
Report of the IAHR Maritime Hydraulics Section Open Meeting

Venue: 33rd IAHR Congress, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Room Dover, Vancouver, 9 August 2009, 14:00 h.

Present: Constantine Memos, Francisco Taveira-Pinto, Phil Roberts, Peter Davies, James Sutherland, Gary Mocke, Eric Valentine, Ping Dong, Yakum Guo, Ramon Gutierrez-Serret, Christopher George, Gerhard Jirka, Tobias Bleninger.

Apologies: From the other members of MHS.

1. Opening and agenda

Constantine Memos, chairman of IAHR-MHS chaired the session and welcomes those present. The proposed agenda send by e-mail is the following:

1. Announcements.
2. Working groups.
3. Symposia and similar events.
4. Monographs and special issues.
5. Other subjects.

C. Memos informed about the previous meeting with 34th IAHR Congress Organizers and COPRI regarding the possibility to have in Brisbane a parallel Symposium related to, e.g., Long Waves as happened in Thessaloniki.

Eric Valentine, Chair of the Scientific Committee of the 34th IAHR Congress pointed out the most relevant aspects of this Congress in relation to the activities of MHS, namely that: the Symposia idea will be analysed after a formal proposal being received; Congress Theme 1-Extremes and Variability and Theme 2-Coastal Hydraulics: Form and Function covers Maritime Issues; Sea Outfalls fit within the Sub-Theme 2.3 – Estuarine Processes. Eric asked that further information or comments related to the Congress Themes must be addressed to him.

2. Announcements

Constantine Memos pointed out the main changes related with the restructuring of IAHR, namely that Sections will be replaced by Committees. The new name is Committee on Coastal and Maritime Hydraulics. However, a proposal was made to replace “Maritime” by “Marine”. Although the second option won by one vote, it was decided to seek the view of the other Leadership Team members. This Leadership Team comprises the following: Memos (Chair), Pinto (Vice-Chair), Kang, Lin, Mocke, Sundar, Tanaka, Violeau, Prinos (co-opted). A specific task will be assigned to each of these members.

Gerhard stressed the importance of these changes in the new organization structure and the need to add in the future to the Leadership Team IAHR members from North and South America.

3. Working Groups

Memos informed about the recent developments regarding the setup of various Working Groups (WG) that according to the new IAHR structure, will have a Coordinator and a Secretary within a group of max 8 members including a Liaison member from the CMH Committee.

Gerhard stressed that each WG must define its own goals that could be to write a monograph, to organize a seminar, to write a set of papers for a special issue of JHR, etc.

Memos informed about the possible WG that will work for the next 2 years (for more information see report on WG): Ocean Renewable Energy; Composite Modelling (as a follow-up of Hydralab III CoMIBBS project); Multipurpose Reefs; Beach Dewatering; Sea Level Change and Coastal Vulnerability and Risks. Francisco Pinto will be the Coordinator of this last WG and Eric Valentine and Ping Dong showed interest in participating in this WG.

Gerhard underlined the importance of the IAHR platform to contact members, since all of them will be allocated to at least one Committee and so they can easily be asked in a near future if they are interested in participating in these WG.

4. Symposia and Similar Events

As referred to in the Opening the possibility of a parallel event in Brisbane is being discussed with the 34th IAHR Conference. Possible subjects are Long Waves, Sea Level Change, Submerged Coastal Structures, or Nearshore Wave Modelling.

In the meeting of MHS held in Hamburg it was decided to have in Vancouver a Symposium related with Refined Wave Modelling but it was not possible to prepare it in due time.

After the 1st Arabian Coastal Conference held in Dubai, a second one is planned to Oman in 2010. Gary Mocke and Ahmed Sana are local contacts. The Conference will have the support of IAHR through our Committee.

Sundar has proposed the organization of a workshop in Madras, India, on SPH or Application of Geosynthetics in Coastal Engineering. This can be an opportunity of cooperation with SPHERic Group or with other IAHR Committees.

Next CoastLab Conference will be held in Barcelona, Spain, between 28 September and 1 October 2010. Another CoastLab Course will be held in Porto, Portugal, between 14 September and 18 September 2009. These events are fully supported by IAHR/CMH. The possibility of the Conference to be adopted formally by the MHS will be discussed within the CoastLab partners. Francisco will check that.

The Marine Outfall Systems Conference Series has also the support of CMH jointly with the Fluid Mechanics Committee in cooperation with IWA.

5. Monographs and Special Issues

A monograph on technical aspects of outfalls is being considered by the Joint IAHR/IWA Committee. Our Committee will contribute with topics related to the hydraulic forcing (waves, currents, etc) and the protection of outfalls, when the project proceeds.

A Special Issue for the Journal of Hydraulics Research must be prepared. Several possibilities of papers' source were referred, namely from CoMMIBBS project, SANDS project, and papers from IAHR/CMH members.

James will check this possibility within the Hydralab III Consortia. Francisco will coordinate this SI. Ramon suggests that some papers should be related with real projects associated with coastal practitioners.

6. Other Subjects

No more subjects were discussed. The meeting adjourned at 16:00h.