

Minutes
of the assembly of the Pseudokarst Commission UIS,
30th April and 1st May 2008,
during the 10th International Symposium on Pseudokarst in Gorizia (Italy)

Attendance: Jan Paul van der Pas (Nederland), Georg Szentes (Germany), István Eszterhás (Hungary), Rudolf Pavuza (Austria), Maurizio Tavagnutti (Italy), Jan Urban (Poland), Hartmut Simmert (Germany), Bernd Wutzig (Germany), Marina Vdovets (Russia), Ahmad Afrasibian (Iran), Soraya Ayub (Brazil), Valentina Tropiano (Italy), Ludovít Gaál (Slovakia).

In the assembly were discussed the following items:

1. Subjects of the last meeting of the Commission in Poland
2. More important events between the two symposiums
3. Present symposium
4. Future events and programmes
5. Election

Ad 1.

The proceedings of the symposium in Poland were published in the “Nature Conservation” vol. 63 (6) 2007 and in the “Zacisk”, Bulletin of Speleoclub Bielsko-Biala, special number. Many thanks to Jan Urban.

Thanks to Istvan Eszterhás the Newsletter is issued twice a year, but the reports come only sporadically.

Ad 2.

- a.) The 12th Symposium for Volcanospeleology was held in Topoztlán (Mexico) in 8-13th July 2007. Information was given by Jan Paul van der Pas.
- b.) The International Conference on Granite Caves was held in La Coruña (Spain) in 17-22th September. Thanks to Marcos Vaqueiro and Juan Ramón Vidal Romani.
- c.) The International Working Meeting of Root Structures in Pseudokarst Caves was held in Teplice nad Metují (Czech Republic) in 21-23th September 2007. Thanks to Jiří Kopecký.

Ad 3.

Present 10th Symposium on Pseudokarst in Gorizia is running successfully till now – thanks to Maurizio Tavagnutti. In the symposium 63 participants from 11 countries took part (Austria, Brazil, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Russia and Slovakia) and 20 papers were presented in Castle of Gorizia and the Hotel Internazionale. During the field trip the Grotta di Villanova cave and Campo di Bonis were visited.

Ad 4.

The following events are expected:

- a) 13th International Symposium for Volcanospeleology in Jeju (Korea), 1-10th September 2008
- b) 15th Congress of UIS in Kerrville (Texas, USA), 19-26th July 2009. It has not yet come to our knowledge, whether the Organizing Committee of the Congress in Texas will keep a Pseudokarst Section. The assembly suggests to secretary to send a request to Organizing Committee of the Congress.
- c) The 11th Symposium on Pseudokarst will be held in Germany in 2010. H. Simmert informs us about the place of Symposium in Königstein near Dresden.

- d) The assembly suggests three potential sites of the next symposium in 2012: Palaeozoic sandstones around Saint Petersburg (Russia, manager M. Vdovets), Granite caves in Sweden (manager N. A. Mörner) or Finland (manager A. Kejonen). Assembly suggests to the secretary to send an information letter to Mr. Mörner and Mr. Kejonen.
- e) Problem of the “Newsletter” and other possibilities of the promotion of activity of the Commission were discussed. The internet homepage of the Pseudokarst Commission was proposed and will be realized.

Ad 5.

Commission members up to now were: Jiří Kopecký (honorary president), István Eszterhás (president), Rudolf Pavuza (vice-president), Ludovít Gaál (secretary), Maurizio Tavagnutti, Jan Urban and Marcos Vaqueiro.

The assembly recalls all functionaries. I. Eszterhás announced, he was not available as a candidate for the presidential function. The assembly elected the following new functionaries: Jiří Kopecký (honorary president), István Eszterhás (honorary president), Jan Urban (president), Rudolf Pavuza (vice-president), Ludovít Gaál (secretary), Maurizio Tavagnutti (member), Marcos Vaqueiro (member) and the new members: Hartmut Simmert, Ahmad Afrasibian, Marina Vdovets and Soraya Ayub.

New president acknowledged for the confidence and thanked I. Eszterhás for his work as a president of the Pseudokarst Commission.

Recorded by L. Gaál