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The IAG Newsletter is under the editorial responsibility of the Communication and Outreach Branch (COB) of the IAG. It is an open forum and contributors are welcome to send material (preferably in electronic form) to the IAG COB (newsletter@iag-aig.org). These contributions should complement information sent by IAG officials or by IAG symposia organizers (reports and announcements). The IAG Newsletter is published monthly. It is available in different formats from the IAG new internet site: http://www.iag-aig.org

Each IAG Newsletter includes several of the following topics:

I. news from the Bureau Members
II. general information
III. reports of IAG symposia
IV. reports by commissions, special commissions or study groups
V. symposia announcements
VI. book reviews
VII. fast bibliography
A roadmap for the enhancement of geodesy

The United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Working Group on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) is now drafting a roadmap for the enhancement of the Global Geodetic Reference Frame. Importantly the roadmap will also address factors affecting the Sustainability of the GGRF.

"The Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) Roadmap will be built with passion and involvement," says Working Group co-chair Gary Johnston from Australia.

In February 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted its first geospatial resolution – "A global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development" – recognizing the importance of a globally-coordinated approach to geodesy.

Momentum for GGRF

"The momentum the adoption of this resolution has created will position the global geodetic community well for the complex task ahead, developing a roadmap for GGRF enhancement", says Johnston

Significant response rate

After the UN General Assembly adopted the resolution on 26 February a global questionnaire was sent to Member States for the purpose of gathering opinions on the key elements of the GGRF and its sustainability. The survey resulted in 92 responses from 84 countries, a significant response rate.

Governmental commitment is key

The survey reports that the key elements to achieving a sustainable GGRF are governmental and country commitment and funding, common standards, and international obligations. The most important key elements reported for development of the GGRF are to maintain and build infrastructure, common standards and internationally coordinated policies.

Joint international governance

"The survey clearly identifies that a joint international governance effort is needed in order to meet the objectives of the GGRF resolution. It does not however give any details as to how this can best be achieved. The Working Group will test some ideas and concepts for possible governance arrangements", Johnston explains.

Final roadmap in August 2016

In August 2015, the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) requested the Working Group to continue its efforts, building on global and regional experiences and initiatives, and report back to the Committee at the next session, in August 2016.

Involvement and consultations

"We are in the process of developing the first draft roadmap by mid December this year. The involvement of UN-GGIM regions and consultation with IAG, FIG, GEO and CEOS is in progress and is important for the final outcome. The first draft will be sent out for comments in January, says Johnston.

Outcomes of roadmap

The roadmap will address five broad issues: Governance, Infrastructure, Policy - standards and conventions, Education - training and capacity building, Communication and outreach.

"Five groups with lead authors are now working on the first draft. The roadmap will have strong cross references to the operational paragraphs from the UN General Assembly resolution,” says Gary Johnston.

Learn more: unggfr.org
Follow the GGRF Working Group on twitter: @unggrf
NEW YORK: "Looking forward to seeing this GGRF Roadmap," said Peni Suveinakama, the Permanent Mission of Fiji to the United Nations (from left) to Zuheir Altamimi, France and Gary Johnston, Australia at the UN-GGIM 6th Session, in August 2015. Photo: Anne Jorgensen

VIENNA: GGRF Working Group co-chair Gary Johnston (Australia, from left) at a GGRF Workshop with participants from Norway (Kristiansen), Germany (Craddock), France (Altamimi) and Finland (Poutanen) working in groups on the roadmap. Photo: Anne Jorgensen

**IAG on Facebook**

Recently the IAG COB has opened the Facebook page of IAG at [https://www.facebook.com/InternationalAssociationOfGeodesy](https://www.facebook.com/InternationalAssociationOfGeodesy) to share IAG related information on the social network. If you are on Facebook, please visit this page and feel free to like or share it in order to stay up-to-date with IAG related news, vacancies, etc. Facebook is an efficient tool to communicate with colleagues, thus IAG really appreciates your help and cooperation in promoting the
Association to the young, and even to the future generations of Geodesists! The Facebook page already contains some interesting Youtube videos on Geodesy, but more informative materials (videos, pictures, announcements, vacancies, etc.) could be published on this page. Please do not hesitate to contact the COB when you have anything related to Geodesy to be published on Facebook.

SZABOLCS RÓZSA

Meeting Announcements

Meetings Calendar

COSPAR Capacity Building Workshop on Planetary Data Mission Analysis
October 26 – November 6, 2015, Guaratinguetá, Brazil
URL: http://cbw.cosparbrazil2015.org/

5th International Colloquium Scientific and Fundamental Aspects of the Galileo Programme
October 27 – 29, 2015, PTB Braunschweig, Germany
URL: http://congrexprojects.com/2015-events/15a08/introduction

10th Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG)
November 1 – 6, 2015, Boulder, Colorado, USA
URL: http://www1.joss.ucar.edu/

2nd Symposium of COSPAR: Water and Life in the Universe
November 9 – 13, 2015, Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil
URL: http://cosparbrazil2015.org/

EuroCarto 2015
November 10 – 12, 2015, Vienna, Austria
URL: http://eurocarto.org/

International Technical Symposium on Navigation and Timing
November 16 – 17, 2015, Toulouse, France

VII SIRGAS School on Reference Systems
November 16 – 17, 2015, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
URL: http://www.sirgas.org

IS-GNSS 2015
November 16 – 19, 2015, Kyoto, Japan
International Symposium on GNSS
URL: http://www.isgnss2015.org/

