

IACS



International Association of Cryospheric Sciences

2nd IACS Bureau Meeting Vienna - April 12 and 13, 2008

Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik, Hohe Warte 38, 1190 Wien

As suggested and agreed upon in Perugia, this Bureau meeting will be a **Retreat Meeting** in which **only IACS Bureau members** participate. We feel that this is the appropriate modus for the 2nd IACS Bureau. After the exceptional events in Perugia we have lost a bit of momentum. Those Bureau members that came in from the UCCS Bureau were exhausted from the transition efforts, the new members have not yet fully got into the business. On the other hand, we have to take on responsibilities that are definitely more extensive than the ones in ICSI. Apart from normal business that is reflected in the agenda below, we would like to have space and time for a general discussion on how the Bureau can regain momentum and how we can make IACS the success many ICSI officers fought for over many years. We would like to start with the formal agenda on Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m. but will have ample time for extended discussion on a few important general points with respect to IACS.

Georg Kaser (P)

Manfred Lange (SG)

MINUTES

Bureau members present

Georg Kaser (President: P Kaser)

Kumiko Goto- Azuma (Vice President: VP Goto Azuma)

Manfred Lange (Secretary General: SG Lange)

Julian Dowdeswell (Division Head; *Glaciers and Ice Sheets*: DH Dowdeswell)

Charles Fierz (Division Head; *Snow and Avalanches*: DH Fierz)

Claude Duguay (Division Head; *Marine and Freshwater Ice*: DH Duguay)

Bureau members absent with regrets

Ian Allison (President-elect: PE Allison)

Gino Casassa (Vice President: VP Casassa)

Ralf Greve (Division Head; *Planetary and Other Ices of the Solar System*: DH)

Peter Jansson (Vice President: VP Jansson)

Valérie Masson Delmotte (Division Head; *Cryosphere, Atmosphere and Climate*: DH Masson Delmotte)

1. Opening Remarks¹

P Kaser opened the meeting at 9:15 of April 12, 2008, and introduced Wolfgang Schöner, from the *Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik* who has provided substantial logistical support for this meeting.

W. Schöner welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction into the *Zentralanstalt*. The *Zentralanstalt* has been the institution that started the first worldwide weather service.

P Kaser explained that the Bureau does have a quorum with six members including the P, the SG and one VP present.

2. Agenda additions/modifications

P Kaser explained the background of this meeting, which was decided upon in Perugia. There we chose to have a meeting that would bring the new and the old members of the Bureau together. As an IUGG Association, we clearly have a new profile and new commitments. Thus, the P expressed hoping that the new Bureau would (re-) gain momentum.

It was first discussed, as to how to proceed. There was agreement that we should go through the formal agenda and expand at points where a more general discussion would be needed.

3. Minutes from the 1st IACS Bureau meeting in Perugia

Corrections/modifications/additions

We briefly discussed the fact that there is already a version of the Minutes on the web that should have been approved formerly beforehand. However, the Minutes were circulated to the Bureau members before having them put on our website.

Acceptance

The Bureau members decided to go through the Minutes and in particular the Action Items, as follows:

List of Action items from Perugia

Action item 1: PE Allison to formulate immediately a brief message that P Kaser will submit to both CRYOLIST and CLIMLIST; **not yet done – instead, the message shall be included in the Newsletter (see below) and there will be a note on CRYOLIST and CLIMLIST providing the website for download of the Newsletter.**

Action item 2: PE Allison and Past President (PP) Jones (to be asked) will also formulate an article to be circulated to SG Lange and to VP Jansson. This article is intended to be subsequently published in EOS and ICE and is currently being drafted.

