in Ljubljana in 2006, the theme, the schedule of the Conference, and the place of venue were analysed and the invitation for the Council in Passau.

On 26th April 2002 I had a meeting in Zagreb, with the Croatian Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and the following topics were discussed: (i) 3rd National Croatian Conference;(ii) ISSMGE TCs; (iii) ERTCs; (iv) 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Prague 2003.

On 8th May 2002 I had a meeting in Madrid with the Spanish Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and the following topics were discussed: (i) National Spanish Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference; (ii) Jimenez Sallas Lecture; (iii) Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees; (iv) Participation in European Technical Committees; (v) 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Prague 2003.

On 28th May 2002 I had a meeting, in Passau, with the DGGT Geotechnical Society and the following topics were discussed: (i) Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees; (ii) Participation in European Technical Committees; (iii) Participation in the XV European Young Geotechnical Conference – Dublin - September 2002; (iv) Role of DGGT in the 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Prague 2003.

On 13th September 2002 I had a meeting, in Dublin, with the Irish Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and the following topics were discussed: i) General activities of the Society; (ii) Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees; (iii) Participation in European Technical Committees; (iv) Role in the 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Prague 2003.

On the 23rd of September 2002 I had two meetings in Paris: one with the board of the CFMS, the other with members of TC31. The following topics were discussed: (i) Activities developed during the tenure September 2001-2002 and the planned activities for the period September 2002-2003; (ii) Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees with emphasis to TC31 Education in Geotechnical Engineering; (iii) Participation in European Technical Committees; (iv) Role of the Society in the technical programme of the 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Prague 2003.

On 20th February 2003 I had two meetings in Athens: the first with the Hellenic Society of Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering and the second with the chairmen of ERTC12 – Evaluation Committee for the application of EC8. The following topics were discussed: i) General activities of the Society; (ii) Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees; (iii) Participation in European Technical Committees; (iv) Terms of reference and planned activities of ERTC12; (v) Role of engineering geologists in geotechnical projects; (vi) Role in the 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Prague 2003.

A meeting with the Turkish National Committee for ISSMGE took place during the International Conference on New Developments in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Lefkosa, May 29-31, 2003.

A meeting with the Belgium Group of SMGE took place during the 4th International Geotechnical Seminar on Deep Foundations on Bored and Auger Piles, June 2-4, Ghent, 2003.

A meeting with the Czech and Slovak National Committee for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering took place on June 20, in Prague, to analyse several issues related with the 13th European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Prague 2003.

On 10th September 2003 I had a meeting, in Mamaia, with the Romanian Society for SMGE and the following topics were discussed: (i) European Technical Committees; (ii) to increase the participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees, as only members for TC16 and TC31 were appointed; (iii) Touring Lectures (the Romanian Society had shown its interest in organising Touring Lectures in October 2004, during the National Geotechnical Conference); (iv) XIII European Danube Conference; (v) Participation in the XVI European Young Geotechnical Conference – Austria – June 2003 .

On 26th November 2003 I had a meeting, in Zagreb, with the Croatian Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and the following topics were discussed: (i) Touring Lectures on Environmental Geotechnics with the support of ITC5 and Industry, scheduled to June 2004; (ii) ISSMGE TCs activities and particularly ITC37; (iii) ERTCs activities; (iv) Support to Slovenian Geotechnical Society for the organisation XIII European Danube Conference; (v) XIV European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Madrid 2007.

On 1st March 2004 I had a meeting, in Munich, with ISSMGE President, the DGGT and the following topics were discussed: (i) ISSMGE TCs activities; (ii) ERTCs activities; (iii) Touring Lectures; (iv) XIII European Danube Conference, and (v) XIV European Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Conference – Madrid 2007.

6 COUNCIL MEETINGS

I chaired a meeting on 27th May, in Passau, during the 12th Danube European Conference, with the participation of the following SMGE Danube European Countries: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovenia. The submission of the Slovenian Geotechnical Society was approved unanimously.

A Council meeting of European ISSMGE Member Societies ISSMGE took place in Prague, on 25th August. The following agenda was adopted:

1- Welcome and Opening remarks; 2) Roll call of delegates; 3) Adoption of Agenda; 4) European Regional Technical Committees Activity - Report by the Vice-President; 5) 16th European Young Geotechnical Conference, 2004 - Invitation by the Austrian Member Society; 6) 10th Baltic Geotechnical Conference, Riga, 2005. - Report by the Latvian Geotechnical Society; 7) XIII Danube European Conference on Geotechnical Engineering, Ljubljana, 2006; 8) Presentation of invitations to host XIV ECSMGE 2007 - Vote to be taken; 9) AOB/Misc; 10) Date and Venue of next meeting; 11) Thanks and Closure

The meeting was opened at 16.30 by the Vice President Pedro Sêco e Pinto, who welcomed the representatives of European Member Societies.

Attendance

Pedro Sêco e Pinto – ISSMGE Vice President for Europe
William Van Impe – ISSMGE President
R. N. Taylor – ISSMGE Secretary General

Albania (Albanian Geotechnical Society) - J. Bozo; Austria (Osterreichiesches Nationalkomitee, ISSMGE) - H. Brandl and M. Fross; Belgium (Groupement Belge de la SIMSG) - A. Holeyman; Bulgaria (Bulgarian Society for SMFE) - T. Germanov; Croatia - V. Szavits-Nossan; Czech Republic (Czech & Slovak Committee for SMFE) - I. Vanicek and Zaleski; Denmark (Danish Geotechnical Society) - C. Sovensen; Estonia (Estonian Geotechnical Society) - H. Torn; Finland (Finnish Geotechnical Society) I. Vähäaho and Ratmayer; Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - L. Dimitrievski; France (Comité Français de la Mécanique des Sols et des Travaux de Fondations) - J. Launay; Germany (DGGT) - M. Nussbaumer and Heerten; Hungary (ISSMGE Hungarian National Committee) - P. Scharle; Ireland (Geotechnical Society of Ireland) - T. Orr; Italy (Associazione Geotecnica Italiana) - M. Manassero; Latvia (Latvian Geotechnical Society) - V. Celmins; Lithuania (Lithuanian Geotechnical Society) - J. Medzvieckas and L. Furmonavicius; Netherlands (Netherlands Society for SMGE) - F. Barends; Norway (Norwegian Geotechnical Society) - G.D. Breedveld; Poland (Polish Committee on Geotechnics) - Mlynavell and L. Zrignwero; Portugal (Sociedade Portuguesa de Geotecnia) - Pardo de Santayana; Romania (Romanian Society for SMGE) - I. Manoliu; Russia (ISSMGFE – NIIOSP) - Kolybin; Slovenia (Slovenian Geotechnical Society) – A. Gaberc, J. Logar and Trauner; Spain (Sociedad Española de Mecánica del Suelo y Cimentaciones) – V. Cuellar and E. Dapena; Sweden (Swedish Geotechnical Society) - Eva Petersson; Switzerland (Swiss Society for Soil and Rock Mechanics) - Bucher; Turkey (Turkish National Committee for ISSMGE) - E. Togrol and Ciniciogler; Ukraine - Shokarev; United Kingdom (British Geotechnical Association) - M. C. R. Davies; Serbia and Montenegro (SSMGE for Serbia and Montenegro) - M. Maksimovic

The Vice President for Europe expressed his gratitude and thanks to the representatives of the European Societies and closed the meeting at 18.00H.

7 JOINT WORKING GROUP IAEG, ISRM, AND ISSMGE

The first meeting of the Joint Working Group IAEG, ISRM and ISSMGE, with 3 members nominated by each Society, took place in Brussels on 20-21 March. The first draft of the report "The Professional Relationship between Engineering Geologists and Geotechnical Engineers" was sent on 16 July 2003 and was analysed during the meeting with the Presidents of ISSMGE, ISRM and IAEG, in Prague, on 22 August. This document was also referred to during the ISSMGE Council meeting in Prague, during the ISRM Council meeting in Durban and also during the IEAG Council meeting in Istanbul.

The second meeting of the Joint Working Group was held on 7-8 November 2003, in Graze, and after extensive discussions the version 2 of the draft was prepared, to be circulated by the members to collect comments. Draft version 3 was circulated on 8 February 2004.

The final version of the report "Professional Tasks, Responsibilities and Co-operation in Ground Engineering" was submitted to the Presidents of the three International Societies involved on 7 June 2004.

ISSMGE was represented in this Joint Working Group by Jan Martens, Mike Gambin and Pedro Sêco e Pinto.

Letters of thanks were received by the President of ISSMGE Prof. William Van Impe and President of IAEG Dr. Nike Rengers.

8 CONFERENCES IN EUROPEAN REGION

8.1 *XIV European Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference - 2001*

This Conference was organised by the Bulgarian Society for Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering and sponsored by the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. It took place at the former Sts. Cyricus and Julieta Monastery, located 15 km south of Plovdiv, on 15-19th September. 35 delegates attended it from 20 countries.

The three keynote lectures were delivered by Prof. H. Brandl "Cyclic pre-loading to minimise differential and total pile settlements", Prof. P: Sêco e Pinto "Some reflections on geotechnical aspects of Eurocode 8", and Prof. Ch.Christow "A new analytical depiction for their analysis of slope stability". All the delegates gave a 12-minute presentation of their paper followed by a question-and answer and general discussion session conducted by the keynote lectures. The presentations were of high quality, with lively discussions and the organisation was excellent.

Two volumes of proceedings were edited with the 3 keynote lectures and 34 papers covering the following topics: properties of natural and artificial soils and their determination, modelling, stability, pile foundation, retaining structures, railways and roads, tunnelling and soil improvement.

On behalf of ISSMGE I had the opportunity to present and address during the opening ceremony and closing ceremony. The conference was a great success with enthusiastic participation of the delegates in both technical and social programmes. On behalf of ISSMGE I congratulated Prof. G. Stefanoff, chairman of the Organising Committee and all the members of the Organising Committee for the excellent organisation.

8.2 *12th Danube European Conference - 2002*

This conference, organised by the German Geotechnical Society, took place in Passau on 27-29 May 2002. The technical programme was composed of the following sessions (all of which included a general report, a main lecture and some short presentations): 1st Session Geotechnical Risk Management; 2nd Session Disaster Prevention (floods, catastrophic landslides, earthquakes); 3rd Session Traffic Infrastructure: 4th Session Environmental Protection (landfills, contaminated sites).

Also two technical excursions took place on May 29:

- Visit to the firms BAUER SPEZIAL TIEFBAU GmbH and BAUER MASCHINENBAU GmbH in Schrobenhausen;
- Excursion Dike-building at the Danube.

I had the opportunity during the Opening Ceremony to introduce the ISSMGE activities and to focus on activities planned for Europe. Also following the invitation of Prof. G. Gudehus I presented the paper "Some Reflections About Risk Analysis of Geotechnical Structures" for the 1st Session Geotechnical Risk Management. During the Closing Session I presented some comments about the Conference. The Conference was attended by 230 delegates and both technical and social programmes contributed to the success of the event.

8.3 *XV European Young Geotechnical Engineers´s Conference - 2002*

This Conference was organised by the Geotechnical Society of Ireland and sponsored by the ISSMGE. The event took place in Dublin, on 12-14th September. The theme chosen for the conference was "Geotechnical Engineering - Research and Practice".

The guest lecturers were: Dr. T. Orr – (Ireland), Prof. William Powrie – UK, Dr. Lars Grande – Norway, Dr. Giulia Viggiani – Italy, Dr. Mircea Galer - Romania.

During the Opening Ceremony I had the opportunity to introduce the ISSMGE activities and to focus the activities planned for Europe. I was requested to chair two sessions and also to make a balance of the Conference during the Closing Ceremony. he Conference was attended by 45 delegates, each making 10-minute presentation and for the guest lectures 30 minutes were allocated. The presentations were of high quality, with lively discussions.

On 14th September a technical visit to Dublin Port tunnel took place.

A copy of the submitted papers to the Conference was distributed and the Conference volume will be published soon.

The conference was a great success with enthusiastic participation of the delegates in both technical and social programmes.

8.4 *6th International Geotechnical Conference on New Methods in Geotechnical Engineering*

The 6th International Geotechnical Conference on New Methods in Geotechnical Engineering organised by Czech and Slovak Committee for SMFE and Slovak University of Technology took place in Bratislava on June 23-24, 2003. The following topics were covered: (i) Investigations, properties, monitoring; (ii) Geotechnical Calculations; (iii) Elements, systems and technologies.

Two Keynote Lectures were delivered by Prof. H. Brandl and Prof. Pedro Sêco e Pinto.

8.5 *International Conference on New Developments in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering-*

An International Conference on New Developments in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering took place in Lefkosa, on 29-31 May 2003, organised by Turkish National Committee of Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering and Naer East University. The following topics were covered: (i) Foundations and Slope Stability; (ii) Soil Characterization, (iii) Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering; (iv) New Methods in Geotechnical Engineering.

Four Keynote Lectures were delivered by Prof. Das, Prof. Pedro Sêco e Pinto, Prof. E. Togrol and Prof. R. Katzenback.

8.6 *BAP Conference*

The 4th International Geotechnical Seminar "Deep Foundations on Bored and Auger Piles" took place on 2-4 June 2003 in Ghent . The following topics were covered: (i) Behaviour of bored piles; capacity and deformations from field testing; (ii) Research needs versus professional practice in technological bored and auger piles developments; (iii) Monitoring experiences and design interaction; (iv) Soil parameters relevant to bored pile design from laboratory and in-situ tests; (v) Experiences with screw piles and bored piles under seismic and dynamic loading; (vi) International standards versus Eurocode 7 for bored and screw piles; (vii) Screw and bored piles under lateral loading; (viii) Professional practice and quality control.

8.7 *XIII ECSMGE -2003*

The XIII European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, 24-29 August 2003, Prague, was attended by 600 delegates and around 90 accompanying persons.

Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 of the Proceedings included 320 papers; Vol. 3 has includes 95 contributions from active persons with State of the Art Reports and invited discussions and Vol. 4 contains 18 contributions of Czech and Slovak authors to support the technical visits. Also 1 CD-ROM was prepared. A special issue of Journal Ground Engineering was devoted to this conference. Also 3 additional lectures were delivered related with Osaka-Kansai Airport phase 2, New Foundations of WTC and Prague metro system during the 2002 year floods. The Exhibition included 43 exhibitors.

The CD ROM nº 2, distributed after the Conference included some papers, some presented lectures, the Opening and Closing ceremonies, the list of participants, the Photo gallery and other useful information.

8.8 *II International Young Geotechnical Conference*

Three keynote lectures were delivered by Prof. Iacint Manoliu, William Van Impe and Pedro Sêco e Pinto. Three invited lectures were delivered by Dr. Brian Simpson and Profs. Roger Frank and Diego Lo Presti

All aspects of the conference, as well as the Social programme, were extremely well organised, and contributed to beneficial networking among the delegates.

8.9 *3rd European Geosynthetics Conference*

Organised by DGGT (German Geotechnical Society) and Technical University of Munchen the EURO GEO 3 took place on 1-3 March 2004, in Munich.

The conference topics, the lecture series, the workshops, poster sessions and the technical exhibition offered excellent opportunities for the exchange of ideas between scientists, producers and end users of geosynthetics.

For the Opening Ceremony the ISSMGE President and ISSMGE Vice President for Europe were invited to give an address.

8.10 *XVI EYGEC*

The XVI EYGEC organised by Austria (Osterreichiesches Nationalkomitee, ISSMGE) took place in Vienna from 8-11 July 2004 and was attended by 43 delegates from 22 European Societies. The Conference proceedings include 3 keynote lectures: (i) "Experiences of deep mixing soil improvement-comparative lab and in-situ silty testing"(Prof. W. Van Impe); (ii) "Ground nailing for slopes, retaining wall and excavation pits" (Prof. H. Brandl); (iii) "An unusual case of underpinning and reinforcement of huge retaining walls in old central railway station" (Prof. P. Sêco e Pinto & Dr. J. Barradas) and also 37 papers.

8.11 *II International Conference on Site Characterization - ISC2*

ISC2 took place in Porto from 19-22 September 2004 organised by ISSMGE TC16 and TC10, the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto, and the Portuguese Geotechnical Society. The 2-volume proceedings entitled “Geotechnical & Geophysical Site Characterization” contain 11 keynote lectures and 208 technical papers. The conference was a great success, in both technical and social terms.

8.12 *Workshop on Evaluation of Eurocode 7*

A workshop organised by ERTC10 and Trinity College of Dublin took place on 31 March and 1 April in Dublin. Examples of application of Eurocode 7 to shallow foundations, pile foundations, retaining walls, embankments, hydraulic failure, were presented and discussed. Around 60 delegates from different European countries participated in this event.

8.13 *Symposium Observational Method*

Symposium Observational Method organised by ISSMGE TC37-Interactive Design, with the endorsement of French Committee of Soil Mechanics (CFMS), took place in Paris on 9-10 May 2005. A French guide on Interactive Design Method was presented. On 9 May, 7 lectures by French experts were presented. On 10 May, 8 invited lectures by overseas experts were delivered.

The symposium was attended by 100 delegates.

8.14 *X Baltic Conference – 2005*

On August 26, 2003, I had a meeting in Prague with the Organising Committee of X Baltic Conference- "Geotechnical engineering for harbours, onshore and near shore structures", to be held in Riga (May 11-13, 2005), organised by the geotechnical societies of Latvia, Estonian, and Lithuania,. The topics covered are; (i) geotechnical investigation for harbours, onshore and near shore structures; (ii) design values of ground parameters, geotechnical design and design philosophy of harbours; (iii) environmental aspects of harbours and their infrastructure; (iv) geotechnical construction of harbour structures and dredging; (v) geotechnical monitoring of harbour structures; (vi) case histories. For more information: www.balticgeotechnics.lv

Due some difficulty in organising the Conference, a second meeting took place in Riga on 25 April. The Conference was postponed to 12- 14 October 2005.

8.15 *XIII Danube Conference –May 2006*

On August 26, 2003, I had a meeting with the Organising Committee of XIII Danube Conference- Active Geotechnical Design in Infrastructure Development, to be held in Ljubljana, hosted by Slovenian Geotechnical Society, May 29 – June 1 2006.

The Bulletin nº 1 includes: invitation, venue and date, proposed topics, call for papers, milestones, International Scientific Committee, Advisory Committee, Organising Committee and other relevant information.

The topics of the conference are: (i) Measurement and interpretation of ground properties: geotechnical and environmental aspects; Improvement of ground properties; (iii) Case histories and interactive geotechnical design; (iv) Soil-structure design; (v) Risk assessment and risk management; (vi) Geotechnics and infrastructure. For more information: www.danube-conference2006.si

A second meeting took place in Dublin on 31 March 2005, and a third meeting took place in Paris on 9 and 10 May 2005 to discuss several issues related the organisation of the conference.

8.16 *V International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics, 26-30 June 2006, Cardiff UK*

The first CAC meeting took place in Prague on 27th August 2003. The second CAC meeting took place in Cardiff on 3rd May 2004. The third CAC meeting took place in London on 11th February 2005. The topics of the Conference are: (i) Remediation, (ii) Barrier design including nuclear waste disposal; (iii) Testing and monitoring; (iv) Sustainability; (v) Fate and transport; (vi) Waste reuse/waste management; (vii) Regulation and risk management; (viii) Tailings/sludge ponds/underwater geoenvironmental issues. For more information: www.grc.cf.ac.uk/5iceg/

The next CAC meeting will take place in Osaka, September 2005.

8.17 *XIV European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Foundation, 2007, Sept 24 - 27, Madrid*

A meeting with the Organising Committee took place on October 22, 2004 in Madrid. The following themes were proposed: (i) Foundation in Urban Areas. Code and standards; (ii) Deep Excavations and Slopes; (iii) Underground Works; (iv) Rehabilitation of Buildings and Infrastructures; (v) Ground Improvement; (vi) Site Investigation and Mapping.

A second meeting is scheduled for Osaka in September 2005.

9 FINAL REMARKS

A balance of the current situation, concerns, difficulties, needs and suggestions to promote future activities is given.

CURRENT SITUATION

It is extremely encouraging to note the tremendous breadth of activity of the Members Societies in the European region. The visits for different societies gave the opportunity to exchange some ideas contributing for a better knowledge of these Societies;

DIFFICULTIES

It was difficult to interact with 6% of European societies due some problems with communication and also because they are less active.

NEEDS

- The experience has shown that European technical committees in order to develop their work need some financial support;
- The developing countries need financial support to attend conferences. Some actions should be taken in order to waive the registration fee and to find sponsors through international organisations namely EC, NATO and UNESCO.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- Implementation of Touring Lectures;
- Distribution of Model Library;
- ERTCs activities;
- The meetings with the Societies are important to address their needs;
- The European Young Geotechnical Conferences are very important and should continue.

Last but not least I should like to address to all European Member Societies a word of praise and gratitude for your contributions and support during these 4 years, which have allowed me to overcome my limitations. It was a very rich experience for me

Coming to the end of my tenure I should like to kindly request you to give all your support to the incoming Vice President for Europe Prof. Roger Frank whom with his vision, fine intellect and prodigious energy will find the best ways to conduct European Region. I wish him all the happiness.

Having devoted my heart and passion to the European Region during the last four years I should like to ask you to forgive my errors, as they were due to my intention to set right. I humbly recognise that the duty fulfilled gives us a feeling of guilty, as we never have done absolutely everything.

ANNEX 1

ALBANIA GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

Principal office bearers:
Chairman: Prof. Luljeta Bozo, Secretary: Eng. Neritan Shkodrani
Organization of Seminars and Wokshops (2003-2005): Workshop on Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering(September 2004) with participation of Prof. Shamsher Prakask (USA), Prof Pedro Sêco e Pinto (Portugal), Prof. George Bouckovalas, Panos Dakoulas and Dr. Papadimitriou(Greece).
Periodic Publications : 3 Albanian geotechnical journal 2003, 2004 and 2005.
Other publications: Soil Dynamics (Vol. I, II, III) -Author Bozo. L. 2004.
Future planned activities: Seminars, Periodical Publication, Workshop; 1 or 2 projects in collaboration with Ministry of Public Works in geotechnical field; Participation in European Technical Committees

AUSTRIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Society name: Austrian National Committee (within the Austrian Society for Engineers and Architects) of the ISSMGE
President: Univ.Prof.Dipl.-Ing.Dr.tech.Dr.h.c.Heinz BRANDL
Vice President: Hon.Prof.Dipl.-Ing.Dr.techn. Lothar MARTAK
Secretary: Ass.Prof.Dipl.-Ing.Dr.techn. Manfred FROSS
National Membership = ISSMGE Membership: 93 members as at 1.1.2005
Organisation of National Conferences:
4th Austrian Geotechnical Conference on 24./25. February 2003, Vienna
16th European Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (7 – 10 July 2004), Vienna
5th Austrian Geotechnical Conference on 21/22 February 2005, Vienna
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees: TC 3, TC 5, TC 8 and TC 37
Periodical Journals: Journal of the Austrian Society of Engineers and Architects
Other publications: Numerous papers in Conference Proceedings, Journals etc.
Future planned activities: Intensify Cupertino with ISSMGE Member Societies of neighbouring countries Intensify Cupertino with IGS; ISRM, IAEG, ITA, ICOLD, PIARC, IABSE
Other important Items: Collecting further pieces for the Terzaghi Museum at the Technical University of Vienna.

AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR SMFE

Principal office bearers
President:
Secretary: Prof. M. B. Akhundov
- ISSMGE Membership: 13
In spite my several efforts sending e-mails and letters I have not received information about the activities. I hope that in near future the communications will improve.

BRITISH GEOTECHNICAL ASSOCIATION

Principal office bearers:
Chairman: Tony Bracegirdle
Vice Chairman: Professor Michael Davies
Honorary Secretary: Neil Smith
Honorary Treasurer: Peter Eldred
National Membership: 1398
ISSMGE Membership: 1314
Organisation of National Conferences: 1st Annual BGA Conference: 11 JUNE 2003, 2nd Annual BGA Conference: 9 JUNE 2004, 3rd Annual BGA Conference: 8 June 2004
Organisation of International Conferences: Skempton Memorial Conference: March 2004
Organisation of Seminars and Workshops: The BGA arranges an annual programme of eight evening meetings open to all.
Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures: 2003 Rankine Lecture: Science and Empiricism in Pile Foundation Design: Professor Mark Randolph Wednesday 19 March 2003; 2004

Rankine Lecture : Engineering Seismology and Soil Mechanics: Professor Nicholas N Ambraseys: Wednesday 31 March 2004: 2005 Rankine Lecture: Long Term Performance of Contaminant Barrier Systems: Professor Kerry Rowe: Wednesday 23 March 2005; 2003 Géotechnique Lecture From laboratory tests to design in sands Dr Matthew Coop 8 October 2003; Joint BGA/IGS meeting - IGS 3rd Invitational lecture Reinforced embankments on soft soil Prof. Kerry Rowe 22 October 2003; Joint BGA/IGS meeting - IGS 4th Invitational lecture. Mind the gap Professor Alan McGown 13 October 2004.
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001)
- TC1, TC2, TC3, TC4, TC5, TC6, TC9, TC10, TC11, TC16, TC17, TC18, TC19, TC20, TC23, TC28, TC 29, TC31, TC32, TC33, TC35, TC36, TC37.
Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001): ERTC3, ERTC7, ERTC 10, ERTC12.
Awards
BGA prize The BGA Prize is an annual award, which is made to members of the Society for "meritorious contributions to geotechnical science or practice.

Cooling Prize: open to Student, Associate or Chartered members of the Institution of Civil Engineers or members of the British Geotechnical Association under the age of 30. Winner 2004: Dimitrios Selemetas (Cambridge University).

Fleming Award: The award, which is sponsored by Cementation Foundations Skanska Ltd. will be presented to the Project Team who have demonstrated a high level of excellence in Geotechnical design and construction. Joint Winners 2004: Project Teams involved with the Sir John Rogersons Quay, Dublin and the Moorhouse Draught Relief Shaft in London for Crossrail

Skempton Medal: The Gold Medal, inaugurated in 1988, is named in honour of Professor A W Skempton of Imperial College, London, and Past-President of the ISSMFE (not the ISSMGE). The Medal is awarded to a BGA member who has made an outstanding contribution to the practice of geotechnical engineering over a sustained period of time. The individual will not normally have received other comparable recognition in this country.

Periodical Journals: Ground Engineering is used for reporting meetings and communicating with members.
Other Publications : As the sub-group of the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) responsible for ground engineering, the BGA deals with ICE journals such as Géotechnique and Geotechnical Engineering. The BGA is in the process of reconvening the Site Investigation Steering Group to oversee updating of key publications.
The BGA is overseeing revision of the Specification for Embedded Retaining Walls by a working party established by the Federation of Piling Specialists.
Future planned activities : Developing a Registration Scheme for Ground Engineering Professionals. The BGA has had discussions with FEANI in relation to the European Union implications of such a scheme.
Other Important Items: In November of this year, it is planned to hold a joint meeting with CFMS in Paris, with a reciprocal meeting in London in 2006.

GROUPEMENT BELGE DE MÉCANIQUE DE SOL ET DE LA GÉOTECHNIQUE (GBMS)

Principal office bearers
President: C. Bauduin (Besix)
Secretary ; N. Huybrechts (BBRI)
- National Membership: 144 plus 10 corporate members with two representatives
- ISSMGE Membership: 164
- Organisation of International Conferences (2003-2005)
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees: ITC18-Deep Foundations (chairman: Prof. A. Holeyman), with core members in ITC1, ITC5, ITC17, ITC18, ITC20, ITC32 and members in ITC3, ITC4, ITC5, ITC6, ITC8, ITC9, ITC10, ITC16, ITC17, ITC19, ITC20, ITC23, ITC28, ITC29, ITC31, ITC34, ITC35 and JTCC1.
Participation in European Region Technical Committees: hosting ETC3 Piles foundations (chairman Dr, Flor De Cock) and participation in ERTC7 and ERTC10.
Organisation of National seminars and workshops (2003-2005)
Information session CEN TC341 activities 22 January 2003; Soiréé de formation 1 – Essais pénétrométriques (CPT), 22 Octobre 2003; Thema-avond 1 – Statische sonderingen (CPT), 30 October 2003; Soiréé de formation 2 – Tassements, 26 May 2004; Thema-avond 2 – Berekening van zettingen, 2 June 2004; Informatiesessie over Europese normering voor geotechnische proeven/ Séance sur les documents normatifs Européens relatifs aux essais géotechniques (CENTC341), 14 Septembre 2004; Thema-avond 3 – Paalfunderingen – Sessie 1 : Uitvoering/ Soirée de formation 3 – Pieux – Session 1 : Exécution, 14 & 15 December 2004; Thema-avond 3 – Paalfunderingen – Sessie 2: Antwerp/ Soirée de formation 3 – Pieux – Session 2 : Dimensionnement, 16 & 23 February 2005.
Organisation of International Conferences (2003-2005) : 2nd International symposium on screw piles : screw piles in sand, design and recent developments, 15th May 2003, Brussels; Journée commune GBMS-CFMS : Géotechnique ferroviaire, 29 octobre 2003 ; Journées Nationales de Géotechniques et de Géologie, Lille, 28-30 juin 2004. Organisation CFMS en collaboration avec CFMR, CFGI, GBMS, GBMR, GBGI.
Organisation of special Lectures (2003-2005)
Each year during the General Meeting of the BGGG-GBMS a lecturer is invited: J. Powell (BRE, UK):"Use of test fields to aid the development of interpretation methods of in-situ soil investigation tests", 23-04-2003; Prof. W.F. Van Impe, "Geotechnische Research, een geloofwaardige basis voor het praktisch ontwerp? / Research based design versus practice", Lecture at the occasion of the De Beer Award, 28-04-2004; A. Pecker (Géodynamique & Structure, France) : "Les Fondations du pont Rion-Antirion (Grèce) : de la conception à la réalisation", 27-04-2005.
Awards
In 2004 the De Beer Award for the period 1998-2002 has been assigned to Prof. W.F. Van Impe
Future planned activities
October/November 2005: Evening seminars on the construction and design of retaining walls.

BULGARIAN SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING.

Principal office bearers:
Chairman: Prof. Jeliu Jellev
Secretary: Prof. Assia Bozhinova
National Membership: 79 - ISSMGE Membership: 52
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees ITC1, ITC4, ITC5, ITC16, ITC18, ITC19, ITC23, ITC28, ITC31, ITC37 and JTCC1.
- Participation in European Region Technical Committees: in a preliminary stage.
- Periodical Journals: Special Sections "Geotechnical Engineering" in the Bulgarian Journals: "Construction" and "Highway.
Other Publications: for XIII ECSMGE, Prague 2003: 6 papers.
Future planned activities (2003-2005):
2003. Geotechnical Engineering Conference devoted to 100 years of birthday of Prof. V. Minkov, father of Foundation Engineering in Bulgaria.
- Other Important Items: Scientific seminars on different SMGE problems – each month.

