



IGU E-NEWSLETTER

Quarterly

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This Newsletter is directly circulated to more than 2000 individuals and bodies. Announcements, information, calls for participation in scientific events, programmes and projects are welcome. Please send them to giuliano.bellezza@gmail.com or g.bellezza@homeofgeography.org



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1) SPECIAL REMARKS FROM YUKIO HIMIYAMA, IGU PRESIDENT

Special Remarks from Past President Yukio Himiyama

I wrote my last contribution to the ‘Remarks’ column in July this year, i.e. a month before the end of my presidency on 21 August 2020, which was the last day of the postponed IGC 2020 Istanbul. Professor Giuliano Bellezza, the editor of IGU e-Newsletter, asked me to write on the last days of my presidency, which was full of challenges for the Executive Committee for the preparation and execution of the first online General Assembly in the IGU history. It went fairly well in comparison to many similar online meetings, and togetherness and satisfaction of the participants were expressed. The whole virtual General Assembly can be seen at <https://youtu.be/e9bjKNZlyj8>. May I highlight some notable items in the *Report of the President on the Period 2016-2020* in the virtual

General Assembly in the light of IGU Strategy 2016-2022 as well as the objectives of the IGU prescribed in the Statutes.

1) Encouragement of national/regional activities and Commissions' activities:

In addition to International Geographical Congresses (IGC) and Regional Conferences, which are considered as a powerful driver to unite and activate the local geographic community, the EC created a category of IGU meetings named 'Thematic Conference', which is jointly organized by two or more Commissions, normally with the support of the National Committee concerned, in order to assist and encourage meetings larger than ordinary Commission meetings but smaller than Regional Conferences. So far five Thematic Conferences have been held, namely at Hyderabad (2017), La Paz (2017), Bucharest & Tulcea (2017), Moscow (2018) and Koper (2019), but the one at Lecce (2020) was postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has been a tremendous blow to our activities as well as to our lives, but it has also resulted in consolidation of some National Committees and Commissions in their joint works against it in some countries such as in China-Beijing, as have been widely reported.

2) Enhancement of honors and awards:

The guidelines for the IGU Honors and Awards Committee have been revised, and two new awards, namely *IGU Early Career Award in Geography* and *IGU Award for Distinguished Geographic Practice*, have been created in addition to the existing *IGU Lauréat d'honneur* to recognize individuals who have achieved particular distinction or who have rendered outstanding service in the work of the IGU or in international geography, and the *IGU Planet and Humanity Medal* to honor individuals (not necessarily geographers) who have made outstanding contributions to peace, welfare or sustainability. It is hoped that all these Honors and Awards are duly used for promotion of geography, geography education and the discipline's objectives.

3) Contribution to global programmes such as SDGs, Future Earth, CODATA and UN-GGIM:

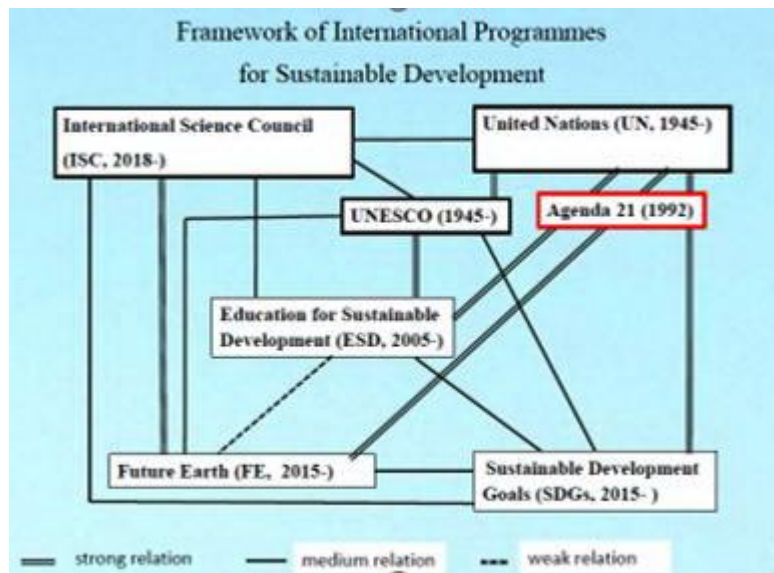
The United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) identifies seventeen priority targets, and they are all strongly related to geography in various ways. As a member of GeoUnions, which comprises nine geoscience unions, IGU has been working with the 'SDGs mapping' scheme as part of its contribution to the SDGs. Future Earth, a major research platform for sustainability, is expected to be a key driver to help realize these goals. Geography is multi-disciplinary in nature, and Future Earth is full of challenges and opportunities for geographers of the world. It is also important for the IGU to increase its contribution to global data initiatives such as CODATA (Committee on Data for Science and Technology) and UN-GGIM (United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management).

4) Promotion of science education for sustainable development:

In addition to the continuing effort in promotion of geography education, the IGU made a special effort in promoting science education, which includes geography education and education for sustainable development (ESD), in the process of merger of ICSU and ISSC to create ISC in 2017-2018. In fact the IGU, represented by myself as President and Professor Mike Meadows as Secretary General, strongly expressed the importance of science education in the ICSU-ISSC Joint General Assembly at Taipei in October 2017, and obtained widespread support from the participants. The IGU should continue this effort of promoting science education for sustainable development.

5) Consolidation of Future Earth-ESD-SDGs linkages for sustainable development:

The figure below shows the framework of the major international programmes for sustainable development, namely Future Earth (for science), ESD (for education) and SDGs (for society)



and their relations with the ISC, United Nations and UNESCO. The three programmes have their own mission and strategy, but their mutual understanding and cooperation are no less essential for their success. Geography is a truly multi-disciplinary science for sustainability, and the IGU can help them consolidate their mutual linkages. Such inter-disciplinary coordination by the IGU will be furthered if we cooperate with such sustainability initiatives as *Trust for Sustainable Living* (TSL), a global education trust centred in the UK which organizes the "International Schools Debates" forum annually (<https://trustforsustainableliving.org/about-us>). The recent dramatic increase of online events due to COVID-19 also offers us great opportunity of extending our views and activities.

With all these achievements and prospects, I am sure that we will have an exciting, challenging and rewarding four years. Let's continue to strive forward together.

Yukio Himiyama,
Past IGU President.



2) REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT MICHAEL MEADOWS

“International” in the International Geographical Union

Greetings from Spring in Cape Town. As I write this, the first IGU e-Newsletter message following my election as President, the coronavirus crisis continues its rampant spread around the world, seemingly almost unabated in some countries. The situation here in South Africa is promising in that the number of recorded cases has declined markedly, but the threat remains of a ‘second peak’ that has manifested in many other countries. We remain watchful and carefully following guidelines and regulations around the wearing of masks, hygiene and social distancing. This time last year nobody thought about any of these things and it is an illustration, above all else, of our vulnerability as a species. Best we take heed and humbly accept that we have pushed this planet to the very limits of its abilities to support us.

