



**International Union for Quaternary Research
Union International pour L'étude du Quaternaire
Internationale Quartärvereinigung
Union Internacional para el Estudio del Cuaternario**

**FIRST COMMISSION MEETING,
TUESDAY, 6 AUGUST 1991.
1900 HOURS. ROOM 5020
CONFERENCE CENTRE TO
RECEIVE INTERCONGRESS REPORTS**

Commission, Subcommission, Working Group Members, Corresponding Members Present: S. Jelgersma, M. J. Tooley, G. Linke, M.-T. Morzadec, W. S. Yim, H. Brückner, Y. Ota, Y. A. Park, A. Cendrero, A. Chepalyga, C. Zazo, M. Eronin, C. Baeteman, D. E. Smith, K.-S. Petersen, Geng Xiushan, J. Chappell, P. Pirazzoli.

(1) The Secretary tabled the Report for Intercongress Period XIII, and reports were summarized or elaborated.

Australasia and Oceania

Although no report had been received from Dr. Woodroffe by the delayed printing date of the full report, a report was received the following week. Dr. J. Chappell summarised the report, which considered geophysical modelling, Holocene emergence, tectonic deformation of shorelines, new dating techniques, morphostratigraphy and the human impacts on coasts due to the greenhouse effect. Dr. Woodroffe's report is attached.

East and South-east Asia

Dr. Ota elaborated on several points, particularly the organization of INQUA Symposium III on sea-level changes in the last 300,000 years, of which she was joint chairman with Drs. Chappell and Pillans.

Indian Ocean

Dr. Brückner gave an excellent summary of work completed, and tabled a paper on the Indian coastal lowlands and two books.

Africa

No-one was present from Africa, and the President regretted the absence of representatives from this continent.

Americas

Dr. Suguio elaborated on the entry in the final report and explained that Dr. M.-T. Prost had sent a final report and a further two newsletters that the secretary had not received. Dr. Suguio's report is attached.

Mediterranean and Black Seas

Dr. Zazo said that there was nothing further to add to the report. Dr. Chepalyga described some of the work that had been carried out on the shorelines of the Black Sea.

Northwestern Europe

Professor Smith reported that nothing further could be added to the report already tabled.

(2) The President congratulated and thanked, in their absence, Dr. Kaplin and Dr. Selivanov for their contribution on coastal and shelf investigations in the USSR, and Professor R. W. Fairbridge for his contribution on guidelines for coastal dating.

(3) The Secretary gave a financial summary.

Credits	£'000	
1. From INQUA	6,420.14	
2. Interest on deposits	<u>310.69</u>	
	6,730.83	£6,730.83
Debits		
1. To Presidents of Subcommissions and Working Groups	3,827.00	
2. Bank Charges	106.50	
3. Printing Charges	14.37	
4. President's expenses to date	391.65	
5. Secretary's expenses to date	<u>615.00</u>	
	4,954.52	£4,954.52
		Positive balance + £1,776.31

The Secretary explained that the 1991 allocation from INQUA had not yet been disbursed, and he was in the process of doing this to those Presidents who had attended the meeting. In addition, there were some further printing costs that had to be met and some small out-of-pocket expenses of the President and Secretary to be met.

**SECOND COMMISSION MEETING,
WEDNESDAY, 7 AUGUST 1991.
1900 HOURS. ROOM 5020
CONFERENCE CENTRE TO
ELECT OFFICERS FOR INTERCONGRESS
PERIOD XIV AND AGREE TO A
PROGRAMME OF WORK**

Members Present: S. Jelgersma, M.J. Tooley, D.E. Smith, C. Baeteman, K.-E. Behre, H. Brückner, Y. Ota, C. Zazo, K. Suguio, K.-S. Petersen, J. Chappel, G. Linke, A. Cendrero, M.-T. Morzadec, Y.A. Park.

(1) Dr. S. Jelgersma was nominated President for a second term of office by Professor D. E. Smith and seconded by Dr. C. Baeteman. There were no other nominations and Dr. Jelgersma was elected President for a second term.

(2) There were 2 nominations for Secretary: Dr. C. Baeteman (proposed by Dr. C. Zazo) and Dr. W. Yim (proposed by Dr. M.J. Tooley). Dr. Baeteman declined to stand on the grounds that both President and Secretary should not be from adjacent countries, and that she had been proposed as Vice-President of the Northwestern Europe Subcommission. In his absence, Dr. Yim was elected (this election required confirmation and the President will clarify the situation). Dr. Tooley agreed to act as Secretary for this meeting.

(3) There were 2 nominations for Vice-President: Dr. M. J. Tooley was nominated by Dr. S. Jelgersma and Professor D.E. Smith by Dr. C. Zazo. Professor Smith withdrew and Dr. Tooley was elected.

(4) The President proposed that Professor R. W. Fairbridge and Dr. P. Kaplin should be offered the posts of Honorary Advisors and this was warmly agreed.

(5) Professor Ota proposed a re-structuring of the Australasia and Oceania working group. This was accepted, and, considering the immense contribution that this working group had made to the area of neotectonics, interglacial sea-levels and an analysis of coral reefs, it was proposed to designate a new Western Pacific Subcommission with

Dr. Chappell as President, Dr. Ota as Vice-President and Dr. Park as Secretary. This was warmly accepted. This effectively conflates 2 working groups within a single subcommission, but reduces the geographical area to the Western Pacific: it is hoped that the Americas Subcommission will include the Eastern Pacific.

