

## **Meeting Minutes of the IAHR Groundwater Hydraulics and Management Meeting (September 22, 2010)**

**Date:** September 22, 2010 during the IAHR 2010 International Groundwater Symposium which was held in Valencia, Spain

**Venue:** Technical University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain

**Leadership Team (LT) Members Present:** Nadim Coptly (chair), Angelos Findikakis, Kuniaki Sato

**Attendees:** The meeting was open to all participants at the Symposium. Dr. Chris George , the executive director of IAHR and Jamie Gomez-Hernandez chair of the Local Organizing Committee were also present.

### **Items Discussed**

- The meeting was used to introduce potential new members to the activities of the Groundwater Hydraulics and Management Committee and to invite those interested to join the Committee and possibly its Leadership Team (LT).
  
- ***IAHR Monograph on Groundwater Management Practices:*** One of the activities of the Committee was the preparation of the IAHR Monograph on Groundwater Management Practices that is being co-edited by Angelos Findikakis and Kuniaki Sato. All papers have been reviewed and then revised by the authors. The Monograph is currently with the publisher for final editing before publication.
  
- ***Selection of Venue for the 2012 Symposium:*** During the meeting Dr. Muhammad Al-Rashed, the Director of Water Resources Division of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), made a short presentation highlighting the benefits of holding the next Symposium in Kuwait. Some of the advantages cited:
  - KISR is a leading research institution in the Gulf Area, with close to 1000 multinational researchers.
  - KISR has significant experience and modern facilities in hosting similar (and larger) conferences.
  - Kuwait city has all the facilities and infrastructure needed to host the Symposium participants
  - KISR proposed that the Symposium be held in Nov of 2012 when the weather will be moderate in Kuwait
  - KISR offered to arrange reduced registration fees for students and participants from low income countries
  - That part of the world has not hosted previously the International Groundwater Symposium.

- As in previous Symposia, the Local Organizing Committee will work closely with the IAHR Groundwater Hydraulics and Management Committee in various aspects of the Symposium such as selection of Symposium main themes, selection of guest speakers, etc..

All IAHR Groundwater Committee members present in the meeting found the KISR team attending the symposium enthusiastic and very serious in their efforts to host the 2012 Venue. Moreover, this is the only concrete offer the Groundwater Committee has received.

**Action Item:** Since we promised to give KISR an answer by Oct. 1, 2010 and, to give them ample time to organize the Symposium if selected, I kindly ask all members who were not present at the meeting in Valencia to email their thoughts on the above proposal. We will accept the bid of KISR if the majority of respondents support this offer. **Please respond by September 30, 2010.**

- **Selection of Venue for the 2014 Symposium:** It was decided that the decision for the venue of the 2014 Symposium will be taken by January 2011, to give the organizers at least 3 years for the organization of the Symposium. A call for hosts for the 2014 Symposium will be published in the IAHR newsletter Hydrolink.

We already have one party interest: Philippe Renard from Neuchatel University. At the meeting Philippe made a short presentation highlighting the benefits of Jamie mentioned that a group from the University of may be interested.

**Action Item:** The GW committee will seek nominees for hosting the 2014. If you know of anybody who would like to host the Symposium, please ask them to contact Nadim Copty ([ncopty@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ncopty@boun.edu.tr)). The deadline for submission expressions of interest is **January 15, 2011.**

- **Leadership team (LT) of the IAHR Groundwater Committee:** The LT of the GW committee is due for renewal by January 2011. We were in a transition period where the members of the Groundwater Committee were selecting the Committee Officers. The new regulations now require that all nominations be forwarded to IAHR Secretariat who will then electronically ask IAHR members who have indicated groundwater as their primary affiliation to endorse the LT nominations (an e-vote). The by-laws of the IAHR committees stipulate that the vice chair, currently Xavier Sanchez-Vila of UPC, will automatically become chair for up to two 2-year terms (i.e., a total of 4 years). The leadership team includes the Chair, Vice-Chair, past-Chair and 3 to 5 other members.

**Action Item:** Please email Nadim Copty ([ncopty@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ncopty@boun.edu.tr)) if you would like to be considered a nominee for the LT, or you wish to nominate somebody else. The deadline for nominations is **November 1, 2010.**