Action item 3: The President to ask PP Jones to assist him in preparing a letter to be sent to former ICSI officers informing them about the creation of IACS; PP Jones provided the draft but it was not sent out yet by the P. **The P will take care of this soon.**

Action item 4: SG Lange to provide an IACS letterhead displaying the new logo. ✓

¹ Agenda items are given in Arial; the Minutes are given in Century Schoolbook

- Action item 5:** VP Jansson to update the IACS web-site at www.cryosphericsscience.org
✓ - there should be an effort to provide content to the web-site and feedback to VP Jansson as to the format of the site.
- Action item 6:** VP Jansson assisted by SG Lange to prepare a Newsletter within the next three months; not yet done, this needs to be done urgently and should contain a brief note on IACS' existence, the list of National Correspondents, a listing of our liaisons with different organizations and should promote the Montreal Conference. In addition, the Newsletter should contain obituaries of past ICSI Presidents who passed away during the last year.
- Action item 7:** P Kaser to write to IUGG SG to find out when the National IUGG Committees start to nominate the NCs and how to communicate with the National IUGG Committees. ✓ A series of National IUGG Committees have appointed their correspondents to IACS (Appendix). The Chinese colleagues have also formed a National IACS Committee, which had already its first meeting. The results of this meeting are reported in a dedicated Newsletter (Appendix).
- Action item 8:** VP Jansson to inform the organizers of the Glacier Mass Balance Workshop about the opportunity for IUGG funding and the respective deadline. ✓
- Action item 9:** The President, SG Lange and VP Jansson will prepare a tentative budget plan for the next four years of IACS; not yet done.
- Action item 10:** P Kaser to find out the most appropriate way to react to the change in Thompson International's new policy on the level of IUGG and/or ICSU. VP Casasas and PE Allison will prepare a document that will be forwarded to IUGG and/or ICSU; underway; the P informs that the IGS Council decided to transform the Annals into Special Issues of a journal bearing the same name and potentially retaking the previous status in TI.
- Action item 11:** P Kaser to send the present draft of the history paper to Jo Jacka; draft has been processed and is available at the IGS web-site until printing of the respective Annals of Glaciology volume.
- Action item 12:** Division Heads will prepare a brief statement describing the role, scope and objectives of their respective Division; not yet done – should be done in a different format (see below).
- Action item 13:** P Kaser to contact the chair of GAPHAZ, Andreas Kääb; has been done (see below).
- Action item 14:** DH Dowdeswell to find out whether the WG on *Debris Transport in Glaciers* wants to continue or not; will be done shortly.
- Action item 15:** VP Casasas to prepare a brief report on the Working Group on Andean Glaciers until the next Bureau meeting; not yet done.
- Action item 16:** DH Dowdeswell and P Kaser to finalize the Guidelines for Working Groups until the next Bureau meeting; not yet done (see below).
- Action item 17:** DH Duguay, PE Allison and SG Lange will look into the issue of a two new WG: one on Marine, Lake and River ice; not yet done – to be taken up again.
- Action item 18:** DH Masson Delmotte to initiate respective contacts; ongoing.
- Action item 19:** VP Jansson to inform Graham Cogley about the acceptance of the WG on *Glacier Mass Balance Terminology (and Methodology?)* and to initiate further steps; ✓.
- Action item 20:** DH Dowdeswell [and Jon-Ove Hagen, former ICSI/UCSS VP] in cooperation with the WGMS will work out suggestions for a modified name for the SSC

and will propose the Terms of References for the SSC. Michael Zemp (WGMS) should ask for formal letters in support of the WGMS from the main data providers (NSIDC, GLIMS) to be presented at the next Bureau meeting; **ongoing**.

Action item 21: P Kaser to send out the present state draft and all Bureau members to provide input to the list of Joint Symposia; ✓.

Action item 22: VP Jansson to contact the organizers of the Geological Congress to explore if a co-sponsorship of individual sessions is desired. If so, he will ask Jon-Ove Hagen and Hans Oerlemans to be our representatives. It should also be explored to what extent the Geological Congress is ready to commemorate the founding of the *Commission Internationale des Glaciers* during the Sixth World Congress in 1894; **to be clarified**.

Action item 23: VP Casassas to investigate and report on more detail regarding the meeting; **to be clarified**.

