

IMAGES « Open » Executive Committee Meeting

Villefranche sur Mer, France, 5th-6th April 2003

Meeting held in La Salle de l'Académie, La Citadelle de Villefranche sur Mer

Members and Guests in attendance:

AH – Ann Holbourn (Assistant Director); AM – Andreas Mackensen (Germany); BC – Bill Curry (Chair); BF – Ben Flower (USA); CK – Catherine Kissel (France); EJ – Eystein Jansen (Norway); FA - Fatima Abrantes (Portugal); FG –Francis Grousset (France); GH – Gerald Haug (Germany); HK - Hodaka Kawahata (Japan); JAF – José Abel Flores (Spain); JE – Jon Eiriksson (Iceland); KKK – Karen Luise Knudsen (Denmark); KYW – Kuo Yen Wei (Taiwan); LB – Luc Beaufort (France); LL - Laurent Labeyrie (France); MLMC – Maria Luisa Machain-Castillo (Mexico); MS - Michael Sarnthein (Executive Director); MTC - Min-Te Chen (Taiwan); OM – Olivier Marchal (USA); RS – Ralf Schneider (Germany); TS – Todd Sowers (USA); YB – Yvon Balut (IFRTP).

Meeting opened by Chair at 11.15

SHORT MINUTES OF MEETING

1.0 OPENING AND ADMINISTRATION

1.1 Opening remarks

BC welcomed all.

1.2 Approval of Agenda and minutes

Minutes of 2002 Scicom meeting in Iceland were approved with minor corrections.

1.3 Report from Chairman

BC provided a brief outline of the IMAGES program. BC stated that the main objective of IMAGES was to promote the coordination of international activities only funded by national agencies. Unlike ODP, IMAGES benefited from a high flexibility, which allowed rapid plan development and changes to cruise program.

LL replied that IMAGES should be proud of its coring achievement, based on little money.

FG stated that the activities of the Working Groups were also important.

AM asked whether IMAGES activities were bound to the “Marion Dufresne”.

LL replied that IMAGES was a key focus of PAGES, and its mission was 1) to provide data, proxies and mud and 2) to interact with the modelling community. The “Marion Dufresne” was one of the platforms used along with others such as the “Joides Resolution”.

BC added that the decision to be an IMAGES cruise was left to the organizers. Until now, this has not happened for cruises on other platforms than the “Marion Dufresne”.

HK asked whether the French government still provided funding for cruises on the “Marion Dufresne”.

LL replied that about 1/2 costs of the “Marion Dufresne” are still being paid by the French government. However, some of the MD cruises were not IMAGES cruises and were not open to other PIs.

1.4 Report from Executive Director

MS confirmed that the financial situation of IMAGES had been further consolidated and that Turkey, Chile and Italy were now members of IMAGES. Data archiving continued to progress and cruise reports were being printed promptly after the cruises. Progress had been made on the new brochure and completion was scheduled for Summer. Working groups were active, in particular the Southern Ocean WG which submitted four pre-proposals to IODP. The Holocene WG and the Ice-Ocean Interaction WG planned meetings later this year.

1.5 IMAGES budget

AH presented a statement of accounts for the year 2002 and the period 01/01/2003 to 31/03/2003 together with a budget forecast for the remainder of year 2003. AH confirmed that the final transfer of IMAGES funds from the CNRS to Kiel University had taken place in 2002. There had been a positive response from most countries to the request for an increase in member contributions. All countries had now paid the 2002 contribution, except for Britain (now processing payment of an increased 15 000 US\$ contribution) and Sweden (no funds available for 2002 contribution).

1.6 Discussion of IMAGES budget

BC confirmed that the US would contribute at least 10 000 US\$ for 2003 and that an increased contribution of 14 000 US\$ might be possible. After 2003, Lowell Stott will become Chair of the MESH Office and will be responsible for obtaining funds for the IMAGES contribution.

MS stated that the German contribution was divided between four institutions and increases in funding may be problematic.

LL suggested that Postdam GFZ be asked to contribute.

KLK confirmed that 2003 was the last year of the 4 year agreement between Denmark and IMAGES. A new agreement will have to be negotiated in 2004.

FG said that 14 000 US\$ had been requested from the CNRS. However, due to budget cuts, it might only be possible to obtain 10 000 US\$. FG added that the 2003 contribution from France would be paid late as it would be used as a temporary loan for advance expenses of ICP8 scheduled for September 2004 in Biarritz.

2.0 PAST AND FUTURE IMAGES CRUISES

2.1 Definition of IMAGES cruise and IMAGES related cruise

MS emphasized the need to clarify the definition of IMAGES cruises and IMAGES related cruises. MS added that long term planning was necessary in order to assure data management on cruises and the production of cruise reports.

