

02 February 2007

EMCOL
MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes

The meeting was convened in the Palaeontology Museum at 15:30 hours on Friday, 2 February 2007, with the following agenda:

1. Communication items:
2. Project activities
3. EMCOL laboratory activities
4. Technical training activities
5. Other matters of interest

1. Communication items

Remzi Akkök (one of EMCOL's task leader and a member of the ITU's Executive Committee) informed the EMCOL scientists about the following:

The University Executive Committee made an annual review of the activities of all the University research centres including EMCOL, and decided that EMCOL should continue operating as a university research centre; this decision being based on EMCOL's successful research and infrastructure development activities during the past year,

Emre Damcı participated in the workshop on "Financial Matters in EC FP7" organized by TÜBİTAK on 31 January 2007 in Cerrahpaşa Faculty of Medicine of Istanbul Universitesi.

2. Project activities

Namık Çağatay informed meeting of the following project activities:

(i) Namık Çağatay and Naci Görür attended the planning meeting of the "MARNAUT" project organized by the College de France in Aix en Provence during 22-23 January 2007. There project involves a cruise onboard the R/V Le Atalante and dives by the research submersible *Nautil*. to the North Anatolian Fault on the Marmara Sea floor, deployment of several OBS, tiltmeter, pore pressure meters and a sediment trap. The cruise will take place 12 May-09 June 2007 and involve two legs 12-27 May and 27 May – 9 June, 2007. The co-chief of the French side will be Pierre Henry from College de France. The co-chiefs from the Turkish side will be Celal Şengör for the first leg and Namık Çağatay for the second leg. Several parallel piston cores will be taken for palaeosismological purposes, and one set of the cores will remain in Istanbul for physical properties and XRF core scanner analyses in the EMCOL's Core Analyses Laboratory. EMCOL's scientists will also carry out pore-water extraction and some onboard

pore-water analysis, using EMCOL's equipment. Those who are interested in the MARNAUT cruise and the project can find detailed information from the following web-sites:

<http://cdf.u-3mrs.fr/~henry/marmara/>

<http://cdf.u-3mrs.fr/~henry/marmara/marnaut.html>

(ii) Naci Görür and Namık Çağatay had a meeting on 29 January 2007 with representatives of the Istanbul Greater City Municipality (IBB) regarding the funding of the project proposal, “*Marmara seafloor observation station*”. The officials informed the EMCOL representatives that they have studied the proposal, and in principle decided to fund the project. To initiate the project officially, work is in progress to prepare the contract. The project involves deployment of a multisensor observatory housing methane sensors, broadband 3 component OBS, hydrophone, oxygen sensor, triaxial-single point current meter, and a CTD (temperature, salinity, depth) probe. The project proposal will be a joint effort by EMCOL, ISMAR-Bologna, and INGV, Rome.

(iii) As a follow up from the MARNAUT cruise and project, a second project proposal entitled “MARMESONET” (Marmara Sea European Observatory Network) has been submitted to IFREMER for funding. This project will study the relationship between fluids and seismicity along the Sea of Marmara Fault system, and carry out site surveys for the implementation of permanent seafloor observatories in the Marmara Sea under the framework of the FP-6 ESONET project which is due to start March 2007. The co-chiefs of this project are Louis Geli (IFREMER), Pierre Henry (College de France) and Namık Çağatay (ITU-EMCOL).

(iv) During the planning meeting of the “MARNAUT” project in Aix en Provence, it was agreed to write up a EC FP7 project proposal for establishment of permanent seafloor observatories in the Marmara Sea under the framework of the FP-6 ESONET project. The major partners will be EMCOL, IFREMER, ISMAR-Bologna and INGV, Rome, together with IBB as the end user. During the meeting with the IBB officials, the IBB showed considerable interest in such a proposal for FP7 project calls under Environment: Earth observation or ESONET.

3. EMCOL laboratory activities:

Sedimentology Laboratory:

The use of the Fritsch laser diffraction grain size analyzer in the EMCOL's Sedimentology Laboratory was repaired by the Service company (Infokimya) on 12 January 2007, and is now operational.

Core Analysis Laboratory:

Geotek has informed EMCOL that they can deliver and install a the MSCL (Multi sensor Core Logger) and provide the training in the EMCOL's Core Analyses Laboratory between 12-16 February 2007.

In addition to other MSCL sensors we will be purchasing from GEOTEK we would like to buy gamma porosity/density sensor based on recommendation of the advisory committee and on EMCOL's experience with the project work. We have accordingly requested the project financial officer, Mr Matias-Alonso in Brussels, to approve our purchase of the gamma porosity/density

sensor from the project budget, costing 18,945 Euro. This amount is available in the project budget as funds that have been saved from WP4a: Employment of doctoral students. We have only partly used the amount budgeted for the WP4a activity, firstly because we could not find suitable candidates for these positions and secondly TUBITAK provided scholarships for 2 graduate students to be employed for the EMCOL project starting March, 2006.

Cold Core Storage Room:

The core storage room has been fitted with a temperature and a humidity sensor and an alarm system that would warn if the room temperature is above 10°C. The door of cold storage room is fitted with a lock.

Field Equipment

Sena Akçer informed that we have constructed a Kajak core and a grab for lake sediment sampling. An attachment to protect the CTD sensors and a steel core barrel and core catcher for the vibro corer are also being constructed.

4. Technical Training activities

Dr. Sebastian Krastel from Bremen University is expected to visit EMCOL in February 2007 for presenting a short course on the seismic software “Kingdom Suite”.

There were no other issues to be discussed and the meeting was adjourned at 17:15 hours.