Action item 24: P Kaser to ask Jerry Brown (SG IPA) about a possible IACS co-sponsorship; **to be clarified, but maybe too late**.

Action item 25: P Kaser to inform Past VP Steffen accordingly; ✓ (Appendix).

Acceptance

Proposed by DH Fierz; seconded by VP Goto-Azuma. Thus, the Minutes were accepted by the Bureau.

4. Treasurer's report

Report

There was no report. The ICSI/UCSS account has been closed with all funds exhausted.

A new IACS account has been opened at the Kreissparkasse Steinfurt, Germany. However, there has been no transfer of funds by IUGG despite the SG inquiring with the IUGG SG and the IUGG Treasurer.

Action item 1: The **SG** will again inquire about the prospective transfer of funds for IACS with the IUGG Treasurer.

Acceptance

Acceptance proposed: DH Duguay seconded: DH Dowdeswell.

5. Reports from absent Bureau members

Only one report by DH Greve has been received (see Appendix).

6. Montreal 2009

The scientific program

P Kaser gave a broad introduction into the history of the development of the Conference and the decision to go for a joint Assembly with IAMAS and IAPSO rather than an IACS-only Assembly. The Assembly will take place on July 20-24, 2009 (the IAMAS symposia will continue until July 29).

At first, the Joint Sessions were discussed. IACS-led sessions are in good shape. The only IACS convenor missing so far is the one for J10. DH Duguay knows a suitable person (Katey Walter) whom he will approach. SG Lange asked to be relieved from the co-convenorship of J17. He will approach Sebastian Gerland (Norsk Polar Institutt) to replace him.

The two plenary speakers for the plenary session are Roy (Fritz) Koerner and Doug McAyeal. DH Dowdeswell kindly agreed to be a possible back-up, but stressed that he could not yet confirm his availability at the time of the conference.

On a more general note, DH Fierz noted that joint assemblies might not always be appropriate. He would prefer to have joint assemblies in the framework of the IUGG Assemblies and that we should concentrate on more focussed, smaller meetings/workshops in the interim. DH Fierz stressed that joint assemblies may not address specific communities that we would like to regain contact with. This issue was discussed by the members present and the advantages and disadvantages of joint versus IACS-only assemblies were considered in some detail.

Next, the IACS-only sessions were discussed. We are also in good shape with regard to conveners and session descriptions and have only a few more missing information. We decided, after some discussion, to leave session C6, but to ask Martin Sharp to replace P Kaser as lead convenor.

DH Fierz asked Peter Bebi (IUFRO) to be co-convenor for C2. He agreed and will be asked to also solicit co-sponsorship of IUFRO for this session. This brought up the general point of seeking co-sponsorship for other sessions as well. The Bureau members present prepared a table detailing possible co-sponsors for a number of the joint as well as the IACS-only sessions (Appendix).

Action item 2: SG Lange to contact the SGs of the other two Associations as well as the chairman of the Scientific Program Committee Jacques Derome and inquire about a common strategy for co-sponsorship. Once the strategy has been agreed upon, have the session lead conveners of these sessions to approach appropriate officers of the relevant organizations. IACS DHs should assist in this effort.

Action item: SG to contact Sebastian Gerland

Promotion activities

The second circular for the conference will be published soon. This should go out together with the first IACS Newsletter. (see below).

Proceedings

This issue has not been discussed yet in the Scientific Steering Committee, but should be brought up during the next teleconference on April 22nd. IACS has agreed with IGS to approach as a first option the Annals of Glaciology. It may be difficult to agree between the three Associations involved to have the proceedings published in the Annals of Glaciology.

We will therefore not push for any particular publication venue but will encourage session conveners to indicate if in their session the potential for publication of high quality papers has been identified. We may then look into concrete ways to enable this. The way of how to inform session conveners shall be explored during the teleconference.

Others

The issue of invited speakers should be discussed in the Scientific Steering Committee and a common policy be agreed upon.