The Executive Committee (EC) now has two new members, Professor Holly Barcus from Macalester College, St Paul, USA, and Professor Céline Rozenblat from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. We welcome them both to help the IGU achieve its goals over the next four years but, sadly, have had to part company with Professors Joos-Droogleever-Fortuijn and Professor Vladimir Kolosov, whose terms of office are now complete. Fortunately, both will stay well connected with IGU, since Joos is now a member of our Awards Committee, and Vladimir continues as chair of the IGU Centennial and Sesquicentennial Task Force.

The EC is also bolstered by the re-election of Professors Barbaros Gonencgil and Nathalie Lemarchand. We have already been thinking about how to strengthen the IGU (and therefore, hopefully, also the discipline of Geography) and take the organization forward up to – and beyond – our centennial in 2022. A key focus of our efforts must be communication, not only within the IGU itself, including its National Committees, Commissions and Task Forces, but also with the broader community of geographers globally. We are also conscious of further consolidating our relationship with closely related organizations within the International Science Council (ISC) and the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH) as well as with the public at large in order to raise the profile of Geography.

In reflecting on the role of the IGU, it occurred to me that one of our major tasks must surely be to facilitate international cooperation in our discipline – in other words to promote genuine internationalism. If this is to happen, Anglo-American dominance needs to be challenged and academic geography must strive to be as globally representative as possible. There is more to this than simply suggesting that geographers from a much wider community should be given an opportunity to contribute, for the current system may even entrench exclusion. As Aansi Paasi (2015, p 260) notes, ‘a balanced and active exchange of ideas provides more benefit for science than unidirectional flows’. This becomes even more important against the background of global environmental change and in the need for geographers in particular to embrace the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which have the objective of ‘leaving no one behind.

Several challenges are evident. Firstly, scientific endeavour needs to be advanced across all nations to reduce imbalances in capacity and enable the participation of a more complete global community to address the key global challenges that are highlighted in the SDGs. In a digital world in which ‘fake news’ is so easily disseminated through the media, not least social media, we must endeavour in our research to ensure that decisions made by key role players at all political levels are evidence-based. This is no easy task, for the very credibility of science and scientists is frequently questioned at the highest level of decision-making, and by the most powerful politicians in the world (a case in point would be Donald Trump’s description of climate scientists as ‘prophets of doom’ at the 2020 World Economic Forum: (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-51189430>)).

The free and unfettered availability of published scientific information and of scientific data is also essential if we are to address imbalances and inequities in the academic world. This too is easier said than done, although a wide range of geospatial data products are becoming more accessible through platforms such as Google Earth Engine (<https://earthengine.google.com/>). On the other hand, scientific journal subscriptions, under the auspices of just a handful of very powerful global publishing houses, are increasingly unaffordable in many countries, especially those of the developing world. The Open Access (author pays) model results in published papers being freely and more widely available to the global community, but publication charges levied to authors are often excessive so that the system actually entrenches the spatially uneven production of research outputs. In some countries, scientific information obtained via the internet is subject to strong controls, restricted access and even censorship; clearly such a situation negates the very concept of internationalism. Freedom of movement and exchange of ideas among scientists, along with improved opportunities for international exchanges and conference attendance, are essential elements of internationalism. Geographers in the developed world are more likely to be able to avail themselves of such opportunities, while there are crippling funding constraints facing researchers in many countries and high costs of transport and conference attendance certainly contributes to maintaining the status quo regarding academic power relations. Visa constrictions are often especially challenging as well. From personal experience within the IGU, I know of many instances where delegates who have been awarded travel grants to attend our conferences have been unable to do so due to visa applications being rejected.

In summary, then, while the goal of internationalism is a noble one, there is a danger that it may serve to deepen, rather than alleviate, the disparities and inequities that persist in the global academy. The IGU can certainly contribute to ongoing efforts to iron out these imbalances; this is essential to ensure that the potential benefits of internationalism are more widely and more equitably shared.

Reference: Paasi A 2015: “Hot spots, dark-side dots, tin pots”: The uneven internationalism of the global academic market. In: Meusbürger P, Gregory D and Suarsana L (Eds), *Geographies of Knowledge and Power* (Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Springer, pp 247–262.

Michael Meadows,
Igu President



3) MINUTES OF THE IGU EC ZOOM MEETINGS 20-21 AUGUST

3a) English versions

20 August

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The online meeting was chaired by President Yukio Himiyama, who welcomed newly elected EC members, Vice Presidents Céline Rozenblat (Switzerland) and Holly Barcus (USA), along with Secretary-General R.B. Singh, Past-President Vladimir Kolosov, First Vice-President Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn, Vice-Presidents Barbaros Gönençgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell’Agnese, Bojie Fu, Ruben Lois-González and Assistant Secretary-General Mike Meadows; Dr Pankaj Kumar was invited to take care of the minutes. The President asked new members, Professors Barcus and Rozenblat, to briefly introduce themselves to the EC. The Executive Committee meeting started sharp at 7:30 GMT on 20th August, 2020.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The agenda was duly adopted; Gönençgil shared his screen to display the agenda and supporting documents during the meeting.

Minutes

Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meeting, held online on 17th June 2020, previously circulated via email, were approved following minor corrections.

Organization and Operations

4.01 IGU Commissions and Task Forces 2020-24

Droogleever-Fortuijn tabled her summary of the reports of IGU Commissions and Task Forces for discussion and recommendation regarding their continuation for 2020-2024 and noted that there were still a few reports outstanding. Meadows suggested that the recommendations should either

be ‘renewed’, ‘to be confirmed’ (pending submission of further information) or ‘report not submitted’. Singh elaborated that ‘**to be confirmed**’ means that the Commissions in question needs to amend the Steering Committee membership to align them with IGU Statutes, ‘**Renewed**’ means that the submitted report was satisfactory and that the Commission can be recommended for continuation for 2020-2024. It was noted that a proposal for a new chair and reinvigoration of the Commission on Modelling Geographical Systems is anticipated shortly. Meadows and Kolosov agreed to contact the chairs of the Commissions on Agriculture and Land Engineering, Environmental Evolution, and Water Sustainability regarding their delayed reports. dell’Agnese communicated the proposal by the Latin American Studies Commission to change its name to Latin American and Caribbean Studies. There was discussion as to whether the request represented a new focus, or simply a change in name to facilitate wider participation. It was agreed that the name change is intended to enable participation from a broader geographical area. Singh noted that the EC makes recommendations regarding Commission establishment, continuation or otherwise to the General Assembly for approval. According to the Statutes, a proposal to establish a new or substantially adjusted Commission should be made nine months before scheduled General Assembly. Himiyama suggested that if any new Commission proposal has the support of the EC, then the stated waiting period can be waived. Droogleever-Fortuijn suggested that Commissions should be encouraged to increase membership of their respective Steering Committee from the global south, low income countries and women. Rozenblat requested clarification as to how new Commissions are established and if IGU solicits these. Meadows replied that IGU does not routinely make a call for the establishment of new Commissions but noted that the EC bears the responsibility of ensuring that, according to the Statutes, IGU should ‘initiate and co-ordinate geographical research requiring international co-operation and to promote its scientific discussion and publication’ which, therefore, from time to time may result in its proposing the establishment of a new Commission or Task Force. Himiyama suggested that further consideration be given to gender balance in Commission and Task Force steering committees.

