

## Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association —XIX Congress 2010, Thessaloniki CBGA Council Meeting Minutes September 22, 2010, Thessaloniki, Greece



Prof. Georgios Christofides, CBGA President called to order the regular meeting of the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association Council at 5:00 p.m. on September 22, 2010 in Thessaloniki (HELEXPO Conference Center "N. GERMANOS"), Greece.

Prof. Georgios Christofides conducted a roll call for attending National Representatives (NR). The 11 NRs were present (from Greece, Hungary, Austria, Romania, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Albania, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia). NRs from four countries were absent (Czech Republic, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Ukraine).

### Agenda topics

1. Introduction and approval of the Councilors (National Representatives).
  - a. The Councilors introduced themselves and they were all approved. Arjan Beqiraj replaced Aleksander Çina as NR of AL.
  - b. The Council appointed Dr. Alexandros Chatzipetros (GR) to keep notes and submit the meeting minutes.
2. Approval of the Agenda for the 2010 Council Meeting.
  - a. The Councilors unanimously approved the agenda for the 2010 Council Meeting.
3. Briefing.
  - a. CBGA President informed the Council about the actions taken since the last meeting. These actions include:
    - i. Reporting to IUGS. HU and RO Councilors proposed that the next report to IUGS should be submitted by Prof. Christofides.
    - ii. Letter by the IUGS President regarding IUGS Committees.
    - iii. Contacts with Councilors and potential CBGA 2014 organizers.
    - iv. Contacts with CBGA's official journals.
  - b. Mirka Trajanova, SI Councilor, informed the Council about OneGeology and OneGeology-Europe initiatives.
  - c. AT and RO Councilors will prepare a report about CBGA 2010 Congress in collaboration with Dr. Alexandros Chatzipetros, to be published in a journal.
4. Decision on the nomination of the CBGA 2014 Congress organizer.
  - a. CBGA President informed the procedure. Only one formal application for the organization of the next CBGA Congress was submitted, by Albania.
  - b. AL Councilor gave a presentation about Albania's application. He covered all organization aspects, including dates, lodging, field trips and cultural interactions.
  - c. An extensive and thorough discussion about Albania's application followed this presentation. All Councilors addressed AL Councilor with questions concerning mainly the sustainability of the organization. AL Councilor reassured the Council that there are strong liaisons between the academia and the industry, therefore he believes that there will be no problem regarding the organization of the Congress, regardless of governmental or institutional support.
  - d. Several Councilors pointed out that there are several international conferences that may draw participants from the potential pool in the Carpathian-Balkan area. AL Councilor will check again the available dates and will, if necessary, alter CBGA 2014 dates. The final dates should be fixed by the next interim meeting in 2012.
  - e. **AL Councilor left the room and the rest of the Councilors discussed the pros and cons of Albania's application. AL Councilor was called back in the room. In the voting that followed the discussion, the application was unanimously accepted.** CBGA 2014 will take place in Tirana. Prof. Arjan Beqiraj and Dr. Arben Pambuku, both from Albania, will serve as the next President and the Secretary General of the CBGA respectively.
  - f. The CBGA 2010 Organizing Committee will send the mailing list of the Congress to the next President to facilitate him with dissemination of information regarding CBGA 2014 and CBGA in general.
  - g. Prof. Christofides (GR) will pass on to the new President all necessary documents, reports, meeting minutes etc..
5. The CBGA 2010 Congress.
  - a. The CBGA President briefly explained the actions taken so far and gave some information regarding grants and financial data in general.
  - b. A. Chatzipetros briefly presented key statistics of CBGA 2010 regarding participation and coverage.
  - c. The Council congratulated the Organizing Committee for the excellent organization of the Congress.
6. Agreement with the Official Journals of CBGA.
  - a. It was decided among the Councilors that the new President should initiate new discussions with both *Geologica Carpathica* and *Geologica Balcanica*, since the agreements with both journals end in 2010.
  - b. The President expressed his gratitude to *Geologica Balcanica* for publishing of the Abstract volume.
7. Economic issues.
  - a. A discussion was made about the financial status and prospects of CBGA. Councilors agreed that the main problem is that CBGA is not a legal entity; therefore it is very difficult to have flexibility in financial issues.
  - b. Prof. Christofides suggested that a Treasurer should be based in the congress organizing country for the entire presidency term, not just the congress. A Committee for investigating this and other alternatives, consisting of the new President A. Beqiraj, M. Trajanova and G. Christofides, will prepare and present a proposal about these issues in the next CBGA Council meeting.
8. Changes of the CBGA Statute.
  - a. An extensive discussion about proposed changes of the Statute was carried out, despite there was no possibility of changing specific points, since all changes should be submitted 6 months in advance.

The President proposed the adjournment of the meeting due to the late time and the continuation of it on Sunday 26.9.10 at 17:00. The President's proposal was unanimously accepted and the President adjourned the meeting at 20:00. (*Continuation see on page 494*).