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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](mailto: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

## General Announcements

### *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: [unggrf.org](http://unggrf.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

ANNE JORGENSEN

### *IAG on Facebook*

Recently the IAG COB has opened the Facebook page of IAG at

<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 Iguacu, 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*

URL: <http://signav.recherche.enac.fr/index.php/events/international-technical-symposium/symposium-2015/>

#### *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.irasr.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](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

URL: <http://www.b-bridge.eu/en/index.html>

#### 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, Ekudeni (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.jisd2016.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

URL: <http://www.iaia.org/conferences2016/GEOProcessing16.html>

### FIG Working Week 2016

May 2 – 6, 2016, Christchurch, New Zealand

URL: <http://www.fig.net/fig2016/>

### ESA Living Planet Symposium 2016 and 6<sup>th</sup> GOCE User Workshop

May 9 – 13, 2016, Prague, Czech Republic

URL: <http://lps16.esa.int/>

### 18th Geodynamics and Earth Tide Symposium 2016

June 5 – 9, 2016, Trieste, Italy

URL: <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

URL: <http://main.sgg.whu.edu.cn/gager2016/>

### International Symposium on Geodesy and Geodynamics (ISGG2016)

July 22 – 26, 2016, Tianjin, China

URL: <http://isgg2016.csp.escience.cn>

### 41st COSPAR Scientific Assembly

July 30 – August 7, 2016, Istanbul, Turkey

URL: <http://www.cospar-assembly.org/>

### AOGS 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

July 31 – August 5, 2016, Beijing, China

URL: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2016/>

### INTERGEO, Geodätische Woche

October 11 – 13, 2016, Hamburg, Germany

URL: <http://www.intergeo.de/>

### AGU 2016 Fall Meeting

December 12 – 16, 2016, San Francisco, California, USA

URL: <http://meetings.agu.org/upcoming-meetings/>

### IAG / IASPEI Scientific Assembly

July 30 – August 4, 2017, Kobe, Japan

URL: <http://iag.dgfi.tum.de/index.php?id=291>

### 27th IUGG General Assembly

July 8 – 17, 2019, Montreal, Canada

URL: <http://www.iugg.org/assemblies/>



## Reports

### *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