CROATIAN SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

Society Name: Croatian Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering.
Principal office bearers: President: Prof. Vlasta Szavits-Nossan, Faculty of Geotechnical Engineering, University of Zagreb, Croatia, vsn@gtfvz.hr; Secretary: Prof. Meho-Saša Kovačević, Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Zagreb, Croatia, msk@grad.hr. 10 Board Members hold regular meetings to discuss Society matters.
National Membership: 206 members of the Croatian SSMGE
ISSMGE Membership: 125 members
Organisation of Seminars and Workshops (2003-2005)
The Society of Civil Engineers of Zagreb regularly organizes seminars intended as continuing education for civil engineers. The geotechnical part of the seminar, continually held since 1957, is organized by the Croatian SSMGE. Such a seminar was organized 19-20 April 2004 with the title Design and numerical modeling of foundations.
Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures (2003-2005)
In the year 2000, the Croatian Society has inaugurated the event under the name of The Nonveiller Lecture, thus respecting the memory of the late professor Ervin Nonveiller from the University of Zagreb, a student of Professor Terzaghi in Vienna. The Fourth Nonveiller Lecture was held by Mr. Alan Powderham from Mott MacDonald, Great Britain, on 13 November 2003. The title of the lecture was The observational method - learning from projects.. The Prof. Ervin Nonveiller plaque was awarded to Mr. Powderham by the Croatian Society after his lecture.
The Fifth Nonveiller Lecture was held by Professor François Schlosser from ENPC-CERMES, France, on 17 December 2004. The title of the lecture was The foundations of the Millau viaduct in France. The Prof. Ervin Nonveiller plaque was awarded to Professor Schlosser by the Croatian Society on this occasion.
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001)
19 members of the Croatian SSMGE are members of 14 ISSMGE TCs. One core member of TC31 on Education in geotechnical engineering is from Croatia, and the Croatian SSMGE is hosting TC37 on Interactive Geotechnical Design. The co-chairmen of TC37 are Prof. Heinz Brandl and Prof. Antun Szavits-Nossan, and the secretary is Prof. Meho-Saša Kovačević. The ISSMGE TC37 Workshop was organized in Prague on 24 August 2003 during the 13th ECSMGE. Lectures were delivered by Professor Heinz Brandl, Mr. Alan Powderham, Professor Carlo Viggiani, Professor François Schlosser, Professor Antonio Soriano and Professor Antun Szavits-Nossan.
Professor Vlasta Szavits-Nossan delivered a lecture on the Bologna process in Croatia during the ISSMGE TC31 Workshop, which was held on 29 August 2003 in Prague.
Other Publications: The Croatian Society Newsletter: The history and achievements of the Croatian SSMGE were published in the Jubilee Volume of the Croatian Society of Engineers on the occasion of celebrating the 125th anniversary of this Society. This Jubilee Volume was published in 2003.
Future planned activities
The 4th National Conference will be organized in 2006. The Croatian SSMGE is planning to continue to organize Nonveiller Lectures once a year. Seminars, workshops and lectures are planned in order to promote a close interaction between academic and professional institutions.
The active participation in ISSMGE TCs is one of main goals to be fulfilled, in particular regarding TC37 and TC31. A workshop of TC37 is planned to be held in Paris in May 2005. Members of the Croatian Society would also like to take part in European TCs. The participation in International, European and Danubean Conferences organised by ISSMGE has always been supported by the Croatian SSMGE. It will continue to be so in the future.
The Croatian SSMGE will consider the initiative of the Croatian Society for Rock Mechanics to merge with SSMGE and to encourage common activities.
Other important items
The vice-president of ISSMGE, Professor P. Sêco e Pinto visited Croatia from 5 to 6 November 2003. Professor Sêco e Pinto delivered a lecture at the Faculty of Geotechnical Engineering of the University of Zagreb with the title Dynamic analysis of solid waste landfills and lining systems on 5 November 2003. A meeting was held with Professor Sêco e Pinto and the Board members of the Croatian SSMGE on 6 November 2003. During this meeting Professor Sêco e Pinto informed Croatian Board members on the undertaken and future ISSMGE activities in Europe.
Two invited lectures were organized by the Croatian SSMGE with the cooperation of the University of Zagreb. Professor Mladen Vučetić from UCLA, USA, delivered the lecture was Kinematics and pseudo-dynamic analysis of failure of soil-nailed excavation models in dynamic centrifuge tests. Dr. Suzanne Lacasse from NGI delivered the invited lecture Design, Construction and Maintenance of Infrastructure.
Four members of the Croatian SSMGE participated in the program of the 13th ECSMGE in Prague 2003.
Six abstracts from Croatia were accepted for the 16th ICSMGE in Osaka.
One member from Croatia is in the Organizing Committee of the 13th Danube-European Conference, which will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in 2006, and one member from Croatia is in the Scientific Committee of this Conference.
Two young engineers from Croatia participated in the program of the 2nd IYGEC and three young engineers from Croatia participated in the program of the 16th EYGEC. At least two young engineers will participate at the 3rd IYGEC in Osaka, Japan, in September 2005.
Members of the Croatian SSMGE take part in the activities for Standardization and Metrology in Accepting Eurocode 7: Geotechnical Design as the parallel standard in Croatia.

CZECH AND SLOVAK NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR SMGE

Principal office bearers:
- Chairman: Prof. Ivan Vanicek; - Secretary: Dr. Zaleski
ISSMGE Membership : 43 persons, - our main problem – our society belongs under Czech Academy of Science – council for international co-operation – they are paying our fee – therefore we are under the pressure to decrease the number of members – but because this way was useful when only this subject was allowed to transfer fee in hard currency – we are trying to find way out of this system – but in this case the separation between 2 societies can be expected.
National Membership – Czech Geotechnical Society of the Czech Institution of Civil Engineers – 80 members + 9 collaborative members (firms)
Organisation of National Conferences – each year we have 3 main activities in CR: Conference "Foundation Engineering" in Brno, "Field Geotechnical Methods" in Usti nad Labem and "Prague Geotechnical Days" and in Slovak Republic once during 2 years in Bratislava – 2003, 2005.
Organisation of International Conferences: XIII European conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, 2003 in Prague – "Geotechnical Problems with man-made and man influenced grounds".
Organisation of Seminars: 2 seminars on floods protection, construction of protection dams – in 2003 in Brno and Prague
-Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees and in European Region Technical Committees.
6 our members are working in TC ISSMGE and 2 in E.Reg. TC.
Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures: each year: "Prague Geotechnical Lecture" on the occasion of Prague Geotech-

nical Days – 2003 Prof. Ovesen, 2004 Dr. Barton, for 2005 we are planning 13th PGL – Prof. Atkinson.
Periodical Journal: Czech Geotechnical Society started to publish a journal on the society's website www.cgts.cz.
Future planned activities: to continue with regular activities, to finish negotiation with Czech Academy of Science, more active involvement in TCs, in case of necessity we are prepared to organise next Danube conference in 2010.

DANISH GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

Principal office bearers:
- Secretary: Dr. Jens Brink Clausen
- ISSMGE Membership: 308.

The activities in the Danish Geotechnical Society (encompassing members of ISSMGE, ISRM and IAEG) follow the trend after the 1995 European Conference held in Copenhagen.
A new series of Bulletins was set in motion.
In tune with tradition well attended Society meetings have been held during the year. The meetings vary between half-day seminars and evening meetings broadly covering the topic matter of the three international societies.
A close contact with the other four Nordic geotechnical societies is maintained by yearly board meetings and liaison officers take care of the other international contacts through Council meetings and the like.
Finally, the Society is now almost paperless in that all information is channeled through the home page of the Society (currently being improved and upgraded to include English).

ESTONIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

Principal office bearers:
- Chairman: Mr. Hardi Torn, Secretary: Mr Johannes Pello
- National Membership 36, ISSMGE Membership 24
- Organisation of National Conferences (2003-2005) -
- Organisation of International Conferences (2003-2005) X Baltic Geotechnics, Riga 2005
- Organisation of Seminars and Workshops (2003-2005) Baltic Round Table Workshop 2004
- Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001) ITC-3, ITC18
- Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001)
- Future planned activities: Estonian National Geotechnical Conference 2006

FINNISH GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

1. General

The past year was the 54th year of activities in the Finnish Geotechnical Society. The Society activities are realised by: (i) organising meetings, lectures and discussion sessions, courses and excursion; (ii) producing and publishing geotechnical reports and codes; (iii) co-operating with geotechnical and closely related societies internationally, in the Nordic countries, with domestic institutions and with the public domain.

2. Board

Ilkka Vähäaho (chairman), Raimo Tuohimaa (deputy chairman), Juha Forsman, Pauli Kolisoja, Pirjo Kuula-Väisänen, Anu Asikainen, Rainer Laaksonen (secretary).
On invitation of the board Hans Rathmayer and Tim Länsivaara have acted as secretaries for foreign matters. During 2004 the board convened seven times.

3. Committees of FGS

During 2004 there were seven committees active, in addition to the editing committee for the info-brochure of the Society "GEOFOOR" and a committee for the organisation of the "Geotechnical Day", namely : Subsoil investigation committee; Frost committee; Geosynthetics-committee; Piling committee ; Environmental geotechnics committee; R & D committee ; Deep mixing committee; Geofoor publishing committee

4. Membership

At the beginning of 2004 the society had 485 members and 32 corporate members. At the end of 2003 there were 465 members and 32 corporate members.

5. General Meetings during 2004

Two general meetings were held at year 2004.
The annual meeting was held at the meeting facilities of VR companies in Helsinki on 25.3.2004. After the meeting a seminar on frost was held.
The autumn meeting was held after the Geotechnical Day at VR companies meeting facilities on 19.11.2004.

6. Gatherings of the Society

In addition to the general meetings, six other happenings were organised.
Theme day outside Helsinki region; Subsoil and environmental investigation; Deep- and mass stabilisation day; RIL Soil and foundation division excursion; Geotechnical day (18.11.2004) at President Congress Center in Helsinki; Geoinfo 2004.

7. Domestic cooperation

MANK ry:(= ground engineering forum); Prima research program; Piling guidebook; Fise Oy.

8. International cooperation

International and Nordic cooperation was practiced by participating in conferences and in the work of technical committees.
ISSMGE committees
Participation in TC3, TC5, TC8 (chairman), TC9, TC10, TC16, TC17, TC18, TC19, TC20, TC29, TC32, TC34, TC35 and TC36.
European regional committees:
Participation in ERTC3, ERTC7 and ERTC10.

10. Publications

The writing of the new driven pile guidebook continued all year and was finished in 2004. Old guidebooks by FGS, which are out of print, will in future be transmitted to FGS homepage to be downloaded in pdf-format.

FRENCH COMMITTEE OF SOILS MECHANICS

Principal office bearers:
President : J. Launay, Secretary: Mrs. Florence Altmayer
- ISSMGE Membership: 472

General: The CFMS was re-incorporated in 1948 and has been essentially run by practicing engineers since then. The Chair is always either from the industry or from a Consulting Engineering firm. The CFMS has a very comprehensive Web site, which describes all their activities. The Technical Commission in charge of the organization of the Technical Meetings held every 6 weeks or about.
Task Force on Education in G. E.; Task Force on Numerical Models; Task Force on Soil Testing; Task Force on Uncertainties; Task Force on Hard Soils -Soft Rocks; ; Task Force on Geotechnical Investigations; Task Force Soil Treatment in Seismic Zones.
Organisation of International Conferences:
- Workshop during 13 ECSMGE in Prague; Int. Symp. on Deformation Characteristics of Geomaterials, in the series of the former TC-29 events; Workshop French-Brlge " Geotechnique in Railway"; A common Seminar with the newly formed Libanese Geotechnical Society. Int. Symp. on Risks in Civil Engineering (mostly in Geotechnical Engineering), in Tunisia.

Organisation of National Conferences: Works Impact on Environmental; Soil Liquefaction; Geotechnique of old Monuments.
- Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees: Hosting ITC17 Ground Improvement, hosting TC31: Education in Geotechnical Engineering and participation in other ITCs.

- Participation in European Regional Technical Committees ERTC3, ERTC7, ERTC 11.
Journal: The 3 French Sister Societies have joined their efforts to offer free subscriptions (funded by them) of Revue Francaise de Geotechnique to 15 Civil Engineering Dept of emerging Universities mostly in black Africa but not limited to it.

GERMAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY (DGGT) (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geotechnik e.V.)

Chairman: Prof. Dr.-Ing. E.h. Manfred Nußbaumer M.Sc., Vice Chairman: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Georg Heerten, Managing Director: Ms. Dr. rer. nat. Kirsten Laackmann
National Membership: 1983 persons / 90 companies incl, ISSMGE Membership 823 persons
The DGGT has at present 44 Commissions.
National conferences (2003 - 2005):
- Our largest and most well-known conference, the 28th Conference on Geotechnical Engineering (28. Baugrundtagung), was carried out in Leipzig, September 22 - 25, 2004.
The topics of the conference were:
Tunnel building; Special underground construction; Soil mechanics and numerical methods in geotechnical engineering; Foundations; Latest development in geotechnical engineering; Construction of traffic routes
International contributions from the field of geotechnical engineering; Contributions of geotechnical engineering for protection of flood danger.
The conference was preceded by a special session for young geotechnical engineers. An exhibition with 66 exhibitors, presenting their products and know-how, took place during the conference. Besides the conference lectures, two technical excursions were offered to the participants. Accompanying persons had their own programme. The conference was well organized and had a high standard, being attended by about 1100 persons.
- Measurement and exploration in geotechnical engineering
DIN 1054, DIN 4020 -Heidelberg, February 4 -5, 2003.
- In the field of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering, the biennial conference venues have been decided until 2010. The 29th Baugrundtagung will take place in Bremen, 27 - 29 September 2006, the 30th Baugrundtagung in Essen, 24 - 26 September 2008 and the 31st Baugrundtagung in Munich, 3 - 5 November 2010.
International conferences (2003 - 2005):ISSMGE International Conference from experimental evidence
towards numerical modelling of unsaturated soils, Weimar, September 18 -19, 2003.
Seminars, workshops and colloquiums (2003 - 2005):Present development in the calculation of excavated pits
Dortmund, March 25, 2003.
Soil compaction - Hamburg-Harburg, September 22 - 23, 2003.
Proof for slopes and excavated pits with numerical methods, Weimar, October 16 -17, 2003.
Exploration and field investigations in geotechnical engineering, Siegen, October 16 - 17, 2003.
International Technical committees: TC1, TC4, TC5, TC6, TC9, TC10, TC 18 (chairman), TC 19, TC28, TC 33, TC36.
European technical committees: ERTC 3, ERTC 7, ERTC 10, ERTC 12and ERTC 15(chairman).
Publications: The periodical journal of the DGGT is the Geotechnik with 4 issues each year.
Between 2003 - 2004 the German work groups have published 6 recommendations and the DGGT has published 3 pocket books on tunnelling (Tunnelbautaschenbuch) and 6 conference proceedings.

HELLENIC SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND FOUNDATION ENGINEERING

President: Dr. Spyros Cavounidis, Secretary: Prof. A. Anagnostopoulos
National Membership: 173, ISSMGE Membership: 173
Activities (June 2003 – December 2004)
Organization of International Conferences
International Seminar on Geotechnics in Pavement and Railway Design and Construction, 16-17 December 2004, in collaboration with TC3 and National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
Organization of National Conferences
- Symposium on “The Foundations for the Facilities of the Olympic Games”, 20 April, 2004
- Symposium on “Tunnels in Ancient Greece”, 16 November, 2004.
Organization of Memorial or Special Lectures
- 4 February 2004, 3rd Athenian Lecture by Professor George Gazetas (NTUA) entitled “Soil-Foundation-Structure Interaction under Large Deformations and Soil Failure: New Paradigms Motivated by the Izmit 1999 Earthquake”
- 17 June 2004, Lecture by Professor Harry G. Poulos entitled “Pile Behavior – Consequences of Geological and Construction Imperfections” (Terzaghi Lecture 2004, Orlando, Florida, USA).
Other Lectures
- Three panel discussers and one discussion session Chair in XIIIth European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Prague, 25-28 August 2003.
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001): members in ITC3, ITC8, ITC19 (Dr. Christos Tsatsanifos, co-chair), ITC29, ITC31, ITC34
Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001): members in ETC3, ETC7, ETC10, hosting ETC12 – Evaluation Committee for the application of EC8 (chaired by Prof. George Gazetas and Prof. George Bouckovalas), ETC15.
Awards
Professor Paul Marinos: - Honorary Member of the International Society of Hydrogeologists (IAH) (2004)
- 34th Cross Canada Lecturer (2005).
Publications
Proceedings of the International Seminar on Geotechnics in Pavement and Railway Design and Construction, 16-17 December 2004.
Future Planned Activities
Fall 2006, 5th Hellenic Conference on Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering, Demokritos University of Thrace (D.U.Th).
Other Important Items
- Participation in XIIIth European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Prague, 25-28 August 2003 (10 members)
- One delegate attended the 2nd International Young Geotechnical Engineer’s Conference (YGEC) 2003 (organized by the Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest and the University “Ovidius” Constantza), Mamaia, Romania, 6-11 September 2003
- Two delegates attended the 16th European Young Geotechnical Engineer’s Conference (EYGEC) 2004 (organized by TU Wien), Innsbruck, 27-30 June 2004
- Technical exchanges with Albanian Geotechnical Society (contact with Prof. Dr. Luljeta Bozo): visit and lecture of Professor George Bouckovalas, Fall 2004
- Participation in XVIth International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Osaka, Japan, 12-16 September 2005 (7 papers for the XVIth ISSMGE, 1 paper for the 3rd International YGEC).

HUNGARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE (ISSMGE)

President: Péter Scharle, Secretaries: Emőke Imre, Róbert Szepesházi
National Membership: 106 members, ISSMGE Membership: 94 members
Organisation of National Conferences (2003-2005)
National conferences: annually (in November), with international participation (some invited lecturers and guests), with 150-180 participants and with exhibition of geotechnical firms
Organisation of Seminars and Workshops (2003-2005)
Symposium and Short Course on Unsaturated Soils and Environmental Geotechnics (satellite even to the annual national conference) in November, 2003 (invited speakers: D. Fredlund, E. Alonso)
Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures (2003-2005)
Széchy Memorial Lectures (audience: 160-180 professionals, 15-20 of them from abroad)
9th session, 2003 (extended centenary memorial day of birth) - lecturers: J.K. Mitchell (Blacksburg, VA, USA)
J. Mecsi (Budapest), G. Posgay (Budapest), H. Träger (Budapest),
10th session, 2004- lecturers: S. Lacasse (Oslo), R. Szepesházi (Győr)
11th session, 2005- lecturers: L. Martak (Wien), I. Szabó, (Miskolc)
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001)
Continuous participation in some 20 TCs, at different levels of activity. Most active members: TC6 E.Imre, TC8 T.Boromisza, TC9 P. Scharle, TC28 J.Mecsi (core member).
Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001)
Continuous participation in 3 ETCs, at different levels of activity.
Other Publications
Newsletter (regularly, in every 3-4 month).
Future planned activities
More coordinated and stimulated activity in the TCs. Continuous co-operation with other national bodies in the domestic implementation and application of the Eurocode 7

THE ICELAND GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

- Principal office bearers: Sigurður Erlingsson, chairman, Ingunn Sæmundsdóttir, vice chairman, Haraldur Sigursteinsson, secretary, Einar Júlíusson, treasurer, Birgir Jónsson, Oddur Sigurðsson, Ægir Jóhannesson
- National Membership : 58 members (some are members of; ISSMGE, IAEG, ISRM, ITA, ICOLD, or IGS).
ISSMGE Membership: 10 members
- Organisation of National Conferences (2003-2005)
Usually 2-4 invited lectures per year.
- Future planned activities
Similar activities as for the last period. Large projects are under constructions (hydropower, road tunnelling and infrastructure projects) as well as in the planning stage. Lectures and site visits are planned in combination with theses projects.

GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

The GSI is a member society of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland
Principal office bearers (for 2004-2005 session): Dr. Ken Gavin (Chairman); Mr. Derek Luby (Hon. Secretary); Mr. Peter Rutty (Hon. Treasurer); Mr. Sean McEoin (Liaison with Institution of Engineers of Ireland); Dr. Ronnie Creighton (Liaison with Institute of Geologists of Ireland); Dr. Brendan O'Kelly (Public Relations Officer)
National Membership: 67, ISSMGE Membership: 26
Organisation of National Conferences (2003-2005): None
Organisation of International Conferences (2003-2005)
Eurocode 7 Workshop, on 31 March and 1 April 2005, at Trinity College, Dublin
Organisation of Seminars and Workshops (2003-2005)
Seminar on Sampling Disturbance, on 17 November 2003, at University College Dublin
Symposium on Current Geotechnical Research Projects on 18 November 2003, at Institution of Engineers of Ireland, to select the Irish representative for the European Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference
Geotechnical Instrumentation Seminar, on 10 March 2004, at University College Dublin
Research seminar on Geotechnical Research and Practice, on 14 March 2005, at University College Dublin to select the Irish representative for the International Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference in Osaka.
Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures (2003-2005)
Annual Special Lectures:
Professor David Frost, New Developments in Understanding Soil Behaviour, 15 April 2003
Professor Hiroyuki Tanaka, Construction Aspects of the Kansai Airport, 11 November 2003
David Patterson, Geotechnical Asset Management for Highways Agency, 6 April 2004
Dr. David Hight, Application of Modern Soil Mechanics to some aspects of Design and Construction at Terminal 5, Heathrow Airport, 7 April 2005
Special Visiting Lecturer
Professor Hiroyuki Tanaka, Construction Aspects of the Kansai Airport, , 11 November 2003
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001): TC5, TC 17, TC 18, TC23
Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001): ERTC 10 (Chairman)
Periodical Journals: No Irish geotechnical journals. Many papers published by GSI members in other geotechnical journals
Other Publications: Proceedings of 15th European Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference, Dublin, 11-14 September 2002
Future planned activities: Ongoing programme of monthly lectures on geotechnical topics
Publication of an Irish Specification for Ground Investigation
Other Important Items: The Geotechnical Society of Ireland contributes to the Geotechnical Trust Fund of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland that makes annual awards to support students carrying out geotechnical research in Ireland.

ITALIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY (ASSOCIAZIONE GEOTECNICA ITALIANA)

President: Prof. Alberto Burghignoli, Secretary General: Eng. Claudio Soccodato
National Membership: 36 Corporate Members, 947 Ordinary Members; 85 Student Members, ISSMGE Membership: 267 Members
Organisation of National Conferences (2001-2004):
XXI National Geotechnical Conference (L'Aquila, September 11-14, 2002)
MIR 2002 – Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering (Turin, November 26-27, 2002)
Annual National Conference on Geosynthetics
XXII National Geotechnical Conference (Palermo, September 22-24, 2004)
Organisation of International Conferences (2001-2005):
International Conference on Fast Slope Movements (Naples, May 11-13, 2003)
International Workshop on Flows (Sorrento, May 14-16, 2003)
XI International Conference of IACMAG (Turin, June 19-24, 2005)
Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures (2001-2004):

Second Annual "Arrigo Croce" Special Lecture (Rome, December 5, 2001)
Third Annual "Arrigo Croce" Special Lecture (Rome, December 12, 2002)
Fourth Annual "Arrigo Croce" Special Lecture (Rome, December 10, 2003)
Fifth Annual "Arrigo Croce" Special Lecture (Rome, December 10, 2004)
AGI also organises several special-updating courses on Geotechnical Engineering
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees: TC 5 (chairman), TC 19 (chairman)
Other members of AGI are involved in TC's activities. Their names are included in the ISSMGE Technical Committee's list of members on ISSMGE website (www.issmge.org)
Participation in European Technical Committees : ERTC 10, ERTC 12.
Periodical Journals: Rivista Italiana di Geotecnica (Italian Geotechnical Journal), quarterly Journal since 1967.
Other Publications: Proceedings of National and International Conferences.
Future planned activities (2003-2005):
XXIII National Geotechnical Conference (Padova, September 2006)
Sixth Annual "Arrigo Croce" Special Lecture (Rome, December 2005)
Publication of a National Technical Guideline on "Geotechnical Design in Seismic Zones"

LATVIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

President: Valter Celmins, Secretary – Mr. Valdis Markvarts
- ISSMGE Membership: 31 members
- Organisation of International Conferences (2003-2005): X Baltic Geotechnics, "Geotechnical Engineering for Harbors, Onshore and Near Shore Structures, Riga 2005
- Organisation of Seminars and Workshops (2003-2005) Baltic Round Table Workshop 2004
- Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001) ITC-1, ITC18
- Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001)
Future planned activities: workshops and seminars with 1-2 days.

LITHUANIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

- Principal office bearers Vilnius Gediminas Technichnical University, Sauletekio 11, Vilnius
- National Membership: 45 members, - ISSMGE Membership 39 members
- Organisation of International Conferences (2003-2005) 4, Vilnius Geotechnical section at 8 international Conference "Modern Buildings, Structures and Techniques" May 19-21, 2004,Vilnius
- Organisation of Seminars and Workshops (2003-2005) National workshops on Geosyntetics, recording pile installation parameters, on Eurocodes
- Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures (2003-2005) Prof M. Jamiolkowski " Pisa Tower", Prof. Diego Lo Presti " Small strain stiffness of Soils"
- Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001) TC8, TC 18
- Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001) ERTC 3
- Other Publications: Special chapters on Geotechnical design in "Manual of Structural Engineer" Vilnius, 2004. Translation of EN on Execution of special Geotechnical Works: Anchors; Bored Piles; Displaced Piles; Jet Grouting; Grouting; Diafragm Walls
- Future planned activities Translation of EC7. Part 1 is ready. NAD
- Other Important Items. In 2005 will be established Lithuanian Geotechnical Association for better cooperation among researchers, site investigators, designers and constructors of geotechnical works.

MACEDONIAN ASSOCIATION FOR GEOTECHNICS

Chairman (President of executive committee): Prof. d-r Ljupco Dimitrievski, President: Vasil Vitanov, Secretary: Vlatko Sesov
- National Membership: 72, - ISSMGE Membership. 72 members
- Organisation of National Conferences (2003-2005)
Round table of the Macedonian Society for geotechnics, Ohrid, R.Macedonia 2002
- Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001)
- Future planned activities :
- International conference 2006, International training course 2006, Workshop 2005 (1), 2006 (1)
- Other Important Items : Participation on ICSMGE in Osaka 2005

NETHERLANDS SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING (NSSMGE)

President Prof.ir. L. de Quelerij, Secretary Dr. Peter van den Berg. The board consists of 11 persons.
- Membership: 719, ISSMGE Membership: 325 members
Organisation of seminars and workshops
The Royal Institution of Engineers in the Netherlands (www.kivi.nl), division Geotechnology, acts as the national representative for the ISSMGE. The board of this division is the same as the board of the national society: NSSMGE.
Each year a number (about 10) of seminars, workshops and conferences is being organized by the NSSMGE, most of them related to specific topics. Once a year there is the national "geotechnics day" (number of participants about 300). And once a year there is a joint activity with the Belgium society.
Most important geotechnical issues in the Netherlands at this moment are related to dike stability, underground construction and settlement of soft (clay and peat) soil.
- Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees TC1 (chairman and secretary) and about 20 ITC's Participation in European Technical Committees are active in several Technical Committees.
Awards : In 2004 Prof. Pieter Vermeer (Stuttgart) got a very prestigious technical research-award in the Netherlands (first time related to the geotechnical profession).
Members from the Dutch Society play an important role during a number of international conferences (chairman, general reporter, etc). The Terzaghi Oration in Osaka, 2005, is held by Prof. Frans Barends (Delft).
Organisation of International Conferences The International Conference of TC28 (Geotechnical aspects of underground construction in soft ground) is being held in Amsterdam, June 15-17, 2005. More information can be found at the website: www.tc28-amsterdam.org.
Each year the Netherlands Society has at least two representatives at the Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference.
Periodical Journal : The NSSMGE has (in close cooperation with Belgium) its own national journal, which is called "Geotechniek"; in total 5 issues are being published each year. The total number of copies per issue is about 5000. The content of the journal is related to both research and development and to practical applications in the field of geo-engineering. In close

cooperation with GeoDelft and CUR, the NSSMGE has its own national geotechnical, digital platform: www.geonet.nl.

NORWEGIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

Board of Directors :Liv Hamre, Leader, Anne Braaten, Vidar Gjeldsvik, Rolf Sandven, Geraldine Sørum Secretary
ISSMGE Membership: 333 members, NGI Membership: 381 members
Meetings of the Board/Members
The Board has held 11 meetings in 2002, and 7 newsletters have been sent. In addition 6 meetings offering technical lectures etc. have been arranged. Attendance has varied between 20-80 people. Information about the Society and our future meetings are published on the Society's web pages, www.norskgeotekniskforening.no.
NGF's Economy : The accounts show a slight deficit.
National activities : The activities for the period September 2003 - September 2004 have been along the same lines with: approximately 6 meetings offering technical lectures, Technical Committees (Soil Investigation, Geosynthetics, Enivironmental, Geotechnics, Further Education), all active this year.
Technical and Administrative Committees
The Soil Investigation Committee, the Environmental Geotechnics Committee, the Geosynthetics Committee and the Further Education Committee have been active in 2004. The committees are invited to a Board meeting each year where they inform about results achieved and future plans ahead. Details of committees work are given in the section "Virksomheten i NGFs komitéer og utvalg". A temporary committee for frost was established.
Thesis prize : No prize was awarded in 2004.
Scholarship : No NGF scholarship was awarded in 2004.
Contact between the Nordic societies
The Society is in touch with the Danish (DGF), the Swedish (SGF), the Finnish (FGF) and the Icelandic (IGF) societies. The ordinary Nordic Board meeting was held 18 May in Ystad. NGF was represented by telephone by Liv Hamre and Geraldine Sørum.
The next NGM will be in 2008 organised by Norwegian Geotechnical Society.
Support members : Support membership was established in 1987 for companies and institutions working within the geotechnical field.
Courses, seminars and conferences
No course or seminars were arranged by the society in 2004.
- The Geotechnics Day was held as usual in November and was again a successful event. Our members held a presentation during the joint session and seven different presentations during the Geotechnics session. ISSMGE Committees: Members for ITC1, ITC8, ITC10, ITC16, hosting IT32 and ITC33.
European Committees: members are active in European Committees

POLISH COMMITTEE ON GEOTECHNICS

President: Prof. Zb. Młynarek, Honorary President: Prof. E. Dembicki, Vice Presidents: Prof. M. Gryczmański, Dr W. Cichy, Secretary: Prof. Zb. Lechowicz, Treasurer: Prof. A. Bolt
- National Membership: 360, - ISSMGE Membership: 298
- Organisation of National Conferences
Conference on Geotechnics in Civil and Environmental Engineering, Łódź, 24 – 25 April 2003.
XIII National Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering with 2nd Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference, Gliwice-Szczyrk, 11 -13 June 2003.
2nd National Conference on "Soil–structure–interaction" Białystok-Białowieża, 17-18 June 2004.
- Organisation of Seminars and Workshops
International EU GeoEnvNet Seminar "Geoenvironmental Engineering – Transfer of Knowledge and EU's Directives to Newly Associated States", Warsaw, 28 April 2004.
International Workshop on "Interpretation of in situ tests and sample disturbance of clays", Poznań-Baranowo, 23-25 May 2004.
Seminar on "Deep foundation on piles", Gdańsk, 25 June 2004.
- Participation in International Conferences
XIIIth European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Prague, Czech Republic, 25-28 August 2003:
- Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001): TC1, TC3, TC4, TC5, TC8, TC10, TC16, TC17, TC18, TC20, TC23, TC28, TC29, TC31.
- Periodical Journals : Special Sections "Geotechnical Engineering" in the Polish Journal "Maritime Engineering and Geotechnics"; Studia Geotechnica et Mechanica.
- Future planned activities : XIV National Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering with 3rd Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference, Białystok - Augustów, 20-23 June 2006.International Conference on CPT, Poznań, 2006/2007.
- Other Important Items: In the frame of Polish Committee on Geotechnics there are two subcommittees: Underground Constructions Subcommittee; Engineering Geology Subcommittee.
Two young geotechnical engineers from Poland participated in the XVI European Young Engineers' Conference, Vienna, Austria, 8-10 July, 2004.

PORTUGUESE SOCIETY FOR GEOTECHNIQUE (SPG) .

