

05 March 2007

EMCOL  
MONTHLY MEETING  
Minutes

The meeting was convened in the Palaeontology Museum at 16:00 hours on Friday, 5 March 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**

1. German TV *ZDF* visited EMCOL on Thursday, 1 March 2007 for a documentary on “Earthquake Risk in the Marmara Sea” and “The Black Sea Flood”. They filmed a core being analyzed in the EMCOL’s Core Analysis Laboratory for the past earthquake records in the Sea of Marmara and a core from the Black Sea showing the record of the flood by the Mediterranean waters. They used EMCOL’s Core Analysis and Wet Core Analysis Laboratories for the filming and conducted an interview with Namık Çağatay.
2. The EMCOL Advisory Committee meeting will be held during 12-13 April, 2007.
3. A group of officials from the IBB’s (İstanbul Büyükşehir Belediyesi = Istanbul Greater City Municipality) European Projects Department will visit EMCOL 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 8 March 2007 for talks on a joint FP7 project proposal “MARMESONET” (Marmara Sea European Observatory Network).
4. Namık Çağatay has been invited by the National Committee of UNESCO to attend the organizational meeting of “Year of Planet Earth”, to be held in Ankara on 7 March 2007.
5. Namık Çağatay encouraged the EMCOL scientists to submit abstracts to the Quaternary Symposium organized by the Eurasian Institute of Earth Sciences during mid-May.
6. We should soon initiate the writing of the *Second Year Activity Report* of EMCOL project, as the months of April and May will be very busy because of meetings, courses and the MARNAUT R/V *Le Atalante* cruise.
7. The Cox Analytical engineer Sven will visit EMCOL for the annual service and training activities during April 23-25, 2007.

## **2. Project activities**

Namık Çağatay informed the meeting of the following project activities:

(i) ESONET project officially started on 1 March 2007. The ITU Rector, Prof. Faruk Karadoğan, has signed the necessary contract documents. Namık Çağatay is expected to attend the kick-off meeting of the ESONET project in IFREMER in Brest, France during 21-23 March 2007.

(ii) The contract preparation for the “Marmara Sea Observatory Station” will be initiated by the IBB after 15 March 2007.

(iii) Negotiations are underway with MTA to reinstall the airguns and compressor on R/V Seismic 1 which are needed for the calibration of the OBS (Ocean Bottom Seismometers) during the R/V Le Atalante cruise of the MARNAUT project in the Marmara Sea during 12 May-10 June 2007.

(iv) EMCOL graduate students, Demet Biltekin, Sena Akçer, Deniz Dikçe and Gül Sürmelihindi, have submitted thesis projects for funding by the University Research Foundation.

## **3. EMCOL laboratory activities:**

### *Sedimentology Laboratory:*

The Fritsch laser diffraction grain size analyzer in EMCOL’s Sedimentology Laboratory is now being used by Deniz Dikçe for her thesis work.

### *Geochemistry Laboratory:.*

Trial tests were made for the pore water sulphate analysis using the spectrophotometer. There appears to be a problem with the operation of the instrument. This problem was reported to the supplier company *Infokimya*. A visit by their technical service is expected soon

### *Core Analysis Laboratory:*

MSCL (Multi sensor Core Logger) was delivered and installed in the Core Analyses Laboratory on 12 February by GEOTEK’s Dr. Peter Schultheiss. He also trained EMCOL’s research assistants Kadir Eriş, Emre Damcı, Sena Akçer and Dursun Acar on how to install, calibrate and make modifications to the set up of the equipment during 12-14 February, 2007. The instrument is now being used to analyze the cores from the Marmara Sea for the IBB funded project “Seismic risk evaluation in the Sea of Marmara”.

Can Genç informed that the harddisk of the computer for the Itrax X-ray core scanner crashed. A new harddisk was immediately purchased, installed with the Itrax software. The instrument is now ready for core analysis. Ummuhan Sancar will soon start the analysis of cores from the Black Sea for her PhD thesis work.

### *Field Equipment*

Sena Akçer informed that the manufacturing of the attachment to protect the CTD sensors, a steel core barrel, and a core catcher for the vibro corer have all been completed. Mahir Vardar, Sena Akçer and Dursun Acar have started to construct a new platform for the lake studies.

#### **4. Technical Training activities**

1. A training short course on "Multi-Sensor Core Logger" was presented by Dr. Peter Schultheiss of Geotek in EMCOL's Core Analyses Laboratory during 12-14 February, soon after the installation. Several EMCOL research assistants participated in the course.

2. A three-day training course entitled "*Core Logging Methods in Marine Geology*" is scheduled in EMCOL during 28 March-30 April 2007. The course will be given by Dr. Jens Gruetzner of Marum, Bremen University.

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