

Minutes
of the assembly of the Pseudokarst Commission UIS,
13th May 2010,
during the 11th International Symposium on Pseudokarst in Saupsdorf
(Germany)

Attendance: Jiří Adamovič (Czech Republic), István Eszterhás (Hungary), Ludovít Gaál (Slovakia), Erich Knust (Germany), Jiří Kopecký (Czech Republic), Włodzimierz Margielewski (Poland), Jan Paul van der Pas (Nederland), Rudolf Pavuza (Austria), Juan Ramón Vidal Romani (Spain), Hartmut Simmert (Germany), Rabbe Sjöberg (Sweden), Georg Szentes (Germany), Maurizio Tavagnutti (Italy), Jan Urban (Poland), Marcos Vaqueiro Rodriguez (Spain), Lukáš Vlček (Slovakia).

In the assembly the following items were discussed:

1. The 10th Symposium on Pseudokarst in Gorizia/Italy - recapitulation.
2. Other events and activities between the 10th and 11th Symposia
3. Current activities – the 11th International Symposium on Pseudokarst
4. Structure and organization of the Pseudokarst Commission
5. Expected events and future activeness of the Commission
6. Election of the executive committee of the Commission

Ad 1.

The main organizers of the Symposium were *Centro Ricerche Carsiche "C. Seppenhofner"* and *Societa Speleologica Italiana*. The Chairman of the Organizing Committee was Maurizio Tavagnutti, but he was efficiently supported by a group of pretty ladies, as well as Maurizio Comar, who guided the field session. In the Symposium attended 63 participants from 11 countries (Austria, Brasilia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Russia and Slovakia). Many thanks for organizers!

The book of the Symposium Proceedings was published in very attractive form (in colours) and it was sent to authors and other people interested in such materials. The Proceedings are also accessible on the Pseudokarst Commission website. Thanks again!

The reports on the 10th Pseudokarst Symposium were published in the UIS Bulletin and Polish Geological Review.

Ad 2.

The following activities and events took place between the 10th and 11th Symposia:

- a) 15th International Congress of Speleology, Kerville, Texas, USA, July 19-26, 2009. The pseudokarst scientific session and meeting (chaired by J. P. van der Pas) were organized during this Congress.
- b) The homepage of the Pseudokarst Commission was re-activated and filled with some important and interesting materials, as last symposia proceedings, newsletters, history of the Commission, clubs. It would be supplemented with the materials which should be sent to the homepage manager, Hartmut Simmert.
- c) Two issues of Pseudokarst Newsletters were published, no 19 (March 2009) and no 20 (March 2010). Both were published in colours and distributed mainly in electronic version by internet. But several paper copies were also produced and sent to authors. The Newsletters are also accessible in the Commission website.
- d) Two reports were sent to UIS Bureau and published in UIS Bulletin: 1) on the Pseudokarst Commission activity in 2005-2008 and 2) on the 10th Symposium on Pseudokarst.

Ad 3.

The present 11th International Pseudokarst Symposium is organized by the speleoclub *Höhlenforschung Dresden* with the main aim at scientific problems, research and protection of the Saxon Switzerland (Elbe Sandstone Mts.) morphology and specific landforms. The Chairman of the Organizing Committee is Hartmut Simmert supported by members of his club (guides of the field session Bernd Wutzig, Jörg Templin and others) and his two pretty girls Ulriche and Jana. In the Symposium attended 53 participants from 10 countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden and Spain). Many thanks for hard work of organizers!

Lecture Abstracts and Excursion Guidebook was prepared for the Symposium participants. The book of the Symposium Proceedings will be published in special issue of the *Mitteilung* (journal of the speleological club). The deadline of paper submission is 31th July 2010.

Ad 4.

The articles of the UIS Statutes do not restrict the structure and size of the commissions, therefore commissions can be organized in the optimal form to be effective. J. Urban suggests that our Commission should gather – as members – representatives of all countries participating in the pseudokarst symposia or other pseudokarst activities. Its members should be also specialists representing various fields of speleological activity and sciences – not only cavers and geologists but biologists, ecologists and other representatives of professions working on pseudokarst, as well. For this reason the assembly suggests to accept the following new members: Jiri Adamovič (Czech Rep.), William R. Halliday (USA), Erich Knust (Germany), Włodzimierz Margielewski (Poland), Jan Paul van der Pas (Netherlands), Georg Szentes (Germany/Hungary), Rabbe Sjöberg (Sweden), Juan Ramón Vidal Romani (Spain), Lukáš Vlček (Slovakia), Josef Wagner (Czech Rep.) and renew the membership of Tiberiu Tulucan (Romania). Several other candidatures are being discussed.

Ad 5.

The following events and future activeness of the Commission will be expected:

- a) Second International Conference on Granite Caves, Sweden, June 2011. It will be the soonest pseudokarst meeting which will be held next year (reported by Rabbe Sjöberg),
- b) 12th International Symposium on Pseudokarst, Galizia, Spain (reported by Marcos Vaqueiro Rodriguez). Previous term of this Symposium, 2013, was discussed, because in 2013 will be the 16th International Congress of Speleology in Czech Republic. The alternative terms, 2012 or 2014, were proposed to consider by organizers.
- c) 16th International Congress of Speleology, Brno, Czech Rep., 2013. Since the Congress will be held just in the central Europe, close to the countries of many of the Commission members, and most of them will be able to attend it, this Congress gives unique opportunity to promote pseudokarst problems and to present the Pseudokarst Commission achievements. J. Urban proposed to organize Pseudokarst scientific and field sessions during this Congress and to concentrate our activity in the near future on this topic. A representative of our Commission should be a member of the Organizing Committee, and the Commission should participate in this Congress organization. Josef Wagner will be our delegate responsible for co-ordination of this event preparations.
- d) Newsletters. We should keep the tradition to publish the Newsletter two times a year and in two languages – English and German (the translator is necessary). J. Urban can be the technical editor but the managing editor might change for each issue according to the leading topic (in the next issue the principal paper should be devoted to the Swedish

- pseudokarst). If the Commission get a financial support (ask UIS Bureau), the Newsletter will be distributed not only in the internet, but in printed, hard-copy version, as well.
- e) The potential places of the next, 13th Symposium is proposed St. Petersburg (ask the potential organizer, Marina Vdovets).

Ad 6.

The assembly confirmed the previous members of executive committee. The present members of commission are: Jiří Kopecký (honorary president), István Eszterhás (honorary president), Jan Urban (president), Rudolf Pavuza (vice-president), Ludovít Gaál (secretary).

Recorded by J. Urban and L. Gaál