4.02 IGU National Membership: Colombia, Dominican Republic

Applications to the EC from Colombia and the Dominican Republic for consideration and approval of IGU national membership were tabled. Lois-González apprised EC of the nature of each proposal. The Dominican Republic proposal meets with all IGU guidelines, clearly involves participation from a range of geographical institutions in the country, and proposes the establishment of a national committee with broad representation. The EC recommended that full national membership of IGU be proposed to the upcoming GA. Colombia was previously a full national member of IGU, but it was noted that the new proposal requires some clarification. The *Instituto Geográfico “Agustín Codazzi”* of Colombia, IGAC, was originally the *de facto* IGU national committee for Colombia but membership dues had not been paid for many years, although recently this institution had requested a membership invoice. However, the tabled proposal was from another group of Colombian geographers comprising representatives of institutions with responsibility for the training of professional geographers and others who lead geographic research in Colombia. It was agreed that this group who prepared the proposal should seek the participation of other institutions, in particular IGAC itself, along with the Colombian Association of

Geographers (ACOGÉ), and the Colombian Academy of Geographical Sciences (SGC) so as to ensure more comprehensive representation on the proposed national committee. Lois-González agreed to promote dialogue between the group who had submitted the tabled proposal and IGAC in the near future to allow for the establishment of one national committee to represent Colombia in the IGU. Pending the resubmission of the proposal, it was agreed that ‘Associate Membership’ would be recommended to the upcoming GA for ratification.

4.03 General Assembly matters

Himiyama tabled the draft agenda for the virtual General Assembly scheduled for 21st August, 2020, to be held online using the Zoom platform, with the expressed hope that all would go smoothly. Minor amendments included the inclusion of an additional agenda item for ‘announcements’ to formally report the outcome of the recent e-ballot. There was discussion as to how the item ‘Discussion of IGU priorities, Commission Initiatives, etc’ could be facilitated and Himiyama proposed to invite EC members to raise relevant issues and prompt input from the participants as appropriate. Droogleever-Fortuijn and Singh briefly elaborated upon the content of their inputs to the agenda item on ‘Approval of Commissions, Task Forces, Chairs and Steering Committees’. Himiyama noted that his Presidential report would reflect on the following issues: EC meetings, 33rd IGC, Istanbul, the Quebec Regional Conference, various Thematic Conferences, Commission and Task Force activities, IGU contributions to research on COVID19, outreach and relations with other organizations, latest developments in cooperation between IGU and ISC, including Future Earth, IYGU activities, especially in the promotion of education, and the IGU archives. Lemarchand suggested that the MOU signed between IGU and FIG be included, as well as IGC Paris 2022. Kolosov suggested adding a sentence about the forthcoming IGU centennial monograph. Hay agreed to report briefly on IGU publications and LinkedIn as part of the Secretary-General Report. A formal vote of thanks to the outgoing EC would be expressed on behalf of IGU by dell’Agnese. Fu agreed to make a brief opening remark on COVID-19 related initiatives and the UN SDGs. It was suggested to include the IGU Bulletin and e-Newsletter in the Secretary-General report and also to thank Giuliano Bellezza for his valuable contributions in respect of the IGU e-Newsletter. Lois-González was requested to introduce the item on new national member applications. After assigning these various responsibilities, the virtual General Assembly Agenda was tabled as follows:

Virtual General Assembly
21 August 2020 (7:30-11:30 GMT)
Zoom Agenda (tentative)

7:30-7:40	Technical Information
7:40-7:55	Welcome by the President (YH)
7:55-8:05	Roll Call (RBS)
8:05-8:10	Adoption of the Agenda (YH)
8:10-8:15	Announcement of Election Results (YH)
8:15-8:20	Approval of the Minutes of the 2016 IGU General Assembly in Beijing, China (YH)
8:20-8:30	Approval of New National Member Countries (RBS, RLG)
8:35-8:50	Approval of Commissions, Task Forces, Chairs, and Steering Committees (DF, RBS)

8:50-9:20	Report of the President on the Period 2016-2020 (YH)
9:20-9:50	Report of the Secretary General and Treasurer on the Period 2016-2020 (RBS, MM, IH, PK)
9:50-10:35	Discussion of IGU Priorities, Commission Initiatives, etc. (BF, YH)
10:35-11:05	Forthcoming Meetings (YH)
10:40-10:50	2021 International Geographical Congress, Istanbul, Turkey (BG)
10:50-10:55	2022 Extraordinary International Geographical Congress, Paris, France (NL, VK)
10:55-11:00	2024 International Geographical Congress, Dublin, Ireland (NMC)
11:00-11:05	2028 International Geographical Congress, Melbourne, Australia (IR)
11:05-11:10	Votes of Thanks to Outgoing Executive Committee Members (EdA)
11:10-11:20	Comments by the President Elect & Vice Presidents Elect (MM, HB, CR)
11:20-11:25	Other Business (YH)
11:25-11:30	Votes of Thanks (YH)
11:30	Adjourn (YH)

YH: Yukio Himiyama,; RBS: RB Singh; VK: Vladimir Kolosov; JDF: Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn; BG: Barbaros Gönençgil; EdA: Elena dell’Agnese; FB: Fu Bojie; IH: Iain Hay; NL: Nathalie Lemarchand, RLG: Rubén Lois Gonzales; MM: Michael Meadows; PK: Pankaj Kumar; HB: Holly Barcus; CR: Céline Rozenblat, IR: Ian D Rutherford; NMC: Niamh Moore-Cherry IR.

Himiyama stressed the importance of running the virtual General Assembly as smoothly and as free from technical glitches as possible and to reduce uncertainty. He suggested that EC members ensure that they familiarize themselves with the Zoom platform. Gönençgil noted that he had arranged for two technical assistants to be present and that he would initiate the meeting 30 minutes early to ensure that everything was working. The protocol for casting a formal vote was discussed, although it was noted that decisions on the agenda items listed would likely only require broad consensus.