Principal office bearers: -President: António Gomes Correia; Vice-President: Luís Nolasco Lamas, Secretary General: António José Roque; Deputy Secretary: Pedro Marques Bernardo; Treasurer: José Luís Machado do Vale National Membership: -Individual members: 936 (in December 2004). Collective members: 52 (in December 2004). ISSMGE Membership: -Individual members: 231 (in December 2004). Collective members: 15 (in December 2004).
Organisation of National Conferences (2003-2005):
- 9th Portuguese National Congress on Geotechnics, 20-23 April 2004, University of Aveiro, Aveiro.
Organisation of International Conferences (2003-2005)
2nd Portuguese-Brazilian Geotechnical Congress on "Earthfills", University of Aveiro, Aveiro, 19 April 2004.
International Conference on "Site Characterization, ISC'2", University of Porto, Porto, 19-22 September 2004.
2nd Spanish-Portuguese Conference on "Modelling and Safety in Geotechnics", LNEC, Lisbon, 29-30 September 2005.
Organisation of Seminars and Workshops (2003-2005)
Seminar on "Aggregates", LNEC, Lisbon, 31 March 2003.
Seminar on "Wastes Valorisation in Geotechnical Works", University of Minho, Minho, 15 March 2004.
Course on "Geotechnical Risk in Rock Tunnels", University of Aveiro, Aveiro, 16-17 April 2004.
Seminar on "Geosynthetics", University of Porto, Porto, November 2005.
Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures (2003-2005)
XX Manuel Rocha Lecture (given by Prof. José António Simões Cortês), Lisbon, 13 October 2003.
XXI Manuel Rocha Lecture (given by Prof. William Van Impe), Lisbon, 6 December 2004.
Lecture on "Believe It or Not: Better Understanding of Soil Mechanics Can Save Problems, Lives … and Money", Prof. Serge Leroueil, Lisbon, 17 March 2005.
Lecture on "Los residuos en la construcción de infraestructuras viarias", Prof. Miguel Celemín Matachana, Lisbon, 3 February 2005.
Lecture on "Caracterização de solos através de ensaios dinâmicos e cíclicos de torção. Aplicação ao estudo do comportamento

de estacas sob acções horizontais estáticas e dinâmicas", Prof. Jaime Alberto dos Santos, Lisbon, 17 March 2005.
XXII Manuel Rocha Lecture (to be delivered by Dr. António Gomes Coelho), Lisbon, 2005.
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001)
Portuguese delegates in TC-2, TC-3 (Chairman) , TC-4, TC-5, TC-9, TC-10, TC-16, TC-17, TC-18, TC-19, TC-20, TC-23, TC-28, TC-29, TC-31, TC-32, TC-34, TC-35, TC-36, and TC-37.
Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001): ERTC3, ERTC10, ERTC12, ERTC15
Awards: - SPG Master's Degree Award'2003, to the best thesis in Geotechnical Engineering, presented by members of Portuguese Geotechnical Society during 2001-2002.
- Journal "Geotecnia" Award'2004, to the best paper published in "Geotecnia" in 2002-2003.
- 1st Manuel Rocha Award'2004 for the best Ph.D. thesis in Geotechnical Engineering presented by members of Portuguese Geotechnical Society during 2000-2003.
- SPG Master's Degree Award'2005, to the best thesis in Geotechnical Engineering, presented by members of Portuguese Geotechnical Society during 2003-2004.
Periodical Journals: "Geotecnia" (three issues per year: issues nº 97 to 105).
Future planned activities (2005-2007)
2nd Spanish-Portuguese Conference on "Modelling and Safety in Geotechnics", LNEC, Lisbon, 29-30 September 2005.
XXII Manuel Rocha Lecture, Lisbon, 2005.
Seminar on "Geosynthetics", University of Porto, Porto, November 2005.
10th Portuguese National Congress on Geotechnics, Lisbon, 22-25 May 2006.
3rd Portuguese-Brazilian Geotechnical Congress, Curitiba, Brazil, 27 August 2006.
5th International Workshop on "Applications of Computational Mechanics in Geotechnical Engineering, University of Minho, 2006.
XXIII Manuel Rocha Lecture, Lisbon, 2006.
XXIV Manuel Rocha Lecture, Lisbon, 2007.
- 11th International Congress of the Intern. Society for Rock Mechanics, Lisbon, 9-13 July 2007.
- 2nd International Workshop on Volcanic Rocks, Azores (Portugal), 13-14 July 2007.

Other Important Items. Participation of one Portuguese delegate in the 2nd Int. Young Geotechnical Engineer's Conference, Mamaia, Rumania, 6-11 September 2003.
Participation of two Portuguese delegates in the XVI European Young Geotechnical Engineer's Conference, Vienna, Austria, 8-10 July 2004.

ROMANIA SOCIETY FOR SMGE

President : Prof. Iacint Manoliu, Vice-president for Bucharest branch : Prof. Sandra Manea, Vice-president for Iasi branch;Prof. Paulica Raileanu, Vice-president for Timisoara branch Prof. Tadeus Schein, Vice-president for Cluj-Napoca branch Prof. Augustin Popa, Secretary General: Prof.Nicoleta Radulescu
- National Membership - 202 members, - ISSMGE Membership - 140 members
Organisation of National Conferences (2001-2003)
10th National Conference , September 2004, Bucharest
- Organisation of International Conferences (2001-2003):
The 2nd YGEC, Constantza-Mamaia,Romania, 6-11 September 2003
-Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since2001):
Prof. Iacint Manoliu-core member, ITC nº. 31,
Education in Geotechnical Engineering
- Participation in European Region Technical
ERTC 10- Evaluation of Eurocode 7
- Periodical Journals- 1st issue of the Romanian Geotechnical Journal
- Future planned activities (2003-2005): Slope Stability in the N-E zone of Romania, May 2005, Iasi.

RUSSIAN SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS, GEOTECHNICS AND FOUNDATION ENGINEERING (RSSMGFE)

President: Prof. V.A.Ilyichev ; Secretary: Dr. I.V. Kolybine
National Membership: 269, ISSMGE Membership: 269
General: The Russian society for soil mechanics, geotechnics and foundation engineering was founded in 1957 and at present it comprises more than 300 members, including the members from the Kazakhstan geotechnical society, the Azerbaijan geotechnical society, the Estonian geotechnical society and the Ukraine. RSSMGFE includes 22 collective members and 51 regional branches.
Conferences, symposiums and seminars,
2003 (Volgograd)-2003, 15-17 October. International geotechnical conference "Urban agglomerations on the slope territories".
2). Saint-Petersburg 17-19 September 2003 -International geotechnical conference "Reconstruction of Historical Cities and Geotechnical Engineering", dedicated to the Tercentenary of Saint-Petersburg,,.
3) Omsk-2003, 21-23 May. International Scientific and Practical Conference"Road and transport infrastructure, economies, ecology, construction and architecture
Arkhangelsk-2003 , 26-27 June: Scientific and technical conference "Practice of construction and reconstruction of buildings and structures on soft soils".
2004 a) Ekaterinbur-2004, 18-20 May . Allrussian conference "Design and construction of the complexes of underground structures"; b) Perm- 2004, 02-04 June. International conference on the problems of soil mechanics, foundation engineering; c) Penza-2004, 16-17 September. International conference"Actual problems of designing, construction of bases and foundations; d)Moscow -2004, 19-20 October. Int. Conference "Up to date problems of designing, construction and maintenance of railway and engineering structures; e) Tula- 2004, 9-11 September.Int. Conference "Problems of underground construction in XXI century. 2005 a) Saint -Petersburg, 26-28 May. Int. Conference "Soil-Structure Interaction: calculation methods and engineering practice
Awards
In 2000 the centenary anniversary from the date of the birth of Prof. N. A. Tsytovich, the First President and Founder of the Russian Society for SMGFE, the outstanding scientist, excellent organizer and teacher, was celebrated in Russia. The special memory medal was established to this date. More than 100 specialists, who had the happy chance to work and to have mutual contacts with Prof. N. A. Tsytovich, were awarded with this medal.
The medal of Prof. N. M. Gersevanov, the founder of the science of soil mechanics and foundation engineering in Russia, was established two years ago by RSSMGFE. Model libraries are presented every year to the selected RSSMGFE regional branches during the Annual Meeting of RSSMGFE.
Web-site: The Russian Society for SMGFE maintains its own web-site in Internet in Russian with the address.
ISSMGE Technical committees.: 26 russian specialists are the members of 17 international technical committees
Moreover two national technical committees were made inside the Russian Society for SMGFE: "Reconstruction of historical cities and monuments" (Chairman- Prof.V.M.Ulitsky , Saint-Petersburg); Usage of geosynthetics in geotechnical engineering"(Chairman- Prof.V.D.Kazarnovsky, Moscow).
European Technical committees: Members for ERTC3, ERTC7, ERTC 10 and ERTC 12 for the period 2001-2005.

- ~Special lectures of the high qualified specialists in the field of soil mechanics, geotechnics and foundation engineering are planned to be conducted under the financial ensuring of RSSMGFE in various branches of Russia.
Journal.:The journal "Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering" has being published in Russian since 1959 up to now. This journal is translated into English and published by "Plenum Publishing Corp." (USA). It is abstracted or indexed in Safety Science Abstracts Journal, Applied Mechanics Reviews, Engineering Index, Research Alert, SciSearch and Geotechnical Abstracts/Geodex Retrieval Systems.

SLOVENIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

President: dr. Janko Logar (also Chair of ISSMGE group), Secretary: Ana Petkovšek, M.Sc., Board members: Branko Prokop, M.Sc. (Vice-president), Andrej Ločniškar (Chair of IAEG group), prof. Bojan Žlender (Chair of ISRM group), dr. Vojkan Jovičić, Mojca Ravnikar Turk, Ana Gaberc, M.Sc. (past president)
National Membership: 134, ISSMGE Membership: 106
Organisation of National Conferences 4th conference of the Slovenian geotechnical society (June 9 to 11, 2004)
Organisation of International Conferences)
XIII Danubio European Geotechnical Conference
Organisation of Seminars and Workshops (2003-2005)
Workshop: Testing and modelling of structured soils (October 8, 2004) (under the sponsorship of British Council, Slovenian Ministry for Education, Science and Sport and the University of Ljubljana) .
Organisation of Memorial or Special Lectures (2003-2005)
Lecture by dr. Brian Simpson (May 2003): Eurocode 7 – New design approaches
4th Šuklje's day (October 3 and 4, 2003) with lectures:
prof. Heinz Brandl: Geothermal heating and cooling of buildings
dr. Vojkan Jovičić: The measurement and interpretation of small strain stiffness of soils
prof. Bojan Žlender: Cyclic triaxial tests
5th Šuklje's day (June 10, 2004) with lectures:
Prof. Rolf Katzenbach: Deep foundations – combined pile-raft foundations of Frankfurt high-rise buildings
Bojana Dolinar: The influence of mineralogical properties on mechanical properties of saturated clays
Ana Petkovšek: The role of geotechnics in the risk-recognition and risk-reduction that are posed to the environment by waste materials – some examples from Slovenia
Lecture by prof. François Schlosser (December 20, 2004): The foundation of the Millau viaduct.
Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees (since 2001): TC 3, TC 29, TC 31.
Participation in European Region Technical Committees (since 2001) : ERTC 10
Periodical Journals: The Slovenian Geotechnical Society together with University of Maribor, University of Ljubljana and Society for underground structures issued the 1st volume of international journal with papers in English: Acta Geotechnica Slovenica. The journal is planned to be published twice a year. Please visit the web site http://fg.uni-mb.si/journal-ags for additional information..
Other Publications: Proceedings of the 4th conference of the Slovenian geotechnical society
Proceedings of the 4th Šuklje's day
Proceedings of the 5th Šuklje's day.
Future planned activities
Each year we organize the Šuklje's day. In 2005 the 6th Šuklje's day will be held.
The conference of national society is held each 4 years, so the next will be in 2008.
In 2006 Ljubljana will host the 13th Danube European Geotechnical Conference
The new board decided to start with the following regular activities which combine the professional and social benefits to the geotechnical community: (i) presentation with open discussion on interesting actual topic each 2 months; (ii) publish the Society's News twice a year (this was already the practice years ago but was omitted with the internet); (iii) organising the field trips twice a year; (iv) organising workshops and seminars (two topics under discussion: Design of piled rafts with prof. Katzenbach and Engineering geological explorations for tunnelling in weak rock with dr. Johannes Kleberger).
Other Important Items: Another workshop is organized by members of our National society where the formal organization is by the Slovenian Chamber of Engineers: Characterisation of the rock mass and the numerical modelling of the rock-support system. The Slovenian geotechnical society supports any activities that promote the geotechnical profession.

SPANISH SOCIETY FOR SOILS MECHANICS AND FOUNDATIONS

President: Dr. Vincent Cuellar, Vice President : Dr. Cesar Sagaseta, Secretary: Dr. Enrique Dapena
Members: Drs. Ventura Escario Ubarri, Santiago Uriel Romero, Carlos Oteo Mazo, José M. Rodriguez Ortiz, Alcibiades Serrano González, Pedro Sola Casado, Luis Sopena Mañas, António Soriano Peña, José Maria Evchave Rasines
National Membership: 322, ISSMGE Membership: 322
National Activities :
8º Simposio Nacional Geotecnia Ambiental y Mejora del Terreno, Valencia, 6 - 8th October, 2004.
Organisation of Seminars and Worshops: Two seminars each year.
One workshop each year between SEMSIG-AETESS.
Organisation of International Conferences:
Jornadas Hispanos-Lusa "Obras Subterrâneas, Relevancia de la Prospeccion y Observacion Geotécnica", Madrid, 15 and 16th September, 2003.
Organisation of Memorial Lectures: September 16, 2003, First International Conference Jiménez Salas, by Professor Robert Mair, Cambridge University. Tunnelling-induced ground movements and their effects on buildings and tunnels-experiences from the Jubilee Line Extension project.
ISSMGE Committees: Active participation in several committees, hosting ITC6: Unsaturated Soils (chairman: Prof. Eduardo Alonso)
European Regional Technical Committees: active participation, hosting ERTC7 - Numerical methods in geotechnical engineering (chairman Prof. Cesar Sagaseta)
Journal: Publication of Journal of Spain Society of Soil Mechanics (4 numbers for year).
Future Planned Activities: Organisation of XIV European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Madrid 2007.

SWEDISH GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

President: Mrs Eva Petersson, Vice- President: Lovisa Moritz, Secretary: Gunnar Westberg
Members: Gary Axelsson, Gunilla Franzén, Bo Lind, Peter Zackrisson
- National Membership - 780 members, - ISSMGE Membership - 580 members
National Activities: An annual conference The Foundation Day with some 400 participants and 40 companies in exhibition.
Organisation of International Conferences
Nordic Geotechnical Meeting, May 2004 in Sweden, with about 200 participants from all Nordic countries.

Participation in ISSMGE TCs : Active participation on ITC4, ITC8 (core member), ITC9, hosting ITC10 (Chairman Prof. Rainier Massarsch), ITC16, ITC17, ITC 18, ITC 23, ITC 29, ITC 31 and ITC32.
Participation in European Region TC : ERTC 7, ERTC 12.
Awards:
Annual prize for the best geotechnical or geoenvironmental master theses
SGF Special Price.
Periodical Journals: SGF Info 4 times a year
Other Publications: SGF reports. These reports are often standards in Sweden.
SGF Notat which deals with geotechnical and geoenvironmental issues.

SWISS SOCIETY FOR SOIL AND ROCK MECHANICS

President: Dr Sara Montani, Berne (Ms) Secretary: Dr Markus Caprez, Zürich
National Membership : 500 members, - ISSMGE Membership: 232 Members
- Participation in ISSMGE Technical Committees) : Three Core Members
- Participation in European Region Technical Committees : Two members
- Periodical Journals : "Agenda and Circular" to our members, twice per year
- Other Publications : Two publications per year referring to the themes of our National Conferences
- Future planned activities : acquiring new members, improving and extending the actual activities

TURKISH NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ISSMGE

President: Prof. Ergun Togrol, Secretary: Prof. Ahmet Saglamer
National membership: 181, ISSMGE Membership: 181
Organisation of National Conferences:
- Tenth National Conference in June 2004, in Istanbul.
- Organisation of International Conferences: GEOPROB 2005 - International Conference on Problematic Soils in Famagusta, 25-27th May 2005.
Organisation of seminars and workshops: A number of seminars and workshops were organised by the Member Society at various levels.
Organisation Memorial and Special Lectures: It is the tradition of the Member Society to invite an eminent geotechnician to give "Professor Hamdi Peynircioğlu Lecture" as part of the bi-annual National Conference.
ISSMGE Committees: participation in several ITCs
ERTC Committees: participation in ERTC12.
Other important items: Turkish Member Society is now actively involved in renewing Turkish Geotechnical Standards, which is officially prepared by Turkish Standards Institution.

UKRAINIAN SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS, GEOTECHNICS AND FOUNDATION ENGINEERING

Principal office bearers: representatives from 15 Regional societies for Soil Mechanics, Geotechnics and Foundation Engineering and cities Kiev and Sevastopol
National Membership: 103, ISSMGE Membership: 97
Organisation of National Conferences (2003 - 2005):
- 4th All-Ukrainian Scientific-Technical Conference "Constructing at Ukrainian seismic regions", Jalta, May 28 - 30, 2004;
- 5th All-Ukrainian Scientific-Technical Conference "Soil Mechanics, Geotechnics and Foundation Engineering", Odessa, November 29 - December 3, 2004
Periodical Journals: "Geotechnic World"
Other Publications: Scientific-Technical issue "Building constructions"
Future planned activities: participation in ISSMGE Conferences in 2005 only, particular in 16 ISSMGEC in Osaka
Other Important Items: Membership at International Exhibitions in 2004 in China and India during Ukrainian culture days in these countries with our scientific achievement in Geotechnic presentation.

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO SOCIETY OF SMFE

Principal office bearers:
President : Prof. Milan Maksimovic
ISSMGE Membership: 29
From my interaction with the Society I have noticed that the situation of the country is difficult. Due brain drain, the quality of geotechnical activities is decreasing. Also the economic situation is very hard. They need our support and I am happy with their participation in the XIII Danube European Conference in 2006, in Slovenia.

ANNEX 2

EUROPEAN TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ERTC3 -PILES

Chairman : Ir. Flor De Cock Geotechnical Expert Office sprl (Hunselveldweg 33, B-1750 Lennik, Belgium)
Tel. +32-54-328098 Fax +32-54-344108
Mobile +32-477-346539 E-mail : fdc.geobe@skynet.be
Secretary : Ir. Christian Legrand (Belgian Building Research Institute, Avenue Pierre Holoffe 21, B-1342 Limelette, Belgium)
Tel. +32-2-6557711 Fax +32-2-6530729
E-mail : christian.legrand@bbri.be
Terms of reference – Mandate 2001-2005
To promote co-operation and exchange of information on the design principles and methods for vertically loaded single piles.
Finalizing of a survey report on the design of axially loaded single piles, giving a comparative overview of present-day design methods applied in practice and of the factors affecting the bearing resistance of piles (outcome of the ERTC3 seminar, Brussels 1997).
Finalizing of a recommendation document for the execution of axial static pile load tests, considering multiple requirement levels. Collaboration on the topic of pile testing with the CEN-TC341 for the elaboration of European Standards for testing of geotechnical structures within the scope of EN1997 – Eurocode 7.
(New) To establish design rules for screw piles of the displacement type, in accordance with the most common European calculation methods as revealed in term 1 and within the scope of EN1997. This work will be conducted in close collaboration with ISSMGE ITC18 and BBRI (Belgian Building Research Institute) and will include the elaboration of a data bank of screw pile load tests.
Past activities
June, 2002 – Nice/France : committee work meeting with discussion of the last draft of report 2 – Recommendations for static pile load tests and initiation of the future work on design rules for screw displacement piles. Presentation by Prof. Holeyman on the research program in Limelette and the prediction event.
June, 2002 – Nice/France – DFI Conference : in session 5 (chair C. Bauduin) related to Eurocodes 7 and 8, presentation by F. De Cock of the paper 1 "Overview of design methods of axially loaded piles in Europe", F. De Cock, C. Legrand, B. Lehane en A. Mandolini.

November, 2002 – Brno/Czech Republic : publication of the paper, “Overview of design methods of axially loaded piles in Europe on the basis of cone penetration tests (CPT” at the occasion of the 30th Conference "Foundations Brno 2002". 4-5 November 2002.
June, 2003 –Ghent/Belgium : Speciality session in de 4th BAP Conference (Deep Foundations on Bored and Auger Piles) – presentation by F. De Cock on the ERTC3 activities
June, 2003 – Ghent/Belgium : discussion session DS4 “Bored and auger pile testing” – N. Huybrechts/Chair and F. De Cock/discussion leader. Details see hereunder.
Augusts, 2003 – Prague: organisation at the 13th ECSMGE of a workshop on piles – collaboration of ERTC3 with ITC18-Piles (Chair Prof. A. Holeyman). Number of participants about 50. Details see hereunder
September 2004 – Porto: promotion towards the ETC3-members of the prediction event on the behaviour of bored, CFA and driven piles in ISC’2 experimental site – coordinator prof. Jaime Santos

Committee Members 2001-2005

Country	Former members	New members 2001-2005 (Name & organisation)
BELGIUM	F. DE COCK (chair) C. LEGRAND (secr.)	F. DE COCK (chair) – Geotechnical Expert Office C. LEGRAND (secr.) – BBRI
BULGARIA	E. TOSHKOV	?
CZECH REPUBLIC	J. FEDA	?
DENMARK	R. SKOV	?
ESTONIA	M. METS	M. METS - GIB
FINLAND	J. HARTIKAINEN	J. HARTIKAINEN – Tampere Univ. Technology
FRANCE	M. BUSTAMANTE	M. BUSTAMANTE (core member) - LCPC
GREECE		H. ZERVOGIANNIS
GERMANY	R. KATZENBACH	C. MOORMANN
HUNGARY	G. PETRASOVITS	?
ITALY	E. MANDOLINI	A. MANDOLINI (core member)– 2nd Univ. Naples
IRELAND	B. LEHANE	K. GAVIN and B. McCABE
THE NETHERLANDS	H. EVERTS	H. EVERTS (core member)– GeoDelft & TU Delft
NORWAY	A. SIMONSEN	A. SIMONSEN
POLAND	K. GWIZDALA	K. GWIZDALA (core member)
PORTUGAL		J. SANTOS – Instituto Superior Técnico Lisabon
ROMANIA	I. MANOLIU	?
RUSSIA	B. BAKHOLDIN	P. IASTREBOV - NIIOSP
SPAIN	T. VIRDIA	J.M. ECHAVE RASINES - Terra-Bauer
SWEDEN	C.-J. GRAVARE	?
SWITSERLAND	F. BUCHER	Dr. LABIOUSE – EPF de Lausanne
UNITED KINGDOM	J. FINDLAY	M. ENGLAND - Loadtest V. TROUGHTON - Stent Foundations

Since beginning of 2003, much time and energy has been devoted to the work of CEN/TC341/Working Group 4, dealing with the elaboration of European standards for “TESTING OF GEOTECHNICAL STRUCTURES”. An overview of the provided codes and the designated technical editors is given in next table.

CEN/TC 341/WG 4 - Testing of geotechnical structures

Pr EN ISO	Short title	Technical Editor
22476-16	Plate loading test	
22477-1	Pile load test – Static axially loaded compression test	De Cock, Huybrechts and Troughton
22477-2	Pile load test – Static axially loaded tension test	De Cock, Huybrechts and Troughton
22477-3	Pile load test – Static transversally loaded tension test	De Cock and Huybrechts
22477-4	Pile load test – Dynamic axially loaded compression test	Mr Durot
22477-5	Testing of anchorage's	Mr Schippers
22477-6	Testing of nailing	Mr Canépa
22477-7	Testing of reinforced fill	Mr Canépa

BAP 4 – Ghent
Discussion session DS4 "Bored and auger pile testing"
Ir. Noël Huybrechts, Chairman & ir. Flor De Cock, Discussion Leader
Tuesday, June 3, 2003: 15.45 -18.15 PM - duration 2.30 h
13th ECSMGE – Prague
Workshop ERTC3-ITC18 - ir. Flor De Cock, Chairman of ERTC3
Prof. A. Holeyman and Prof. R. Katzenbach, Co-Chairmen of ITC18
Tuesday, August 26, 2003, 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Part 1 : 8:30-10:15- ERTC3-Piles Part 2 : 10:45-12:30 - ITC18-Deep Foundations
Publications and reports
2001 : De Cock F. A database approach to overview pile loading tests on displacement screw piles in Western Europe – 1970-2000. In Holeyman A. (Ed.) Screw Piles – Installation and Design in Stiff Clay. Proceedings of the symposium on screw piles. Brussels. March 2001.
De Cock F. Class A predictions on the basis of CPT of 10 instrumented screw piles in OC clay. XVth International Conf. e

on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. Istanbul, August 2001
2002 : De Cock F., Legrand C., Lehane B. & Mandolini A. Overview of Design Methods of Axially Loaded Piles in Europe. 9th Inter. DFI Conf. on Piling and Deep Foundations. June 2002. Nice/France
De Cock F. Overview of design methods of axially loaded piles in Europe on the basis of cone penetration tests (CPT). 30th Conference "Foundations Brno 2002". 4-5 November 2002. Brno/Czech Republic.
2003 : De Cock, F., Legrand, C. & Huybrechts, N.. Overview of design methods of axially loaded piles in Europe - Report of ERTC3-Piles, ISSMGE Subcommittee. Proc. XIII ECSMGE, Vanicsek et al. (eds). Prague, August 2003. Volume 3, p. 663-715
De Cock, F., Legrand, C. & Huybrechts, N. Axial static pile load test (ASPLT) in compression or in tension - Recommendations from ERTC3-Piles, ISSMGE Subcommittee. Proc. XIII ECSMGE, Vanicsek et al. (eds). Prague, August 2003. Volume 3, p. 717-741

Future ERTC3 activities

For the time being, 2 fields of future activities are considered:
Continuation of the standardisation work within working group 4 of the TC341, in particular technical editing of the European standards related to load testing of piles.
So far, very little committee work has been contributed to the topic 4 of the terms of reference. In fact, the activity of F. De Cock within TC341 and various other voluntary work in national organisations leaves only little space to attack the ambitious work on the screw pile design report. The future chairmanship of ERTC3 should be discussed.

EUROPEAN TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON NUMERICAL METHODS IN GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING, ETC7.

The Terms of Reference for the ISSMGE European Technical Committee on Numerical Methods in Geotechnical Engineering are to be as follows: To survey, compare and discuss the development and applications of numerical methods in Geotechnical Engineering in different European countries; To promote the establishment of links between the development and practical application of numerical methods in Geotechnical Engineering and the enhancement of co-operation with other existing groups within the field of numerical methods in Geotechnical Engineering; To continue with the organisation of a series of European Conferences on Numerical Methods in Geotechnical Engineering.
At the onset of its work, the Committee should establish a schedule of activities, that enables it to provide such results, that can be of general benefit to members of ISSMGE, for example in the form of printed documents, seminars, sessions at international or regional conferences, etc. In planning its work, the Committee should take into account that Committee work within ISSMGE is scheduled in sequences corresponding to the period between international conferences. In consultation with the Vice-President for Europe, the Committee may introduce changes in its Terms of Reference that may be necessary to complete its work within the time schedule.

List of members

Chairman: C. Sagaseta Spain
Core members: P. Mestat- France, M. Pastor -Spain, D. Potts -U.K, H. Schweiger -Austria, I.M. Smith U.K.
National representatives: S. Aleynikov - Russia, K. Bakker - The Netherlands, A. Bolle - Belgium, H. Burd - U.K., A. Cividini - Italy, G. Dounias - Greece, T. Edstam - Sweden, P. Fritz - Switzerland, F. Haahr - Denmark, I. Herle - Czech Republic, A.C. Marques - Portugal, S. Nordaal - Norway, O. Ravaska - Finland, T. Schanz - Germany, H. Walter - Austria

ACTIVITIES

- NUMGE 2002

One of the first tasks undertaken by the Committee upon its formation in 1987 was to start a series of European Conferences on Numerical Methods in Geotechnical Engineering (NUMGE). A conference run in Sttutgart informally in 1986 was considered as the first in the series. The main features of these conferences are:
Scheduled every four years, in the year immediately before each European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, so that a summary of the conclusions can be presented in this event.
Low cost, so that young researchers from universities and centres can attend.
Focused on application of numerical methods to the Geotechnical practice.
Chaired and organized alternatively by one of the Committee members.
The relevant data of the conferences are given in the following table:

Date and Place	Chairman	Edition	Number of papers
1986 Stuttgart, Germany	P. Messiner	n.e.	
1990 Santander, Spain	C. Sagaseta	CEDEX	53
1994 Manchester, UK	I.M. Smith	A.A. Balkema	62
1998 Udine, Italy	A. Cividini	CISM/Springer	72
2002 Paris, France	P. Mestat	ENPC/LCPC	153

The Paris conference in 2002 meant a substantial increase in the number of papers and participants. It was organized by Dr. Philippe Mestat, chairman of the Committee in the period 1994-2002.
Prague 2003
The main activity of the Committee during 2003 has been to organize an open Workshop during the XIII European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering, in Prague (Czech Republic), from 25 - 28 August, 2003, on the topic: “Geotechnical problems with man-made and man influenced grounds”.
The plan of organizing this workshop was first launched in the Committee meeting in Rome in April 2002, during the International Conference on Numerical Models in Geomechanics (NUMOG).
For the Workshop in the Prague Conference, however, it was decided to emphasize on some particular topic of general interest. Finally, the selected subject was “"Eurocode 7 and Numerical Methods". The workshop program included some presentation from the Committee members, and also some invited speakers with relevant experience related to the topic. Drs. Roger Frank and Brian Simpson gave keynote lectures on some aspects of design approaches in Eurocode 7, for serviceability analysis, by means of numerical analyses. The workshop took place in the morning of Wednesday 27th, from 9:00 to 13:00, and it was previously announced in the Conference Bulletins. It was followed by about 40-50 participants. The presentations were followed by an active discussion. The main topics raised were:
Possibility of obtaining safety factors using FEM, in slopes, foundations and braced excavations
Influence of factoring the soil strength parameters at different stages of the analysis.
The contents of the Workshop was included in the Conference Proceedings as an additional CD-ROM.

Activities of ERTC-7 Initiated and Planned
In the Committee meeting held in Paris (2002), it was decided to organize the next Conference (NUMGE-2006) in Austria. Prof. Helmut Schweiger will be the Conference Chairman.
A preliminary announcement has been distributed. The Bulletin No. 1 is now ready for printing. The conference will be held in Graz (Austria) from 6 to 8 of September 2006.
A preliminary announcement has been distributed. Bulletin No 1 is now ready for printing.
The conference will have some special features:
A benchmarking exercise on the design of a geotechnical structure using numerical methods. It will be sent to the Committee members and other interested participants. A comparative analysis of the solutions will be presented and discussed at the conference.
A special session on "Numerical modelling of Ground Improvement" will be organized by TC-7 Committee of ISSMGE (Ground Improvement).