RS questioned whether all cruises should be controlled by IMAGES and whether the IMAGES Office should take over when PIs were not effective in producing cruise reports.

CK reported concern among the French community about all Calypso coring operations being open to the IMAGES community. CK added that the Bay of Bengal cruise will be partly closed to IMAGES due to conflicting interests. Only France and India are currently involved.

BC asked which part of the PICASSO cruise was funded by private interest.

CK replied that coring in Chesapeake Bay will be funded by the USGS.

MS said that the Bay of Bengal cruise did not have to be an IMAGES cruise.

LL replied that it was important that cruises remained open to the community. LL added that French scientists sometimes felt that they did most of the initial cruise preparation before outside participation started.

RS stated that it is important to have groups who set up collaboration and write proposals to raise money.

LL said that for a long time there had been no active groups to prepare cruises.

MS asked whether the EU funded coring sites were part of IMAGES.

LL replied that the first EU funded program was not climate related. Thus, the decision to make EU funded cores open to IMAGES was left to PIs. LL added that the new EU proposal for funding Calypso cores, which was currently under review, would not face the same problem.

BC remarked that PIs from France should be asked whether they wanted to be part of IMAGES but not pressurized. BC added that it was misleading to include in cruise reports information on cores that cannot be accessed.

MS proposed that a formal agreement be signed with PIs prior to cruises.

RS expressed doubt about implementing such a policy. RS added that IMAGES could not take responsibility for cruises with IMAGES related interests not planned by the IMAGES community. Individual PIs remained responsible for these cruises.

BC asked where it was mandatory to store data for EU funded cores and added that IMAGES should not take responsibility if another policy was effective.

RS said there was no need for IMAGES to take formal control, as the community was very effective anyway and reports and publications were produced.

EJ stated that IMAGES cruises were usually organized by the community. If cores were obtained by private organizations, the distribution of information should be encouraged but not prioritized. EJ suggested that new contracts with IMAGES should include formulation about mandatory distribution of data.

BC remarked this may not be effective, as contracts are often signed by representatives and not by funding agencies.

Summary decision proposed by MS: When a cruise has more than 50% IMAGES sites, the Office will send someone responsible for data archiving and cruise report production. For cruises with less than 50% IMAGES sites, a person will be trained to help chief scientists.

2.2 Australia-Southern Ocean (Jan-Feb 2003)

YB provided a brief report on the cruise: 14 long cores + multicores and 2 kasten cores had been recovered during the CADO part of the cruise. YB confirmed that the “Marion Dufresne” could core close to the ice with 10 m waves.

MS added that the cruise report was in press and the cruise data archived.

2.3 Cape Town-Caribbean-East coast America-Brest (Spring 2003)

LL summarized the main goals of the PICASSO cruise: 1) IMAGES coring in Cariaco, 2) Exxon coring in Mississippi margin as model for petroleum accumulation (cores accessible after 2 years), 3) duplication of high sedimentation core at Cape Hatteras for tracing lower thermocline evolution, 4) USGS coring around Chesapeake, 5) IMAGES coring of sediment drifts off S Greenland and SW Iceland. LL added that the ship was due in Baltimore on June 6th and in Cork on June 24th and would then go to Brest for a refit.

2.4 Bay of Bengal (Autumn 2003)

CK said that this cruise was initially proposed for 2004 at the last Scicom meeting in Iceland. India had now asked to charter the boat for 10 days in 2003. A 16 days cruise was planned for October 2003. No application had been made for coring permits in the economic zone and the Andaman sites had

been given up. The proposed coring sites were mainly in the North. Only the French cores would be IMAGES cores.

2.5 Other proposals ?

RS expressed interest for coring in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and SE Atlantic off S Africa.

MTC proposed coring in W Equatorial Pacific.

LL stated interest along S America (Amazon to Argentina) and suggested that Argentina and Brazil should be encouraged to join IMAGES.

YB confirmed that slots were available for scientific programs in the “Marion Dufresne” schedule over the next years. However, YB stressed that finding funding for cruises was increasingly difficult.

2.6 Renewal of EU funding for Calypso coring in 2003/2004

LL confirmed that the new proposal was under review. A first selection would be made in Summer. Final outcome will be known in December 2003. If successful, 3 weeks per year of funding will be available for 3 years. Cruise should be partly in Europe but other targets easily accessible for the “Marion Dufresne” such as the Southern Ocean were feasible.

3.0 RELATION WITH IODP

MS summarised the state of progress. IMAGES had been invited to attend the iPC meeting in Austin in March 2003. As no one was able to attend, a letter was written to Ted Moore and J. Kinoshita, co-Chairs of iPC. A reply to this letter was received at the end of March. Both documents were distributed to members present.