Other Business

4.04 Expressing appreciation to two outgoing EC Members

Himiyama asked the retiring EC members, Past-President Vladimir Kolosov and First Vice-President Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn, to share their thoughts in this, their final EC meeting. Kolosov noted that he will always remain an IGU person at heart and was thus not willing to say ‘goodbye’ as such. He went on to reflect on his 30 year association with IGU, starting as Commission member, then Commission chair, Vice-President and President. He noted that he had experienced so many good things and attended many memorable events while working as an EC member since 2008, and would definitely miss the close friendships that had developed in that time. He expressed a wish that he would be able to participate in future meetings such as IGC 2021 in Istanbul, in Commission meetings and, more particularly, in his role as chair of the Centennial and Sesquicentennial Task Force, at IGC 2022 in Paris. He expressed his sincere hope to meet everyone again in Istanbul and Paris. Droogleever-Fortuijn made the observation - especially for the two new EC members – that when she had taken office as Vice-President eight years ago, she had initially felt very challenged. However, the friendliness of the EC was such that she had settled in quickly and had enjoyed eight wonderful years with the EC. She noted that she will also remain

an IGU person at heart in future and is very pleased to be serving as a member of the IGU Awards Committee. She thanked EC members for their warmth and collegiality and remarked that she will miss EC members both as colleagues and as friends.

The EC expressed sincere gratitude and thanks to outgoing President Himiyama and EC member Past-President Vladimir Kolosov and First Vice-President Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn for their valuable contributions, dedication, commitment, hard work and friendship during their association with EC in promoting the IGU and its diverse range of activities.

Adjourn

The Zoom meeting adjourned at 12:00 GMT on 3rd June, 2020

International Geographical Union **Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meeting** 21th August, 2020

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The meeting was chaired by newly elected IGU President Mike Meadows, who assumed office and welcomed EC members Past-President Yukio Himiyama, Vice Presidents Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell’Agnese, Bojie Fu, Barbaros Gönençgil, Céline Rozenblat and Holly Barcus, along with Secretary-General R.B. Singh and Dr Pankaj Kumar as special invitee to take care of the minutes. The Executive Committee meeting started sharp at 12 PM UTC on 21th August, 2020.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The President welcomed all the EC members to the meeting, especially those newly elected. The agenda of the meeting was duly adopted.

Organization and Operations

5.01 Appointment of Assistant Secretary-General Dr Pankaj Kumar

Following a suggestion by Singh, Meadows proposed that Dr Pankaj Kumar be formally appointed as IGU Assistant Secretary-General. The EC unanimously approved his formal appointment coterminous with Singh’s term of office as Secretary General and Treasurer of IGU (i.e. until the GA in Paris, August 2022).

5.02 Date and format of next meeting

Given the ongoing situation with COVID-19 and the restrictions on travel, it could not be confirmed at this stage when the next in-person meeting of the EC could take place. Discussion ensued as to how to proceed. Meadows noted that four-hour online meetings are very taxing for

everyone and that perhaps shorter, more focused meetings would be a more suitable format, with additional exchanges and decisions made via email. Following discussion, it was agreed that the next, shorter (90 minutes), EC meeting would be held via Zoom in mid-September with a restricted list of agenda items to include the website and social media. Following this, an online meeting (90 minutes) in October should consider the IGU Priorities 2020-24. The currently scheduled meeting in Santiago de Compostela, Spain in November could be a 'regular' EC meeting if the situation allows, failing which this too would have to be online format. dell'Agnese suggested holding an in-person EC meeting in Rome in late March 2021 as she had already paid a deposit on the venue; this was agreed pending travel arrangements. All dates and agenda items are still to be confirmed via email. A small website working group was established comprising Meadows, Singh, Rozenblat, Gönençgil and Kumar to attempt to bring online IGU information up to date as quickly as possible.

Adjourn

The Zoom meeting adjourned at 12:35 UCT on 21th August, 2020.

3b) Versions Françaises

Union Géographique Internationale Procès-verbal de la réunion du Comité exécutif de l'UGI Réunion du CE par visio-conférence Zoom 20 et 21 août 2020

Accueil, logistique de la réunion et présentations

La réunion en ligne a été présidée par le président Yukio Himiyama, qui a accueilli les membres nouvellement élus du CE, les vice-présidentes Céline Rozenblat (Suisse) et Holly Barcus (États-Unis), ainsi que le secrétaire général R.B. Singh, le président sortant Vladimir Kolosov, la première vice-présidente Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn, les vice-présidents Barbaros Gönençgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell'Agnese, Bojie Fu, Ruben Lois-González et le secrétaire général adjoint Mike Meadows ; le Dr Pankaj Kumar a été invité à s'occuper du procès-verbal. Le président a demandé aux nouveaux membres, les professeurs Barcus et Rozenblat, de se présenter brièvement au CE. La réunion du Comité exécutif a commencé à 7h30 GMT le 20 août 2020.

Adoption du calendrier et de l'ordre du jour

L'ordre du jour a été dûment adopté ; Gönençgil a partagé son écran pour afficher l'ordre du jour et les documents d'appui pendant la réunion.

Proces-verbal

Le proces-verbal de la réunion du comité exécutif de l'UGI, qui s'est tenue en ligne le 17 juin 2020, précédemment diffusé par courrier électronique, a été approuvé après quelques corrections mineures.

Organisation et fonctionnement

4.01 Commissions et groupes de travail de l'UG

Droogleever-Fortuijn a présenté son résumé des rapports des commissions et des groupes de travail de l'UGI pour discussion et recommandation concernant leur poursuite pour 2020-2024 et a noté qu'il restait quelques rapports en suspens. Meadows a suggéré que les recommandations soient entre "**renouvelées**", "**à confirmer**" (en attendant la soumission d'informations complémentaires) ou "**rapport non soumis**". Singh a précisé que "à confirmer" signifie que les commissions en question doivent modifier la composition du comité directeur pour l'aligner sur les statuts de l'UGI, "renouvelé" signifie que le rapport soumis était satisfaisant et que la Commission peut être recommandée pour la poursuite de ses activités pour 2020-2024. Il a été noté qu'une proposition pour une nouvelle présidence et une revitalisation de la Commission sur la modélisation des systèmes géographiques est attendue prochainement. Meadows et Kolosov ont accepté de contacter les présidents des commissions sur l'agriculture et le génie foncier, l'évolution environnementale et la durabilité de l'eau concernant leurs rapports retardés. dell'Agnese a communiqué la proposition de la commission des études latino-américaines de changer son nom en études latino-américaines et des Caraïbes. La discussion a porté sur la question de savoir si la demande représentait un nouveau centre d'intérêt ou simplement un changement de nom pour faciliter une plus large participation. Il a été convenu que le changement de nom vise à permettre la participation d'une zone géographique plus large. Singh a noté que le CE fait des recommandations concernant l'établissement, la poursuite ou non de la Commission à l'Assemblée générale pour approbation. Selon les statuts, une proposition visant à établir une nouvelle Commission ou une Commission substantiellement modifiée doit être faite neuf mois avant l'Assemblée générale prévue. Himiyama suggère que si une nouvelle proposition de Commission a le soutien du CE, alors la période d'attente indiquée peut être levée. Droogleever-Fortuijn a suggéré que les Commissions soient encouragées à augmenter le nombre de membres de leur Comité directeur respectif provenant des Suds, des pays à faible revenu et des femmes. Rozenblat a demandé des éclaircissements sur la manière dont les nouvelles commissions sont établies et si l'UGI les sollicite. Meadows répond que l'UGI ne demande pas systématiquement la création de nouvelles commissions, mais note que le CE a la responsabilité de veiller à ce que, conformément aux statuts, l'UGI "initie et coordonne la recherche géographique nécessitant une coopération internationale et promeuve sa discussion et sa publication scientifiques", ce qui, de temps en temps, peut donc l'amener à proposer la création d'une nouvelle commission ou d'un groupe de travail. Himiyama a suggéré que l'équilibre entre les sexes soit davantage pris en considération dans les comités directeurs de la Commission et de la Task Force.