ERTC 10 – EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR THE APPLICATION OF EUROCODE 7

A. Terms of Reference
The following terms of reference have been agreed for ERTC 10:
1. To carry out some design examples to EN 1997-1 and to national codes of practice
2. To evaluate the application of Eurocode 7.
The following two other activities which were also originally proposed as terms of reference:
To compile a survey on the national plans for the implementation of Eurocode 7
To compile experiences on the preparation of the National Annexes.
have been omitted as these activities are now being carried out by CEN SC7, chaired by Bernd Schuppener, and Geotechnet WP2, chaired by Richard Driscoll.
B. ERTC 10 Members
The members of ERTC 10 are as follows
Chair and Secretary: - Trevor Orr (Ireland)
Core members:
Christophe Bauduin (Belgium) , Eric Farrell (Ireland) , Roger Frank (France), Jean-Pierre Magnan (France), Antonio Santos (Spain), Giuseppe Scarpelli (Italy), Hansruedi Schneider (Switzerland)
National Society Members: Andrew Bond (UK), José Mateus de Brito (Portugal), Michael Kavvadas (Greece), Boleslaw Klosinksi Poland), Norbert Vogt (Germany)
Corresponding Members: Richard Driscoll (BRE), Bernd Schuppener (SC7), Kenji Matsui (PWRI Japan).
Activities Completed
Since December 2003, when I became Chair of ERTC 10, the main activities that have been completed to date are the following:
Existing ERTC 10 members have been contacted and new members invited to join
Terms of reference have been discussed and prepared
10 design examples have been prepared and distributed.
Activities Planned: A Workshop in Dublin in March/April 2005 has been planned and advertised
This Workshop is a combined activity with Geotechnet WP2 and ISSMGE TC 23 Limit State Design. Also the Chairman and members of SC7 have been invited to participate
The results of the design examples will be collected and sent to those who have accepted the invitations to serve as Speakers at the Workshop
The Speakers at the Workshop will present comparisons of the results of the design examples and evaluate the designs of different structures to Eurocode 7.
Proceedings of the Workshop will be distributed to the delegates.
Publications, Reports, Manuals or other Material Published: ERTC 10 has not published any material during the past year. However it is planned to publish next summer the proceedings of the Workshop on the Evaluation of Eurocode 7.
Summary and ERTC Future
As Eurocode 7 has only recently been issued by CEN for the European countries to prepare their national annexes, Eurocode 7 will only become the national standard in most European countries within the next 2 years. Thus, at present in Europe, there is very little experience in the practical application of Eurocode 7 in geotechnical design situations. However, in 2 years time, when Eurocode 7 has been introduced into general practice in Europe as the national standard in each country, various geotechnical design questions may arise that ERTC 10, as the European Committee for the Evaluation of the Application of Eurocode 7, being independent of CEN and with good contacts worldwide, could usefully investigate. This is a matter that should be discussed, maybe towards the end of the Workshop in Dublin. (31 March – 1 April 2005)

Report by Trevor Orr
December 2004

ERTC 12- EVALUATION ON EUROCODE 8

"Proposed Terms of Reference":
Provide general, as well as, specific comments on the code from the point of view of geotechnical earthquake engineering practice, and in light of the latest research. Such comments may be utilized during the 5-year period of tentative application of EC8, to effect changes.
Address issues of compatibility with EC7 and recommend solutions.
Apply EC8 to a number of simple but realistic comparative case studies, referring to:
Response spectra
Shallow foundations
Piled foundations
Retaining structures
Embankments
Liquefaction
The application will utilize the EC7/EC8 partial safety factors, and the comparison can be made against other national or international codes, "exact" solutions, and so on.

ETC-12 MEMBERS	TOPICS									
	[1]			[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]			[6]
	(a)	(b)	(c)				(a)	(b)	(c)	
G. GAZETAS			X				X	X		
G. BOUCKOVALAS	X	X		X						
A. PECKER			X			X	X			
D.L. PRESTI	X	X	X			X				
J. BOMMER	X			X						
K. PITILAKIS	X	X	X						X	
P.Y. BARD	X	X	X							

ETC-12 MEMBERS	TOPICS									
	[1]			[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]			[6]
	(a)	(b)	(c)				(a)	(b)	(c)	
S. ZLATOVIC	(X)				(3)	X				
V. KENNETH			(X)					X	X	(X)
R. PAOLUCCI	X	X		X						
F. NADIM	X		X		X					
Ch. VRETTOS	X		X		X	X		X	X	X
M. MAUGERI			X		X				X	
A. SIMONELLI	(X)				(X)					X
P. DAKOULAS						X				X
TOTAL	8-10	5	8-9	3	3-5	5	2	3	4	3-4

LIST OF TOPICS

[1] a. Ground conditions and seismic actions (Part 1: chapter 3, Part 5: chapter 2)
b. Topography effects (Part 5: annex A)
c. Ground properties (Part 5: chapter 3 & section 4.2)

[2] Proximity to seismically active faults (Part 5: paragraph 4.1.1)

[3] Slope stability (Part 5: paragraph 4.1.2)

[4] Potentially liquefiable soils (Part 5: paragraph 4.1.3& annex B)

[5] a. Shallow foundations (Part 5: chapters 5 and annex F)
b. Deep foundations (Part 5: paragraph 5.4.2, chapter 6 and annex C)
c. Soil-structure interaction (Part 5: chapter 6 and annex D)

[6] Earth retaining structures (Part 5: chapter 7 and annex E)

ERTC 15 – INTERACTION OF SHIELD MACHINES AND SOIL OR SOFT ROCK

List of Members

Chairman: Prof. Dr.-Ing. W. Wittke, WBI GmbH

Secretary: Dr.-Ing. B. Wittke-Schmitt, WBI GmbH

Core Members: Dipl.-Ing. O. Braach, former member of the head of Wayss & Freytag Ingenieurbau AG, Dipl.-Ing. W. Elser, Ed. Züblin AG, Niederlassung Tunnelbau, Prof. Ir. J. Maertens, Ir. Jan Maertens bvba, Prof. Dr. Ir. A. Verruijt, Delft University of Technology, Faculty of Civil Engineering

Members nominated by national societies: Dipl.-Ing. Peter Lundman, Banverket, Technical Departement, Track and Civil Engineering, Eng. Ana Vieira, Departamento de Geotecnica, LNEC, Ing. Panagiotis Vettas, OTM S.A. 2 -

Terms of Reference

The following Terms of References were discussed and agreed between Prof. Pedro Sêco e Pinto and Prof. W. Wittke in meetings that took place in Passau(May 2002), Lisbon (November 2002) and Madeira(December 2002)

-Stability of the temporary face and stability measures such as: slurry, earth pressure, compressed air etc,

-Loading and dimensioning o the shields for different ground conditions

-Interaction of concrete segments and ground;

-Methods of excavation; - Properties of excavated material, mucking and separation.

ERTC 15

Interaction of shield machines and soil or soft rocks

Statement of problem: (August 27, 2004)

1. Introduction

For shield heading in soil and/or rock with low strength, especially below the ground water table, the following questions have to be solved:

- stability of temporary face,
- design of shield and risk of grouting the steering gap resp.,
- stability and water tightness of segmental lining during the stages of mounting and in the final stage,
- excavation, crushing, mucking, disposal and eventually separation of excavated material.

These questions as well as methods for their solution shall be discussed in the recommendation. It is specially emphasized that these questions and their importance in the respective case should already be recognized during the design stage so that the necessary machine and constructive solutions can be elaborated. Essential basis for this is a purposive and careful ground exploration. Therefore, it shall also be dealt with the question, which ground parameters are important for the various subjects and which exploration/testing methods are adequate for their determination.

-Due to the major importance of the ground conditions for all of the above mentioned subjects, the recommendation will furthermore deal with the influence of ground conditions on the conditions of contract between owner and contractor.

2. Stability of the temporary face, ground water lowering In many cases, the temporary face in soil and rock with low strength, especially underneath the groundwater table, is not stable. In order to successfully apply shield heading without larger settlements in such cases, it is necessary to plan for stabilizing measures. Stabilization can be achieved with compressed air, bentonite and the earth mud itself (eventually conditioned) and in some places also by advanced grouting and anchoring. Whether and how the temporary face needs to be stabilized should already be clarified during design stage. This requires sufficient and adequate ground exploration. Based on the exploration results, adequate models under consideration of the ground and methods for stability analyses have to be selected or elaborated. Threedimensional effects have to be considered. On the basis of the analysis results and of experience, adequate supporting measures have to be proposed and elaborated. Moreover, a careful monitoring during construction (volume control, settlements, etc.) is necessary.

3. Design of shield (skin)

A ground with low strength, a high over burden, a high ground water table and tectonic loading may lead to a high loading of the shield mantle, which in the past already lead to inadmissible large displacements in selected cases. Especially in such cases, adequate load assumptions and a safe design of the shield mantle are of great importance. Also here, it is unrenounceable to have an exact knowledge of the ground condition and to select and apply analysis methods, which correctly consider the three-

dimensional interaction of shield and ground. In above mentioned cases, high friction forces between shield and ground can result so that measures to reduce them (conicity of shield, bentonite lubrication, etc) must be planned and executed. Moreover, the - 3 - hydraulic jacks have to be adequately dimensioned and the segmental lining has to be designed such that it can take over the reaction forces. Recommendations for these subjects will be elaborated.

In certain ground conditions, the tunnel´s cross-section outside of the shield is stable so that the steering gap remains open. Further, it is possible that the rock mass moves onto the shield in the area of the roof and that the steering gap remains open in the area of the sidewalls. In such cases, when grouting the annular gap, grout may flow into the steering gap partly up to the temporary face. Applying a support with two linings, the annular gap is often filled with pea gravel in these cases and grouting is carried out in a later stage. Applying a support with one segmental lining only, an adequate grout has to be chosen in order to achieve sufficient quality and tightness of the lining. Also these questions have to be recognized and considered already in the design stage. The decision whether single or double lining should be favorized, will not be taken but left open in the recommendation.

4. Segmental Lining

The problems that have been described for the design of the shield skin (top 3) in part also apply to the design of the segmental lining and will not be described again here.

Furthermore, for the design of the segmental lining during stages of mounting and in the final stage, adequate models and analysis procedures have to be applied. Here, the stage directly after erection of the segments and before grouting of the annular gap is of major importance. During this stage, it has to be assured by an adequate thrust executed by the jacks that the necessary precompression of the gaskets is conserved. In addition, adequate bolting or doweling are of importance in this connection. This holds especially true for support with one lining only. After filling and grouting of the annular gap, the interaction of ground and support has to be correctly modelled. Also here, ground - 4 - exploration and adequate analysis models are a pre-requisite for the success.

5. Excavation, mucking and separation

A reliable knowledge of the ground conditions in an early stage is an important precondition for the selection and design of excavation tools and of the buckets. The determination of intact rock strength, jointing and mineralogy are very important for rocky ground condition. Depending on the size of eventual blocks, the installation of rock crushers may become necessary in order to enable their mucking with the available means. The way of mucking of the excavated material mainly depends on the ground conditions and on the method for temporary face support. Especially for shield machines with slurry support, the separation is of large technical and economical importance. The recommendation to be elaborated shall also deal with these subjects.

NORTH AMERICAN REGION – R. WOODS

ISSUES COMMON TO ALL MEMBER SOCIETIES

Uncertain Future of Geotechnical News

The future of Geotechnical News, now in its 23rd year of publication, is uncertain. This quarterly newsletter is produced by Bi-Tech Publishers, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada for the three North American Member Societies, Canada, Mexico and United States. All members of ISSMGE in Canada and United States received this publication as part of their membership package through last calendar year. Members in Mexico subscribe on an individual basis and receive a separate newsletter for Mexico. There is no translation into Spanish for Geotechnical News so distribution in Mexico is limited. The cost of the publication was included in the annual dues for ISSMGE membership in USA and Canada. The Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers, USA, recently started publishing its own newsletter entitled "Geo-Strata" and have withdrawn subscriptions to Geotechnical News for their members as of the end of 2004. Subscriptions to Geotechnical News for members in USA are now available only by individual payment of the subscription fee, $25.00 per year. Because the size of the United States ISSMGE membership is large, being 2000 or more during the past 22 years, withdrawing their support of Geotechnical News will have a huge impact on the publishers. It is not known yet if the newsletter can continue with only the Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS) providing subscriptions to all members and an unknown number of paying members in USA and Mexico. The CGS will be most critically impacted by this action and are looking closely for the outcome.

Coupling of Fees and Voting

The main issue for the ISSMGE North America Member Societies before the ISSMGE Council during this term has been coupling of fees and voting. The member societies of Canada and USA have taken the position that the number of members in a member society should have an impact on direction of the society as a whole through the vehicle of membership votes. With about 3000 of the 15,000 ISSMGE members residing in North America, currently the total vote on any Council action from North America is only 3 out of 76. The impact of this voting disparity was once again highlighted in Prague with the selection of Egypt as host for the 17th ICSMGE over two invitations from North America, Canada and Mexico. Egypt reports only 25 members, yet was rewarded with the opportunity to host the next International Conference.

Recruitment and Retention of ISSMGE Members

Another major issue before member societies in North America is the recruitment and retention of ISSMGE members. The advantages of membership do not appear to be evident to many geotechnical engineers. While it is one thing to clearly state that the advantages of membership are parallel to membership in the national society, identification with the ISSMGE is less obvious. When national members received a newsletter, it was easier to point to a "connection" with ISSMGE. Loss of that connection is one missing link to ISSMGE. Instituting a Membership Card and issuing an ISSMGE Electronic Newsletter may help attract new members and retain old ones.

Panamerican Committee Issues

Based on experience with SARA 2003, the 12th Panamerican Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, North American conference organizers need to be sensitive to history and traditions with regard to many aspects of organizing a Panamerican Regional Conference. Specific "hot" issues associated with the 12th Panamerican Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (also known as SARA 2003) were; 1) naming the conference and 2) requirement for payment of a registration fee by authors of accepted papers. The first of these can be dealt with by future organizers, but the second is now being considered for all conferences sponsored by ISSMGE. Conference organizers have a profound budgetary interest in assuring that authors of accepted papers actually attend the conference and pay a registration fee. One way to help assure participation is a requirement for authors to pay all or part of a registration fee upon submission of the final manuscript. This issue will have to be addressed by the Panamerican Committee before the next conference in Venezuela.

Memoranda of Understanding

The Geo-Institute of ASCE has executed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the Canadian Geotechnical Society and the Japanese Geotechnical Society. Exploratory talks are underway with SMMS, Mexico for a similar MOU. Under the

terms of these MOU's cooperative activities are made easier for the mutual benefit of both organizations. Some differences would be necessary for the MOU with Mexico because ASCE has an operating Mexico Section which already incorporates some of the streamlining features of the MOU's.

ACTIVITIES OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEES HOSTED by NORTH AMERICAN MEMBER SOCIETIES

CANADA hosted TC #2, Physical Modelling in Geotechnics, which convened the International Conference on Physical Modelling in Geotechnics (ICPMG) in St. John's Newfoundland, July 10-12, 2002. Geoffrey Meyerhof (now deceased) was honorary chair for the conference and Ryan Phillips was chair of the conference and coordinator for TC#2. The home for TC#2 transferred to Singapore after this event in Canada.

CANADA hosted TC #4, Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering, which convened the conference, "3rd International Conference on Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering", January 6-9, 2004 at the University of California, Berkeley. Prof. W.D.Liam Finn was coordinator for TC#4. TC#4 is also hosting a Workshop at 16ICSMGE, Osaka, on September 14, 2005.

MEXICO hosted the Workshop of TC#36, Foundation Engineering in Difficult Soft Soil Conditions, May 23 & 24, 2002 in Mexico City. Prof. Gabriel Auvinet was chair of the workshop and coordinator for TC#36. Proceedings of this Workshop are available in print and CD format through the Sociedad Mexicana de Mecanica de Suelos, A.C.

UNITED STATES hosted TC#5, Environmental Geotechnics, from August 2002 onward with Prof. Charles Shackelford of Colorado State University as TC Coordinator. This TC is hosting a Workshop at 16ICSMGE, Osaka, September 15, 2005.

UNITED STATES hosted TC#16, Ground Properties by In-Situ Tests, which convened a conference entitled, "2nd International Conference on Site Characterization (ISC-2), September 20-22, 2004 in Porto, Portugal. Prof. Paul Mayne of Georgia Tech University was coordinator for TC#16 and Prof. A. Viana da Fonseca (FEUP) was president of the organizing committee.

UNITED STATES hosted TC#20, Geotechnical and Professional Practice. This TC, was not able to function as expected. Re-evaluation of this committee must be done before the next ISSMGE Term.

UNITED STATES hosted the first conference of TC#33, Geotechnics of Soil Erosion, entitled, "First International Conference on Scour of Foundations" (ICSE-1), at Texas A & M University, November 17-20, 2002. Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud was chair of the conference and coordinator for TC#33. .

The second conference of TC#33, Second International Conference on Scour and Erosion (ICSE-2) was held in Singapore, November 14-17, 2004, organized by the Maritime Research Centre of Nanyang Technological University, and chaired by Dr. Yee-Meng Chiew.

The third conference of TC#33, Third International Conference on Scour and Erosion (ICSAE-3) will be held in 2006 in Amsterdam, Netherlands and will be chaired by Dr. Gijs Hoffmans.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER SOCIETY ACTIVITES

CANADA

The Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS) which is the member society for Canada, has maintained a very active program during this term. The CGS presents an annual convention with high quality papers and excellent keynote speakers. The following list of major events covers the calendar years 2001 – 2005.

Conferences 2001-2005 – **Canadian Geotechnical Society**

2001
- 54th Canadian Geotechnical Conference, with IAH-CNC, Calgary, Alberta.
- 1-week Field Trip for Engineering Geology Graduate Students, Rocky Mountain, Alberta (Engineering Geology Division and Geological Survey of Canada).
- Assessment and Remediation of Contaminated Sites in Arctic and Cold Regions, 2001, Edmonton, Alberta (Cold Regions Division).
- International Conference on Underground Infrastructure Research, Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario.

2002
- 55th Canadian Geotechnical Conference, with IAH-CNC, Niagara Fall, Ontario.
- Specialty Conference on Computing in Geotechnics, Winnipeg, Manitoba (Computing Committee).
- International Specialty Conference (ISSMGE TC2) on Physical Modeling, St. John's. Newfoundland.
- International Specialty Conference – North American Rock Mechanics Symposium, Montreal, Quebec (Rock Mechanics Division and Tunnelling Assoc. Canada).

2003
- 56th Canadian Geotechnical Conference, with IAH-CNC, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- ICOLD Symposium on Tailings Dams, Montreal, Quebec (Co-sponsor).
- Specialty Conference – 2nd International Symposium on Contaminated Sediments, Quebec City, Quebec.
- Specialty Conference on the Engineering Geology of Geo-Haazards, Quebec City, Quebec (Engineering Geology Division).

2004
- 57th Canadian Geotechnical Conference, With IAH-CNC, Quebec City, Quebec.
- "The Canadian Legacy – Cold Regions Geotechnology," Edmonton, Alberta.
- 1st Canadian Conference for Young Geotechnical Engineers and Geoscientists, cYGEGC, Quebec City, Quebec.
- International Conference on Environmental Technology, Policy and Practice, with Geo-Institute of ASCE and others, London, Ontario.

2005
- 58th Canadian Geotechnical Conference, with IAH-CNC, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.
- Assessment and Remediation of Contaminated Sites in Arctic and Cold Regions 2005, Edmonton, Alberta (Cold Regions Division).
- K.Y. Lo Symposium, London, Ontario.
- International Symposium on Landslide Risk Assessment, Organized on behalf of ISSMGE TC32, with input from IJTC1 Landslides (ISSMGE, ISRM, IASG), Vancouver, B.C. with Vancouver Geotechnical Society.

MEXICO

Sociedad Mexicana de Mecanica de Suelos, A.C. (SMMS) is the ISSMGE Member Society for Mexico. SMMS hosts biennial conventions with excellent papers and speakers. The prestigious Carrillo Lectures are given at these conventions. They also sponsor short courses and special conferences and workshops. Some of their MAJOR events were as follows:

XII RNPMS (National Meeting of Teachers on Soil Mechanics), November 19, 2002

XXI RNMS (National Meeting on Soil Mechanics), 300 attendees, November 20-22, 2002,
Queretaro, Dr. Gabriel Auvinet delivered the Sixteenth Nabor Carrillo Lecture at this meeting on "Uncertainty in Geotechnical Engineering," on November 21.

XIII RNPMS (National Meeting of Teachers of Soil Mechanics), November 17, 2004

XXII RNMS (National Meeting on Soil Mechanics), 400 attendees, November 18 & 19, 2004.
Guadalajara, Jalisco, Dr. James Mitchell delivered the Seventeenth Nabor Carrillo Lecture at this meeting entitled "Time– The Fourth Dimension of Soil Behavior in Geotechnical Engineering" on November 20, 2004.

Courses	Date	Place
Geotechnical Engineering of dams	March 25-27, 2003	México, D.F.
Geotechnical construction	March 29-April 2, 2003	San Salvador
Deep foundations design and construction.	June 18-19, 2003.	México, D.F.
2°.-International course on Computational Geomechanics	October 23-30, 2003.	Querétaro, Qro.
Soil seismic answer.	October 27-31, 2003.	México, D.F.
Basic course in Geotechnical Engineering in dams	November 3-5, 2003.	Guanajuato, Gto.
Soil mechanics applied to roads.	November 5-7, 2003.	San Salvador
Geotechnical construction	March, 11-12, 2004	Coatzacoalcos, Ver.
The Geotechnique and the computers	Jun 11-12, 2004	México, DF
Laboratory of soil mechanics	August 9-13, 2004	México, DF
Geotechnical instrumentation for dams of well graduated materials.	August 19-20, 2004	El Cajon, Nay.
Soil mechanics applied to roads.	August 25-27, 2004.	México, DF
Soil seismic answer.	August 25-27, 2004.	México, D.F.
Geotechnical construction	September 23-24,2004	México, DF
Injection in soils	October 15, 2004	El Cajón, Nay.
Injection in Rocks	November 26, 2004	El Cajón, Nay
Foundations for Antennas	December 2, 2004	México, DF

Conferences	Date	Place
Foundation design in accordance to the District Federal building codes.	September 10, 2003.	México, D.F.
4° Symposium Geotechnical Consultants-Constructors	October 16, 2003.	Puebla, Pue.
The geotechnical experts	October 3, 2003	Guadalajara, Jal.
Foundation of the Distributor Vial San Antonio	October 23, 2003.	México, DF
The behavior of the excavation of 52 story building.	November 6, 2003.	México, DF
Geometric Project of the Distributor Vial San Antonio	November 13, 2003.	México, DF
4° Symposium Geotechnical Consultants-Constructors	October 16, 2003.	Puebla, Pue.
2° Conference Alfonso Rico	November 28, 2003.	Sanfandila, Qro.
Retaining walls and deep foundation construction	February 7, 2004	Acapulco, Gro.
The subsoil of the Mexico Valley	February 19, 2004	México, DF
The design and construction of the Pemex Tower.	February 26, 2004	Monterrey, N.L.
Exploration and sampling of soils	March 24, 2004.	Tampico, Tams.
Constructive procedures of deep foundations	March 25, 2004.	Tampico, Tams.
Some experiences and improvement investigation of soft soils under water, by W. Van Impe.	July 27, 2004	México, DF.
Slope stabilization with the TECCO method.	August 18, 2004	México, DF
The quality control of deep foundations.	September 9, 2004.	México, DF

Seminars	Date
Hydrology and Geotechnics	April 16 & 17, 2002
Specialized Geotechnical Construction	July 10 & 11, 2002
Safety of Dams	September 5 & 6, 2002
Symposia: Environmental Geotechnics	October 3, 2000

UNITED STATES

The Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (G-I, ASCE) is the Member Society for USA. Some of the major events sponsored by the G-I are as follows:
Third International Conference on Grouting & Ground Treatment, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 10-12, 2003.

Grouting and Ground Treatment 2003, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 23-28, 2003.

12th Panamerican Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 22-26, 2003, also known as SARA 2003 (Soil and Rock America 2003).

Karst Conference, Huntsville, Alabama, September 2003.

Geo-Support 2004, Orlando, Florida, January 28-31, 2004, held in cooperation with ADAC

Geo-Trans 2004, Los Angeles, July 27-31, 2004

Geo-Frontiers 2005, Austin, Texas, January 24-26, 2005, held in cooperation of the Industrial Fabrics Association International.

The 10th Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering & Environmental Impacts of Karst, San Antonio, Texas, September 24-28, 2005.

The G-I also sponsored several sessions at all of the ASCE Annual Conventions during these four years. The Terzaghi Lecture of the G-I was presented at each ASCE Annual Convention and at one of the G-I sponsored events during the year.

TERZAGHI LECTURERS were:

2002	38th	Victor Milligan
2003	39th	John Christian
2004	40th	Harry Poulos
2005	41st	Del Fredlund

SOUTH AMERICAN REGION – JJ BOSIO

1 GENERAL SITUATION

The ISSMGE South American Region consists of 10 local societies with a total of 975 members. The local member societies are spread over a large region in which direct air travel from one country to another is very difficult. It should be emphasised that the worsening economic situation, plus the low number of members per society leads to feelings that the fees are very expensive and the Society is inaccessible for young engineers. Despite the effort put forth the admission of Uruguay and Cuba has not yet taken place.

2 MAIN NEEDS OF THE REGION

Because of the lack of geotechnical programs at local universities, there is a great need for scholarships in the subject area. Another imperative need is the institution of an efficient program of touring lectures based on the geotechnical necessities of each country. Both of the above mentioned programs should be sponsored mainly by local representatives of multinational firms and suppliers of equipment, tools and machinery. Despite the good intentions of the ISSMGE, it has not been possible yet to arrange a Touring Lecture for the Sociedad Paraguaya de Geotecnica, which has highlighted the difficulties for poor countries to benefit from this kind of program.

3 LOCAL MEMBER SOCIETY PERFORMANCE. POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ASPECTS

Amongst the positive aspects we can cite the fluid communication between the Vice-President and more than seventy percent of the local societies. These societies are also fulfilling all local programs as well as their obligations with the ISSMGE. Another positive point is the effort put forth by local societies to promote the dissemination of geotechnical knowledge at a local level using very scarce resources.

As for negative aspects, I would like to mention the regionalisms that work against the unity of the local societies as well as the region. Also, there is often practically zero participation of the South American ISSMGE local Society members in Technical Committees and international conferences and symposia because of the great cost in local currencies of travel and lodging and the sometimes imposed condition of mandatory author attendance. The new Board must address these problems and find solutions. Another problem is the fact that three societies do not reply to the letters sent by the Secretariat or the Vice-President and two of these are, at this moment, more than two years in arrears with their subscription fees.

4 GOALS AND MAIN ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED IN THE REGION BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT DURING THE TERM 2001-2005

4.1 *Aims and goals*

When I assumed the Vice-Presidency of the ISSMGE South American Region one of my main goals was to promote the increase of the individual membership of the local Societies by lowering their subscription fees and to defend the universal principle of one vote per country. The first goal will depend on the passage of the Board Subscription Fee proposal at the Council Meeting. The second one, by request of some societies, was discussed by the Board, which decided to maintain the current system of one vote per country.

Another goal was to improve the communication between the Societies and the Vice-President. Thirty-two circular letters and more than 400 e-mails were sent to date to the local Societies on different subjects. Since the beginning of my term there has been a 90% reply rate to all communication sent. This rate has recently decreased to only 75%. In order to improve communication, a Web page in Spanish was created inside the ISSMGE web site.

Another aim of the Vice-President was to increase the number of Regional Local Societies with the incorporation of Uruguay and Cuba. It is very important that the new Vice-President continue this effort.

The scheduling of national and international events in order to avoid conflicts and to facilitate attendance of meetings was made possible through the periodic announcements in Circular Letters.

An activity that consumed a lot of time was the discussions of the Pan-American Conference organization. As a result, the attendance of a significant number of individual members from local societies was made possible.

A further aim of the Vice-President was the strengthening of ties with sister societies. In this field, I would like to inform about the fruitful meetings held at the Sinergia Conference in

Cordoba (Argentina) amongst the three Vice-Presidents. The Cordoba Declaration was an example of what might be possible in the future Federation of the three sister societies. As a result of these meetings, an excellent course was given in Asunción, Paraguay by the Geologist Dra. Silvina Marfil from the Universidad del Sur, of Bahia Blanca, Argentina. Two students of this course are completing petrographic and microscopic studies on Paraguay aggregates in said University.

The Vice President was also involved in other important activities such as the proposing of candidates for a postgraduate scholarship for a Master degree at Ghent University. A campaign addressed to all local societies of the region to promote touring lectures in South America also took place. Despite the effort put forth, in this program no touring lecture has taken place, mainly because of the difficulty to get sponsors. This will be another challenge for the next Vice-President and Board.

4.2 *Visits to Regional Local Societies*

During my term of office, I made five official visits to the following local societies: Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Paraguay and Venezuela. I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to express my gratitude to these societies for the hospitality received during my visits. I also received invitations from Chile, Ecuador and, Colombia but unfortunately the visits to these societies were not possible due to calendar conflicts.

4.3 *Regional co-authored Papers about subjects related with ISSMGE programs and technical regional report.*

Two examples of this participation were the papers "The Role of the ISSMGE in the Process of Teaching and Learning in Geotechnical Engineering" presented jointly with William Van Impe and Pedro Sêco e Pinto in the III Pan-American Conference on the Teaching-Learning Process of Geotechnical Engineering in July 2004 in San Jose Costa Rica and the "Regional Report: Use of the Pressuremeters in the Spanish Speaking Countries of the ISSMGE South American Region". This paper, will be presented in the ISP5 Pressio 05 next August in Paris and was written by the Vice President and designated members of the local Societies responsible for the gathering of the data requested and considered as co-authors of the paper.

5 SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTIVITIES / FOCUS DURING THE NEXT TERM

The improvements that need to take place in the ISSMGE South American region are:

5.1 A larger participation of South American local societies in Technical Committees. The role of the current President and the new President and Regional Vice-President is fundamental to meet this challenge.

5.2 The establishment of Regional Technical Committees.

5.3 The passage of the Board Subscription Fees proposal by the Council in order to reduce the financial burden on poorer Member Societies and increase the number of individual members, especially young engineers.

5.4 A significant decrease in the cost of attending international conferences and symposia encouraging the attendance of accepted paper authors by offering them discounted conferences/symposia fee rates and establishing a system of grants sponsored by industry for those authors selected for oral and panel presentations who would not otherwise be able to attend.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all I would like to express my gratitude to the ISSMGE President, Prof. Dr Van Impe for the constant support received during my term of office. This acknowledgement is extended to all my good friends on the Board and my colleagues of the local societies of the region for accompanying me in my task. Finally, I would like to recognize the positive initiative of the General Secretary Prof. Neil Taylor that in spite of the fact that Spanish is not an official language, with the aid of his assistant Paloma Peers, has permitted the communication with the local societies of the region in their mother tongue.

APPENDIX

SOUTH AMERICAN LOCAL SOCIETIES ACTIVITIES
(August 2003 - September 2005)

Argentina (SAIG)
Oct 04 SINERGIA 2004. 17th Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering Argentinean Conference. Cordoba.

Bolivia (ABG)
(no reply yet)

Brazil (ABMS)
Nov 03 Past, present and future of the Orla Mairitima buildings of Santos – Santos,/SP
Mar 04 1st Brazilian Conference on Tunnels and Underground Structures - São Paulo/SP
Apr 04 II Luso Brasileira. Geotechnical Conference. Aveiro /Portugal
May 04 V Southern Region Symposium on Geotechnical Engineering Practice - Curitiba/PR
Jun 04 IX International Symposium on Landslides - Rio de Janeiro/RJ
Aug 04 1ºGeo-Jovem - 1st Brazilian Symposium of Young Geotechnicians. São Carlos/SP
Nov 04 SEFE V – V Engineering Seminar on Special Foundations and Geotechnics - São Paulo/SP
May 05 5º Infogeo 2005 - 5th Brazilian Symposium on the use of information technology in Geotechnics. Belo Horizonte /MG
Sep 05 IV Brazilian Conference on Slope Stability - Salvador/BA
Aug 06 XIII Brazilian Conference on Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering (COBRAMSEG)-Curitiba/PR

Chile (SOCHIGE)
Nov 04 5th Chilean Congress of Geotechnics - Santiago

Colombia (SCG)
Sep 03 Geotechnical Seminar on Pavement Design for the Bogotá Sabana. Bogotá.
Oct 03 XII One day Geotechnical Meeting on Colombian Engineering. Bogotá
Nov 03 Course on the Design and Construction of Foundation and retaining structures course. Tunja.
Aug 04 V Colombian Geotechnical Seminar and X Colombian Geotechnical Conference. Paipa.
May 05 Open Discussion on the Tunjuelito River Project . Bogotá.
May 05 Geotechnical course on Exploration and Sampling. Bogotá.
Aug 05 III Latin American Course on Mass Movements. Bogotá.

