

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

Friday, July 14, 1995, 17:00 - 19:00

Introduction (H. Moritz) Resolutions: read in French and in English (G. Balmino)
Introduction of New President (P. Wyllie) by H. Moritz Presentation of the new Bureau Members, the new Finance Committee and the new Association Presidents (P. Wyllie) Announcement about the next General Assembly Formal Closing of XXI General Assembly

RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNION ADOPTED AT THE XXI GENERAL ASSEMBLY Boulder, July 13, 1995

Resolution N°1

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

Recognizing that:

1. since its establishment in 1988, the International Earth Rotation Service (IERS) has successfully developed a comprehensive observation and analysis system to realize the International Terrestrial Reference System (ITRS) and the International Celestial Reference System (ICRS), and to permanently link them by monitoring the Earth's orientation,
2. IERS achievements are entirely due to the contributions of national agencies in terms of technical development, network operation, and data analysis;

Noting that:

1. the IERS-published reference systems are of high quality and are used in a wide range of research and applications in geodesy and geophysics to provide quantities that the user would otherwise have to determine for himself and at his own expense,
2. the IERS Directing Board has published a strategy statement describing the optimal combination of the astronomical and space techniques to fulfil the IERS missions.

Recommends that national agencies and institutions contribute to the operation of IERS by providing observations and products in compliance with the IERS Strategy.

Resolution N°2

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

Referencing IUGG Resolution 4 of the XXth General Assembly in Vienna (1991) on the urgent need for an improved determination of the global gravity field of the Earth;

Noting that several space agencies, such as ESA and NASA, have plans to realize a mission for the improvement of the Earth's gravity field and that such a mission will have important consequences for geodesy, solid earth physics and oceanography;

Strongly recommends the implementation of a dedicated satellite gravity mission.

Resolution N°3

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

Noting that Resolution C3 of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) at its XXIth General Assembly in the Hague (1994) recommended rescinding Resolution 4 of its XVth General Assembly (1976) which established the Modified Julian Day (MJD) system, and using Julian Days as the only time scale for archiving and exchanging time-based astronomical phenomena,

Recognizing that:

1. the Julian Day is not defined in terms of an internationally recognized time scale,
2. modified Julian Days are widely used in geodesy and geophysics, particularly for the slow changing parameters of the Earth Sciences, and that any change would cause confusion and risk of error,
3. Earth Sciences require the exchange of astronomical as well as geodetic and geophysical data,

Requests the International Astronomical Union:

1. to reconsider its 1994 Resolution C3 regarding the use of Julian Days and to maintain the modified Julian Days scale wherever it is commonly used in geodesy and geophysics.

2. to prepare a recommendation, common to IAU and IUGG, for the precise definition of a time scale including a convention for the continuous counting of days, and adapted to the archival and exchange of time dependent data used in analysis of astronomical as well as geodetic and geophysical phenomena.

Resolution N°4

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

Considering the need to improve secular variation modelling of the geomagnetic field by the addition of ocean-bottom magnetic observatories to obtain a balanced global coverage, and

Noting the high cost and long time needed to develop an ocean-bottom magnetic observatory prototype,

Urges support of research programs aimed at the design, deployment, and running of ocean-bottom magnetic observatories.

Resolution N°5

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

Noting the IUGG's objectives to provide advice and assistance to developing countries, and to facilitate the participation of the scientists from developing countries in Union activities, especially attendance at the General Assemblies, and

Noting the need to attract young scientists from all countries to geodesy and geophysics in general and to IUGG in particular, and to encourage their participation in General Assemblies,

Urges the inviting countries for the General Assemblies to make all efforts to develop a Geohost Program in order to subsidize travel, registration fees, and other expenses of scientists from developing countries and of young scientists from all countries.

Resolution N°6

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

Recognizing the increasing complexity of the financial and other arrangements of an international meeting the size of the IUGG General Assembly, and

Recognizing that considerable time may be required for evaluation of invitations and for negotiations and adjustments of the proposals involving scientific facilities, IUGG and Association office support facilities, residential facilities, social activities, and other issues, and

Noting that it is desirable for invitations to be considered in detail by the IUGG Council during a General Assembly,

Requires that the organizations inviting IUGG to hold a General Assembly in their country should submit their detailed invitation to reach the IUGG Secretary General not later than 3 months before the General Assembly preceding the General Assembly of the invitation.

Resolution N°7

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

Gratefully records its appreciation for the organization and arrangements made for the XXI General Assembly. On behalf of all participants, the Council expresses its warm thanks to the U.S. National Committee for IUGG, the American Geophysical Union, the Program Committee, the Local Host Committee, The University of Colorado, and all others concerned in making the XXI General Assembly such a scientifically successful and enjoyable meeting in the beautiful city of Boulder.