(6) The acting-Secretary reported that Dr. R. K. Sukhtankar had agreed to stand for second term as President of the Indian Working Group and this was warmly accepted. Dr. Brückner indicated that he would be happy to continue as Vice-President and this was accepted. It was left to the President and Vice-President to select a secretary and communicate to the President of the Commission. It was agreed to award the status of Subcommission to the Indian Ocean Working Group. Dr. Brückner enquired about the area covered by the subcommission, and it was agreed to recommend that the area was the Indian Subcontinent (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka), the countries along the eastern margin of the Indian Ocean (Burma, Malaysia, Indonesia) the Arabian Gulf countries (Yemen, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Iran) and the Maldives. The President should invite national representatives from these countries to become full members of the new subcommission.

(7) In the absence of anyone from Africa, the President agreed to write to Professor Weisrock to thank him for his contribution to intercongress period XIII and to search for a successor from Africa. Two names were proposed and the President agreed to write them successively.

(8) The following officers and full members of the Mediterranean and Black Seas Subcommission were proposed and accepted: President: C. Zazo (Spain); Vice-Presidents: A. Oueslati (Tunisia) and A. Chepalyga (USSR); Secretary: El-Fishawi (Egypt). Full members: Somoza (Spain), Balabanov (USSR), Stiros (Greece), El-Robrini (Algeria), Bonfiggio (Italy), Conchon (France) and Gvitzman (Israel).

(9) The following were proposed and elected officers of the Northwestern Europe Shorelines Subcommission: President: K.-S. Petersen (Denmark); Secretary: W. De Gans (The Netherlands); Vice-President: C. Baeteman (Belgium).

(10) Discussion ensued about a programme of work for intercongress period XIV, and the following were agreed as themes:

1. Sea level and coastal changes during the last 2,000 years. This complements the objec-

tives of Stream I of PAGES, and is a time period identified by the Holocene Commission for a focus during intercongress period XIV. Professor Oldfield (Liverpool, U.K.) representing the President of the Holocene Commission requests that a small *ad hoc* group be established with representatives from the 2 Commissions to agree on an integrated and multidisciplinary programme of work.

2. An investigation into the processes, mechanisms and impacts of periods of rapid sea-level changes.

3. Sea-level and coastline changes during the last interglacial.

Dr. Chappell argued eloquently for the establishment of a separate, thematic subcommission, for example to use sea-level data to check the theoretical models of Lambeck and Peltier. This was a departure from the geographical subdivisions followed by the Commission, and whilst very attractive, it was felt that further discussions were required and formal proposals made in good time for ratification at the Berlin INQUA Congress in 1995. For this intercongress period, if presidents of subcommissions wished to formulate global, thematic programmes they would be welcomed.

The President requested that all presidents of subcommissions inform her *as soon as possible* of:

1. The organizational structure of their subcommissions including names and addresses of

national representatives and corresponding members.

2. The general intentions of a work programme for intercongress period XIV.

It is intended that this organisational structure and work programme will be published.

(11) Dr. Zazo tabled a report from the INQUA executive on the purpose, funding level, report, highlights, observations and recommendations.

The acting Secretary observed that:

1. The funding received from INQUA was £6,420.14, and not £8,444.74 (= SWF21,665) as printed. This discrepancy required investigation.

2. During intercongress period XIII not only were the meagre financial resources of the Commission made available to IGCP Project 274, but also presidents and secretaries of working groups and subcommissions organised regional meetings for IGCP 274. Under these circumstances, what better co-operation can there be?

(12) The acting Secretary requested that all presidents and secretaries of subcommissions and all full members take every opportunity to identify on their publications their association with the INQUA Commission on Quaternary Shorelines, both in words and in the use of the INQUA logo.

Hazards '91

Hazards '91, an international symposium, was held at the Villa La Colombella, Perugia, Italy, on August 4–9, 1991. The symposium was organized by the International Society for the Prevention and Mitigation of Natural Hazards (NHS) and the Commission on Natural Marine Hazards of the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO). Co-sponsors included the Tsunami Society, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO), and other national and international associations.

The symposium included sessions on tsunamis, wind waves and storm surge, oil spills, and climate change. There were also sessions on earthquakes and other hazards. There was a panel on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) which included presentations by representatives from UNDRO and IOC.

Papers of interest included a keynote paper by C.N.K. Mooers of the United States on coastal ocean hazards; a paper by Z. Qin, Y. Wang, Y. Duan, and Z. Shen of China on numerical simu-

lation and prediction of storm surges along the coast of China; a paper by T. Murty of Canada on the effect of greenhouse warming on tropical and extratropical cyclones; and papers presented by S. Venkatesh of Canada on the motion of oil spills in broken ice. V.K. Gusiakov, A.G. Marchuk, and V.V. Titov of the USSR presented a paper on mathematical models of tsunami behaviour; J.F. Lander and P.A. Lockridge of the United States, a paper on landslide generated tsunamis; and P. Heinrich of France, a paper on a numerical model for landslide-generated water waves.

The symposium closed with a final plenary session. Several resolutions were passed, including a resolution calling for interdisciplinary and intergovernmental cooperation on the study of storm surge. The resolutions were forwarded to the Scientific and Technical Committee of IDNDR. There was discussion on the formation of an international Storm Surge Committee under the auspices of IOC.

Fred E. Camfield
President, Tsunami Society
Vicksburg, Mississippi