Costa Rica (ACG)
Sep 03 III Geotechnical Colloquy
Oct 03 Lecture on Techniques for the Prevention of Channel and Slopes Erosion
Dec 03 Symposium on alluvial mining of aggregates
Mar 04 Lecture on the La Joya, Tucurrique Hydroelectric Project
May 04 Lecture cycle on Design and Construction of non-conventional Earth-Retaining Structures
Jul 04 III Panamerican Conference on the Teaching Learning Process of Geotechnical Engineering. San Jose
Mar 05 International course on the Latest Advances in Geotechnical Engineering
May 05 Lecture on Tsunamis in Costa Rica
Jul 05 Design of road embankments, in flood areas
Jul 06 XIX National Geotechnical Conference and IV Meeting of Geotechnicians from Central America
Ecuador (SEMSIR)
Nov 03 V National Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and Symposium on "The Niño Phenomenon", Porto Viejo. Mnabi

Paraguay (SPG)
Nov 03 II COPAINGE. II Paraguayan Geotechnical Engineering Conference. VI Geotechnical Structural and III Meeting of Mercosur Geotechnics.
May 04 Workshop on Soft Sandstones and Cemented Sands. Asunción, Paraguay
Jul 04 Code updating for deep wells. SPG-INTN. Asunción, Paraguay.
Oct 04 Updating seminar on Geotextiles. SPG-INATEC. Asunción, Paraguay
Mar 05 Course on Petrography and Alcali-Silice Reaction. SPG-Facultad de Ingeniería de la Universidad Nacional de Asunción. San Lorenzo, Paraguay
Jun 05 Seminar on the Use of Geogrilles. Asunción, Paraguay
Jul 05 Updating Seminar on Environmental Geotechnics

Peru (SPDG)
Dec 03 Lectures cycle. Geotechnical Thursday. "The Environment and Urban Residues" Ing. Arnaldo Carrillo Acevedo, Lima

Venezuela (SVDG)
Aug 04 Visit to Caracas and Isla Margarita of Members of the Pan-American Advisory Committee
Sep 04 Workshop on railroads in the Caracas Cúa train
Nov 04 Venezuelan Geotechnical Seminar
Nov 04 Post-seminar Course on Geotextiles. SVDG-TRICAL
Dec 04 A master lecture on deformations in a hydraulic fills Prof. Dr. William Van Impe. Case study: Kansai Airport, Japan
Aug 05 Training courses for young geotechnical professionals.

APPENDIX 5: TASK FORCE: EDUCATION

REPORT BY P. SÊCO E PINTO

1 INTRODUCTION

This Task Force "State of Knowledge of Geotechnical Engineering" was established by the President, following the informal Board meeting that took place in Istanbul on 29th August 2001.

Previous reports were submitted and discussed during Board meetings that took place in Hong Kong, December 9, 2001, Ghent June 8, 2002, Kruger Park, November 16, 2002, Ghent, June 5, 2003, Prague August 23, 2003, Auckland, February 12, 2004, Costa Rica, July 31, 2004 and Austin, January 27, 2005.

This report summarises the activities, and has been updated following the discussions held during the Board meetings and the implemented actions.

2 PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE

In order to promote the state of knowledge of Geotechnical Education the following terms of reference were proposed:

- To offer support to national societies with the purpose to improve geotechnical activities;
- To develop strategies for a continuing education activating the lecture tours;
- To interact with TC 31 Education in Geotechnical Engineering in order to make the activities compatible;
- To establish close contact and give support to the organising committees of the regional YGEC;
- To establish links with Thematic Networks on Geotechnical Engineering Education and Training.

3 MODEL LIBRARY

The model library was an initiative of Prof. Broms and had been promoted by ISSMGE Board.

The texts suggested by ISSMGE Board in 2001 were already mentioned in the previous reports.

In the last two Board meetings in Auckland (12th February 2004) and in San José (31st July 2004) the following topics were discussed:
- the future of the Model Library Scheme;
- update of the list of texts (donations of books or subscriptions to journals);
- policy of distribution;
- the choice of the recipients;
- interaction between Model Library Scheme and Francophone Model Library.

Due to the uncertainty on suitable textbooks for the Model Library this policy was suspended. The subscription of journals was discussed by the Board.

The most popular journals in English language are Geotechnique, Canadian Journal, ASCE Geotechnical Journal. From my interaction with the Societies and Publishers it will be possible to donate the Soils and Foundation (Japanese Geotechnical Society), Journal of Geology and

Geotechnical Engineer and Bulletin of Earthquake Engineer from Kluwer, Révue Française de Geotechnique for French countries and Spanish geotechnical journal (SEMSC), "Geotecnia" journal (SPG) and "Solos e Rochas" journal (ABMS) for South America countries. For the distribution of these journals, the selection of the recipients (maybe the past list of geotechnical societies who have already received the Model library or the French one could help), the policy of distribution (time period) need to be carefully analysed.

During the Costa Rica Board meeting Mr. Day informed that Prof. Clayton (U.K.) was making available out-of-print books via the Internet. Prof. Clayton has subsequently informed Mr. Day that this information is available in http://www.geotechnique.info/ and he has permission to put up Schofield & Wroth's "Critical State Soil Mechanics" and Britto & Gunn's CRISP book.

Also state-of-the art lectures prepared by ISSMGE would be useful, but copyright issues must be considered.

The Chairmen of Technical Committees were contacted and asked to suggest 5-10 key references related with their particular technical activity to include this information on the website.

Following the Board decision Milpress was considered the most appropriate publisher to publish the material produced by the Technical Committees. The published material should be available by Internet as well as by hard copy. The following Technical Committees: "TC5 Environmental Geotechnics, TC36 "Foundation Engineering in Difficult Soft Soil Conditions" and TC33 "Geotechnics of Soil Erosion" have already developed material to be published in books. Also TC1-Offshore and Nearshore Geotechnical Engineering, TC2-Physical Modelling in Geotechnics, TC3 -Geotechnics of Pavements, TC8-Frost Geotechnics, TC9- Earth Reinforcement, TC10- Geophysical Testing in Geotechnical Engineering, TC 28- Underground Construction in Soft Ground Conditions and TC 34- Prediction Methods in Large Strain Geomechanics will submit reports.

The SGI-Line, provided by the Swedish Geotechnical Institute, but with no costs to ISSMGE, contains some 54,000 references ranging from practical solutions to theoretical analysis of geotechnical problems. This Task Force encourages the Member Societies to support the use of SGI-Line.

4 TOURING LECTURES

The Touring Lecture Program was planned by ISSMGE to disseminate the current state-of-the-art/practice amongst geotechnical engineers involved in the design and practice in developing countries.

The first of this series was implemented at Lagos on April 18-19, 2001 by the Nigerian Geotechnical Association under the aegis of ISSMGE and under the sponsorship of Trevi Foundations Ltd. The title of the Program was “Geotechnical Site Characterisation and Soil Improvement”.

From the discussions during the Board meetings it was recognised that the lecture tours should address the real needs of practising engineers and should incorporate a good mix of routine and modern soil mechanics. It was also pointed that the Touring lectures should be delivered in all regions of the Society, with strong local support and organisation and by preference in the native language.

During Prague Council Meeting, on 24th August 2003, it was stressed the existence of lecture tours and the need of demands from interested Member Societies, through the Regional Vice Presidents.

A very important touring lecture took place in St. Petersburg, on 17-19 June 2004, with the attendance of 163 specialists from 14 cities. The audience included practitioners, namely contractors, consultants, designers, academicians and researchers. The topics of the lectures were discussed between Russian Geotechnical Society and ISSMGE President. Two outstanding lectures were delivered “Eurocode 7 – by Prof. Roger Frank and “Deep foundation design-general introduction” by ISSMGE President Prof. Van Impe. The lectures will be translated into Russian and published in volume nº 9 of the journal “Reconstruction of cities and geotechnical engineering” to be sent to all participants of the touring lecture. The following companies sponsored this event: DEME-Dredging International-Belgium, FRANKI-Belgium, FUNDEX-Belgium and ENPC CERMES-France. It was considered that some improvements could be introduced related with the translation of written material, in order to be distributed in advance for the participants to activate discussions. Also more case histories should be presented not only successful case histories, but also where the things were wrong.

Following the demand of the Croatian Society for Soil Mechanics to organize a Touring Lecture on Environmental Geotechnics and my interaction with ITC5 chairman, the tentative date was 21-25 June 2004. During my meeting with Croatia Society in Zagreb, on 5th November 2003, I had the opportunity to give additional details related with the objectives and organization of Touring Lectures. The Touring Lecture was postponed to April 2005.

The Sociedad Paraguaya de Geotecnia has requested, through the ISSMGE Vice President of South America, the organisation of Touring Lecture covering the following topics: (I) Application of geophysical methods in geotechnical engineering; and (ii) Hydraulic fills.

Also Geo-Institute has agreed to support Touring Lectures in South America following the interest shown by Argentina and Venezuela Member Societies.

5 SEMINAR IN ALBANIA

Following a request of Albania Geotechnical Society, a seminar was organised in Tirana, (9-10 September 2004), on Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering, with the support of ERTC12 “Evaluation of Eurocode 8", hosted by Hellenic Society of SMFE. The following topics were addressed: Pile foundations, Liquefaction, Retaining walls, Slope stability. The seminar was attended by more than 60 civil engineers and geologists.

6 SERIES LECTURES IN FRENCH

The African CTGA Transnational Member Society has developed some lecture series in French on their own over the last years in Tunisia, in Yaounde (Cameroon) and in Lome (Togo). The newly formed Lebanese Society held a first bilingual Symposium in Beyrouth in May.

7 INTERACTION WITH TC 31 EDUCATION IN GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

The Technical Committee 31 of ISSMGE was established in 1994 and has been active in promoting the quality of education and training in geotechnical engineering and organising Lectures, conferences and workshops.

In order to implement the interaction with TC 31 Education in Geotechnical Engineering and the main goals of this Task Force a meeting took place in Paris, on the 23rd of September 2002, with the board of the CFMS and with the chairman of TC31.

The following topics were discussed:

- How the role of the geotechnical consultant has changed over the last three decades and how these changes are or should be reflected in the present geotechnical engineering teaching curriculum;
- To help the ISSMGE play a leading role in the implementation of a renewed education program including the preparation to the new challenges;
- To try to solve out the issue regarding the weight of codes and regulations in graduate and post-graduate education.

- The links with Thematic Networks on Geotechnical Engineering Education and Training.

These topics were addressed in my report of 45 pages to the Board meeting, that took place in Kruger Park, on 16th November 2002. The following topics were covered: (i) Towards a coherent European higher education space; (ii) Civil engineering in the European Region and Thematic Networks; (iii) Organisation of civil engineering education at undergraduate level in Europe; (iv) Study on the curricula structure for the first civil engineering degree in Europe; (v) Trends in American civil engineering education; (vi) Interplay between ISSMGE and soil mechanics teaching; (vii) Engineering cases in the classroom; (viii) Synergies between Universities and Industry in Europe. My report has focussed these activities in Europe and slightly in United States. I have requested to extend this report in order to incorporate the activities in other Regions such as Africa, Asia, Australasia, North America and South America. I have proposed to involve in this huge task TC 31 Education in Geotechnical Engineering and also the Region Vice Presidents.

During the XIII ECSMGE, in Prague, a workshop was organised by TC 31 on 29 August 2003, where several issues related with Sorbonne Declaration, and the changes in academic curricula were discussed. I had the opportunity to introduce the role of Task Force Knowledge Geotechnical Education emphasising the current situation of Model Library and promoting the Touring Lectures.

During the 13th Regional Conference for Africa on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, a meeting took place in Marrakech, on 12 December 2003, with the ISSMGE President Prof. William Van Impe, chairman of TC31 Prof Jean Pierre Magnan and ISSMGE Vice President Prof. Pedro Sêco e Pinto. The following topics were discussed: (i) ISSMGE role in the implementation of new education program including the academic curricula; (ii) 2nd International Conference on Education, a proposal was presented by the Croatia Soil Mechanics Society, to organize in 2005; (iii) organisation of a Workshop, in Osaka, during the XVI ICSMGE, September 2005; (iv) the need to prepare a summary of conclusions related with the TC 31 activities, to be discussed during Osaka workshop.

In spite my efforts and requests no further information was received from TC31.

8 16TH EUROPEAN YOUNG GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS CONFERENCE

The 16th European Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference took place in Vienna, 7-10 July 2004, organised by the Austrian National Committee of ISSMGE. The venue was held in the Festival Hall of the OIAV (Austrian Society for Engineers and Architects) where every two years the prestigious Austrian Terzaghi Lecture is delivered. Three keynote lectures were delivered: (i) Experiences of deep mixing soil improvement-comparative lab and in situ testing (Prof. William Van Impe); (ii) Ground nailing for slopes, retaining wall and excavation pits (Prof. Heinz Brandl); (iii) An unusual case of underpinning and reinforcement of huge retaining walls in an old central railway station (Prof. Pedro Sêco e Pinto and Dr. João Barradas). Also 37 papers, from 22 European countries, distributed by six sessions: (i) New developments in test methods (2 sessions); (ii) Numerical simulations (2 sessions); (iii) Basics and sophisticated analyses; and (iv) Site reports were presented. The Proceedings of the 16th EYGEC were edited by Heinz Brandl and Fritz Kopf and published by Austrian Society for Engineers and Architects. Delegates from the following European countries attended the 16th EYGEC: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey and UK. The presentations were of high quality, with lively discussions. A technical visit was made to a tunnelling construction site for the new U2 Vienna Metro extension project. From the nominations of the European Geotechnical Societies around 43 delegates have attended 16th EYGEC. The social programme with songs and dances has created a good atmosphere among the delegates.

9 SOME REFLECTIONS RELATED THE ROLE OF ISSMGE ON A COHERENT EDUCATION SYSTEM

9.1 *Towards a coherent European higher education space*

A 45-page document was already submitted to the Board on 16th November 2002.

It is important to mention two official Declarations related with the future of higher education in Europe. The first one was the Sorbonne Declaration of 25th May 1998 “on harmonization of the architecture of the European higher education system”, signed in Paris by the Ministers of Education of France, Germany, United Kingdom and Italy and the second one is the Bologna Declaration of 19th June 1999 “on the European higher education area”, signed by Ministers of Education of 29 European countries.

The debate that followed the Sorbonne Declaration focused on the alleged emergence of a European “model” with 3 main levels of qualifications requiring 3, 5 or 8 years of study, with bachelor-type degree of 3 to 4 years, master degree with 5 years and 8 -years for doctoral degree.

The Sorbonne Declaration stress the need for European higher education to retain its competitiveness in the world markets of knowledge production and dissemination, the application in the labor market instead of academic degrees.

A step forward for major changes in the European higher education system was made by the Bologna Declaration. The first cycle studies, lasting a minimum of three years should lead to bachelor degree relevant to the European labour market. The second cycle should lead to the master and/or doctorate degree.

Currently engineering education in Europe is based in two systems:

- the “continental” (or binary) system characterized by an engineering education: of long duration (5 years) and of short duration, with nominal duration of 3…4 years;
- the “Anglo-Saxon” (or two-tier) system, with undergraduate courses leading to Bachelor of Engineering degree after 3 years (in England and Ireland) and 4 years (in Scotland), followed by postgraduate studies leading to a Master of Sciences degree (1-2 years).

A strong debate is occurring in European Universities to implement the Bologna Declaration related not only with the number of years for each cycle and the curricula, but also with the funds available to improve their research based education related with the number of researchers and students.

The cultural diversity of Europe is also a source of richness and changes in the architecture of Engineering Education must not be allowed to destroy this richness.

It is also essential that changes in the organization of engineering studies take into account the ongoing evolution in the

transfer of knowledge and the emergence of virtual universities, flexible learning and distance education.

Also some concern was expressed related with the retention of a four-year undergraduate engineering education, as well as the fact that the study programmes are overly practitioners' based and too market oriented, have contributed to the lower esteem of engineering in the eyes of society, and the commensurate decline in economic compensation of engineers relative to medical doctors and lawyers.

9.2 *Interplay between ISSMGE and Soil Mechanics Teaching*

The Technical Committee 31 of ISSMGE was established in 1994 and has been active in promoting the quality of education and training in geotechnical engineering as well as organising lectures, conferences and workshops.

It is now time to discuss the ISSMGE role in the implementation of new educational programs including the academic curricula. It seems that the following topics deserve more consideration:

University programmes to be adopted to Bologna Declaration and professional requirements;
Existing and new training contents in civil engineering scientific areas;
New methodologies in civil engineering education;
Project-problem based learning. Practical examples;
Continuous education and training. Programmes organized by companies and by universities.

ISSMGE can play an important role with "critical mass" for this discussion and the definition of new education policy.

With the organising of Touring Lectures the "Brain Circulation" can be implemented in order to strength the co-operation with the needed Societies.

A great contribution can come from the role of Technical Committees e.g. for transport systems (TC3 "Geotechnics of Pavements", TC9 "Earth Reinforcement", TC17 "Ground Improvement", TC18 "Deep Foundations", TC28 "Underground Construction in Soft Ground Conditions", TC33 "Geotechnics of Soil Erosion", TC36 "Foundation Engineering in Difficult Soft Soil Conditions"); to support environmental policy (TC1 "Offshore and Near Shore Geotechnical Engineering", TC5 "Environmental Geotechnics"); for natural disasters such as earthquakes (TC4 "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering", TC19 "Preservation of Historic Sites"); Education in Geo-Engineering (TC 20 "Geotechnics and Professional Practice", TC31 "Education in Geotechnical Engineering", TC32 "Engineering Practice of Risk Assessment and Management", TC37 "Practice of Active Geotechnical Design. Case Histories".

Professional Practice Task Force has developed guidelines for general professional ethics and specific issues for geotechnical professional that can be introduced in the new academic curricula.

The actions launched by the Industrial Liaison Task Force can contribute to a cross-sector mobility between academic and industrial research with initiatives to implement collaboration between scientific and technological actors and companies to develop research projects with strong innovation effects.

All this information can be available by exploring communication technologies developed by Information Technology Task Force.

ISSMGE through the President and Board has already developed the needed tools, since 2001. Of course the funding for these actions can be obtained by Corporate members, or exploring sponsors such as: EC, UN, NATO, UNESCO, Authorities, or Owners.

In summary, ISSMGE can contribute for a dynamic knowledge based development, an objective shared by all Member Societies, but still not fully implemented through coherent actions. The excellent work performed by the above referred Tasks Forces can be considered pieces of the same chain and contribute for the need of continuous education and to divulge the very fast developments in geotechnical engineering.

It is important to remind that the International Society (ISSMGE) has created a Task Force on Education in Geotechnics in 1990 in co-operative effort with the sister Societies, the International Society for Rock Mechanics (ISRM) and the International Association for Engineering Geology (IAEG) in order to make a survey of undergraduate curricula and education practices in various countries and to suggest new trends for geotechnical education.

With the preliminary discussions among the Presidents of the three sister Societies (IAEG, ISRM and ISSMGE) for the past two years, for the creation of the Federation of International Geo-Engineering Societies (FIGS) and the actions developed by the Joint European Working Group and Joint Task Force there are now good conditions to re-emerge the discussion related with Education in Geo-Engineering with the creation of a Joint Technical Committee with ISSMGE, IAEG and ISRM fostering excellence in education.

10 FUTURE ACTIONS

The future actions to be taken are:

(i) The Model library is suspended and it is now important to analyse the policy of distribution of state of the art lectures prepared by ISSMGE, the material published by Technical Committees and the subscription of journals.

(ii) The Touring Lecture that took place in St. Petersburg can be taken as a reference introducing small modifications. It can be noticed that European Member Societies have shown a great interest, but it is important now to extend this interest for other Regions.

(iii) The Young Geotechnical Engineers Conferences, sponsored by the ISSMGE, can be considered a good initiative for the promotion of young geotechnical education.

(iv) The creation of a Joint Technical Committee between ISSMGE, ISRM and IAEG is important to make a survey of undergraduate curricula and education practices in various countries and to suggest new trends for geotechnical education fostering excellence.

(v) My report dealing with the implementation of a renewed education program, the graduate and post-graduate education, the synergies between universities and industry that have focussed these activities in Europe and slightly in United States should be extended in order to incorporate the activities in other Regions such as Africa, Asia, Australasia, North America and South America. I have proposed to involve in this huge task TC 31 Education in Geotechnical Engineering or even better the future Joint Technical Committee between ISSMGE, ISRM and IAEG and also the Region Vice Presidents.

References

Sêco e Pinto, P.S. -"ISSMGE Task Force State of Knowledge of Geotechnical Education" Report. Submitted for the Board meeting in South Africa, 16th November 2002, 45 pages.

APPENDIX 6: TASK FORCE: PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

REPORT BY H. POULOS

This task force has focussed on two main tasks:

1. The development of guidelines for ethical professional practice.
2. The development of policy statements on other aspects of professional practice.
3. The development of "messages" from ISSMGE outwards to promote understanding of the role and importance of geotechnical engineers in society.

The three policy statements are attached, which have been circulated in the ISSMGE newsletter: http://www.issmge.org/home/page.asp?sid=296&mid=2&CatId=3624

A presentation outlining the messages developed can be found at :http://www.issmge.org/home/page.asp?sid=296&mid=2&PageId=15455 The Society is in the process of implementing some of the recommendations of the Task Force with respect to the dissemination of these messages, and it is anticipated that Industrial Ambassadors for the various regions may be able to use the messages to promote the Society.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

POLICY DOCUMENT NO. 1

GUIDELINES FOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

INTRODUCTION

As the peak body for geo-professionals concerned with soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering, ISSMGE has a responsibility to set out guidelines by which such geo-professionals should practice.

These guidelines are set out herein in two categories:

(a) General professional ethics which apply to all engineering professionals
(b) Specific issues for geotechnical professionals.

(a) GENERAL PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

Geotechnical professionals shall:

1. Place their responsibility for the welfare, health and safety of the community before their responsibility to sectional or private interests.

2. Act with honor, integrity and dignity to merit the trust of the community and the profession at large.

3. Act only within areas of their competence and in a diligent and careful manner.

4. Apply their skills and knowledge in the interest of their employer or client for whom they act, without compromising any other obligations they may have to act in an ethical manner.

5. Take reasonable steps to inform themselves, their clients and employers, of the technical, social, environmental and other possible consequences which may arise from their actions.

6. Express opinions, make statements, or give evidence, with fairness and honesty, and only on the basis of adequate knowledge.

7. Continue to develop relevant knowledge, skill and expertise throughout their careers, and shall actively encourage those with whom they are associated to do likewise.

(b) SPECIFIC ISSUES FOR GEOTECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS

1. Shall take steps to be aware of the context (the "larger picture") in which their work is carried out and endeavour to participate in the project from beginning to end.

2. Shall make themselves aware of the geological and hydrogeological context of the project in which they are involved.

3. Shall, when acting as a designer, take all reasonable steps to visit the site during construction and satisfy himself/herself that the construction satisfies the design intent.

4. Shall avoid price competition at the expense of technical quality.

5. Shall endeavour to cooperate with professionals of other disciplines who are involved in the same project.

6. Shall endeavour to explain to their clients and to the community at large the significance of their work.

7. Shall, when asked to review or critique the work of fellow professionals, advise them accordingly.

8. Shall avoid unnecessarily definitive statements in relation to geotechnical and geological issues which are uncertain.

March 2004

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

POLICY DOCUMENT NO. 2

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE FOR GEOTECHNICAL GROUND INVESTIGATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Many of the risks associated with construction projects are related to the geotechnical site conditions, and thus the successful delivery of such projects relies on a proper ground investigation program, and on the management of risks associated with the ground.

As the peak body for geo-professionals concerned with soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering, ISSMGE has a responsibility to set out guidelines for conducting geotechnical ground investigations. These broad guidelines are set out below.

DESIRABLE EXTENT OF INVESTIGATION

It is unwise, and potentially risky, to attempt to reduce the ground investigation program below that which is assessed to be desirable in order to manage the relevant ground risks for the project. The investigation should be sufficiently comprehensive to provide the parameters required for design and enable an assessment to be made of factors that will affect the method of construction. The investigation should extend both laterally and vertically to cover all ground that will influence the development.

PHASES OF THE INVESTIGATION PROCESS

It is prudent to consider the ground investigation process as one that continues throughout and beyond the construction phase, rather than as only a preliminary activity that precedes the main construction. For most projects, the ground investigation process should consist of the following phases:

1. A detailed desk study, including an understanding of the geological history of the site.
2. Development of a preliminary geological and geotechnical model to assist in formulating the ground investigation programme.
3. Preliminary ground investigations for feasibility studies.
4. The main detailed ground investigation phase, to enable refinement of the preliminary geological and geotechnical model and to provide input into the engineering design and assessment of construction methods.
5. An allowance for supplementary investigation to examine anomalies or uncertainties that emerge during the design process.
6. An allowance for additional site investigation during construction.
7. An allowance for the presence of a geotechnical professional to be on site during those phases of the construction involving ground-related risks.
8. Ongoing interpretation of as-built ground conditions and construction monitoring data, to enable comparison with the design assumptions, and to enable implementation of any changes that may be required during construction.

REPORTING THE INVESTIGATION RESULTS

The report should document factually the results of the investigation, and should include such interpretation as has been agreed upon prior to the commencement of the investigation.

At the completion of the project, it is desirable to produce a geotechnical closure report that documents the acquisition, interpretation and utilization of construction data, so that it can be available for future reference.

9th February 2005

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

POLICY DOCUMENT No. 3

APPOINTMENT OF A GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANT

INTRODUCTION

The appointment of a Geotechnical Consultant should result in best possible benefit for the project, the client and the consultant. As the peak body for geo-professionals concerned with soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering, ISSMGE has a responsibility to set out guidelines for appointing a Geotechnical Consultant. The guidelines set out below are aimed at assisting clients and consultants to achieve a mutually satisfactory outcome of the appointment process.

CONSULTANT'S ROLE

The consultant can play a number of roles in a project:
Technical: For example, ground investigations; material testing; design of permanent and temporary works
Managerial: For example, contract administration; project cost, progress and quality control
Advisory: For example, interpretation and analysis of geotechnical conditions; dispute resolution; forensic investigations.
In many of these roles, it is important that the consultant is involved in all phases of the project including planning, investigation, design and construction.

SELECTION OF A CONSULTANT

The selection of a consultant should be based primarily on the consultant's ability and experience. Although cost of consulting services is a consideration, appointments made primarily on the basis of cost without due consideration of other factors seldom produce a satisfactory result. Factors to be considered when selecting a consultant are expertise (particularly on specialised projects), track record, resources (personnel and equipment), availability, reputation, and financial wellbeing.

DEFINING THE BRIEF

Where a client has a sound understanding of the scope of consulting services required, the client may call for proposals from a short list of selected consultants. Where a client is unsure of the scope of services to be provided, the client may pre-select a consultant and negotiate the brief and terms of appointment with that consultant. Alternatively, the client may call for proposals from selected consultants in which they define the scope of services on which their proposals are based. The client may then make his selection based on the sufficiency of the services offered. Clients should respect the confidentiality of such proposals. Consultants should refrain from re-quoting on the basis of another consultant's proposals.

APPOINTMENT OF A CONSULTANT

The appointment of a consultant should be confirmed in writing either by the client or the consultant. The appointment should specify the scope of services, deliverables, exclusions, programme, remuneration details, and contractual arrangements between the parties including dispute resolution and limit of liability.
Remuneration for consulting services may be on a time-and-cost basis, a lump sum for a defined scope of work or based on an agreed percentage of the project cost.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Consultants should refrain from bidding on work for which they are not sufficiently skilled or experienced. They should also avoid bidding for work at rates which do not permit the delivery of an adequate and professional service or where the scope of the work is so limited that there is no reasonable likelihood of a successful outcome to the project. Consultants should avoid entering into contracts that impose obligations beyond the normal professional duty of exercising due skill, care and diligence

without due consideration of the increased liability implied by such contracts.

9th February 2005

APPENDIX 7: TASK FORCE: INDUSTRIAL LIAISON

REPORT BY P. DAY

1 PURPOSE

This report summarises the activities of the Industrial Liaison task force for the period 2001 to 2005.

2 AIM OF TASK FORCE

The aim of the Industry Liaison Task Force was:

- To ascertain the expectations that Industry has of the International Society
- To recognise the importance of Industry and ensure that the activities of the International Society are aligned to the interests and needs of the Industry
- To encourage greater participation by Industry in the activities of the International Society.

In this context, the term "Industry" refers to practicing engineers (contractors, consultants, suppliers, etc. – as opposed to researchers and academics) and the companies they work for.

3 PARTICIPANTS

The Task Force was chaired by the Vice President for Africa, Peter Day assisted by Regional Ambassadors:

Africa	Gavin Byrne	(South Africa)
Asia	Yoshinori Iwasaki	(Japan)
Australasia	Max Erwin	(Australia)
	Peter Millar	(New Zealand)
Europe	Maurice Bottiau	(Belgium)
North America	John Anderson	(USA)
South America	Sussumu Niyama	(Brazil)

4 ACTIVITIES

Survey of Practitioners

In 2002, a questionnaire was prepared to canvass the needs of geotechnical practitioners. The main aims of this questionnaire were to ascertain practitioners' perspectives on the benefits of belonging to the International Society and enquiring which of the existing activities and possible additional services would most benefit Industry. The survey was designed to be distributed to selected leading practitioners in the various regions.

Two successful surveys were carried out in the Africa and Australasia regions in 2002 and 2003 respectively. In other regions, the surveys met with varied success. The results are summarised in the following section.

Meetings with Practitioners

The surveys in Africa and Australasia were followed up by meetings with practitioners held in Johannesburg (November 2002) and Auckland (February 2004). The intention of these meetings was to provide an opportunity for interchange of ideas between Board members and practitioners.

The main outcomes of the survey and the meetings were as follows:

- Most respondents had attended regional conferences and speciality conferences arranged by the International Society with only a small percentage having been involved in technical committees or as office bearers of the Society.
- The respondents felt that the International Society was catering well for the needs of educators, researchers, investigators and designers but not for those of contractors or suppliers.
- There was a strong preference for more speciality conferences, case history conferences, practical design and construction courses and "lessons from failures" conferences. There was less support among practitioners for international conferences.
- Among the services requested were a library of geotechnical literature, news of geotechnical projects, specialised journals and an ISSMGE newsletter. The suggestions of a web based forum, product information database, supplier database and professional register did not receive significant support.
- Most practitioners are unaware of the ISSMGE's corporate sponsorship programme.

TC and Conference guidelines

In an attempt to address certain of the above issues, the guidelines for technical committees (TCs) and the organisation of ISSMGE conferences were revised to reflect the need for participation by industry.

The TC guidelines now suggest that the membership of the technical committee should comprise a mix of academics, researchers and practitioners appropriate to the subject area of the TC. As a guide, practitioner involvement of not less than 25% was suggested for most TCs increasing to 50% in the case of technical committees of mainly practical nature. Likewise, the chairperson of the technical committee should be drawn from a sector of the profession appropriate to the subject area of the committee.

In the conference guidelines, it was recommended that the presentations/sessions at the conference should cater for the needs of all sectors of the profession and that practitioners should be adequately represented on conference organising committees and among invited participants.

The academic-practitioner forum which will take place at the XVI ICSMGE in Osaka is an example of the changes brought about as a result of the revised guidelines.

Corporate membership

In a bid to retain the existing corporate involvement in the International Society and attract more corporate sponsors, a revised package of benefits for corporate sponsors was ratified by the Board in 2004. These include a free listing on the Society's web page with active links to the sponsor's home page, discounts on premium grades of membership of Geoforum, preferential invitations to sponsor technical events, discounts on registration fees for ISSMGE conferences, etc. These revised benefits were communicated to all fifteen existing corporate sponsors who were invited, by return, to suggest how best the Society could become more relevant in industry. No responses were received.

In February 2005, a letter was sent to all industrial ambassadors to nominate potential new corporate sponsors. Again, the response was poor with only two regions providing a handful of names.

5 THE ROAD AHEAD

Upon reflection on the above activities and findings, there are probably three areas to which the incoming Board may wish to devote attention.

