04 December, 2006

EMCOL MONTHLY MEETING Minutes

The meeting was convened in the Palaeontology Museum at 15:30 hours on Monday, 4 December 2006, with the following agenda:

- 1. EMCOL project activities
- 2. Status of EMCOL Laboratories
- 3. Training
- 4. Other matters

1. Project activities

Third progress report for the "Earthquake RiskAssessment in the Marmara Sea" project is under preparation. Several EMCOL scientists are involved in the report-writing process. The report is due on 15 December, 2006.

We have prepared a project proposal, "Marmara Sea seafloor observation station" has been prepared for submission to the İstanbul City Council for funding. Namık Çğatay and Naci Görür will present it personally to the Istanbul Governor. It involves deployment of a multisensor observatory housing methane sensors, broadband 3 componenet OBS, hydrophone, oxygen sensor, triaxial-single point current meter, and a CTD (temperature, salilitiy, depth) probe. The project is a joint effort by EMCOL, ISMAR-Bologna, and INGV, Rome.

International Collaborative project proposal, "The effects of the Mw7.4 Izmit earthquake on the Sea of Marmara environment: a paleoseismological/environmental approach", was prepared and submitted for funding by CNR-Italy and TÜBİTAK-Turkey. If funded, the project will be a collaborative effort by EMCOL, ISMAR-Bologna, Trieste University and INGV, Rome.

There will be a R/V Le Atalante cruise for the project "Marnaut" during May-Line, 2007. This project involves dives of a research submersible to the NorthAnatolian Fault on the Marmara Sea floor, deployment of several OBS, tiltmeter, pore pressure meters and probably a sediment trap. Several scientists from ITU will participate in these studies.

Aurelia Hubert-Ferrari and her group from Brussels will start coring in 30 June or 15 July for three weeks for the Lake coring and seismic surveys for "the Seismic Cycles of the Anatolian Faults" project. EMCOL graduate students Gül and Sena will participate in the coring. The group also wants to use EMCOL's subbottom profiler system.

2. Status of EMCOL Laboratories:

Laser diffraction grain size analyzer in the EMCOL's Sedimentology Laboratory has been operated by for the analysis of core samples for the "Seismic risk" project. Problems encountered with the use of the software was soolved in consultation with the engineer from the supplier company.

3. Training Activities

- a) Prof. Emin Demirbağ gave an introductory short course on the EMCOL's SES-2000 subbottom profiling system on 16 November 20006.
- Prof. Demirbağ informed the meeting that he is planning a three-day hands on training short course on the use of the equipment, also involving field training.
- b) There will be a delay in the visit of Dr. Helge Arz and Geral Haug from GFZ, Potsdam Germany. They plan to visit EMCOL in January 2007 to give some seminars on paleoceanographic and paleoclimatological topics.
- c) Dr. Sebastian Krastel from Bremen University will visit in January 2007 for the seismic software "Kingdom Suite".
- d) Dr. Luca Gasperini of ISMAR, Bologna will give a short course on Seispro (seismic software) in April, 2007.

4. Other matters

Prof. Namık Çağatay informed the meeting that we still have not heard from the EC about the status of the evaluation of our first EMCOL progress report that was first submitted on 27 May 2006. Since then we received advice to do corections to C-form and Table 3 (Budget vs. actual coast) every about two months. ManagementCommittee expressed concern about falling behind the project plans fordeveloping the EMCOL infrastructure, because of the delay in the payment of the second installment. It was decided to write to EC's DG – RTD and inquire about the evaluation process once more.

Management committee encouraged the EMCOL scientists to present their project resuls produced using EMCOL labs and equipment in scientific meetings and submit papers for publication in scientific journals. It is thought that such activities would contribute recognition of EMCOL and EMCOL facilities

The meeting was adjouned at 16:40 P.M.