7. Other conferences

Glaciers in Watershed and Global Hydrology, Obergurgl 2007

This has been a successful conference that was organized jointly with ICSI-H. P Kaser represented IACS which arranged contracts with both UNESCO-IHP and IUGG that supported a number of participants from developing countries (Appendix). Papers of the conference are in the process of being published as a special issue of Hydrological Processes in summer 2008.

Glacier Mass Balance Workshop Skeikampen 2008

The idea for the workshop originated during the UCCS. 99 abstracts had been accepted and more than 80 scientists from Europe, USA, Canada, Chile, Russia, New Zealand, Japan, and India have participated. The workshop gained support from IUGG and UNESCO through IACS (Appendix). During the workshop, which was co-sponsored by IACS, the IACS Working Group on Mass Balance Terminology, that was approved at the Perugia IACS Bureau meeting, has started its activities.

33. IGC Oslo

There now appears to be substantial new development on this issue. The Bureau members present approve of this move. We should explore to what extent the founding of the *Commission Internationale des Glaciers* during the Sixth World Congress in 1894 can/should be commemorated, e.g., during the opening of the Geological Congress.

Future conferences

Action item 3: DH Fierz will explore possible links and/or co-sponsorship with the IGS Conference on Snow and Avalanches in Manali, India.

Action item: *P Kaser* to contact VP Casassa about the plans for an Andean Glaciology symposium possibly being planned for 2010.

8. Divisions Reports

Division on I: Snow and Avalanches

DH Fierz reported briefly about his activities regarding Montreal.

In terms of WGs, SNOWMIP will continue for about two more years. A number of publications are underway. The two co-chairs have changed jobs and may have lost a bit of momentum.

An initiative by Marco Tedesco aims to examine the electromagnetic properties of snow as they relate to satellite remote sensing. DH Fierz approached him and offered to set up an IACS WG; however, there has been no further progress made.

The book *Snow and Climate* has been through proof reading and should be ready for printing in due time. (note: book on display at EGU. Now available under <http://www.cup.cam.ac.uk/uk/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9780521854542>)

Action item 4: P Kaser will write a letter to Richard Armstrong acknowledging and thanking him for having finalized this book.

Snow Classification

About one month ago, the final version of the classification was sent out for review and will be prepared for copy editing. The Bureau agrees on providing US\$ 500 for this purpose.

Division II: Glaciers and Ice Sheets

DH Dowdeswell gave a brief report on the proceedings of this division

GAPHAZ

There is a document on the work of this WG. The group is quite active and seeks contacts to other organizations. The group seeks to extend its activities for another four years. The Bureau encourages GAPHAZ to do so, but notes that a third term would have to be looked at very carefully. A change in the IACS representation in this WG from John Reynolds to Christian Huggel is discussed within GAPHAZ.

Action: *P Kaser* to discuss this with Andy Kääh, John Reynolds and Christian Huggel.

Debris Cover

The potential for an IACS WG on this subject was briefly discussed based on a report by DH Dowdeswell. It was generally agreed that such a WG would fit the mandate of IACS and that it would thus be useful to initiate it as an IACS WG.

Action item: *DH Dowdeswell* to discuss with the leadership on the procedures to set the group up.

Division III: Marine and Fresh Water Ice

DH Duguay: Not much to be reported.

Action item: *DH Duguay* to prepare a brief description of his division to be put on the IACS web site and to serve as somewhat of a template for the other divisions.

Division IV: Cryosphere, Atmosphere, and Climate

Nothing to be reported.

Action item 5: *P Kaser* to contact the DH Masson-Delmotte to clarify the situation regarding her prospective deputy. A potential candidate for this position would be Ross Brown.

Division V: Planetary and other Ices of the Solar System

A report has been submitted (see Appendix)

9. Proposals for Standing Groups

IPICS (International Partnership in Ice Core Sciences)?

IPICS was established a few years ago and has been associated to SCAR and PAGES. It has been suggested by DH Masson-Delmotte that IPICS seeks association to IACS. This is generally welcomed by the IACS Bureau. Once IPICS decides on the form of association with IACS this will be further discussed and be decided upon by the Bureau.