4.02 Adhésion nationale à l'UGI : Colombie, République dominicaine

Les demandes d'adhésion de la Colombie et de la République dominicaine à l'UGI ont été soumises au CE pour examen et approbation. Lois-González a informé le CE de la nature de chaque proposition. La proposition de la République dominicaine répond à toutes les lignes directrices de l'UGI, implique clairement la participation d'un éventail d'institutions géographiques du pays et propose la création d'un comité national largement représentatif. Le CE a recommandé que la pleine adhésion nationale à l'UGI soit proposée à la prochaine AG. La Colombie était auparavant un membre national à part entière de l'UGI, mais il a été noté que la nouvelle proposition nécessite quelques clarifications. L'*Instituto Geográfico "Agustín Codazzi"* de Colombie, IGAC, était à l'origine le comité national *de facto* de l'IGU pour la Colombie mais les cotisations n'ont pas été payées depuis de nombreuses années, bien que récemment cette institution ait demandé une facture d'adhésion. Cependant, la proposition présentée émanait d'un autre groupe de géographes colombiens comprenant des représentants d'institutions chargées de la formation des géographes professionnels et d'autres qui dirigent des recherches géographiques en Colombie. Il a été convenu que ce groupe qui a préparé la proposition devrait rechercher la participation d'autres institutions, en particulier l'IGAC elle-même, ainsi que l'Association colombienne des géographes (ACOGÉ) et l'Académie colombienne des sciences géographiques (SGC) afin d'assurer une représentation plus complète au sein du comité national proposé. Lois-González a accepté de promouvoir le dialogue entre le groupe qui a soumis la proposition déposée et l'IGAC dans un avenir proche afin de permettre la création d'un comité national pour représenter la Colombie au sein de l'IGU. En attendant que la proposition soit soumise à nouveau, il a été convenu de recommander à la prochaine Assemblée générale de ratifier le statut de "membre associé".

4.03 Questions relatives à l'Assemblée générale

Himiyama a présenté le projet d'ordre du jour de l'Assemblée générale virtuelle prévue pour le 21 août 2020, qui se tiendra en ligne grâce à la plateforme Zoom, avec l'espoir que tout se passe bien. Des modifications mineures ont été apportées, notamment l'inclusion d'un point supplémentaire à l'ordre du jour pour les "annonces" afin de rendre compte officiellement des résultats du récent vote électronique. Une discussion a eu lieu sur la façon dont le point "Discussion des priorités de l'UGI, des initiatives des Commissions, etc." pourrait être mené et Himiyama a proposé d'inviter les membres du CE à soulever les questions pertinentes et à solliciter les contributions des participants le cas échéant. Droogleever-Fortuijn et Singh ont brièvement développé le contenu de leurs contributions au point de l'ordre du jour "Approbaton des commissions, des groupes de travail, des présidents et des comités directeurs". Himiyama a indiqué que son rapport présidentiel allait se pencher sur les questions suivantes: Les réunions du CE, la 33e CIG, Istanbul, la Conférence régionale du Québec, diverses conférences thématiques, les activités de la Commission et de la Task Force, les contributions de l'UGI à la recherche sur la COVID19, la sensibilisation et les relations avec d'autres organisations, les derniers développements de la coopération entre l'UGI et le ISC, y compris Future Earth, les activités de l'IYGU, notamment en matière de promotion de l'éducation, et les archives de l'UGI. Lemarchand a suggéré que le protocole d'accord signé entre l'UGI et le FIG soit inclus, ainsi que le CIG Paris 2022. Kolosov a suggéré d'ajouter une phrase sur la prochaine monographie du centenaire de l'UGI. Hay a accepté de faire un bref rapport sur les publications de l'UGI et sur LinkedIn dans le cadre du rapport du Secrétaire général. Un vote formel de remerciement aux membres sortants du CE sera exprimé au

nom de l'UGI par dell'Agnese. Fu a accepté de faire une brève remarque d'ouverture sur les initiatives liées à la COVID-19 et les SDG des Nations Unies. Il a été suggéré d'inclure le bulletin et la lettre d'information électronique de l'UGI dans le rapport du Secrétaire général et de remercier Giuliano Bellezza pour ses précieuses contributions en ce qui concerne la lettre d'information électronique de l'UGI. Lois-González a été invité à présenter le point sur les demandes d'adhésion de nouveaux membres nationaux. Après avoir attribué ces différentes responsabilités, l'ordre du jour virtuel de l'Assemblée générale a été présenté comme suit :

Assemblée générale virtuelle
20 août 2020 (7:30-11:30 GMT)
Zoom
Ordre du jour (provisoire)

- 7:30-7:40 Informations techniques
- 7:40-7:55 Accueil par le Président (YH)
- 7:55-8:05 Appel nominal (RBS)
- 8:05-8:10 Adoption de l'ordre du jour (YH)
- 8:10-8:15 Annonce des résultats des élections (YH)
- 8:15-8:20 Approbation du procès-verbal de l'Assemblée générale de l'UGI de 2016 à Pékin, Chine (YH)
- 8:20-8:30 Approbation des nouveaux pays membres nationaux (RBS, RLG)
- 8:35-8:50 Approbation des commissions, groupes de travail, présidents et comités directeurs (DF, RBS)
- 8:50-9:20 Rapport du Président sur la période 2016-2020 (YH)
- 9:20-9:50 Rapport du Secrétaire général et du Trésorier sur la période 2016-2020 (RBS, MM, IH, PK)
- 9:50-10:35 Discussion sur les priorités de l'UGI, les initiatives des Commissions, etc. (BF, YH)
- 10:35-11:05 Prochaines réunions (YH)
- 10:40-10:50 2021 Congrès géographique international, Istanbul, Turquie (BG)
- 10:50-10:55 2022 Congrès géographique international extraordinaire, Paris, France (NL, VK)
- 10:55-11:00 2024 Congrès géographique international, Dublin, Irlande (NMC)
- 11:00-11:05 2028 Congrès géographique international, Melbourne, Australie (IR)
- 11:05-11:10 Remerciements aux membres sortants du Comité exécutif (EdA)
- 11:10-11:20 Commentaires du Président élu et des Vice-présidents élus (MM, HB, CR)
- 11:20-11:25 Questions diverses (YH)
- 11:25-11:30 Votes de remerciements (YH)
- 11:30 Ajournement (YH)

YH: Yukio Himiyama, RBS: RB Singh, VK: Vladimir Kolosov, JDF: Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn, BG: Barbaros Gönençgil, EdA: Elena dell'Agnese, FB: Fu Bojie, IH: Iain Hay, NL: Nathalie Lemarchand, RLG: Rubén Lois Gonzales, MM: Michael Meadows, PK: Pankaj Kumar, HB: Holly Barcus, CR: Céline Rozenblat, IR: Ian D Rutherford, NMC: Niamh Moore-Cherry IR.