BC remarked that the key words in the reply letter were that Mission Specific Platforms (MSP) were not identified in advance and proponents could not choose MSP.

MS stressed the need to set up an IMAGES lobby group to find an EU solution and solve the funding issue of MSP.

LL reported that discussions were in progress to find out what funds could be put up by individual countries as complement to EU funding.

BC emphasized the ambiguity of MSP initially set up for two main goals (Arctic and shallow drilling) and only later proposed as third leg of IODP. The broad concept to assimilate all sampling tools was still not accepted and the use of MSP was envisaged as occasional. BC felt that independence from IODP might be wishful if sufficient funds could be found.

RS remarked that funding of IMAGES could not be secured through IODP, as IODP already had financial problems to support the US and Japan ships. RS added that a long term structure independent from IODP was desirable.

EJ suggested that the Euro margins format could be followed. EJ added that Southern Ocean (SO) proposals were a good test case of the IODP system.

AM confirmed that 4 SO pre-proposals submitted in October 2002 were all encouraged for full proposal submission. Deep seismic lines were not requested for two of the proposals.

BC suggested that in order to test the system only the upper 60 m at 1 cm resolution should be requested and the need for a large diameter coring system should be stressed.

AM confirmed that the SO WG had agreed that IODP full proposals will be written with IMAGES specific targets.

HK provided an update on IODP activities in Japan: The Ministry responsible for IODP was reorganized 18 months ago. IODP was strongly promoted by Science and Technology, not by Education. However, IMAGES activities were divided between Science/Technology and Education. HK stressed that funding for IMAGES activities in Japan, China and Korea will be easier if connection to IODP can be retained.

Summary decision: Lobby group will be formed with representants from main countries participating to IODP (Germany, UK, France) and representants from South (J. Grimalt) and North Europe (E. Jansen). IMAGES Office will co-ordinate action.

4.0 IMAGES-IODP PROPOSAL FROM SOUTHERN OCEAN WG

AM reported on the second meeting of the Southern Ocean WG in Barcelona (10-12th September, 2002). Participants of the Barcelona workshop were:

Chris Charles (US)
Gavin Dunbar (NZ)
Robert Dunbar (US)*
Fabio Florindo (Italy)
Rainer Gersonde (GR)
Ann Holbourn (IMAGES)
Will Howard (AU)
Nalan Koc (NO)
Carina Lange (Chile)
Andreas Mackensen (GR)*
Elizabeth Michel (FR)
Carol Pudsey (GB)
Rainer Zahn (Spain)

*co-conveners

AM said that a full report on the Barcelona workshop was available on the IMAGES and JEODI websites. AM confirmed that four IODP preliminary proposals were submitted on October 1, 2002. All four proposals were favourably received and IODP encouraged submission of full proposals. AM added that the SO WG planned to discuss further strategy for proposal submission and funding application during the EGS-AGU-EUG.

5.0 REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

5.1 National reports from member countries

AH suggested that instead of sending written reports to the IMAGES Office, national groups could make literature lists and activity reports available on weblinks to the IMAGES website. Weblinks would highlight IMAGES related activities and publications and would be more eye catching for national funding agencies.

5.2 MONA/PAGE cruise report

Last part in press.

5.3 Other cruise reports

Completion of the IMAGES 3 report still needs to be solved. IMAGES 5 will be available at end of May

5.4 New brochure

LL presented an outline of the new IMAGES brochure planned during a two day meeting with Antje Voelker and Ann Holbourn in February 2003 in Kiel. LL asked for feedback on the preliminary draft.

After discussion, it was agreed that the timescale targeted should be the last million year (age of EPICA ice core = 0.9 Myr.), accessible at approximately the same high resolution. This had more “selling impact” to present IMAGES as a unique program, distinctive from IODP.

BC suggested that the global map of cores should be at the beginning of brochure, then scientific highlights should follow to illustrate what has been learnt from cores collected in different oceans. BC added it was important to stress that tools are the basis for increasing knowledge. BC also suggested to replace “How to join Images” by a web link and to put more emphasis on accomplishments.

EJ suggested that common words were better for headers: for instance use „synchronizing timescales instead of „global chronostratigraphy“. EJ added that the Holocene should be illustrated and proposed to contribute a figure.

MTC volunteered to provide a figure for p. 4

OM and TS suggested that the input from different labs should be more evident. OM and TS stressed the need to strike a right balance between data and figures provided by different institutions from various member countries in order to highlight international scientific collaboration, fundamental to the IMAGES program.

KLK said that the map of member countries should include Greenland.