Arctic Glaciology?

This group was again discussed at the IASC (International Arctic Science Committee) Council meeting and it was decided to invite the group “back into” IASC in a somewhat different capacity.

Joint IAVCEI Commission /IACS Standing Group on Volcano- Ice Interactions

There are reports and a letter on this activity (see Appendix). Christian Huggel is suggested to become the IACS representative in this organization.

The Bureau decided to inform IAVCEI that we agree on the initiation of joint activities on the subject of ice-volcano interactions and that this activity will fit a Standing Group in the IACS structure. We therefore propose to form the *Joint IAVCEI Commission /IACS Standing Group on Volcano- Ice Interactions*.

Action item: *P Kaser* to inform IAVCEI and the already existing Commission on Volcano-Ice Interaction about the Bureau decision and discuss about a suitable IACS representative.

ISCLAG (Ice and Snow Classifications and Glossaries)

This is clearly something that falls under the IACS scope. There needs to be more thoughts and activities on establishing the leadership and membership of this group. A number of possible candidates for the lead were discussed. It was agreed that such a group, as well as other WGs or SGs should be offered a nominal fund that supports their activities depending on the need and on the approval of the Bureau.

Action item: *SG Lange* to inquire with Willy Weeks if he would be willing to take on a leading role in ISCLAG and to inquire about possible alternatives, if Dr. Weeks declines the request.

10. WGMS

We thank WGMS for the Annual Report and very much welcome the signing of the MoU between WGMS and NSIDC. We note the intention to establish a common Steering Committee for support and advice of the two organizations and that this Committee will be formed under the IACS umbrella. We propose that a Steering Committee of app. five persons be formed that should be chaired by a member of the IACS Bureau. Normally this would be the Head of the Glaciers and Ice Sheet Division. The Committee should consist of one representative of NSIDC and WGMS, respectively and two independent specialists.

It is likely that the IACS WG on Mass Balance Terminology and Methods will make recommendations to the Steering Committee concerning the future monitoring of glaciers and ice caps and the subsequent data distribution.

Action item : *P Kaser* to talk to Michael Zemp and Richard Armstrong about these matters.

11. IACS Correspondents to the National IUGG Committees

The process of identifying national correspondents has been started by IUGG and a list of current correspondents has been provided by the IUGG SG (see Appendix).

12. IUGG

IUGG representative to SCAR

There is a proposal by IAHS to nominate John Pomeroy as the joint IAHS/IACS representative. The Bureau instead proposes to nominate Ian Allison as the IACS candidate.

Action item: *P. Kaser* to inform PE Allison about his nomination. In case he agrees, P Kaser to inform the IUGG EC about the nomination.

IUGG Executive Committee. Karlsruhe, Aug. 2008

The P and SG will attend the IUGG Executive Meeting.

Union Commission on Data and Information

There has been an extended discussion on installing a Union Commission on Data and Information. IACS has nominated Mark Parson as its potential representative in this Commission. Decision on the approval will be made at the IUGG EC in Karlsruhe.

IUGG Geo-Hazards Commission

IACS has nominated Prof. Martin Funk (ETH Zurich, CH) as the Association's representative to the IUGG Commission on Geophysical Risk and Sustainability (GeoRisk). The Commission plans to focus on small islands and mountains in a first step.

IUGG Workshop support 2008

The deadline has already passed; we have not applied for anything.

Melbourne 2011

The SG has been nominated as a member of the Scientific Steering Committee, with Peter Manins as the chair.

We should think about proposals for symposia topics, which should have a "southern flavor". This should be discussed again during the next Bureau meeting.

We should further nominate a member of the Bureau as the "local representative" (Scientific Program Co-coordinator) to the Scientific Steering Committee.

Action item: *SG Lange* to ask PE Allison to serve in this capacity and/or to nominate an alternative.