- Maintaining the drive to ensure that practitioners are adequately represented in the technical activities of the International Society, particularly conferences and technical committees. In addition, the subject matter of such conferences and technical committees should take adequate cognisance of the need to cater for members from Industry.
- Carefully looking at the services the Society offers its members taking cognisance of the services requested by practitioners as reflected above.
- Continuing to focus on the role of corporate sponsors. This includes attracting new sponsors of the International Society and ensuring that the benefits promised to existing sponsors are met.

APPENDIX 8: TASK FORCE: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

REPORT BY H. POULOS

INTRODUCTION

A series of suggestions for revising the format of International Conferences was put forward at the ISSMGE Board meeting in December 2001. These suggestions have been considered by the Organizing Committee for the next conference in Osaka in 2005, and some of these are to be adopted.

This report will focus on two issues:
The Academic-Practitioner Forum for the 2005 Osaka Conference;
The proposal for a re-structuring of the format for International Conferences.

PROPOSED FORMAT & PROCEDURE FOR ACADEMIC – PRACTITIONER FORUM FOR OSAKA CONFERENCE

A proposed format and procedure for the Academic-Practitioner Forum for the Osaka Conference has been developed and has been sent to the Organising Committee for their review, comment and approval. A copy of this document is attached.

The participants have been selected and all have indicated acceptance. They are as follows:

Academics:
Prof. Paul Mayne (USA)
Prof. Malcolm Bolton (UK)
Prof. Fumio Tatsuoka (Japan)

Practitioners:
Mr. Peter Day (S. Africa)
Mr. Luiz Valenzuela (Chile)
Dr. Stephen Crawford (New Zealand)

Chairman:
Prof. Harry Poulos (Australia)

Secretary:
Professor Jyunichi Koseki (Japan).

Every effort will be made to stage a successful event and to set the stage for future new initiatives for our International Conferences.

PROPOSED REVISED FORMAT FOR ACADEMIC-PRACTITIONER FORUM
16th ICSMGE Osaka 2005

INTRODUCTION

The timing of this session has changed from the original 90-minute session on the opening day, to a 90 minute session on the first day and then a 60-minute session on the 2nd day. Accordingly, the following format is proposed.

DAY 1

Activity	*By Whom*	*Time (min)*
Introduction – concept & panellists	Chairman	10
Presentations and discussion on Issue No. 1	6 panellists	7 mins each = 42
Invited contributions from the floor	Audience & Chairman	25
Audience reaction & opinion	Audience & Chairman	8
Closing remarks	Chairman	5
	TOTAL	90

DAY 2

Activity	*By Whom*	*Time (min)*
Introduction	Chairman	5
Presentations and discussion on Issue No. 2	6 panellists Audience & Chairman	**7 MINS EACH = 42**
AUDIENCE REACTION & opinion	Chairman	8
Closing remarks & summary of action agenda		5
	TOTAL	60

PROPOSED ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

Issue 1

(a) Academics – Give an example of research work that you feel has potential for practical application but has not been used extensively by practitioners.

(b) Practitioners – Give an example of a problem that you have encountered where research is perceived to be lacking and would have been of benefit in developing a solution.

Issue 2

Should research continue on complex constitutive laws for soil behaviour when we are unable to adequately assess parameters for simpler soil models, or should we focus on better evaluation of the simpler soil model parameters?

Proposed Rules of the Forum

1. For each issue, each of the 3 academics and 3 practitioners will be given a MAXIMUM of 7 minutes to give their response to the issue. The Chairman will be very firm in adhering to this limit.
2. On Day 1, limited contributions from the floor will be invited after the Academics & Practitioners have given their 7-minute presentations. To assist in a smooth operation of this segment, I will almost certainly invite a few selected people to express their views. I would welcome any suggestions that the Panelists may have for such people.
3. On Day 2, after each issue has been discussed, the audience will be asked to indicate their opinion on the issue via a show of hands (on Day 1). At the end of the first session, the Chairman will attempt to summarize briefly the conclusions reached.
4. At the end of the audience participation segment on Day 2, the Chairman will attempt to sum up and identify areas where research is required and areas in which the results of research should be implemented in practice. This will suggest an agenda for action with respect to both categories.
5. The Chairman will attempt to document the key aspects of the forum via the written contributions of the participating academics and practitioners and via a summary of the audience reactions and contributions.

I have had some reaction against Question 2 from one of our practitioners, but also some pro-reaction and I feel that it is an important issue for many practitioners, and one source of the "gap" that exists between researchers and practitioners. I have therefore decided to leave this question in.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SPEAKERS

The success of this inaugural event will depend largely on the ability of the 6 speakers to communicate their ideas clearly and succinctly to the audience and to each other. In addition, it may assist the smooth running of the sessions if the speakers are aware beforehand of what the others intend to say. For this reason, the following procedure is proposed:

1. Each speaker should prepare his presentation (for each of the 3 questions) well ahead of the event (let us say, by end May 2005), and should send their Powerpoint slides to me to collate and distribute to the other participants in the session.
2. I will ask each speaker to limit his presentation on each question to a MAXIMUM OF 10 SLIDES. Let me know if this creates a desperate problem for any of you in addressing one or more of the issues.
3. In the oral presentation, reference can be made to the other speakers' points, but this will have to be done within the available 7 minutes, and so any such reference will have to be limited.
4. If any of the participants feels unable to comment on the question in detail, then they should so indicate and also indicate if they believe that the question is not relevant to their particular expertise. I would however hope that all participants will be able to express some view, even if it is one of disdain or disinterest.
5. I am anticipating that the presentations will be pre-loaded onto a common computer so that we do not have to waste time changing computers around etc. I am sure that the Secretary of the Session will facilitate this.

ALTERNATIVE FORMAT FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

As outlined at the previous Board Meeting, it is felt that some serious consideration should be given to altering the present format to remove some of its perceived shortcomings. This may be achieved

1. Devoting the first two days entirely to Plenary Sessions, at which State-of-the-Art lectures, and other special lectures, are presented.
2. Devoting the next two days to a number of technical "streams" or themes (for example, 5 or 6), at which Theme Lectures, (limited) paper presentations, and discussions occur. These will be, in effect, 2-day Specialty conferences in themselves.
3. Having the fifth day devoted to technical visits.

The advantages of such a format are as follows:

1. Those who only wish to hear authoritative lectures will need to attend only two days.
2. Those who prefer a more focused type of conference (in effect, Specialty Conferences) will be able to attend the 3rd and 4th days and participate in the technical sessions of their interest.
3. Those who wish to attend the whole 5 days can still do so.
4. The large Plenary venue will only be required for 2 days, and continual changing of venue will not be essential.
5. Technical Committees can have a major role in the organization of the relevant Technical Sessions, much as they now do on a less formal basis. This may reduce the need to have so many Specialty Conferences between the international conferences.
6. More people may be able to participate more actively in the conference.
7. People will be free to change form one stream to another (as now happens with technical sessions) if they wish not to focus solely on one stream.

There are also a number of disadvantages to this scheme:

1. Possible problems with the number of different room/venues required. This will depend on how many different "streams" are involved.
2. There may be some difficulties in deciding which streams will be held at the conference.
3. The logistics of the conference may be a little more difficult with respect to:

a. Venues for the streams, to provide the ability of participants to change streams easily;

b. Conference fees for those that only wish to participate in only part of the whole 5-day event.

Despite these shortcomings, there would seem to be some merit in considering a format change to try and increase the OVERALL number of people attending the conference.

A possible format is shown on the attached Table 1.

It is hoped that the organizers of the 2009 conference will give consideration to this revised format.

TABLE 1

A POSSIBLE REVISED FORMAT FOR ISSMGE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

	PLENARY SESSIONS		*PARALLEL TECHNICAL SYMPOSIA*		
Time	*DAY 1*	*DAY 2*	*DAY 3*	*DAY 4*	*DAY 5*
9.00-10.00	Opening Ceremony	SOA3	Theme 1	Theme 4	TECHNICAL VISITS & TOURS
10.00-11.00	Terzaghi Oration	Heritage Lecture	Paper Presentation & Discussion	Paper Presentation & Discussion	
11.00-11.30	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	
11.30-12.30	SOA 1	SOA 4	Theme 2	Theme 5	
12.30-2.00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
2.00-3.00	SOA 2	SOA 5	Theme 3		
3.00-3.30	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	
3.30-5.00	Academic-Practitioner Forum	Great projects	Paper Presentation & Discussion	Paper Presentation & Discussion	
5.00-5.30		CLOSING SESSION FOR PLENARY		CLOSING SESSION FOR TECHNICAL SYMPOSIA	
EVENING	Welcome Reception	Conference Dinner			

APPENDIX 9: TASK FORCE: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

REPORT BY G. MURRAY

1 INTRODUCTION

This report summarises the activities, key decisions and progress of the Information Technology Task Force. The IT Task Force was established in 2001 with the commencement of this Board's term of office. In 2001 the Istanbul Council Meeting approved the proposal of the Swedish Geotechnical Society to establish an IT Working Group to investigate opportunities for the Society to benefit from the use and development of IT tools. The incoming ISSMGE President appointed an IT Task Force from the Board to coordinate and manage the activity of the IT Working Group.

2 IT ACTIVITIES 2001 - 2005

- In December of 2001, at the first Board Meeting in this term of office, the Board approved the Society's contractual association with Webforum for the International Geotechnical Services Directory.

- The objectives of the IGSD could be summarised as:-
  - To establish a global listing of geotechnical service providers that includes information on capabilities, skills and resources.
  - To promote individual and corporate membership of the ISSMGE.
  - To generate income for the ISSMGE and fund further investment in IT tools and services.

- In early 2002 the IT Task Force prepared a detailed specification of the Society's requirements for web based IT tools.

- The specification for full delivery of the Society's web based IT management tools was quite complex and proved to be prohibitively expensive. By a process of negotiation with the preferred IT supplier (Webforum), the specification for web based IT tools was partitioned into separate packages. Each package could be implemented in stages to meet the objectives of the Society and deliver some immediate benefits to the Board, the Members and some of the Technical Committees.

- The new website and associated communication management platforms was launched and accessible to the membership in April 2003.

- The overall objectives of the website could be summarised as:-
  - To provide an effective and efficient modern means of communicating with all our members.
  - To improve administration of the society.
  - To disseminate information on the activities of the TC's and their publications.
  - To provide a calendar of activities.

- In 2003 there were eight TC's running websites and communication platforms not all of which were covered by the agreement with Webforum.

- In early 2004 Webforum prepared an offer for accelerating the future development of the website. Before taking any action the Board opted to solicit feedback and guidance from potential users or stakeholders in the website and communication platform technology. A circular letter was drafted and sent to the Chairmen and Secretary of all the Technical Committees with a description of the options and asking for input.

- Based on the feedback a number of recommendations were made to the Board for their consideration these included:-
  - Establish an additional communication platform/website for JTC1 and defray the cost between the Sister Societies.
  - Obtain a quote for grouping the individual TC websites and estimate for additional communication platforms as additional TC's are included.
  - Draft a set of guidelines for TC's with regard to the operation and maintenance of website / communication platforms. Include guidance or the Board's expectations for the communication and publication of activities and deliverables using "cyber-infrastructure".
  - Insist that all TC websites, regardless of host, are linked to the ISSMGE website and that there is a corporate identity on all independent website pages that clearly associates the TC activities as mandated by the Society.

- The ISSMGE electronic newsletter was established and the first edition was posted to the website and circulated to Member Societies in October 2004.

- Towards the end of 2004 the ISSMGE and the SGI Line established a new Memorandum of Agreement for the SGI Line.

- By early 2005 it had become clear that the IGSD was not generating any income and would not support the continuing costs to run the website and all of the communication platforms for the TC's in their current form. The current Board could not maintain these systems without incurring a significant cost that was not included in the Council approved budgets.

- In order to limit further expenditure Webforum offered to upgrade the website to a multi-publishing facility that will permit restricted access for designated people to publish information on partitioned areas of the ISSMGE website. This would enable the ISSMGE to close down the TC communication platforms but permit TC Chairmen, Regional VP's or perhaps IC Organisers access to the website to post information on their activities.
- At this time this has not been actioned and Webforum have generously agreed to maintain the existing systems until the Council give the incoming Board some guidance on future policy with regard to priority for IT investment.

APPENDIX 10: SUBSCRIPTION FEES

REPORT BY R. WOODS

ISSMGE Board Proposal on FEES
April 11, 2005

BACKGROUND

ISSMGE is an organization made up of Member Societies and depends upon fees paid by Member Societies to perform its functions. The present formula for calculating subscription fees was designed to ease the fees burden for young and less affluent Member Societies, and therefore Member Society annual subscriptions were based on a Group Number (GN) determined according to a country's GNP and GNP per capita. Unfortunately, the actual outcome of that subscriptions process favours the wealthier Member Societies because they usually have many more members which decrease the fee contribution of individual members. Less affluent Member Societies with small membership numbers end up with much larger individual fees per member. Furthermore, the spread in individual member fees turns out to be quite substantial under the current fees assessment model. In the most recent assessment of fees, the minimum fee per member was about 7 Swiss Francs while the maximum was about 40 Swiss Francs, and in general the lowest per member fee was paid by the most affluent Member Societies while the highest per member fee was paid by the least affluent Member Societies.

In proposing a new annual subscription model, the ISSMGE Board endeavours to achieve a more equitable assessment result and to encourage an increase in individual memberships. As part of this effort, a new international wealth measuring index is being proposed to replace the Gross National Product (GNP), namely, Purchasing Power Parity (PPP). PPP does a better job of tracking the coupled effects of inflation and currency fluctuations than the formerly used GNP.

PROPOSED FEES MODEL

A number of annual subscriptions models have been examined by the ISSMGE Board and the consensus is that a simple, transparent model that accomplishes the goals stated above is be preferred. The model chosen can be described in three steps as follows:

(1) A Basic Fee per Capita (BFC) is established by the ISSMGE Council. That basic fee can be adjusted by the Council from time to time to yield the authorized fees income for the annual budget.
(2) The actual Fee Per Capita (FPC) is calculated starting with the BFC and applying two discounts, one for the

relative wealth of a Member Society as indicated by PPP (DPPP) and another for the number of individual members in the Member Society (DMembers).

The discount for relative wealth (DPPP) is applied to Member Societies with a PPP less than 15000 and has a maximum value of 75% of the BFC.

The discount for members (DMembers) applies to Member Societies with a membership larger than 250 and the members above the 250 threshold are charged at 40% of the Basic Fee per Capita.

The Fee per Capita is then given by FPC = BFC - DPPP - DMembers

(3) The Member Society Annual Subscription (MSAS) is then calculated from the Fee Per Capita (FPC) times the number of members in the society NM (minimum number of members = 30).

Formulae for calculating fees: April 11, 2005

BFC = Basic Fee per Capita = Fixed Number **
(** Adjusted by ISSMGE Council to provide authorized fees income)
Proposed BFC for 2005 = CHF 22.2

FPC (Fee Per Capita) = BFC – DPPP – DMembers

Discount fee for PPP (DPPP)
If a Member Society has a PPP less than 15000, then
DPPP = BFC x 0.75 x (1 – PPP/15000)

Discount fee for number of members
If the number of ISSMGE members (NM) in a Member Society exceeds 250, then
DMembers = [0.6 x (NM – 250) x (BFC – DPPP)/NM]

Annual subscription fee (Member Society Annual Subscription)
MSAS = FPC x NM*
(* Minimum number of members, NM = 30)

Examples of Fees Calculations:
(BFC = CHF22.2 for budget of CHF219,208)

Example 1 -
Australia: PPP = 24630, NM = 787
DPPP = 0 because PPP > 15000
DMembers = [0.6 x (787 – 250) x (22.2 – 0)/787] = 9.09
Fee Per Capita = 22.2 – 9.09 = 13.11
MSAS = 13.11 x 787 = 10,318

Example 2 –
Brazil: PPP = 7070, NM = 721
DPPP = 22.2 x 0.75 x (1 – 7070/15000) = 8.80
DMembers [0.6 x (721 – 250) x (22.2 – 8.80)/721] = 5.25
Fee Per Capita = 22.2 – 8.80 – 5.25 = 8.15
MSAS = 8.15 x 721 = 5,876

Example 3 –
Egypt: PPP = 3560, NM = 25
DPPP = 22.2 x 0.75 x (1 – 3560/15000) = 12.70
DMembers = 0 because NM < 250
Fee Per Capita = 22.2 – 12.70 = 9.50
MSAS = 9.50 x 30 = 285
(NB: must pay for minimum 30 members)

Example 4 –
Greece: PPP = 17520, NM = 173
DFPPP = 0 because PPP > 15000
DMembers = 0 because NM < 250
Fee Per Capita = 22.2 – 0 – 0 = 22.2
MSAS = 22.2 x 173 = 3,841

ISSMGE FEES CALCULATION FOR PROPOSED MODEL

The spreadsheet included at the end of this appendix shows fees calculated by the current model based on Group Number (GN) and GNP and the proposed model for all member societies

ISSMGE FEES RESOLUTION

- Whereas the current method of calculating ISSMGE Member Society annual subscriptions was designed to lessen the fees burden on poorer countries and distribute that fees burden to the wealthier countries, and

- Whereas the actual outcome of the current method of calculating annual subscriptions results in an unexpected higher fee per member burden for poorer countries, and

- Whereas an alternative method of assessing ISSMGE Member Society annual subscriptions that distributes the fees more in line with the spirit and intent of the ISSMGE is desired,

- Be it resolved that the following changes be made to the of the ISSMGE Statutes and Bylaws:

Existing Statute 5C

5C At any time the subscription shall be computed on the basis of the number of designated Individual Members of each Member Society and on the basis of the allocation of Group Numbers most recently agreed at a meeting of the Council. (5C.1)

Proposed Statute 5C

5C At any time the subscription shall be computed on the basis of the number of designated Individual Members of each Member Society and on the basis of a Basic Fee per Capita adjusted by discounts most recently agreed at a meeting of the Council. (5C.1, 5C.2)

Existing Bylaw 5C.1

5C.1 Group numbers are based on Gross National Product with a modifying factor based on GNP per head of population

Proposed Bylaw 5C.1

5C.1 The Basic Fee per Capita is set to meet the budgetary needs of the Society. Discounts agreed by Council are applied to allow for low Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) and for large Member Societies.

Proposed new Bylaw 5C.2

5C.2 The minimum subscription fee payable by a Member Society shall be based on 30 members.

FEE PROPOSAL (APRIL 2005) NB: All fees in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Basic Fee	22.20	This is the basis fee per member before reductions or discounts
PPP adjustment threshold	15000	A reduction in the basic fee is made if PPP lower than threshold
Min fee for zero PPP	25.0%	This is the minimum % of the basic fee for PPP = 0
Membership discount threshold	250	A discount is offered for membership numbers above this threshold
Fee for additional members	40.0%	Additional members (above threshold) charged at the % of basic fee
Minium no. members per society	30	Each society must pay for at least this number of members

	No of members (Mar. '05)	GN	PPP	Current (Mar 2005) Society Fee	Current (Mar 2005) Effective Fee per capita	New Proposal (equivalent fees calculated for 2005) Basic Fee per capita	PPP discount (D_{PPP})	Membership discount ($D_{Members}$)	Fee per capita	Society Fee	% increase
Total	15688			226824						225200	
Maximum	1995	21	37500		40.84				22.20		86%
Minimum	10	0	900		7.01				6.55		-78%
Average	206	7	13048		23.73						
Albania	25	1	4,700	403	16.12	22.20	11.43		10.77	323.01 *	-20%
Argentina	25	6	10,920	1021	40.84	22.20	4.53		17.67	530.14 *	-48%
Australia	787	14	28,290	8705	11.06	22.20		9.09	13.11	10318.56	19%
Austria	100	14	29,610	3889	38.89	22.20			22.20	2220.00	-43%
Azerbaijan	13	1	3,380	350	26.93	22.20	12.90		9.30	279.05 *	-20%
Bangladesh	33	4	1,870	1142	34.61	22.20	14.57		7.63	251.65	-78%
Belgium	74	14	28,930	3022	40.84	22.20			22.20	1642.80	-46%
Bolivia	13	1	2,450	350	26.93	22.20	13.93		8.27	248.09 *	-29%
Brazil	678	7	7,480	6347	9.36	22.20	8.35	5.25	8.61	5834.80	-8%
Bulgaria	63	2	7,610	897	14.24	22.20	8.20		14.00	881.82	-2%
Canada	662	15	29,740	8057	12.17	22.20		8.29	13.91	9208.56	14%
Chile	53	5	9,810	1510	28.49	22.20	5.76		16.44	871.27	-42%
China	187	9	4,990	3360	17.97	22.20	11.11		11.09	2073.62	-38%
Colombia	16	3	6,520	653	40.84	22.20	9.41		12.79	383.62 *	-41%
Costa Rica	20	3	9,040	817	40.84	22.20	6.62		15.58	467.53 *	-43%
Croatia	126	4	10,710	1794	14.24	22.20	4.76		17.44	2197.20	22%
CTGA	28	1	1,220	424	15.14	22.20	15.30		6.90	207.13 *	-51%
Czech and Slovak	43	7	14,880	1756	40.84	22.20	0.13		22.07	948.87	-46%
Denmark	308	16	31,210	5803	18.84	22.20		2.51	19.69	6065.04	5%
Ecuador	20	3	3,440	817	40.84	22.20	12.83		9.37	281.05 *	-66%
Egypt	25	5	3,940	1021	40.84	22.20	12.28		9.92	297.70 *	-71%
Estonia	30	2	12,480	666	22.19	22.20	2.80		19.40	582.08	-13%
Finland	177	14	27,100	4429	25.02	22.20			22.20	3929.40	-11%
France	473	17	27,460	7187	15.19	22.20		6.28	15.92	7530.24	5%
Germany	745	17	27,460	9094	12.21	22.20		8.85	13.35	9945.60	9%
Ghana	33	1	2,190	459	13.91	22.20	14.22		7.98	263.37	-43%
Greece	173	10	19,920	3490	20.17	22.20			22.20	3840.60	10%
Hong Kong	508	13	28,810	6522	12.84	22.20		6.76	15.44	7841.04	20%
Hungary	84	7	13,780	2183	25.99	22.20	1.35		20.85	1751.05	-20%
Iceland	10	12	30,140	408	40.84	22.20			22.20	666.00 *	63%
India	225	7	2,880	3171	14.09	22.20	13.45		8.75	1968.03	-38%
Indonesia	20	6	3,210	817	40.84	22.20	13.09		9.11	273.39 *	-67%
Iran	191	5	7,190	2478	12.97	22.20	8.67		13.53	2584.40	4%
Iraq+	11	1	1,000	350	31.83	22.20	15.54		6.66	199.80 *	-43%
Ireland	26	13	30,450	1062	40.84	22.20			22.20	666.00 *	-37%
Israel	35	10	19,200	1429	40.84	22.20			22.20	777.00	-46%
Italy	256	16	26,760	5438	21.24	22.20		0.31	21.89	5603.28	3%
Japan	1427	20	28,620	14559	10.20	22.20		10.99	11.21	16001.76	10%
Kazakhstan	40	3	6,170	964	24.09	22.20	9.80		12.40	495.95	-49%
Kenya	21	2	1,020	603	28.70	22.20	15.52		6.68	200.47 *	-67%
Korea	171	11	17,930	3704	21.66	22.20			22.20	3796.20	3%
Latvia	31	2	10,130	673	21.70	22.20	5.41		16.79	520.62	-23%
Lithuania	40	3	11,090	964	24.09	22.20	4.34		17.86	714.40	-26%
Macedonia	72	0	6,720	505	7.01	22.20	9.19		13.01	936.66	86%
Mexico	161	9	8,950	3178	19.74	22.20	6.72		15.48	2493.00	-22%
Morocco	12	4	3,950	490	40.84	22.20	12.27		9.93	298.04 *	-39%
Nepal	22	1	1,420	382	17.36	22.20	15.07		7.13	213.79 *	-44%
Netherlands	323	15	28,600	5680	17.59	22.20		3.01	19.19	6198.24	9%
New Zealand	290	9	21,120	4082	14.08	22.20		1.84	20.36	5905.20	45%
Nigeria	25	3	900	858	34.33	22.20	15.65		6.55	196.47 *	-77%
Norway	333	16	37,300	5978	17.95	22.20		3.32	18.88	6287.04	5%
Pakistan	80	4	2,060	1472	18.40	22.20	14.36		7.84	626.93	-57%
Paraguay	18	1	4,740	354	19.66	22.20	11.39		10.81	324.34 *	-8%
Peru	25	4	5,090	1021	40.84	22.20	11.00		11.20	336.00 *	-67%
Poland	298	7	11,450	3683	12.36	22.20	3.94	1.76	16.49	4915.46	33%
Portugal	223	9	17,980	3613	16.20	22.20			22.20	4950.60	37%
Romania	140	4	7,140	1892	13.52	22.20	8.72		13.48	1886.56	0%
Russia	269	7	8,920	3480	12.94	22.20	6.75	0.65	14.80	3980.23	14%
Serbia and Montenegro+	20	2	1,000	596	29.78	22.20	15.54		6.66	199.80 *	-66%
Slovenia	105	6	19,240	2102	20.02	22.20			22.20	2331.00	11%
South Africa	261	5	10,270	2968	11.37	22.20	5.25	0.43	16.52	4312.00	45%
South East Asia	250	7	5,870	3347	13.39	22.20	10.13		12.07	3016.43	-10%
Spain	404	13	22,020	5792	14.34	22.20		5.08	17.12	6917.52	19%
Sri Lanka	34	2	3,730	694	20.40	22.20	12.51		9.69	329.47	-53%
Sudan	25	2	1,680	631	25.23	22.20	14.56		7.64	229.10 *	-64%
Sweden	350	15	26,620	5869	16.77	22.20		3.81	18.39	6438.00	10%
Switzerland	234	16	32,030	5284	22.58	22.20			22.20	5194.80	-2%
Syria	17	3	3,430	694	40.84	22.20	12.84		9.36	280.72 *	-60%
Tunisia	20	3	6,840	817	40.84	22.20	9.06		13.14	394.27 *	-52%
Turkey	181	6	6,690	2635	14.56	22.20	9.22		12.98	2348.64	-11%
Ukraine	97	4	5,410	1591	16.40	22.20	10.64		11.56	1120.84	-30%
UK	1314	18	27,650	13311	10.13	22.20		10.79	11.41	14998.32	13%
USA	1995	21	37,500	18769	9.41	22.20		11.65	10.55	21045.60	12%
Venezuela	29	6	4,740	1184	40.84	22.20	11.39		10.81	324.34 *	-73%
Vietnam	18	3	2,490	735	40.84	22.20	13.89		8.31	249.42 *	-66%
Zimbabwe	17	1	2,180	350	20.59	22.20	14.23		7.97	239.09 *	-32%

+ indicates no data available for PPP and PPP = 1000 assumed

* indicates society fee calculated for the minimum number of members.

225200.10

APPENDIX 11: MID-TERM COUNCIL MEETING.

REPORT BY P. DAY AND F. TATSUOKA

PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN BYLAWS

1 INTRODUCTION

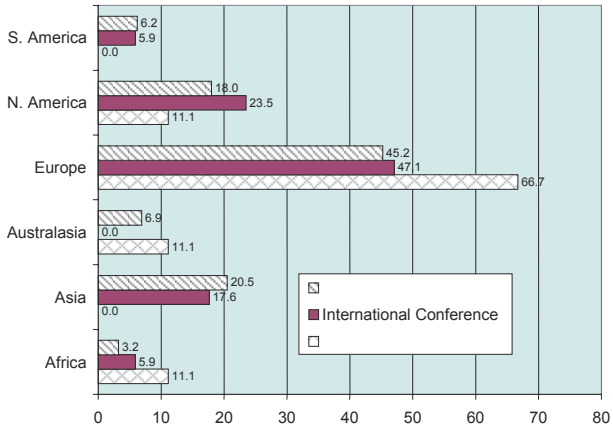
Over the years, there has been considerable debate about the voting policy of the ISSMGE, the major issue being the allocation of one vote per member society irrespective of the size of the member society or its fee contribution to the ISSMGE. The principle of one-society-one-vote is one of the fundamentals of the ISSMGE constitution and is a highly emotive issue in certain regions.

While it may not possible to resolve the debate in the short term, it is possible to redress some of the imbalances that occur by means of minor changes to the by-laws of the Society. The purpose of this document is to motivate such changes.

2 THE PROBLEM

Two issues voted on by Council on a regular basis are the selection of the venue for the next mid-term Council Meeting and the venue for the next International Conference. There is great Regional interest in both issues.

In the past, certain regions have tended to loose out on hosting these events as illustrated by the following graphic. This includes the two ICSMGE venues already allocated to Asia (Osaka, 2005) and Africa (Alexandria, 2009). South America and Asia have yet to host a mid-term Council meeting and no International Conferences have been held in Australasia.



3 THE SOLUTION

In order to achieve a more equitable distribution of venues between the regions, it is proposed that any Region that has recently hosted a mid-term council meeting or an International Conference should "sit out" on the next two occasions.

For example, if this proposal is adopted, no member society from Asia (host region for the 2005 ICSMGE) will be eligible to host the conference in either 2009 or 2013. Similarly, Africa will not be eligible to host the conference in 2013 or 2017. This will leave only four regions in the selection of the 2013 Conference increasing the chances of the conference going to one of the regions that has not hosted it recently.

This solution can be implemented by means of two simple changes to the Bylaws requiring only a simple majority for acceptance. No change is required to the to voting policy or the Statutes.

4 PROPOSAL

It is proposed that two new Bylaws be added as follows:

12B.2: With a view to distributing meetings evenly among the Regions, Member Societies from a Region that has recently hosted a mid-term Council Meeting (i.e. a meeting held between International Conferences) shall refrain from offering to host the next two mid-term Council meetings unless no acceptable invitation is received from the remaining Regions.

14B.3: With a view to distributing International Conferences evenly among the Regions, Member Societies from a Region that has recently hosted an International Conference shall refrain from offering to host the next two International Conferences unless no acceptable invitation is received from the remaining Regions

APPENDIX 12: RELATIONSHIP WITH SISTER SOCIETIES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES

REPORT BY PRESIDENT

At the Council Meeting in Prague, August 2003, approval was given to the formation of a Task Force that would consider specifically the potential for future close cooperation between the Sister Societies. A Joint Task Force was established that comprised 3 representatives from each of ISSMGE, ISRM and IAEG and with the three Secretaries General present as observers.

The report from the Joint Task Force was received in January 2005 and was considered by the three Presidents in February 2005. This resulted in the following Proposal, which has been placed on the agendas of the Council Meetings of the Sister Societies (17 May ISRM, 22 May IAEG, 11 September ISSMGE). For completeness, the report of the Joint Task Force follows the Proposal as Appendix 1.

FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL GEO-ENGINEERING SOCIETIES

INTRODUCTION

The Presidents of the Sister Societies (International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, ISSMGE; International Society for Rock Mechanics, ISRM; International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment, IAEG) are proposing the formation of the Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies (FIGS). It is intended that the federation will supplement the common perception of ISSMGE, ISRM and IAEG as learned societies by engaging more closely with industry and public bodies and promoting to such bodies

the activities of the Sister Societies and the geo-engineering profession in general.