Himiyama a souligné l'importance d'un déroulement de l'Assemblée générale virtuelle aussi fluide et exempt de pépins techniques que possible et de réduire l'incertitude. Il a suggéré que

les membres du CE veillent à se familiariser avec la plate-forme Zoom. Gönençgil a indiqué qu'il avait pris des dispositions pour que deux assistants techniques soient présents et qu'il lancerait la réunion 30 minutes plus tôt pour s'assurer que tout fonctionne. Le protocole de vote formel a été discuté, bien qu'il ait été noté que les décisions sur les points de l'ordre du jour énumérés ne nécessiteraient probablement qu'un large consensus.

Autres questions

5.01 Remerciant à deux membres sortants du CE

Himiyama a demandé aux membres sortants du CE, le président sortant Vladimir Kolosov et la première Vice-présidente Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn, de partager leurs réflexions lors de cette dernière réunion du CE. Kolosov a fait remarquer qu'il restera toujours une personne de l'UGI dans l'âme et n'était donc pas disposé à dire "au revoir" en tant que tel. Il a poursuivi en évoquant ses 30 ans d'association avec l'UGI, d'abord en tant que membre d'une Commission, puis en tant que Président d'une Commission, Vice-président et Président. Il a fait remarquer qu'il avait vécu tant de bonnes choses et assisté à de nombreux événements mémorables alors qu'il travaillait comme membre du CE depuis 2008, et que les amitiés étroites qui s'étaient développées pendant cette période lui manqueraient certainement. Il a exprimé le souhait de pouvoir participer aux futures rencontres telles que le CIG 2021 à Istanbul, aux réunions des Commissions et, plus particulièrement, à son rôle de président de la Task Force du Centenaire et du Sesquicentenaire, lors du CIG 2022 à Paris. Il a exprimé son souhait sincère de rencontrer à nouveau tout le monde à Istanbul et à Paris. Droogleever-Fortuijn a fait remarquer - surtout pour les deux nouveaux membres du CE - que lorsqu'elle a pris ses fonctions de Vice-présidente il y a huit ans, elle avait d'abord ressenti un grand défi. Cependant, l'amabilité du CE était telle qu'elle s'était rapidement intégrée et qu'elle avait passé huit merveilleuses années au sein du CE. Elle a fait remarquer qu'elle restera également une personne de cœur de l'UGI à l'avenir et est très heureuse de servir en tant que membre du Comité des prix de l'UGI. Elle a remercié les membres du CE pour leur chaleur et leur collégialité et a fait remarquer que les membres du CE lui manqueront en tant que collègues et en tant qu'amis.

Le CE a exprimé sa sincère gratitude et ses remerciements au président achevant son mandat Himiyama et aux membres sortants du CE, le Président-sortant Vladimir Kolosov et la première Vice-présidente Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn pour leurs précieuses contributions, leur dévouement, leur engagement, leur travail acharné et leur amitié durant leur association avec le CE pour la promotion de l'UGI et de son large éventail d'activités.

Levée de la réunion

La réunion du Zoom a été levée à 11h00 GMT le 20 août 2020.

Union Géographique Internationale
Procès-verbal de la réunion du Comité exécutif de l'UGI

21 août 2020

Accueil, logistique de la réunion et présentations

La réunion a été présidée par le président nouvellement élu de l'UGI, Mike Meadows, qui a pris ses fonctions et a accueilli les membres du CE - le président sortant Yukio Himiyama, les vice-présidents Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell'Agnese, Bojie Fu, Barbaros Gönençgil, Céline Rozenblat et Holly Barcus - ainsi que le secrétaire général R.B. Singh et le Dr Pankaj Kumar, invité spécial pour rédiger le procès-verbal. La réunion du Comité exécutif a commencé à 12 heures UTC le 21 août 2020.

Adoption du calendrier et de l'ordre du jour

Le président souhaite la bienvenue à tous les membres du CE, en particulier aux nouveaux élus. L'ordre du jour de la réunion est dûment adopté.

Organisation et fonctionnement

4.01 Nomination du Sous-secrétaire général, le Dr Pankaj Kumar

Suite à une suggestion de Singh, Meadows a proposé que le Dr Pankaj Kumar soit officiellement nommé au poste de sous-secrétaire général de l'UGI. Le CE a approuvé à l'unanimité sa nomination officielle, qui coïncide avec le mandat de Singh en tant que secrétaire général et trésorier de l'UGI (c'est-à-dire jusqu'à l'AG à Paris, en août 2022).

4.02 Date et format de la prochaine réunion

Compte tenu de la situation actuelle avec la COVID-19 et des restrictions de voyage, il n'a pas été possible de confirmer à ce stade quand la prochaine réunion *in situ* du CE pourrait avoir lieu. Une discussion s'ensuit sur la manière de procéder. Meadows fait remarquer que les réunions en ligne de quatre heures sont très éprouvantes pour tout le monde et que des réunions plus courtes et plus ciblées seraient peut-être un format plus approprié, avec des échanges supplémentaires et des décisions prises par courrier électronique. Après discussion, il a été convenu que la prochaine réunion du CE, plus courte (90 minutes), se tiendrait via Zoom à la mi-septembre avec une liste restreinte de points à l'ordre du jour incluant le site web et les médias sociaux. Ensuite, une réunion en ligne (90 minutes) en octobre devrait examiner les priorités 2020-24 de l'UGI. La réunion actuellement prévue à Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle, en Espagne, en novembre, pourrait être une réunion "régulière" du CE si la situation le permet, à défaut de quoi elle devrait également être en ligne. dell'Agnese a suggéré de tenir une réunion du CE *in situ* à Rome fin mars 2021, car elle a déjà versé un acompte pour le lieu de la réunion; cela a été convenu en attendant les préparatifs de voyage. Toutes les dates et tous les points de l'ordre du jour doivent encore être confirmés par e-mail. Un petit groupe de travail sur le site web a été créé, composé de Meadows, Singh, Rozenblat, Gönençgil et Kumar, pour tenter de mettre à jour les informations de l'UGI en ligne le plus rapidement possible.

