

4 April 2007

EMCOL
MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes

The meeting was convened in the Palaeontology Museum at 16:00 hours on Wednesday, 4 April 2007, with the following agenda:

1. Communication items
2. Project activities
3. Status of EMCOL Laboratories
4. Training
5. Other matters

1. Communication items

(i) Namık Çağatay participated in the kick off meeting of the EC FP6 ESONET project in IFREMER, Brest France 21-23 March 2007. In the General Assembly of this project on 22 March Turkey was elected to the Steering Committee of the project as a member with Namık Çağatay as the representative.

(ii) In the same project meeting, Namık Çağatay organized a special session on the Sea of Marmara. Together with French, Italian and German groups it was decided to submit one project proposal to the FP7 call “ENV 2007 4.1.2.2: Contributing to the development of a worldwide network of in-situ observatories for seismogenic hazards” and one proposal to the project call under WP4 of the ESONET project “Demonstration Mission”.

(iii) Four persons Istanbul Greater City Municipality (IBB) European relations department visited EMCOL on 6 March 2007 for the talks on the EC proposal and had a tour of the EMCOL facilities. This meeting followed by other meetings in the IBB on 16 March and 2 April, during which Namık Çağatay explained to them the ESONET project meeting and new project proposal initiatives.

(iv) There is a move to start an infrastructure project on the European Marine Observatory infrastructure, called EMSO. Turkey can become a partner through government or public funding

agency to this organization. During the meeting with IBB, Namık Çağatay passes on the information about EMSO to the IBB officials.

(v) There will be an EMCOL meeting organized by Namık Çağatay and Mahir Vardar to introduce EMCOL to the University at 17:00 hours on Tuesday, 10 April 2007. The meeting will be attended by high level University administration (Rector, vice rectors, deans, department chairmen and SHOD director). A introductory talk on EMCOL with ppt presentation will be made by Namık Çağatay followed by a visit to the EMCOL facilities.

(vi) EMCOL's Advisory Committee Meeting will be held during 12-13 April, 2007.

(vi) Namık Çağatay reminded the task leaders to submit their fourth activity reports to the coordinator in ten days time. These reports are needed for the EMCOL second year activity report to be submitted to the EC in May 2007.

2. Project activities

(i) EMCOL is in preparation of a project proposal to EC FP7 project call: ENV 2007. The decided project title is **MARMSEALAB: Marmara Seafloor Earthquake Laboratory**. Namık Çağatay will be the coordinator of the project, with partners as EMCOL (Turkey), Istanbul Greater City Municipality (Turkey), DEU-IMST (Turkey), IFREMER (France), INGV (Rome), ISMAR (Bologna)", College de France, SOACYSY (France), Berlin Technical University. The deadline for project submission is 2 May 2007.

(ii) TUBITAK informed that the Lake Van research proposal submitted by EMCOL (Caner İmren as the coordinator) was not considered for evaluation because one of the researchers in the project had not registered in the Tubitak's ARBIS database. It was agreed by all that such an excuse by TUBITAK was irrational and could not be a reason for declining project evaluation. This particular member of the project team had his CV included in the proposal and moreover, has been acting as a referee in the TUBITAK project evaluation committees. Such a deficiency could have been communicated to the project coordinator earlier instead of waiting 10 weeks to inform such a minor deficiency in the project.

2. Status of EMCOL Laboratories:

Core Analyses Laboratory:

Can Genç explained that some problems with the hard disk and power unit of the computer connected to the ITRAX were solved by purchasing new computer parts. He reminded that Sven Norder, the engineer from Cox Analytical Systems AB, will visit EMCOL for the annual service of the ITRAX Core Scanner during April 23-25, 2007.

ITRAX Core scanner was used for Ummuhan Sancar for her PhD thesis project during the month of March. MSCL was used by Deniz Dikçe for her MSc thesis research and for the “Marmara Seismic risk” project work during March 2007.

Core Analysis laboratory involving both the Core Scanner and MSCL, was used for the course “Core analysis in Marine Geology” given by Dr. Jens Grutzner during 28-30 March 2007.

Sedimentology Laboratory:

Laser diffraction particle-size analyzer was used Deniz Dikçe for her thesis work.

No problems were reported for any of the instruments in this laboratory.

Geochemistry Laboratory

Spectrophotometer in the geochemistry laboratory was used by Namık Çağatay to train Ummuhan Sancar and Deniz Dikçe for sulfate analysis in pore waters.

3. Training Activities

a) A three-day course on “Core analysis in Marine Geology” was given by Dr. Jens Grutzner of MARUM, Bremen University during 28-30 March 2007. It was attended by 13 scientists, including 3 from Turkish Petroleum Company.

b) Namık Çağatay will give a one day training course on “pore-water squeezing” and “pore-water sulphate and alkalinity analysis” on Thursday, 5 April 2007. Such a training is necessary for the MARNAUT cruise work onboard R/V Le Atalante during 12 May-10 June 2007.

c) A short course will be given by Dr. Luca Gasperini in EMCOL on “Seisproand ChirCor softwares” during 23-24 April 2007.

There were no other matters for discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 17:30.