Other business

Nothing specific has been discussed.

13. ICSU

ICSU Grants 2008

There was a call for proposals with a deadline at the end of March. We did not submit anything, but should give this issue more attention in the future.

ICSU Hazard planning group

The ICSU Priority Area Assessment on Environment and its Relation to Sustainable Development (2003) reviewed strategic options for future ICSU activities related to environmental research, and proposed 'Natural and human-induced hazards' as one of four possible new fields of work. The ICSU Foresight Analysis of 2004 equally highlighted this field as an important emerging issue. Accordingly, the ICSU Executive Board decided to appoint an ICSU Scoping Group to consider the establishment of a research programme on Natural and Human-induced Environmental Hazards. The Planning Group on Natural and Human-induced Environmental Hazards and Disasters prepared a document to be discussed at a one-day Consultation Forum in Paris on 29 October 2007. IACS has contributed to this document due to P Kaser, DH Fierz and the chairman of the IACS/IPA WG GAPHAZ Käab.

Other business

Nothing specific to report under this item.

14. Other Partners

APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientist)?

It was suggested to bring this group into IACS after IPY. Discussions are underway with the leadership of this group to explore mutually beneficial relationships. They should be assured of our consent and support and have them contact us again, if they are indeed interested to become an organization under the IACS umbrella.

Action item: *P Kaser* to inform Narelle Baker of APECS accordingly.

IPA

DH Duguay will represent IACS at the IPA Conference in Fairbanks this summer.

Action item: *SG Lange* to inform Jerry Brown about the IACS representation.

IGS

Action item: *P Kaser* will meet with the IGS SG to discuss the proceedings of the Montreal 2009 Conference.

UNESCO

There are long-standing positive relations to UNESCO. P Kaser was asked by S. Demuth to give a presentation at a workshop on Mountain Environments in Paris in early September 2008.

The Snow Classification to be finalized shortly will be published by UNESCO.

CliC

K. Steffen (previously an ICSI/UCCS VP) is the official IACS representative to CliC. There is an idea about IACS to become a formal supporter of CliC on a level similar to that of the current host organizations.

Cryospheric Managers

DH Fierz attended a number of teleconferences of this group, which aims to provide a forum for possibly coordinating activities of all relevant organizations involved in Cryospheric research in any form. One issue discussed was a prospective coordination of upcoming meetings, workshops or conferences on Cryospheric issues.

The Bureau very much appreciates DH Fierz' engagement in this group and expresses thanks to him for attending the previous teleconferences. P Kaser or DH Fierz will in the future participate in these meetings for IACS as far as possible.

MoU with SCAR and IASC

We discussed the draft agreement between IACS, IASC and SCAR. The Bureau remains committed to pursue such agreement. The draft will be revised, taking into account the views of the Bureau within app. one month. This revised document will then be discussed with the Executive Secretaries of IASC and SCAR by DH Dowdeswell on behalf of

the Bureau. The intention will be to submit formally an agreed draft to IASC and SCAR at the earliest opportunity.

Action item: *P Kaser* to inform Colin Summerhay about this.

SCAR summer school proposal

IACS has been involved in a proposal to ICSU for a "Summer school on "Ice sheet models for the 21st century ", which will be decided upon in due time.

SCAR Delegate meeting Moscow July 2008

P Kaser will be participating in this meeting as an observer invited by SCAR.

ISSW and Eastern Snow Conference

Action item: *DH Fierz* to investigate the potential for IACS representation at the International Snow Science Workshops. Similarly, DH Fierz and Duguay will also explore representation of IACS at the Eastern Snow Conferences.

15. IACS newsletter

We briefly discussed the prospective content of the first newsletter, which will include the following items:

- Short statement on IACS' existence and a list of its officers.
- The first major event to be promoted in the Newsletter will be the joint IAMAS-IACS-IAPSO Assembly in Montreal in 2009.
- Obituaries (list of past ICSI presidents passed away during the previous year).