Levée de la réunion

La réunion Zoom a été levée à 12:35 GMT le 21 août 2020.



4) DECADE OF HUMAN SUSTAINABILITY

About 20 days I received and posted on in www.homeofgeography.org the announce of Prof. Benno Werlen on the online Conference cited below. IGU President Prof Michael Meadows said the opening address, and Prof. Werlen thanked him with the following message.

Dear Mike,

The producers from SalveTV, the TV company, also suggested inserting the conference recording in their local program. If you have any objections, please let us know.

Our spontaneous idea of a “Dornburg Declaration” summarizing the conference outcomes has already been very well received by many participants. We will consider this further and get in touch with all participants to ask if they are interested in a collaboration on this text. Of course such a declaration - hopefully co-signed by UNESCO and other global key players in the field of sustainability - would be an important possibility to raise further the awareness of the importance of geography's contribution to culturally and regionally differentiated pathways towards global sustainability.

Again, thank you for your participation in the event!

Best regards,
Benno

*Prof. Dr. Benno Werlen
Member of the Academia Europaea
Fellow of the World Academy of Art & Sciences
UNESCO Chair on Global Understanding for Sustainability
Institute of Geography, Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany*



5) LETTER FROM ISC PRESIDENT PROF. DAYA REDDY



**International
Science Council**

The global voice for science

12 October 2020

Dear ISC Members,

In line with the ambition set out in [chapter 6](#) of the ISC 2019 – 2021 Action Plan, I am delighted to announce that the International Science Council is today launching a global [Call for Expressions of Interest to Host a Regional Presence of the ISC Global Secretariat](#). The call is specifically addressed to our members in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific.

Following several consultations with members in these regions, including virtual meetings, online surveys, and bilateral conversations, and taking into consideration the comments, feedback and proposals received, the ISC Governing Board has developed a [Strategy: Towards a future regional presence for the ISC](#). Its aim is to establish and support future ISC regional structures in order to build a globally distributed and coordinated ISC secretariat, which should be fully operational by January 2022.

As you know, the Regional Office in Latin America and the Caribbean, based in El Salvador, was closed by a decision of the El Salvadorian government in December 2019; and the current support arrangements for the Regional Offices in Africa, based in South Africa, and Asia and the Pacific, based in Malaysia, extend until March 2021 and September 2021, respectively.

As we look to the future, we seek to build on the success of our existing Regional Offices and rely on the engagement and support of ISC members as well as the organizations that support them and share a commitment to the Council's vision of advancing science as a global public good. The ISC Governing Board will welcome members' expressions of interest, and will work with members in strengthening the Council's regional presence.

The ISC looks forward to receiving your expressions of interest (to be submitted [online](#)) and to strengthening together the regional presence of the global ISC secretariat. The ISC Governing Board will keep the membership as a whole updated on the progress as the process unfolds.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daya Reddy".

,Daya Reddy
President, International Science Council



6) COVID 19 IN WUHAN, A REPORT

INTERPLAY OF SPATIAL SPREAD OF COVID-19 AND HUMAN MOBILITY IN THE URBAN SYSTEM OF CHINA DURING THE CHINESE NEW YEAR (CNY is a two weeks mobile festivity, this year lasted from 18 January to 8 February).

Some weeks ago a group of Chinese Researches (Xiaoyan Nu and Anthony Gar-On Yeh of the University of Hong Kong, and Xiaohou Zhang of the Boston MIT) sent a very interesting article. Authors, though not Chinese citizen, are Chinese mother tongue speakers. The full text of the article (17 pages long, including extensive References) with all tables and graphs has been made available since some weeks on www.homeofgeography.website/news2020.

ABSTRACT:

The rapid spread of infectious diseases is devastating to the healthcare systems of all countries. The dynamics of the spatial spread of epidemic have received considerable scientific attention. However, the understanding of the spatial variation of epidemic severity in the urban system is lagging. Using synchronized epidemic data and human mobility data, integrated with other multiple-sourced data, this study examines the interplay between disease spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and inter-city and intra-city mobility among 319 Chinese cities. The results show a disease spreading process consisting of a major transfer (inter-city) diffusion before the Chinese New Year and a subsequent local (intra-city) diffusion after the Chinese New Year in the urban system of China. The variations in disease incidence between cities are mainly driven by inter-city mobility from Wuhan, the epidemic center of COVID-19.

Cities that are closer to the epidemic center and with more population in the urban area will face higher risks of disease incidence. Warm and humid weather could help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The extensive inter-city and intra-city travel interventions in China have reduced approximately 70% and 40% inter-city and intra-city mobility, respectively, and effectively slowed down the spread of the disease by minimizing human to human transmission together with other disease monitoring, control, and preventive measures. These findings could provide valuable insights into understanding the dynamics of disease spread in the urban system and help to respond to another new wave of pandemic in China and other parts of the world.

OMISSIS pages rich of tables and graph, leading to the

CONCLUSIONS: We found that the disease spread has experienced two stages in Chinese cities, beginning with a significant transfer (inter-city) diffusion before CNY and a subsequent local (intra-city) one after CNY....

Different degrees of lockdown followed, according to the degree of disease spread: wearing masks, social distancing, and washing hands...
Eventually China's extensive travel restrictions reduced approximately 70% and 40% inter-city and intra-city mobility, respectively. These measures have helped China to control the spread of COVID-19 and gradually re-open the cities after 9 February 2020. The travel restriction was removed from Wuhan, the epidemic center, after 8 April 2020.



7) OBITUARY FOR PROFESSOR HERMAN VERSTAPPEN

A Tribute to Great Geomorphologist and Inspirational Geographer,



Ex IGU President Professor Herman Th. Verstappen, 1925-2020

I am deeply pained and saddened to know the demise of Ex IGU President **Prof. Verstappen, Herman Th.** I express my deep condolences to his family, friends and well-wishers. Professor Verstappen Verstappen, Herman Th. I have been meeting him IGU Congress and Regional Conferences since Paris IGC 1984. As President of the IGU, he inaugurated our IGU Conference on Disasters, Environment and Development at the University of Delhi, India in December 1994.

