



1. Minutes of the GGP Business Meeting, Hsinchu, Taiwan – March 14, 2007.....	2
1.1 SG station reporting.....	2
1.2 GGOS	2
1.3 ISDC.....	2
1.4 Future of ICET.....	3
1. 5 Future of GGP	3
2. Afternoon Discussion (Chair, J. Hinderer).....	3
2.1 Siting of the new GGP stations.....	3
2.2 SG Summer school	4
3. Next meeting at IUGG.....	4

Prepared by Jacques Hinderer and David Crossley.

1. Minutes of the GGP Business Meeting, Hsinchu, Taiwan – March 14, 2007.

D. Crossley (DC) welcomes all the persons attending this GGP business meeting in relation with the First Asian GGP workshop organised in Hsinchu (Taiwan) by Cheinway Hwang and colleagues in the Taiwan geodetic community.

General information regarding this conference can be found at the website:

http://space.cv.nctu.edu.tw/SG/Asia_workshop.html

Under the subtitle of Scientific Program, there is a list of papers and authors who attended; we do not give a separate list here. There are also many files of the PowerPoint presentations given at the conference in .pdf format.

1.1 SG station reporting

As usually GGP members report on the status of their station and future projects. DC insists on the point that missing data in the GGP data base are still a problem and handicaps our ability to be a fully operational IAG Centre, such as IGS. At the time of the conference, most Japanese stations have accumulated quite a large delay in the data upload, and data is missing from several other stations, including some of the new stations.

Reminders about data

DC reminded the audience that only raw 1 min data have to be sent to the database without any attempt to 'improve' or 'upgrade' the data. B. Ducarme explains to the new GGP members from Asia that they need first to get a login and an identifier before being able to upload new data from their station. L. Vitushkin expresses the wish to see in the file header the calibration factor given with an uncertainty.

1.2 GGOS

DC indicates that GGP is part of GGOS which is an important IAG project. A talk on GGP was presented in Munich in October 2006 during a GGOS workshop. A lot of interest is shown by the IAG in the sense that GGP is the active network for monitoring time-variable gravity worldwide within the frame of an organised network.

Comments from GGP (D. Crossley, J. Hinderer) were included in the newly prepared Reference Document "The Global Geodetic Observing System: Meeting the Requirements of a Global Society on a Changing Planet in 2020" that can be found on the website:

<http://geodesy.unr.edu/ggos/ggos2020/>

The IUGG in Perugia will provide a major opportunity for GGP members to become more familiar with GGOS, as there will be a special session GS005 devoted to the project. GGP will make a presentation on behalf of its members.

1.3 ISDC

A short presentation was submitted by B. Ritschel on the activities of ISDC, and communicated by DC. One important issue is the transmission to IRIS of the GGP rapid sampling data for seismic use. We refer the reader to the GGP Newsletter of April 15, 2006

giving more details on this question. To date, progress on this has been much slower than desirable due to the difficulties in getting the instrument responses in the proper form.

1.4 Future of ICET

DC mentioned that there will be a change for ICET since B. Ducarme is retiring soon and that ROB will no longer host this international centre. Because ICET has been intensively concerned with the GGP data base (as a common agreement between ICET and GFZ), the future form of ICET is of some concern to GGP. There are now 2 applications for hosting the ICET operation (starting probably at the beginning of 2008). The choice of ICET location will be decided during next IUGG meeting in Perugia in July 2007, and this is important for our community.

1.5 Future of GGP

Phase 2 of GGP (2003-2007) was originally scheduled to end at the next IUGG meeting this summer. On that basis, DC asked the attendees about their willingness to take part in a new 4-year cycle - GGP phase 3 (2007-2011). Among the 15 members present, there was a strong support in favour of such a new phase.

We have since been informed that GGP probably does not have to be ratified every 4 years, and has a longer term lifespan. V. Dehant reported that in the IAG bylaws it states "Sub-commissions and Commission Projects are long-term components, Study Groups are of a short-term nature (maximum of four years). The IAG Executive Committee shall approve the structure and changes to the structure of the Commission."

Nevertheless, it is clear that GGP needs to adopt a program for the next 4 years against which to measure future progress, and to re-confirm the officers (Chair/Secretary) for the next 4 years.

T. Sato indicates that his retirement is also very close and that Tamura will become the new chair of GGP Japan. Tamura promised will work hard to send the missing Japanese data to GGP.

2. Afternoon Discussion (Chair, J. Hinderer)

2.1 Siting of the new GGP stations

A review of the history of the GGP stations outside Europe was presented by several colleagues among them T. Sato for the Japanese-owned instruments. H. Wilmes gave a short report on the German stations, including Tigo-Concepcion (TC), operated by BKG; station SU is operated by GFZ.. New installations planned by GWR were listed: Sunspot and a site in Texas in the USA, Deradun in India and a second SG in Wuhan (China). JH also mentions the project to install a second French instrument in Tahiti.

The Taiwanese ordered 2 SGs last year, one of which is operating successfully, but the other (SG T49) had to be returned to GWR for repair. It is supposed to return to Taiwan in May 2007, as reported by C. Hwang. Following a test parallel recording with the SG in Hsinchu (several months to one year long duration), several possibilities were discussed for the permanent site of SG T49:

- As a supporting base station at one of the existing AG sites that are on an E-W profile across the southern section of Taiwan. These sites are visited on a yearly basis as part of the AGTO (Absolute Gravity from the Taiwanese Orogen) project;
- As a supporting station for studies outside Taiwan. One possibility raised by Sato was a location in Alaska for constraining post-glacial rebound and present-day ice melting.

M. Amalvict questioned whether the Boulder instrument (that is still operating, but without data currently available) could be moved to such a place in Alaska rather than the Taiwanese instrument.

H.-P. Sun commented on the acquisition of 2 new Chinese SGs. Among the siting locations, he indicated the possibility to move one instrument to Tibet where it could be compared to the Indian SG. He also indicated that China might purchase 17 spring ET meters to establish a gravity network to study seismic activity. L.

Vituschkin suggested the idea that there is a site somewhere in Asia for intercomparing AGs in connection with SGs. Wuhan could be such a site. Proposals should be sent to the International Working Group on Intercomparisons (official requests are needed). Different sites were cited like Moscow in Russia, Beijing in China, Djakarta in Indonesia.

Jeon-Woo Kim said that the Korean project will go on for the next years. H. Wilmes (BKG) mentioned some cooling problems. One of the new SGs will move close to the Polish border after a test period in Bad Homburg. It is also reported that a new SG owned by GFZ will be installed somewhere in the Amazon basin in South America for hydrology purpose.

2.2 SG Summer school

The question of organizing a school for running an SG was raised. B. Ducarme indicated that previous summer schools were organized by ICET in Belgium and in the Canary Islands mainly devoted to classical spring gravimeters.

The main purpose of the school would be to give training in the operating of SGs and in the data processing. It was also mentioned that lectures on the data processing using TSOFT for instance would be useful, as well as on tidal analysis. C. Hwang agreed on the idea that such a school could be organized in Taiwan in 2008. It is up to the various groups to get organized for setting up such a school. Several persons who are knowledgeable in this field agreed to take part to such a school.

Clearly this issue needs to be revisited at the upcoming meeting in Perugia.

3. Next meeting at IUGG

The next GGP Meeting will be held in association with the Earth Tides Sub-Commission SC3.1 Meeting in Perugia, Italy, on Thursday 5 July 2007, 17:00-19:00 (the location has not yet been scheduled).