TS suggested that professional involvement should be sought at an early stage to save time.

It was agreed that a pdf version of the brochure would be circulated to the Excom/Scicom members after LL made changes. Initial submission was targeted for the PAGES meeting in June 2003.

6.0 WORKING GROUPS: FUTURE ACTIVITIES

6.1 SEAMONS

LB reported that a final synthesis meeting focusing on "Asian Monsoons and Long-Term Tectonic Forcing" was held in Aix-en-Provence in September 2002 and a Marine Geology special volume as well as synthesis paper for QSR were in production.

6.2 EPILOG / MARGO

RS reported that a six day workshop entitled: "Multiproxy Approach for the Reconstruction of the Glacial Ocean surface (MARGO) was held in Delmenhorst in September 2002. The next meeting will be on 15-17th September 2003 in Barcelona, and a contribution of 8 000 US\$ was applied for from IMAGES.

BC offered to contact Warren Prell to offer travel support to the Barcelona workshop.

6.3 Ice-Ocean Interaction

EJ reported that a workshop took place at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, University of Colorado in December 2002, prior to the AGU Fall Meeting. The outcome of this workshop will be published in a few weeks in EOS. A synthesis workshop was planned for 2004.

6.4 Southern Ocean

See 4.0.

6.5 Holocene

FG reported that a first meeting took place in June 2002 in Lamont and a workshop was planned in July 2003 in Bergen, Norway. Articles would be submitted to QSR following the workshop. IMAGES had agreed to contribute 10 000 US\$ to the meeting.

6.6 New Working Groups and recommendation for SCOR affiliation

LL reported that SCOR could contribute about 5 000 US\$ for 3 years for a WG of about 10 members. A letter of intention, terms of reference and targeted output should be submitted to SCOR before 30th April 2003.

It was agreed that new proposals for WGs are encouraged on topics such as clathrates, transport and circulation and that they would be formally presented at the IMAGES Scicom meeting in December 2003.

MTC and LB proposed a WG on “**Past Equatorial Dynamics of the Pacific**”, with main goal to identify new coring objectives. MTC said that a first meeting would be organized in Fall 2003 in Tokyo or Taipei and requested a contribution of 10 000 US\$ from IMAGES. The main purpose of the meeting would be to prepare drilling and coring proposals in low sedimentation areas such as the central Pacific and high sedimentation areas such as the western Pacific.

7.0 IMAGES OFFICE

7.1 Transfer of IMAGES Office to Bremen

RS confirmed that the IMAGES Office will move for a period of four years to the University of Bremen, Germany starting from January 2004. One full salary for either a data manager or science officer will be covered by the University of Bremen.

8.0 DATA MANAGEMENT

8.1 Report of activities

MS stated that data archiving had progressed well over the last year, and that Stefan Rothe, the current IMAGES data manager, had visited a number of major IMAGES related laboratories in Europe, USA and Asia to set up and consolidate archiving procedures with the WDC-Mare. Stefan Rothe also attended the 2002-2003 IMAGES cruises. Cruise reports for these cruises were now available.

8.2 Website upgrade

MS stated that the IMAGES Website page had been updated with recent information concerning past and future cruises, database and workshops.

9.0 RENEWAL OF EXCOM MEMBERS AND SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS

9.1 Response of new members

AH confirmed that the Office had invited new scientific experts after nomination at the last IMAGES Scicom meeting in Iceland.

9.2 Election of Vice-Chair

Summary decision: Nominations for Vice Chair will be sent to the IMAGES Office and a final decision will be made at the Scicom meeting in December 2003 in San Francisco.

10.0 MISCELLANEOUS

10.1 Date and location of next Scicom Meeting

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December 2003, prior to AGU Fall Meeting in San Francisco.

10.2 Date and location of 2004 “Open Excom” Meeting

Tentative dates and location are 26-28th May 2004 in Beijing, China to coincide with PAGES Open Science meeting.

10.3 Nomination of Bill Curry as PAGES Scientific Steering Committee member

BC confirmed that he had accepted to become a member of the PAGES Scientific Steering committee.

10.4 Preparation for ICPVIII in Biarritz

FG reported that a website (www.icp8.cnrs.fr) with all relevant information was opened. FG added that PAGES had turned down an application for travel funding but a proposal to the EU Marie Curie scheme was now under consideration. Further plans will be discussed at the next Scicom meeting in December 2003 in San Francisco.

11.0 SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL DECISIONS FOR 2003

The following new funding applications were approved:

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|---|--------------------|
| 1. MARGO Barcelona workshop | 8 000 US\$ |
| 2. Past Equatorial Dynamics of the Pacific first meeting | 10 000 US\$ |