Symposium SIRGAS 2015
November 18 – 20, 2015, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
URL: http://www.sirgas.org

4th International VLBI Technology Workshop (IVTW)
November 23 – 26, 2015, Auckland, New Zealand
International Symposium on GNSS
URL: http://www.irsr.aut.ac.nz/conferences/4th-international-vlbi-Technology-workshop-ivtw

**MMT 2015**
*December 9 – 11, 2015, Sydney, Australia*
The 9th International Symposium on Mobile Mapping Technology
URL: http://www.mmt2015.org/

**AGU 2015 Fall Meeting**
*December 14 – 18, 2015, San Francisco, California, USA*
URL: http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2015/

**United Nations International Meeting on Global Navigation Satellite Systems**
*December 14 – 18, 2015, Vienna, Austria*
URL: http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/events/data/2015/2015_united_nations_international_meeting_on_gNSS.html

**8th Annual Conference on European Space Policy**
*January 12 – 13, 2016, Brussels, Belgium*

**ION Precise Time and Time Interval Meeting (PTTI)**
*January 25 – 27, 2016, Monterey, California, USA*
URL: http://www.ion.org/ptti/

**IGS Workshop**
*February 15 – 19, 2016, Sydney, Australia*
URL: http://kb.igs.org/hc/en-us/articles/205944657-IGS-Workshop-2016-Information

**Munich Satellite Navigation Summit**
*March 1 – 3, 2016, Munich, Germany*
URL: http://www.munich-satellite-navigation-summit.org

**9th IVS General Meeting**
*March 13 – 17, 2016, Ekuden (Johannesburg), South Africa*
URL: http://ivs2016.hartrao.ac.za/

**JISDM 2016**
*March 30 – April 1, 2016, Vienna, Austria*
3rd Joint International Symposium on Deformation Monitoring
URL: http://www.jisdm2016.org/

**TG-SMM 2016**
*April 12 – 15, 2016, Saint Petersburg, Russia*
4th IAG Symposium “Terrestrial gravimetry. Static and mobile measurements”
URL: http://www.elektropribor.spb.ru/tgsmm2016/eindex

**EGU General Assembly 2016**
*April 17 – 22, 2016, Vienna, Austria*
URL: http://www.egu2016.eu/

**ICEE-PDRP 2016**
*April 24 – 26, 2016, Bhaktapur, Nepal*
International Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Post Disaster Reconstruction Planning
URL: http://icee-pdrp2016.com
**GEOProcessing 2016**
April 24 – 28, 2016, Venice, Italy

**FIG Working Week 2016**
May 2 – 6, 2016, Christchurch, New Zealand
URL: [http://www.fig.net/fig2016/](http://www.fig.net/fig2016/)

**ESA Living Planet Symposium 2016 and 6th GOCE User Workshop**
May 9 – 13, 2016, Prague, Czech Republic
URL: [http://lps16.esa.int/](http://lps16.esa.int/)

**18th Geodynamics and Earth Tide Symposium 2016**
June 5 – 9, 2016, Trieste, Italy
URL: [http://www.lithoflex.org/g-et/](http://www.lithoflex.org/g-et/)

**GAGER 2016**
July 18 – 23, 2016, Wuhan, Hubei, China
Geodesy, Astronomy and Geophysics in Earth Rotation (GAGER2016) – A Joint IAU / IAG / IERS Symposium

**International Symposium on Geodesy and Geodynamics (ISGG2016)**
July 22 – 26, 2016, Tianjin, China
URL: [http://isgg2016.csp.escience.cn](http://isgg2016.csp.escience.cn)

**41st COSPAR Scientific Assembly**
July 30 – August 7, 2016, Istanbul, Turkey

**AOGS 13th Annual Meeting**
July 31 – August 5, 2016, Beijing, China

**INTERGEO, Geodätische Woche**
October 11 – 13, 2016, Hamburg, Germany
URL: [http://www.intergeo.de/](http://www.intergeo.de/)

**AGU 2016 Fall Meeting**
December 12 – 16, 2016, San Francisco, California, USA
URL: [http://meetings.agu.org/upcoming-meetings/](http://meetings.agu.org/upcoming-meetings/)

**IAG / IASPEI Scientific Assembly**
July 30 – August 4, 2017, Kobe, Japan

**27th IUGG General Assembly**
July 8 – 17, 2019, Montreal, Canada
URL: [http://www.iugg.org/assemblies/](http://www.iugg.org/assemblies/)
Chinese Annual Geodetic General Assembly (CAGGA) 2015 held in Changsha, China

The Chinese Annual Geodetic General Assembly 2015 was successfully held on October 15-17 in Changsha, China. This assembly was jointly organized by the CSSMG (Geodesy and Navigation Committee of the Chinese Society for Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation) and the CNC-IAG (Chinese National Committee for International Association of Geodesy).

Over 300 delegates from universities, institutes and administration departments all over the country gathered in the historical and cultural city Changsha and attended this conference full of scientific inspirations. Nearly 150 students attended the annual assembly and 15 young scholars received the Outstanding Youth Paper Award 2015 set by CSSMG.

The general assembly is composed of the following two sessions: (1) The session of geodetic datum and navigation; (2) and the session of gravity and geodynamics. About 90 contributions out of more than 100 submissions, reflecting the latest development and progress in the fields of GNSS navigation and positioning, gravity field modeling and geoid determination, and earth dynamics in China, were orally presented.

Participants of the Chinese Annual Geodetic General Assembly 2015

DANG YAMIN