As soon as the Newsletter has been finalized, a brief note will be put on CRYOLIST providing the website for download.

16. IACS website

The web-site has been functional for some time. The Bureau notes with appreciation VP Jansson's important work in setting the website up and agreed to provide input to the website.

17. Additional items

17.1 IPCC 5th Assessment

The Bureau discussed the prospect of becoming a stimulator for the cryospheric community to be prepared for the upcoming Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC with regard to a Cryosphere Chapter. For instance, IACS could initiate a regional assessment of Alpine glaciers. This issue should become a standing item on the Bureau agenda.

17.2 Terms of Reference of IACS Working Groups (WGs), IACS Standing Groups (SGs) and Joint Bodies (JBs)

The following Terms of Reference have been drafted and discussed by the Bureau members present:

IACS Working Groups

Working Groups should address scientific problems of the cryosphere that are timely and well-constrained. WGs should have explicit aims, objectives, milestones and deliverables. They should normally be international in composition. They should define the instruments, for example workshops and conferences, through which to achieve their aims and objectives. WGs will normally be limited to up to four years duration. They may be renewed, with suitable justification, for up to a further four years in exceptional circumstances. WGs report annually to the Bureau through the appropriate IACS Head of Division.

IACS Standing Groups

Standing Groups should address scientific problems of the cryosphere that require medium- to long-term attention. SGs should have explicit aims, objectives, milestones and deliverables. They should normally be international in composition. Such activities could include, for example, monitoring, databasing, and dissemination of cryospheric information. SGs will normally have a life-time of at least eight years. They may be renewed, with suitable justification, for further periods of eight years. SGs report annually to the Bureau through the appropriate IACS Vice-President or other Bureau member and may also be subject to external expert evaluation at appropriate intervals.

Joint Bodies

The IACS Bureau may also approve from time to time Joint Bodies, whereby another international organisation, or organisations, approves an IACS Working Group, an IACS Standing Group or a similar form of activity (or vice versa). The justification for joint activities should be similar to that for IACS groups. The Bureau may also approve other forms of IACS joint activity, where an IACS representative is appointed by the Bureau in a bilateral or multilateral initiative with another international organisation or organisations.

Support of IACS WGs and SGs includes:

- Formal IACS endorsement of activity.
- Presence on IACS web pages.
- The ability to apply for IACS seed money of up to US\$1,500 per year, subject to a brief, suitable case for support (which may be submitted at the time of initial application for WG or SG status). WGs and SGs or similar forms of activity established elsewhere and granted Joint Body status by IACS may also be supported in exceptional circumstances.
- Finding application to IUGG and ICSU grant programs that require formal IACS involvement.
- Formal letters of support for funding applications to national and international funding agencies.

Action item: *Bureau members* to carefully check these texts and provide input to DH Dowdeswell very soon.

Action item: *SG Lange* to send these text drafts to all Bureau members to give their opinion.

17.3 Data base on IACS Instruments

Action item: *VP Goto-Azuma* to generate and update a list of current IACS instruments: WGs, SGs, Joint Bodies; to be available on the IACS website with an additional blind column taking note about financial supports given by IACS to the groups.

18. Any other business

18.1 Next Bureau meeting

There is agreement on the need for the Bureau to convene before the Montreal Assembly. Accordingly, the next Bureau meeting is suggested to take place in Innsbruck or surroundings in conjunction with the *Alpine Glaciology Meeting* on February 23-25, 2009. The P Kaser suggested that future Bureau meetings should have one day in which only the Bureau members meet and one or two subsequent days with representatives of WGs, SGs, Joint Bodies etc. This should already be envisaged for the Innsbruck meeting.

Action item: *SG Lange* to contact PE Allison to ensure his presence in the next Bureau meeting.

Closure: *P Kaser* thanked all present Bureau Members for their attendance and their substantial contributions to a very busy and efficient Bureau Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 16:00, April 13, 2008. (DH Dowdeswell left at 13:15)

Georg Kaser (P)

Manfred Lange (SG)