REASONS FOR THE FORMATION OF A FEDERATION

Geo-engineering is a relatively limited area of professional activity even though it involves many associations. There are good reasons why such specialist associations should exist, but at the same time, the existence of separate associations inevitably leads to a fragmentation of geo-engineering, with the potential for overlap of research efforts and the dilution of efforts to promote the industry. In addition, some associations such as the Sister Societies have a strong learned society role that can at times hinder interaction with commercial organisations and communication with policy-making groups. As a consequence, it is proposed that a Federation is formed that encompasses the various specialist associations that now exist. The primary functions of such a Federation would be:

1. To coordinate efforts to develop guidelines for professional practice and to agree on policy statements in geo-engineering;
2. To coordinate efforts in developing educational curricula for higher education in geo-engineering;
3. To coordinate technical commissions with activities and interests common to the constituent associations;
4. To coordinate participation of technical commissions in conferences and symposia of the constituent associations;
5. To promote interaction with industry and policy-making organisations.
6. To promote awareness of the importance of geo-engineering among professionals in associated areas, clients, decisions-makers and politicians, and to enhance its public image. It includes all actions for development of policies that will advance the learned and professional functions of the geotechnical communities.
7. To provide a common technical resource database via a new website;
8. To stimulate interaction among geo-professionals within various facets of geo-engineering;
9. To coordinate research efforts in areas of common interest to the various specialist associations which constitute the Federation;

It is a basic principle that each of the participating Societies retains their identity and autonomy. However, it is recognised that mutual benefits should flow from a Federation of the partner Societies. The structure of the Federation will be consistent with the present collaboration of the founding Sister Societies. It will be designed to enhance their visibility and provide a potentially powerful force in raising the profile of the geo-engineering profession, both within the memberships of the Sister Societies and also with other professional associations, clients, the public, and politicians and decision-makers. The Federation will complement, rather than subsume, the activities of each partner Society, and should promote increased interaction, both at conferences, and via Technical Committees or Commissions, and in due course, lead to a more integrated approach to geo-engineering.

FUNCTION OF A FEDERATION

It is important that the Federation of Geo-engineering Societies is not seen as yet another talking shop within the geo-engineering community. It must deliver benefits in terms of greater public awareness, greater coordination and greater cooperation within the different disciplines of geo-engineering. It will need the support of all the partner Societies but must not become a financial burden. The responsibi-lities on the shoulders of the founding members of the FIGS will initially be substantial but there are significant potential rewards.

Promotion of the Geo-Engineering Profession

The Federation has the potential to be a potent force for promoting the geo-engineering profession. It has a greater potential than each of the individual societies for raising awareness within the profession of the inevitable and essential interaction among geo-engineering practitioners. In addition, it is more likely to be effective in raising public awareness and profile of the geo-engineering profession, with publicity aimed at professionals in associated areas, clients, the general public and decision-makers and politicians. It will also have a major role in setting guidelines for professional standards and practice and in promoting policy statements.

Technical Cooperation

The Federation should have a major function in coordinating technical activity in areas with over- lapping interest. It is envisaged that the FIGS will be responsible for establishing Joint Technical Committees and will set their terms of reference as well as agree on their membership. These Technical Committees in a first step, will be extended to encompass education and professional practice.

A major activity of the partner Societies is the promotion and delivery of conferences. The existence of FIGS will allow the proper and effective coordination and scheduling of conferences especially ones with overlapping interest. It should be possible to ensure effective contribution by Joint Technical Committees to organise special sessions and workshops within conferences. Also, it will be possible to arrange for more general conferences to have for example a day set aside in which the technical sessions will be designed to have interest common to all.

It is envisaged that the conference scheduling will be enhanced by a website incorporating an active and searchable database. The website will also provide a database of technical resources relevant to the geo-engineering profession.

STRUCTURE OF THE FEDERATION

The Federation of Geo-engineering Societies will comprise a Board and a Liaison Committee.

The Board will be formed from the partner Societies, which are initially the founding associations and its membership will comprise the President, immediate past President and Secretary General from each of ISSMGE, ISRM and IAEG. The Board will elect a Chairperson chosen from the immediate past Presidents or another co-opted individual as the Board sees fit. This election needs the approval of all three Presidents. The Chairperson must have experience both of the operation of the Sister Societies and of the needs and scope of the geo-engineering profession and will be appointed for a four-year term of office. The Chairperson would be the figurehead of the Federation and would be the key person in interacting with other groups and individuals. Thus, the Chairperson must be well connected in a business and political sense and be able to participate and communicate in high-level meetings around the world.

The Secretaries-General can secure by their presence some of the continuity of the "memory" of the partner societies, and will be members of the FIGS board as advisory members without voting rights.

The Liaison Committee will comprise Chief Executive Officers of major geo-engineering companies, as well as representatives of interested international groups (such as the International Geosynthetics Society, International Association of Hydrogeologists, International Tunnelling Association, etc), and representatives of public opinion groups, international organisations (for example : mining companies, dredging companies, Unesco etc…) and associations. The Board will appoint members of the Liaison Committee. The term of office will be in general four years though the Board will be mindful of the need to ensure sensible rotation of its membership.

It is envisaged that FIGS meetings will be held over a two-day period. The Board and the Liaison Committee will meet on the first day and cover the agenda prepared by the Board and agreed with the Liaison Committee. The Board itself will meet on the second day to decide on the best way of responding to the advice and initiatives provided by the Liaison Committee. It is envisaged that FIGS will meet at least once every year with perhaps more frequent meetings during the formative stages of the Federation.

The major functions of FIGS will include, besides of the issues described on page 1, also the over-seeing of the governance of the Federation and its financial activities.

ESTIMATED COSTS OF RUNNING THE FEDERATION

Meetings of the FIGS have two components: meetings of the Liaison Committee and the Board. The Board meetings are similar to the present meetings of the partner Societies and should not incur additional expenditure for them. It is further assumed that members of the Liaison Committee will participate in meetings at their own expense.

On the basis of the above assumptions, the following annual costs are estimated:

Expense Item	*Total Annual Cost (EUR)*
Part-time secretarial assistance of FIGS chair	7500
Stationery, printing & sundry administrative costs	1000
Overseas travel for Chairperson	7500
TOTAL	EUR 16000

The website will require approximately EUR10000 to set-up but it is envisaged that recurrent annual expenditure will be minimal.

The costs in the table do not include the travel costs for the 3 representatives of each association to attend the Federation Board meetings, as the three associations have different rules and facilities accounting for these traveling costs.

The resources available to fund the Federation include:
1. Industry sponsorship
2. Income from FIGS activities, such as publications, conferences etc.
3. Support from the partner Societies.

The initial financial support from the Sister Societies will be required to launch the Federation but it envisaged that it would quickly become self-financing. The table reflects the total estimated cost of operating FIGS.

FUTURE ACTIONS

The Councils of the founding Sister Societies will be asked at their meetings in 2005 to approve in principle the formation of a Federation of Geo-engineering Societies. After all three Sister Societies have given their approval, a sub-committee will be commissioned and chaired by the three Presidents to draft the FIGS constitution and identify any changes to the Statutes and Bylaws that will be required following the formation of the FIGS. Some legal consultation may be necessary to clarify the international standing of the federation and any financial implications. The Councils of the Sister Societies will be asked to formally approve establishing the Federation of Geo-engineering Societies at their meetings in 2006 and 2007.

APPENDIX 1

JOINT TASK FORCE
FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL GEO-ENGINEERING SOCIETIES
Revised Report , January 2005

INTRODUCTION

Preliminary discussions have taken place among the Presidents of the three sister societies (IAEG, ISRM, ISSMGE) over the past two years, and agreement has been reached to increase the level of interaction and cooperation considerably. It was decided that a Joint Task Force, comprising 3 representatives of each of the three sister societies, together with the Secretaries-General of each Society (as observers) be formed to further co-operation and to develop strategies for the formation of a viable "Federation" of geotechnical societies. The membership of the Task Force is set out in Appendix A.

The original agenda for the meeting is reproduced in Appendix B. This agenda was modified during the meeting, to include an item relating to the profiles of the participating Societies, with reference to the work of the European Working Group. The reports of that Group were made available to the Task Force members, the latest document being dated 4th June 2004.

The initial interim report described the outcome of discussions that were held in Athens on 21st June 2004, and made recommendations for future action. Ten of the twelve members of the Task Force were present, with S. Burns and M. Panet being unable to attend and sending their apologies and, in the case of Prof. Panet, their thoughts on some of the issues.

This present report updates the initial interim report and addresses a number of issues that were raised by the Presidents of the three Sister Societies. It also provides more details of estimates of the financial consequences of forming a Federation.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE JOINT TASK FORCE

The three Society Presidents forwarded the Terms of Reference to the Joint Task Force, and the original letter containing these is reproduced in Appendix C.

The terms of reference were as follows:
1. Identify the profiles of the participating Societies having as the basis the work of the Joint European Working Group.
2. Identify areas of commonality and describe the needs for and the benefits and disadvantages of collaboration in a forum or federation.
3. Consider the following topics as goals for the forum or federation:

a. To raise the awareness within our own profession of the inevitable and essential interaction among practitioners in rock mechanics, soil mechanics and engineering geology;
b. To raise the public awareness and profile of the ground engineering profession to clients, to the general public, and to decision makers and politicians;
c. To coordinate technical activities in relevant areas by means of joint technical committees;
d. To coordinate the agenda of scientific meetings, congresses and symposia;
e. To coordinate efforts to improve and strengthen geotechnical education;
f. To define a cost-effective common professional secretariat supporting the participating associations.

4. Propose a workable structure for the forum or federation to achieve its goals.
5. Assess the implication of adopting this structure on the present operation of the participating Societies.

The Joint Task Force was required to deliver an interim report by the end of July 2004, and the final report by mid-February 2005.

This present document is the second interim report. For the sake of brevity, the Joint Task Force will be referred to herein as the "JTF" and the proposed Federation will be referred to as "FIGS", for reasons which will be explained later in the report.

REASONS FOR THE FORMATION OF A FEDERATION

The area of geo-engineering and geotechnology (termed here "geo-engineering" for convenience) is a relatively limited area of professional activity, yet there are a considerable number of organizations which represent various facets of this area. There are good reasons why such specialist organizations should exist, but at the same time, the existence of separate organizations inevitably leads to a fragmentation of geo-engineering, with the potential for overlap of research efforts and the dilution of efforts to promote the industry. As a consequence, it appears desirable to consider the formation of an "umbrella" group or Federation, which would be comprised of the various specialist organizations which now exist. The primary functions of such a Federation would include the following:

1. To coordinate efforts to develop standards for professional practice in geo-engineering;
2. To coordinate efforts in developing educational curricula for higher education in geo-engineering;
3. To promote awareness of the importance of geo-engineering and enhance its public image;
4. To set guidelines for geo-investigations so that ground-related risks are reduced to acceptable levels;
5. To coordinate research efforts in areas of common interest to the various specialist organizations which constitute the Federation;
6. To stimulate interaction among geo-professionals within various facets of geo-engineering.

In the first instance, it is proposed that the three Sister Societies, IAEG, ISRM and ISSMGE, would oversee the development of such a Federation, but that in due course, a number of other Societies would be able to participate.

PROFILES OF PARTICIPATING SOCIETIES

Past Efforts

The Co-Chairmen of JTF outlined the previous attempts to develop cooperation among the various facets of geotechnical engineering, starting with Karl Terzaghi in the early decades of the 20th Century. A proposition from ISSMFE in the early 1970s did not receive approval. Attempts had been made to have a Permanent Coordinating Secretariat of the three societies, ISSMFE (which later became ISSMGE), ISRM and IAEG, under the leadership of the late Prof. De Beer, but this effort had stalled over the past 15 years or so. A revival of interest was sparked by the 3 Presidents and the by the Organization of the Geo Eng 2000 conference in Melbourne, and by the paper delivered by Prof. N. Morgenstern, who had advocated the formation of a single geotechnical union. The subsequent meetings of the three Presidents of these societies had led to the formation of a Joint European Working Group (JEWG), and also to the present Joint Task Force.

The Report of the Joint European Working Group

This group was formed in July 2002, and its report described their deliberations on the professional competencies of engineering geologists and geotechnical engineers. Key components of the report were:

- An outline of the professional competencies of engineering geologists;
- An outline of the professional competencies of geotechnical engineers;
- A diagram illustrating the relationship between soil mechanics, rock mechanics and engineering geology within the broader field of ground engineering.

This latter diagram is reproduced as Figure 1 in the present report.

The members of the JTF considered the JEWG Report, and generally agreed with the broad principles of the relationship between the three geo-disciplines. However, some members of the JTF expressed disagreement with some of the aspects of the report, and in particular, the following:

1. The term "ground engineering" is not favoured, and it is suggested that the term "geo-engineering" is more appropriate;
2. The ground engineering triangle reproduced in Figure 1 does not adequately highlight the differences between rock mechanics and soil mechanics, as well as between rock engineering and soil engineering. It is felt that some further amplification of these differences was desirable.
3. There is a lack of emphasis on areas outside civil engineering, particularly mining engineering and petroleum engineering.
4. Site investigation (and the associated assessment of ground risk) is not the province solely of the engineering geologists, as the document implies. A document outlining the ideal mode of cooperation between rock mechanics engineers and engineering geologists, for rock engineering projects, was tabled by Dr. Erichsen. This document is shown in Table 1. It was agreed that this presented a (more) appropriate cooperative relationship between the engineer and the engineering geologist, and that a similar table would be relevant for soil engineering projects.

Profiles of the Participating Groups

It was agreed that, in the first instance, the participating groups would be the three sister societies, IAEG, ISRM and ISSMGE. The profile of each of these societies is described in the relevant constitution, statutes and by-laws, and need not be repeated here. However, it was noted that each of the group was a learned society, and each had focused its efforts in achieving its objectives as a learned society.

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES FOR THE FEDERATION

The need to establish a well structured cooperation, initially between the three Sister Societies, was discussed, bearing in mind the following points:

- The domains of competence of the three Societies are largely overlapping.
- Each Society being learned Society has restrictions in developing actions associated directly with the promotion of the geo-engineering profession.
- As a whole, the impact of the three Societies on society in general is limited.

Neither "Union", nor "Association" is proposed as the structural name of the body that will promote cooperation as outlined in the terms of reference for the JTF. "Federation" is a more appropriate name.

There was unanimous agreement that, regardless of the structure of the Federation, there would be two unwavering principles that would be adhered to:

1. The Federation should advance the broad field of geo-engineering;
2. The character of the individual Societies should not be altered, and each Society should retain its autonomy. In other words, each of the participating Societies would still continue to represent its members in the appropriate specialist areas, and would continue to hold its own conferences and seminars etc., but would do so within an underlying spirit of cooperation with other member Societies within the Federation.

It was agreed that if a Federation is to be established, the term "Geo-Engineering" is more representative than the terms "Geotechnical Engineering" or "Ground Engineering" as it covers more clearly the understanding that Mining, Petroleum or Ground Water activities are also included.

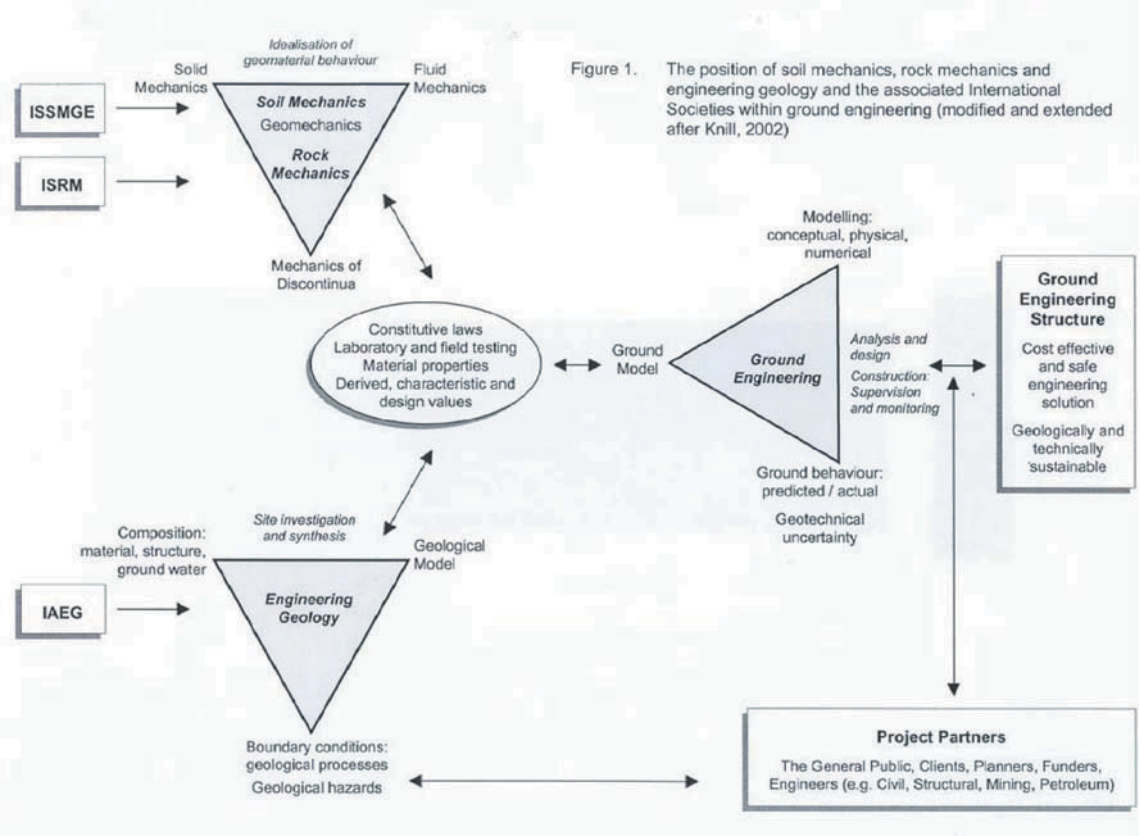


Figure 1. The position of soil mechanics, rock mechanics and engineering geology and the associated International Societies within ground engineering (modified and extended after Knill, 2002)

Figure 1 Relationships between soil mechanics, rock mechanics and engineering geology (from the Joint European Working Group Report, 2004)

Table 1
Working fields and Cooperation of Rock Mechanics
Engineers and Engineering Geologists
(Submitted by Erichsen, 2004)

Working fields in rock engineering	Typical work	
	Rock Mechanics Engineer	Engineering Geologist
Geological phenomena		X
Site investigation Lab. testing Field testing	Cooperation	
Structural Model - intact rock - discontinuities, faults - ground water - geological risks	Contribution	X
Geotechnical Model - anisotropies (E, □d, Permeab., Transport) - constitutive laws - parameters (derived/characteristics) - geotechnical risks	X	Contribution
Stability Analyses	X	
Risk assessment	X	
Design - according to standards - safe - economic	X	
Tendering	X	Contribution
Design-Check	X	
Site supervision	X	Contribution
mapping, monitoring	Contribution	X
Back Analyses, Predicted/actual behavior	X	

AREAS OF COMMONALITY, AND BENEFITS AND DISADVANTAGES OF A FEDERATION

The JTF agreed that the key areas of cooperation would be:

1. The promotion of the geo-engineering profession;
2. Relevant technical issues, for which joint technical committees or commissions would be formed;
3. Education in geo-engineering;
4. The development of jointly-sponsored conferences.
5. Other initiatives of cooperation (publications, awards)

Each of these areas is discussed in more detail below.

Promotion of the Geo-Engineering Profession

It was felt that a Federation had the potential to be a potent force for promoting the geo-engineering profession. It would have a greater potential than each of the individual societies for raising awareness within our own profession of the inevitable and essential interaction among practitioners in soil mechanics, rock mechanics and engineering geology. In addition, it would also be more likely to be effective in raising public awareness and profile of the geo-engineering profession, with publicity aimed at the following groups:

i. Professionals in associated areas;
ii. Clients;
iii. The general public;
iv. Decision-makers and politicians.

It would also have a role in setting guidelines for professional standards and ethical professional conduct. It was noted that ISSMGE had recently released a policy statement similar in nature to the above, and it was agreed that such a role would be of considerable benefit to the profession. The example of the accounting profession in setting standards for their profession, and their subsequent elevated public profile, was also noted. For reference, a copy of the ISSMGE Policy Statement is reproduced in Appendix D.

Areas of Technical Cooperation

The JTF considered that a Federation would have an important function in coordinating technical activity in relevant areas. It is understood that this has already been raised by the three Presidents in relation to the following areas:

a. Landslides (for which a joint committee already exists);
b. Earthquake geotechnical engineering;
c. Environmental geotechnics;
d. Sustainable subsurface development and management
e. Geophysical testing in geotechnical engineering;
f. Preservation of historic sites;
g. Geotechnics and professional practice;
h. Geotechnics of soil erosion.

In addition, there would seem to be scope for cooperation in relation to underground construction, dams, mining, petroleum engineering, and soft rock engineering.

An important task of Joint Technical Committees would be to facilitate the implementation of research in practice via, for example, the development of guidelines and design aids.

Education in Geo-Engineering

This subject has re-emerged as an important issue for all three sister societies, and has been addressed in differing ways by each. It was agreed that a more unified approach to geo-engineering education would be greatly beneficial. In particular, each Society should define the minimum requirements for education of a geo-engineering professional for two cases:

1. One who would specialize in the prime area of that Society, i.e. engineering geology, rock mechanics, or soil mechanics.
2. One who would specialize in one of the other areas.

Thus far, attention seems to have focused on the first aspect, but there would seem to be a critical need for defining the minimum knowledge that a geo-engineering professional should have in the areas other than his/her area of prime specialization.

Jointly-Sponsored Conferences

The JTF considered that consideration should be given to jointly-organized and sponsored conferences on specialized topics of broad interest. The series of International Symposia on Landslides and the 1988 IAEG – organized conference in Athens on preservation of historic structures is an example of such a conference. It is anticipated that the prospective Joint Technical Committees would take the lead for such events.

Consideration should also be given to the development of common sessions within the International Conferences of each of the Societies. This may be particularly important in the efforts of the Federation to gain greater visibility among decision-makers. It was agreed that the setting-up of a new series of International Conferences (following upon the success of GeoEng 2000) would be unlikely to be fruitful. However, it was felt that a Joint Conference of a similar nature every decade could be beneficial, and could be a subject of consideration for the Federation.

Other Initiatives for Cooperation

The JTF identified at least two other areas for collaboration:

1. The development of a joint publication which would reproduce significant state-of-the-art papers and reviews that may have been presented at conferences organized by one of the societies, or reports of Joint Committees. This was seen to have at least four benefits:
   a. It would provide a source of continuing joint activity within the Federation;
   b. It would stimulate a broader appreciation of work in all (three) areas of geo-engineering;
   c. It would bring key state-of-the art literature to the attention of those members that had not attended the conference at which the work was presented;
   d. It would possibly provide a source of income for the Federation.

   It was felt that issues such as copyright could be overcome by appropriate planning and negotiation with the conference proceedings publishers, and that it would be possible to find a suitable publisher for such a series of publications. It was emphasized that, in accordance with the guiding principles of the Federation, the existing publications of IAEG and ISRM should not be affected adversely by such a publication.
2. The institution of a Federation award, to honour individuals who had made notable contributions to the broad spectrum of geo-engineering.

Advantages and Disadvantages of a Federation

As set out earlier in this report, the JTF saw distinct advantages in the existence of a Federation, via its ability to provide a unified and more visible public "face" for geo-engineering, and in the potential for greater integration of the disciplines in the broader field of geo-engineering. The success of such integrated efforts in Australasia, South Africa and a number of European Countries was mentioned.

A Federation can reward and promote the capabilities of geo-engineering in areas where each of the 3 Societies is not able to do so alone, and in cases where their structure, as learned Societies, restricts their effectiveness in the field of professional activities.

The disadvantages were not explored in detail, but there was a general feeling that, as long as the basic principles of individual Society autonomy were maintained, such disadvantages should be minimal. There was a concern expressed by some of the members that, in some countries, the existence of a Federation may blur the distinction between engineers and engineering geologists, but this was not seen as a universal problem.

GOALS FOR THE FEDERATION

Based on the discussions described above, the primary goal of the Federation could be stated as follows:

To enhance the profession of geo-engineering via the following means:

- Increasing the awareness of the profession by other professionals in related areas, by clients, by the public and by decision makers.
- The setting of guidelines for competent and ethical practice within the profession.
- Expanding the breadth of education in geo-engineering so that all professionals possess an adequate knowledge of the main areas of the profession.
- Increasing the interaction among geo-professionals in various areas of specialization, via joint technical activities, conferences and technical publications.

POSSIBLE STRUCTURE FOR THE FEDERATION

Essential Elements

Before considering the structure of the proposed Federation, it was considered useful to try and define the essential elements of the Federation. Four key elements were identified, as set out below.

(a) The Board

There was unanimous agreement that the governance of the federation should be carried out via a Board. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the Board should consist of the following members:

- The Presidents of the three sister Societies;
- The Secretaries-General of the three sister Societies; their presence will secure the continuity of the "memory" of the Societies' affairs within the Federation.
- Up to two additional members nominated by each sister Society. There was some disagreement about

the issue of this number, with some members of the JTF advocating only one member, while others felt that two from each Society would be more representative.

This would give a Board consisting of a maximum of 12 members. In addition, there would be a President who would be elected separately, as set out below, and who would chair the Board.

Subsequent to the Athens meeting, there was some difference of opinion among the JTF members on whether the Secretaries-General should have voting rights on the Board. This matter requires further consideration.

After presentation of the initial interim report, the three Presidents raised the issue of the number of Board Members, and appeared to favor only a total of two representatives from each Society, perhaps the incumbent President and the immediate Past-President. While this may have some advantages from the viewpoint of economy, it was also seen by the JTF as having the potential to stifle innovation and lateral thinking. On balance, it was felt that a total of up to three representatives from each Society should be present on the Board initially, and that the representation be reviewed when additional Societies joined the Federation in due course.

The major functions of the Board would involve the following:

1. The development of policies and actions that will advance the learned and professional functions of the international and national geotechnical communities;
2. The development of activities which will promote interaction among the various facets of the geo-engineering profession;
3. The over-seeing of the governance of the Federation and its financial activities.

It was agreed that the Board of FIGS should meet at least once every year, with perhaps more frequent meetings during the formative stages of the Federation. It was also agreed that it would be highly desirable for the FIGS Board meeting to coincide with a significant international or regional event of one of the Sister Societies. Such a strategy would increase the visibility of the federation and also reduce costs associated with the Board meeting.

(b) The President

The JTF agreed that it would be essential to have a figurehead for the Federation, in the form of a President or Chairman. The former title was favoured by the majority, although there was also a body of opinion that expressed concern that an excess of Presidents could result if this title was also conferred on the figurehead. There was however a unanimous opinion that the President should be elected from outside the above Board. This approach avoids potential inefficiency of operation of the Federation arising from the fact that the Boards of the 3 Societies are not elected at the same time and that this could lead to a change of the composition of the Federation almost every year.

It was proposed initially that the following procedure be adopted for selecting the President:

1. Each Society would, in their turn, nominate between 3 and 5 persons as candidates for the position.
2. The Board would then select the President from these 3 to 5 nominees.
3. The President would hold office for a period of 2 years.

With the above process, and once the rotation order was established, this would mean that each Society would provide the nominees every 6th year.

In commenting on the initial interim report, the three Presidents expressed concern about the rotation system for selecting a President and about the limit of a two-year term for the President. The rationale behind the JTF's suggestion of a 2-year term was that the President would be a busy person whose other duties may preclude extended involvement with the Federation. As a consequence of the Presidents' comments, the JTF felt that it would be reasonable to have the President of the Federation serve an initial 2-year term, with a possibility of one further 2-year term by mutual consent between the Board and the President.

The President would be a figure of international prominence, who would be able to fulfill the objectives of the Federation, particularly in relation to the issue of promoting the visibility and status of the geo-engineering profession. The President would be the figurehead of the Federation and would be the key person in interacting with other groups and individuals. Thus, the President would ideally be "well-connected" in a business and political sense, and be able to participate in high-level meetings around the world.

(c) The Position of Secretary General

After some discussion, it was agreed unanimously that there should **NOT** be a Secretary-General (S-G) for the Federation. Given that the prime principle of the Federation was not to alter the functioning of each individual Society and as no national groups or members will exist, there seemed to be no well-defined role for an S-G of the Federation, nor would it be practical to try and centralize the administration of the three Societies, as such a role would require a full-time, highly-paid professional person, and in any case, the role would almost certainly be too extensive and diverse for a single person.

There was a strong feeling that, to fulfill the requirements of their own members, each Society needed to retain its own Secretary-General, and that there was little chance that a single individual could effectively replace the three Secretaries-General.

(d) Secretarial Assistance

The JTF recommends that part-time secretarial assistance should be provided to the Board and to the President in order to deal with matters related to the administration of the Federation. However, matters related to the individual Societies would continue to be handled by the Secretariats of each Society.

Federation Structure

In view of the principles set out above, the resulting structure of the federation would be similar to the "Democratic" structure, that was described in a paper prepared by the ISSMGE members of the JTF. There were however some changes required to that structure, and the final structure agreed to by the JTF is shown in Figure 2. Again, a key point in this structure is that the Federation does not over-ride the individual Societies, but plays an integrative role.

Federation Name

The JTF recommends the following name for the Federation: "**Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies**", with the acronym "**FIGS**", which is relatively simple to pronounce and remember.

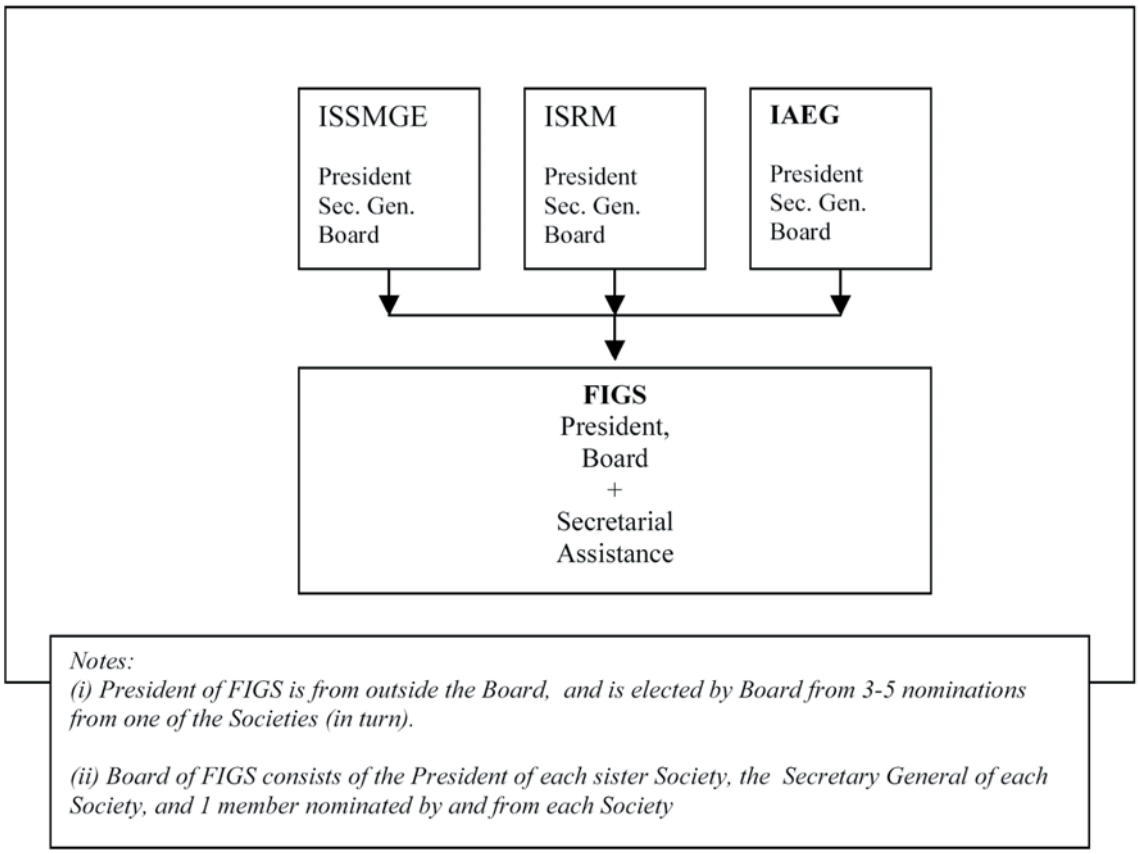


Figure 2 Proposed Structure of the Federation

IMPLICATION OF ADOPTING THE PROPOSED STRUCTURE ON THE OPERATION OF THE PARTICIPATING SOCIETIES

It is a basic principle that each of the Societies wishes to retain their identity and autonomy, but that they recognize that mutual benefits may flow from a "Federation" of the three Societies. It was agreed that the structure of the Federation, as proposed above, would not have a negative impact on the three sister societies which would initially comprise the Federation, but would be a potentially powerful force in raising the profile of our profession, both within our own memberships, but also with other associated professional, clients, the public, and politicians and decision-makers. The proposed structure would complement, rather than subsume, the activities of each Society, and would promote increased interaction, both at conferences, and via Technical Committees or Commissions, and in due course, lead to a more integrated approach to geo-engineering than may be the case in some countries.