This was our second initiative to organize multi-commissions collaborative IGU seminar together with UN INDR. He has been actively involved in the Natural Hazard Research at the well-known International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences, Enschede, The Netherlands. While writing Foreword of my book-Disaster Environment and Development, he puts it-Scientists and Engineers should cooperate closely with decision makers and the affected populations. Preparedness and awareness raising are important means to achieve the aim of the UN INDR. Since geography focuses on the relationships between society and environment this science plays a leading part in disaster-related research. Herman Th. was born on July 30, 1925 at The Hague, The Netherlands. He is survived by his spouse and his three children. At secondary school (Dalton-HBS) in the Hague Herman Th. Verstappen joined the Netherlands Youth Association of Naturalists (NJN) that made him a real outdoor man keen on walking, swimming, cycling. He later became an enthusiastic mountaineer, climbed in the Alps, two first ascents in the Central Range of West New Guinea (one of which to the eternal snow, 4700m) and all volcanoes in Indonesia above 3000 m. Verstappen, Herman Th. Did his B.Sc and Drs/M.Sc. in Physical geography, University Utrecht, the Netherlands, 1942-1949. Dr.Sc (Phys.Math.) University Utrecht, 1953. His thesis entitled: DJAKARTA BAY, a geomorphological study on shoreline development, under Promotor: Professor Jacoba HOL.

He was staff member, Geographical Institute of the Government Survey Department, Jakarta, Indonesia during 1949-1957. Head geomorphology department, International Institute Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences, 1957-1989. Since 1968 full-professor, of geomorphology at the International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences (ITC), Delft/Enschede, the Netherlands. He was part time lecturer at Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta (1953-1957), University of Indonesia, ITB-Bandung (1954-1957). Verstappen was part-time lecturer of Geography teachers training courses Jakarta (1950-1957). He was involved in Post-graduate teaching, research and consulting abroad 1957-1989. Guest Professor at the International Course for Hydraulic Engineering, Delft (1963-1974) and the International Course for Building and Planning, Rotterdam (1967-1972). Visiting professor, University of Basel, Switzerland, 1984-2000.

His area of research were applied geomorphology and related geomorphological surveying. The use of aerospace technology in geomorphology, Natural hazard research and disaster mitigation, Environmental geomorphology and natural resource assessment focusing on tropical geomorphology and palaeoclimates with regional specialization: Indonesia, South and Southeast Asia made him a leading scientist in this area.

His IGU assignment includes Member Executive Committee **International Geographical Union** (IGU) Vice-President 1984-1988, First Vice-President 1988-1992; President 1992-1996; Past-President 1996-2000, 1989-1999 Member/as of July 1995 Chairman, ICSU (International Council for Science) Special Committee for the U.N. International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction. Expert arid zone program United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Quetta, Pakistan, 1963-1964. Member geological commission Koninklike Nederlandse Academie van Wetenschappen, 1980. Chairman commission Doctor of Philosophy international education Netherlands U. Foundation International Cooperation. Member Netherlands U. Development Corporation, minister foreign affairs, 1993. Chairman special committee natural disaster reduction ICSU, since 1995. Verstappen, Herman Th. was

intensively involved with International Council for Science (ICSU), International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS), Netherlands Universities Foundation for International Cooperation (NUFFIC).

Verstappen, Herman Th. published several books titled Djakarta Bay, a geomorphological study on shoreline development (Dr.thesis, 1953), Aerial photographs in geology and geomorphology. ITC textbook VII.2 (1963), A geomorphological reconnaissance of Sumatra and adjacent islands (Wolters, 1964), The use of aerial photographs in geomorphologic mapping ITC textbook VII.5 (1973), Remote sensing in geomorphology (Elsevier, 1977) Applied geomorphology (Elsevier, 1983), Outline of the geomorphology of Indonesia (ITC Publ.79, 2000), Zwerftocht door een wereld in beweging. (v.Gorcum, 2006). He published more than 200 publications in scientific journals and was editor of Journal Die Erde, Earth Science Reviews, ITC Journal, Geografiske Annaler, Géographies, Geoforum. GeoJournal, Journal of Coastal Research, Photogrammetria, Revista Española de Geografía, Revista Mexicana de Geografía (UNAM), Revue de Géologie dynamique et de Géographie physique/Geodynamica Acta, Revue de Géomorphologie dynamique.

As IGU President Professor Verstappen, Herman Th. major efforts/accomplishments were his involvement in international/global research programmes. The renaissance of geographical thinking: improving the links between physical and human geography, affiliation of the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG), the International Permafrost Association (IPA) and the International Union for Speleology (UIS) with the IGU. Improving contacts with International Cartographic Association. Establishing contacts with regional geographical organizations in various parts of the world. Stimulating IGU membership of new "countries in transition" in central and eastern Europe and in and other countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. He revitalized the IGU in various ways.

Verstappen, Herman Th received Honorary/Corresponding Memberships/Fellowships of Italian Geographical Society, Polish Geographical Society, Mexican. Geographical Society, Royal Geographical Society, Deccan Geographical Society, Indian Society for Environment and Culture, Cuban Society for the Environment, International Association of Geomorphologists (2005) and Lauréat d'honneur International Geographical Union (2008). Apart from this Professor received Knight in the Order of the Netherland's Lion (Decree of H.M. Queen Juliana, 1989) Medal, University of Padua, Alexander Csoma de Kóros Medal, Hungarian Geographical Society. Medal, Cuban Academy of Sciences, Scottish Geographical Medal, Royal Scottish Geographical Society, Plancius Medal, Royal Dutch Geographical Society, Valentijn Medal, Treub Foundation for Scientific Research in the Tropics, Member, Academia Europaea (1992 - present).

On the behalf of the world Geography Community, I pay my humble tribute to Prof. Verstappen and thank God for blessing IGU fraternity with such a creative soul, a great and valuable geomorphologist and Natural Hazard Researcher. I pray to God that his soul be Rest in Peace.

R.B.Singh
Secretary General and Treasurer
International Geographical Union



8) INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL



International Science Council

FOR DIRECT LINK: council.science



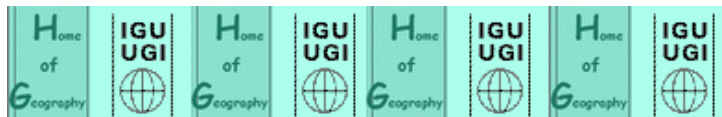
8) FUTURE EARTH

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<https://futureearth.org/publications/anthropocene-magazine/>



9) UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY



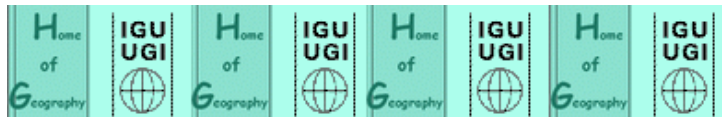
LINK TO THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE IS JUST: <https://unu.edu/>



10) COMMITTEE ON DATA FOR SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY (CODATA)



DIRECT LINK, JUST TYPE: <https://codata.org/>



11) FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(more information in the Home of Geography website, Events 2020)

11.1) 5th International Conference Water resources Tulcea (Romania): postponed to 8-12 September 2021

11.2) COASTGIS 2020, Novia University, Raseborg (Finland), postponed to 16-18 September 2021

Of course, more forthcoming Events one will find at the links to ISC, Future Earth, UN University and CODATA.