It was agreed that any decisions taken by the Federation that might directly affect the individual societies would require the unanimous agreement of the Presidents of the constituent Societies, after consultation with the Board and/or Council of that Society.

By the proposed structure of the Federation no changes in the structure of each of the constituent Societies is implied.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF A FEDERATION STRUCTURE COMPARED TO REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY PRESIDENTS

The proposed Federation structure, over the present system of informal meetings of the Presidents of IAEG, ISRM and ISSMGE, has the following advantages:

1. It would be a more formal and a more powerful body, with an ability to make decisions that affect the constituent Societies and that also could raise the profile of the profession;
2. It would be far less reliant on the personalities of the Presidents. While there is a healthy spirit of cooperation among the present Presidents, this has not always been the case, and may not be so in the future;
3. The Federation is able to consider longer-term issues in a coherent manner;
4. The potential for public visibility of the Federation is far greater.

The perceived disadvantages are as follows:

1. The Federation may be seen as yet another body within the geo-engineering area, and may not be distinguishable from its constituent Societies, at least initially;
2. It creates another level of administration and may create confusion for the members of the constituent Societies;
3. It will be highly dependent on the efforts of its President for its success;
4. It will involve additional expenditure for each of the constituent Societies.

The JTF is firmly of the opinion that the objectives of the Federation could not be met by the present system of informal meetings of the three Society Presidents.

ESTIMATED COSTS OF RUNNING THE FEDERATION

The costs of the Federation would consist of the following main items:
1. Secretarial assistance for the President and the Board;
2. The costs of Board meetings;
3. The additional costs incurred by the President in fulfilling his/her essential functions;
4. Costs involved in additional communications with the Member Societies and their members.

For the purposes of estimating the cost of setting up and running the Federation, the following assumptions are made:

1. The FIGS Board would meet twice each year, with all but one of the Board requiring overseas travel and accommodation expenses;
2. Each meeting would extend over one day and require one night's accommodation;
3. The Board would consist (initially) of 3 representatives of each of the three Sister Societies, plus the President, i.e. a total of ten persons;
4. The Secretarial assistance to the Board and the President would be the equivalent of about0.5days per week over each year, i.e. 26 man-days;
5. There would be special stationery printed for the Federation, together with annual sundry administrative costs;
6. The President would travel to three overseas destinations each year to promote the Federation.

On the basis of the above assumptions, the following annual costs are estimated:

Expense Item	***Assumed Unit Cost***	***Total Number***	***Total Annual Cost***
FIGS Board meetings, 2 per year for 9 members	EUR1500 per member per meeting	18	EUR27000
Secretarial Assistance	EUR400 per day	26	EUR10400
Stationery, Printing & sundry administrative costs	EUR1000	1	EUR1000
Overseas travel for President	EUR5000	1	EUR5000
		TOTAL	**EUR43600**

If each of the three Sister Societies were to share the costs of the Federation equally, this would require each to expend an additional amount of EUR14533 per annum. Should additional Societies join the Federation on an equal cost-share basis, then the cost to each Society would decrease, since the cost of the President, the Secretarial Assistance, and the sundry costs, would be shared among a greater number. If the number of Board meetings annually is reduced to one, rather than two, then a further saving of EUR13500 would be made, so that the annual cost per Society would then fall to EUR 10033. However, it would appear prudent to budget for two meetings per year in the early stages of the Federation while it is being developed.

FUNDING OF THE FEDERATION

The resources available to fund the Federation would include:
1. Annual dues from the constituent Societies;
2. Income from FIGS activities, such as publications, conferences etc.
3. Grants and gifts;
4. Support from the Sister Societies and from individual members (or their organizations) in assisting with the costs of Board meetings.

In the first instance, it would appear difficult to find sources of funding other than from the budgets of the three Sister Societies. It was agreed that, initially, the most convenient means of administering the Federation would be to have it operate via a sub-account of one of the three Sister Societies, into which all three Societies would input funds, as per their budget allocation for the Federation.

POSSIBLE FUTURE PARTICIPANTS IN THE FEDERATION

The JTF agreed that the three sister societies would remain the prime ("core") participants in the federation, but that there would be merit in allowing other learned societies to join as AFFILIATE MEMBERS.
To avoid undue enlargement of the Board, but to allow representation of Affiliate Members, it was agreed that one seat on the Board would be made available to each Affiliate Member.

The process of selection of Affiliate Members was not discussed in detail, but based on the principles set out above, such selection would require a positive decision from the Board, and unanimous agreement from each of the three Sister Society Presidents.

Among the possible groups that would be appropriate for Affiliate Membership are the following:
- ITA
- IGS
- IAH

It was agreed that Affiliate Members should be confined to those Societies or Associations which were primarily (but perhaps not exclusively) Learned Societies, rather than Trade Associations and with a clear predominance in geo-activities (avoiding, for instance, Societies with a major component in other branches of engineering).

The three Presidents queried whether it would not be possible for other societies to join as full members, and this would seem to be a possibility that could be explored by the federation Board once it is established. It would be necessary for a set of appropriate criteria for full membership to be drawn up by the Board.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Once the Final report of the JTF has been released, it would seem necessary that the following actions be taken:

1. The Presidents of the three Sister Societies consider the report and then refer it to their Board for discussion and comment.
2. The Council of each Society would then consider the matter, and hopefully, reach agreement on the principles of the Federation.
3. Once the principle of the Federation has been agreed to, a draft constitution for the Federation would need to be prepared.
4. The Draft Constitution would then be considered by the Board and Council of each Society, and, if necessary, amended.
5. Once the Constitution is agreed to, the process of setting up the Federation can proceed, starting with the FIGS Board.

An early action of the Board would be to agree on the order of the Society nominations for President.

6. The President would be selected by the Board, and then the Federation would commence to work towards its objectives, as set out in the Constitution.

The JTF has expressed its willingness to assist in preparing the Draft Constitution, should this be deemed to be appropriate by the Society Presidents.

P. G. Marinos, Co-Chaiman
H.G. Poulos, Co-Chairman

S. Burns – IAEG representative
P. Day – ISSMGE representative
L.G. de Mello – ISSMGE representative
C. Erichsen – ISRM representative
M. Panet – ISRM representative
L. Persson – IAEG representative
L. e Sousa – ISRM representative

M. Deveughele – Secretary General IAEG (observer)
L. Lamas – Secretary General ISRM (observer)
R.N. Taylor – Secretary General ISSMGE (observer)

APPENDIX 13: AUDITED ACCOUNTS

REPORT BY SECRETARY GENERAL

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

We have audited the receipts and payments account of The International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) and the related information.

This report is made solely to the members, as a body, in accordance with our engagement letter dated 9 April 2003. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report, and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed

Respective responsibilities of Secretary General and Auditors

The Society's Secretary General is responsible for the preparation of the receipts and payments account, which has been prepared under the ISSMGE Statutes and Bye-Laws. Our responsibility is to audit the receipts and payments account and related information in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards. We report to you our opinion as to whether the receipts and payments account properly presents the receipts and payments of the Society.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the receipts and payments account. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Secretary General in the preparation of the receipts and payments account, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Society's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the receipts and payments account is free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the receipts and payments account.

Opinion

In our opinion, the accounts properly present the receipts and payments of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2003.

PKF
Registered Auditors

London

14 June 2004

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003

	Credit Suisse SFr	Barclays Bank £	Investment Accounts £	City University £
Cash balance at 1 January 2003	**103,074**	**158,170**	**110,350**	**(4,523)**
Add: Receipts				
Member society subscriptions	-	**108,157**	-	-
Corporate member subscriptions	-	**2,688**	-	-
Conference income	-	**1,000**	-	-
Geotechnical Service Directory	-	-	-	-
Publication sales and slide sales	-	**50**	-	-
Corporation tax refund	-	-	-	-
Other refunds	-	-	-	-
Interest received	**161**	**3,094**	**3,490**	
	103,235	**273,159**	**113,840**	**(4,523)**
Less: Payments				
Emoluments and staff costs	-	**15,000**	-	**24,246**
President administrative support	-	**12,000**	-	-
Travel and subsistence	-	**15,198**	-	-
President office expenses	-	**2,392**	-	-
Photocopying	-	-	-	**1,651**
Telephone and fax	-	-	-	**497**
Postage	-	-	-	**1,564**
Stationery	-	**443**	-	**775**
SGI line	-	**3,565**	-	-
Website	-	**19,401**	-	-
Newsletter	-	-	-	-
Francophone bulletin	-	**2,520**	-	-
Audit fees	-	**2,585**	-	-
Bank charges	**322**	**440**	-	-
Corporation tax	-	**180**	-	-
Conference support	-	**8,950**	-	-
Model Library	-	-	-	-
Touring Lecture	-	-	-	-
Office equipment	-	-	-	**77**
Office hire	-	-	-	**5,000**
Kevin Nash Gold Medal	-	-	-	-
List of members	-	-	-	-
	322	**82,674**	-	**33,810**
Add: Transfers from other accounts	-	-	-	**34,000**
Less: Transfers to other accounts	-	**(34,000)**	-	-
Cash balance at 31 December 2003	**102,913**	**156,485**	**113,840**	**(4,333)**
(Decrease)/increase in cash balance	**(161)**	**(1,685)**	**3,490**	**190**

Information: At 31 December 2003 - £1 = SFr 2.1450

Secretary General **Date** 14 May '04

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS
AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003

Member Society	Number of members	SFr	£	Charges £
Albania	22	-	145	12
Argentina	30	-	551	-
Australia	787	-	7,418	5
Austria	98	-	1,724	17
Azerbaijan Republic	13	-	395	-
Bangladesh	33	-	-	-
Belgium	70	-	1,285	-
Bolivia	13	-	-	-
Brazil	651	-	2,974	-
Bulgaria	52	-	531	12
Canada	829	-	4,146	-
Chile	53	-	1,302	-
China	156	-	4,829	40
Colombia	20	-	460	12
Costa Rica	58	-	1,287	6
Croatia	126	-	800	6
CTGA	28	-	-	-
Czech & Slovak Republics	43	-	647	-
Denmark	308	-	2,603	4
Ecuador	29	-	-	-
Egypt	21	-	832	-
Estonia	30	-	191	6
Finland	177	-	1,882	6
France	473	-	3,217	12
Germany	833	-	4,363	-
Ghana	33	-	-	-
Greece	173	-	1,352	11
Hong Kong	370	-	991	-
Hungary	84	-	776	-
Iceland	10	-	347	6
India	225	-	1,425	-
Indonesia	20	-	-	-
Iran	158	-	1,305	-
Iraq	11	-	-	-
Ireland	23	-	898	-
Israel	35	-	1,902	-
Italy	250	-	2,214	6
Japan	1,415	-	6,503	-
Kazakhstan	18	-	518	-
Kenya	21	-	-	-
Korea	171	-	1,450	9
Latvia	31	-	-	-
Lithuania	40	-	535	6
Macedonia	72	-	418	12
Mexico	318	-	1,814	6
Morocco	12	-	418	6
Nepal	15	-	292	-
Netherlands	323	-	1,364	-
New Zealand	293	-	1,741	-
Nigeria	25	-	320	-
Norway	333	-	2,583	-
Pakistan	80	-	661	-
Paraguay	20	-	165	-
Peru	25	-	-	-
Poland	298	-	1,655	-
Portugal	223	-	1,520	-
Romania	53	-	909	-
Russia	269	-	1,461	-
Slovenia	116	-	871	6
Carried forward	10,516	-	77,990	206

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003

Member Society	Number of members	SFr	£	Charges £
Brought forward	10,516	-	77,990	206
South Africa	318	-	1,616	-
South East Asia	256	-	1,625	-
Spain	230	-	1,946	6
Sri Lanka	34	-	-	-
Sudan	25	-	479	12
Sweden	350	-	2,631	6
Switzerland	250	-	2,387	6
Syria	17	-	258	-
Tunisia	10	-	499	-
Turkey	181	-	1,286	-
Ukraine	97	-	233	-
UK	1,428	-	6,237	-
USA	2,315	-	9,435	6
Venezuela	23	-	298	-
Vietnam	18	-	941	15
Yugoslavia	29	-	296	-
Zimbabwe	17	-	-	-
Total	16,114	-	108,157	257

Corporate Member	US$	£	Charges £
Bauer Spezialtiefbau GmbH	400	251	-
GeoDelft	400	246	-
Geo-Research Institute	400	253	-
Golder Associates	-	-	-
Keller Group Ltd	400	247	6
Kiso-Jiban Consulting Engineers	-	-	-
Klohn-Crippen Consultants Ltd	400	239	-
L & M Geotechnic Pte Ltd	-	-	-
NECSO Entrecanales y Tavora S.A.	800	478	6
Nishimtsu Construction	400	252	-
Norwegian Geotechnical Institute	-	-	-
Sinotech Engineering Consultants	-	-	-
Solentanche Enterprise	400	227	6
S N Apageo S.A.S., France	-	-	-
Technologie Progetti Lavori S.p.A.	-	-	-
Terre Armee Internationale (Ste Menard Solt.)	400	247	6
Tokyu Construction Co Ltd	-	-	-
Tractabel Development Engineering S.A.	400	248	-
	4,400	2,688	24

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Income
Income has been taken to the credit of the revenue account on a cash received basis.

(b) Expenditure
Expenditure, inclusive of VAT, has been charged to the revenue account on a cash paid basis.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

We have audited the receipts and payments account of The International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) and the related information.

This report is made solely to the members, as a body, in accordance with our engagement letter dated 9 April 2003. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report, and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed

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The Society's Secretary General is responsible for the preparation of the receipts and payments account, which has been prepared under the ISSMGE Statutes and Bye-Laws. Our responsibility is to audit the receipts and payments account and related information in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards. We report to you our opinion as to whether the receipts and payments account properly presents the receipts and payments of the Society.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the receipts and payments account. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Secretary General in the preparation of the receipts and payments account, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Society's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the receipts and payments account is free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the receipts and payments account.

Opinion

In our opinion, the accounts properly present the receipts and payments of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2004.

PKF
Registered Auditors

London

6 MAY 2005

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2004

	Credit Suisse SFr	Barclays Bank £	Investment Accounts £	City University £
Cash balance at 1 January 2004	**102,913**	**156,485**	**113,840**	**(4,333)**
Add: Receipts				
Member society subscriptions	-	97,967	-	-
Corporate member subscriptions	-	2,363	-	-
Conference income	-	-	-	-
Geotechnical Service Directory	-	-	-	-
Publication sales and slide sales	-	20	-	-
Corporation tax refund	-	-	-	-
Other refunds	-	-	-	-
Interest received	128	2,324	4,228	-
	103,041	259,159	118,068	(4,333)
Less: Payments				
Emoluments and staff costs	-	15,000	-	24,980
President administrative support	-	12,000	-	-
Travel and subsistence	-	20,262	-	-
President office expenses	-	2,488	-	-
Photocopying	-		-	117
Telephone and fax	-	-	-	339
Postage	-	61	-	369
Stationery	-	491	-	96
SGI line	-	-	-	-
Website	-	4,488	-	-
Newsletter	-	-	-	-
Francophone bulletin	-	-	-	-
Audit fees	-	3,231	-	-
Bank charges	266	337	-	-
Corporation tax	-		-	-
Withholding tax	45	-		
Conference support	-	700	-	-
Model Library	-	-	-	-
Touring Lecture	-	582	-	-
Young member audit	-	-	-	-
Office equipment	-	635	-	694
Office hire	-	-	-	5,000
Kevin Nash Gold Medal	-	-	-	-
List of members	-	-	-	-
	311	60,275	-	31,595
Add: Transfers from other accounts	-	-	-	36,000
Less: Transfers to other accounts	-	(36,000)	-	-
Cash balance at 31 December 2004	**102,730**	**162,884**	**118,068**	**72**
(Decrease)/increase in cash balance	**(183)**	**6,399**	**4,228**	**4,405**

Information: At 31 December 2004 - £1 = SFr 2.20799

Secretary General R M Tough **Date** 4 May 2005

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2004

Member Society	Number of members	SFr	£	Charges £
Albania	22	-	145	12
Argentina	30	-	539	6
Australia	787	-	3,803	6
Austria	100	-	1,645	17
Azerbaijan Republic	13	-	158	-
Bangladesh	33	-	773	-
Belgium	74	-	1,358	-
Bolivia	13	-	545	9
Brazil	721	-	3,090	-
Bulgaria	52	-	363	-
Canada	662	-	3,620	-
Chile	53	-	678	-
China	187	-	823	-
Colombia	16	-	282	12
Costa Rica	58	-	446	6
Croatia	126	-	800	6
CTGA	28	-	749	-
Czech & Slovak Republics	43	-	647	-
Denmark	308	-	2,601	6
Ecuador	20	-	-	-
Egypt	25	-	454	6
Estonia	30	-	293	6
Finland	177	-	1,779	6
France	473	-	3,121	6
Germany	785	-	4,110	-
Ghana	33	-	-	-
Greece	173	-	1,352	11
Hong Kong	508	-	5,630	-
Hungary	84	-	776	-
Iceland	10	-	178	6
India	225	-	1,425	-
Indonesia	20	-	-	-
Iran	158	-	2,009	-
Iraq	11	-	-	-
Ireland	26	-	471	6
Israel	35	-	-	-
Italy	250	-	2,217	6
Japan	1,415	-	6,632	-
Kazakhstan	18	-	364	-
Kenya	21	-	-	-
Korea	171	-	1,551	12
Latvia	31	-	685	-
Lithuania	40	-	433	-
Macedonia	72	-	212	15
Mexico	161	-	1,313	
Morocco	12	-	-	-
Nepal	22	-	331	6
Netherlands	323	-	2,552	-
New Zealand	290	-	1,732	-
Nigeria	25	-	-	-
Norway	333	-	2,678	8
Pakistan	80	-	661	-
Paraguay	14	-	157	-
Peru	25	-	-	-
Poland	298	-	1,655	-
Portugal	223	-	1,521	-
Romania	53	-	474	-
Russia	269	-	1,461	-
- Serbia and Montenegro	29	-	296	-
Slovenia	105	-	836	6
Carried forward	10,399	-	72,424	180

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2004

Member Society	Number of members	SFr	£	Charges £
Brought forward	10,399	-	72,424	180
South Africa	297	-	1,487	-
South East Asia	250	-	1,503	-
Spain	322	-	2,134	6
Sri Lanka	34	-	788	-
Sudan	25	-	-	-
Sweden	350	-	2,528	6
Switzerland	232	-	2,362	6
Syria	17	-	258	-
Tunisia	20	-	704	-
Turkey	181	-	1,082	-
Ukraine	97	-	-	-
UK	1,360	-	6,023	-
USA	1,995	-	6,221	6
Venezuela	23	-	453	6
Vietnam	18	-	-	
Zimbabwe	17	-	-	-
Total	15,637	-	97,967	210

Corporate Member	US$	£	Charges £
Bauer Spezialtiefbau GmbH	400	217	-
GeoDelft	-	-	-
Geo-Research Institute	400	215	6
Golder Associates	-	-	-
Keller Group Ltd	400	217	-
Kiso-Jiban Consulting Engineers	-	-	-
Klohn-Crippen Consultants Ltd	400	211	-
McNenco Agra Inc	-	-	-
NECSO Entrecanales y Tavora S.A.	400	211	6
Nishimtsu Construction	400	219	-
Norwegian Geotechnical Institute	-	-	-
Protect	-	-	-
Sinotech Engineering Consultants	-	-	-
Solentanche Enterprise	400	215	6
Suez Tractebel	400	225	-
S N Apageo S.A.S., France	378	207	6
Technologie Progetti Lavori S.p.A.	-	-	-
Terre Armee Internationale (Ste Menard Solt.)	400	210	6
Tokyu Construction Co Ltd	-	-	-
Tractabel Development Engineering S.A.	400	216	-
	4,378	2,363	30

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) **Income**
Income has been taken to the credit of the revenue account on a cash received basis.

(b) **Expenditure**
Expenditure, inclusive of VAT, has been charged to the revenue account on a cash paid basis.

COMPARISON WITH BUDGET

		2003 Budget	Actual		2004 Budget	Actual	
ORDINARY BUDGET							
RECEIPTS							
Member Society Subscriptions		82,000	108,157	(1)	82,000	97,967	
Interest		7,086	6,660		7,086	6,611	
	Total	**89,086**	**114,817**		**89,086**	**104,578**	
EXPENDITURE							
Emoluments and Staff Costs		40,000	39,246		40,000	39,980	
Office Rental		5,000	5,000		5,000	5,000	
Travel and Entertainment		23,610	15,198	(2)	24,547	20,262	(2)
Office expenses		5,200	5,006		5,400	2,802	(13)
Audit Fees and Bank Charges		3,000	3,175	(3)	3,000	3,689	(3)
Corporation Tax		3,500	180	(4)	4,000	0	(4)
Website Maintenance		17,500	19,401	(5)	3,870	4,488	(14)
President Admin Support		12,000	12,000		12,000	12,000	
President Office Expenses		2,392	2,392		2,488	2,488	
	Total	**112,202**	**101,599**		**100,305**	**90,709**	
EXTRAORDINARY BUDGET							
RECEIPTS							
Corporate Member Subscriptions		3,500	2,688		3,500	2,363	(15)
Conference Income		0	1,000	(6)	0	0	
International Geotechnical Services Directory - Geoforum		7,500	0	(7)	19,500	0	(7)
Publications, Audio Visual Material		0	50	(8)	0	20	(8)
	Total	**11,000**	**3,738**		**23,000**	**2,383**	
EXPENDITURE							
SGI Line		4,200	3,565	(9)	4,200	0	(16)
Conference support		17,500	8,950	(10)	0	700	(17)
Francophone Bulletins		1,260	2,520	(11)	1,260	0	(18)
Young Members Awards		0	0		0	0	
List of Members		0	0		0	0	
Kevin Nash Gold Medal		0	0		0	0	
Heritage Museums		0	0		1,000	0	
Other initiatives (eg Model library, Touring Lectures, Slides, Videos, CD Roms		7,500	0	(12)	7,500	582	
	Total	**30,460**	**15,035**		**13,960**	**1,282**	
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		**42,576**	**1,921**		**-2,179**	**14,970**	

Notes:

(1) Member societies settle arrears fees in year of Council Meeting
(2) Some economy achieved in travel costs from Board Members
(3) Bank charges and audit fees continue to rise
(4) Corporation tax relates to interest received, hence lower than budget
(5) Set-up costs of new website slightly higher than budgeted
(6) Partial refund of Romania iYGEC conference support
(7) No income received
(8) No significant sales, only occasional copies of Lexicon
(9) SGI-Line's invoice is in Swedish Kroner, hence is subject to currency fluctuations
(10) YGEC Romania conference support, and bursaries for Sri Lanka, Bulgaria and Lithuania. Take-up of bursaries lower than allocated.
(11) Late invoice received in respect of Francophone Bulletin, hence payment for 2002 and 2003
(12) "Other initiatives" - no activity
(13) Growing use of communication via electronic means signifies a reduction in photocopying, telephone and postage costs, especially in years without a Council Meeting.
(14) Maintenance of website slightly higher than estimated
(15) Some corporate members take advantage of the "pay 4, get 5 years" membership plan, all of which become due at the same time. Because of this, 2005 should see a marked rise in Corporate Membership income
(16) Financial obligation to SGI-line ceased though final invoice not received.
(17) Support provided for Asian Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference
(18) Late submission in respect of 2004 - payment made in 2005

APPENDIX 14: BUDGET 2005 – 2007

REPORT BY L.G. DE MELLO

NOTES ON ISSMGE BUDGET FOR 2005-2007, extended to 2009

1 GENERAL

Attached are the following tables:

- ISSMGE Ordinary Budget for 2005-2007, extended for 2009
- ISSMGE Extraordinary Budget for 2005-2007, extended for 2009
- ISSMGE Cash Balance Forecast for 2005-2007, extended for 2009

These tables summarize the discussions among the Board Members, trying to propose a budget that contemplates the developments during this term, in the effort to reshape the relationship between the Society and its Members, trying to offer items that positively differentiate the ISSMGE, and welcomes new Members.

The budget is extended to 2009 for information only.

All figures are given in GB Pounds. Some important expenditures were discussed and accepted in Euros, like the IT package; the value used in the budget herewith presented is already converted to GBP.

2 ORDINARY BUDGET

2.1. Member Society subscriptions - Item 1 of Receipts – have been budgeted for the years 2005 → 2007, based on the actual value received in 2004, related to 15600 members.

It includes the suggestion for an increase in membership fees to be incorporated in 2008, after discussion and approval at the forthcoming mid term 2007 Council Meeting. The increase would be valid to update today's fees with relation to the mounting inflation; for this information budget an average rate of 2.5%/year inflation rate has been assumed.

An increase of membership of 200 new members per year is assumed, although there is potential to be developed through many mechanisms.

On going changes in the fees structure do not impact the number budgeted, as the equivalent per capita receipt of 2004 was used in the estimatives.

2.2. With relation to the Interest – Item 2 of Receipts – it is assumed that the average rate obtained in 2004 can be maintained throughout the period in discussion.

2.3. The sub-items 1, 2 and 3 on the Expenditure lines are kept and adjusted properly for the incoming Board, considering:

- that a partial secretarial support for the President will not be necessary, as both candidates are industry or industry linked and, if necessary, may get this help through the industry;
- that an increase of costs of approximately 4%/year in office expenses and travel/accommodation costs can be expected;
- that the incoming Board may meet still in 2005.

It is noted that the ongoing Board limited the reimbursement of its travel expenses, and its members strongly recommend that the incoming Board takes same the attitude.

Promising discussions were started with our sister societies to create an umbrella organization (FIGS) covering each of the existing societies, keeping their individuality and identity, but leading to a more efficient and cost efficient functioning, and much higher interest of corporate members, generating a higher income through increasing members.

No expenses and/or reduction in today's expenses due to FIGS development are budgeted at this time, and will have to be thoroughly discussed by the incoming Board. It is expected that, from 2007 onwards, significant optimizations can be introduced with a reduction in expenditure to be included. An operational budget for the FIGS president and secretariat will also need to be discussed.

2.4. Item 6 on the Expenditures, Website Maintenance, has been thoroughly revised having in consideration important decisions taken with relation to the renewal of ISSMGE's website, as discussed at the Information Transfer topic in this meeting's agenda.

2.5 An analysis of the balance of the Ordinary budget by itself shows that the administrative costs continue to be high, and that their optimization is an ongoing effort to be sought.

A new path may be possible through the Federation of Sister Societies; other paths and ideas need to be pursued.

3 EXTRAORDINARY BUDGET

3.1. The figure presented for the Corporate Member Subscription – Item 1 – has incorporated an increase of Corporate membership from 2007 onwards.

It has been discussed extensively in the Board that special attention has to be given to our Corporate members, through the Industry Liaison Task Force, contributing to an increase in membership, as herewith aimed.

3.2. The numbers presented in the Conference Income – Item 2 – were discussed with the Vice-Presidents from each region, and include the income from International Symposium on Landslides Rio de Janeiro 2004, to be credited in 2005, and ICSMGE's Osaka 2005.

It also includes an estimated revenue of GBP 4000 from Cardiff's 5 ICEG in 2006, and an additional GBP 4000 in 2006 coming from TC's Conferences. For 2007 it is predicted that GBP 8000 will be generated by Regional Conferences as well as the TC's conferences taking place in that year. Equivalent numbers are anticipated for 2008 and 2009.

Predicting the revenues from the GSD-Geoforum continue to be a difficult exercise. Due to the Board's decision to renegotiate the Website's format, it was decided not to include any revenues as originated by GSD until its potential starts to materialize.

3.4 With relation to the revenues originated with sales of publications and audio-visual material, it is considered that

this revenue is so small and sporadic that it should not be accounted for in the budget.

3.5 On the SGI Line expenditure – Item 1 – a recent Memorandum of Agreement written between ISSMGE and SGI postulates that each society shall cover their own expenses for the activities that lead to the operation of the retrieval system. No costs are therefore associated with it from 2004 onwards.

3.6 In the Conference Support expenditure – Item 2 – values presented include a value of GBP 12000 to support the ICSMGEs, and GBP 4000 allocated in order to support Regional YGEC Conferences. At this moment no allowance is made in order to support Regional YGECs that have an annual periodicity.

3.7 No expenditure is planned for the Newsletter, which has been reactivated in an electronic format, associated with the active website.

3.8 The commitment to the Francophone Bulletin ceases after 2004, as discussed at the Prague Council meeting. The Board has discussed and agreed that an electronic version of the Newsletter should be included in the website, not generating costs.

3.9 An analysis of the balance of the Extraordinary budget shows that it is very dependent on the revenues to be generated by ISSMGE's sponsored conferences.

A continuous effort from all Member Societies, to promote conferences that aim at development of our practicing geotechnical engineers is needed.

4 NET BALANCE

The proposed budget does not imply in significant changes in the cash balance.

APPENDIX 15: LIST OF MEMBERS AND MEMBERSHIP CARD FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF ISSMGE

REPORT BY P. DAY AND F. TATSUOKA

PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN STATUTES

1 INTRODUCTION

The membership of the ISSMGE is made up of Member Societies who represent various countries or groups of countries. Every year, each Member Society is expected to submit a list of members to the ISSMGE (Statute 17A). These members are then recognised as Individual Members of the ISSMGE. Some Member Societies register their entire membership while others submit only the names of individuals who have indicated their wish to be members of the ISSMGE.

Many Member Societies have expressed the need for some tangible recognition of Individual Membership of the ISSMGE. Furthermore, such Individual Members require some form of identification when requesting preferential (member) rates at ISSMGE events. For these reasons, in addition to keeping a List of Members, the ISSMGE is proposing to issue a membership card and assign a membership number to Individual Members of the Society on an annual basis.

Details of this proposal are set out below.

2 MOTIVATION

Each year, the various Member Societies of the ISSMGE provide a list of its members to the Secretary General. The Statutes allow for this information to "be reproduced and distributed as directed by Council". The current list of names is published every four years (during the year of the International Conference of the Society) in the form of a booklet containing the names and contact details of all Individual Members. However, this is now proving to be a problem for counties where divulging such information is prohibited by Privacy Legislation. For example, the names of Australian members could not be included in the 2001 List of Members for this reason.

To date, the List of Members booklet has provided the only tangible proof of membership available to the rank and file of the Society. However, as it is published only at four-year intervals, it fails to reflect changes in membership in the intervening years.

Over the past few years, the ISSMGE has focused on improving the benefits offered to Individual Members. Member discounts are available at most ISSMGE events and participation in technical committees is limited to members of the Society. For these arrangements to function correctly, it is necessary to have an up to date list of members that can be made available to conference organisers or committee chairpersons. It is also necessary for the individual to be able to identify him or herself as an member of the ISSMGE. This can be achieved by assigning membership numbers and issuing membership cards to Individual Members annually.

A further, and equally important reason for issuing membership cards is encourage a "sense of belonging" among Individual Members. Indeed, in some countries, many individuals are unaware of their membership of the Society.

3 THE SOLUTION

As a means of identifying Individual Members of the ISSMGE without infringing the restrictions imposed by privacy legislation, it is recommended that:

(a) Annually, on receipt of the fee payment and list of Individual Members from the various member societies, the Secretary General will assign a membership number to each Individual Member. The membership number should include an indication of the Member Society to which the Individual Member belongs, the year of membership and a unique membership number.

(b) A membership card should be prepared in electronic format that can be printed out by the Individual Member or Member Society. The data file from which such cards can be compiled should be submitted to the Member Society concerned for distribution to their members as they see fit. A possible layout for the card is: