

EMCOL
JOINT MANAGEMENT AND USER COMMITTEES MEETING
Minutes

The Management Committee meeting was convened jointly with the EMCOL User Committee meeting in the Palaeontology Museum at 15:00 hours on Friday, 27 April 2007, with the following agenda:

1. Communication items
2. Project activities
3. Status of EMCOL Laboratories
4. Training
5. Issues related to EMCOL Users

1. Communication items

Coordinator informed the meeting with the following communication items:

1. EMSO (European Multidisciplinary Seafloor Observation) project proposal underway to be submitted to EC FP7 for funding by May 2nd, 2007. EMCOL will be a partner representing Turkey in this project. However, this representation is subject to co-funding of project by Turkish National authorities. Istanbul Municipality could be such a funding public organization which has been given all the information on EMSO objectives and structure for reaching a decision in joining EMSO.

2. EMCOL Introductory meeting: The Rector of the University (Prof.Dr. Faruk Karadoğan), Vice-Rectors, Deans, Institute Directors, Department Chairmen in Faculty of Mines, SHOD Director and foreign scientists attending the CIESM Congress in Istanbul were invited to the meeting held in EMCOL on 10 April 2007. Namık Çağatay made a presentation introducing EMCOL facilities, its research and contribution to the graduate studies in ITU. The presentation was followed by a visit to the EMCOL facilities. New EMCOL fliers were distributed to the guests at this meeting. All guests expressed their interest in and appreciation of the EMCOL infrastructure development and project activities.

3. EMCOL's Advisory Committee (EAC) meeting was held in EMCOL during 12-13 April, 2007. The meeting started with a talk by Namık Çağatay explaining the 2nd year progress of EMCOL, followed by talks of the members of the EAC with the EMCOL research assistants and visit to the EMCOL facilities. The EAC was satisfied with 2nd year progress in EMCOL, as can be seen in their report placed on the EMCOL web-page.

4. Namık Çağatay presented a paper on EMCOL as in the opening session of the Marine Geology section of the 36th CIESM Congress held in Istanbul during 9-14 April 2007. New EMCOL fliers were distributed to the participants in the meeting.

5. EMCOL's research results were presented 2 oral and 2 poster presentations in the Geological Congress of Turkey held in Ankara during 16-20 April 2007.
6. TUBITAK has decided not to fund the International Collaborative project proposal, "*The effects of the Mw7.4 Izmit earthquake on the Sea of Marmara environment: a paleo-seismological / environmental approach*", submitted by jointly EMCOL, ISMAR-Bologna, Trieste University and INGV, Rome in November 2006 for funding by TUBITAK and CNR-Italy. This was a more or less expected decision considering the political stand of TUBITAK to ignore marine geology projects, especially those submitted by ITU researchers. EMCOL will bring this issue to the attention of the ITU administration and science community as a whole.
7. Namik Çağatay will present a seminar on EMCOL to the Faculty of Mines on 2 May 2007.
8. Work is in progress on writing up of the 2nd EMCOL project report which is due in May 2007.
9. There will be trial of the new EMCOL platform on the University pond from 7 May-10 May 2007.
10. The short course to be given by Dr. Luca Gasperini in EMCOL on "Seispro and ChirCor softwares" was delayed to 11-12 June 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**. Namik Çağatay (EMCOL) will be the coordinator of the project, with partners Istanbul Greater City Municipality (Turkey), DEU-IMST (Turkey), IFREMER (France), INGV (Rome), ISMAR (Bologna)", College de France, SOACYS (France), TFH Berlin and Kandilli Observatory of Bogazici University. The deadline for project submission is 2 May 2007.

3. Status of EMCOL Laboratories:

Core Analyses Laboratory:

Sven Norder, the engineer from Cox Analytical Systems, visited EMCOL for the annual service and training of the ITRAX Core Scanner during April 23-25, 2007. The issue of the power requirements for the X-ray generator was discussed in order to have it working at full power. One of the two options will be considered in the near future.

4. Training Activities

Namik Çağatay gave a one day training course on "pore-water squeezing" and "pore-water sulphate analysis on Thursday, 5 April 2007. This training is needed for the MARNAUT cruise work onboard R/V Le Atalante during 12 May-10 June 2007.

Sven Norder of Cox Analytical Systems gave training on basic maintenance the ITRAX Core Scanner during April 24-25, 2007.

5. Issues related to EMCOL users

The coordinator opened the floor for discussion for EMCOL users and asked the users their opinion and recommendation on the use of the present facilities and further improvements. Other issues related.

i) Özlem Bulkan expressed her appreciation for the use of EMCOL's field and laboratory facilities for her PhD thesis project. She asked if EMCOL is considering establishing a data base for storing and managing the EMCOL project data. Namık Çağatay explained that all the data is being stored and backed up on hard disks and DVDs, but admitted not having a unified database in EMCOL. The idea of a manageable data base for different geographic areas (e.g. Sea of Marmara) is good. Such GIS based data bases are available in Lamont, which can be used by EMCOL. There is such an effort planned for the Sea of Marmara in the MARMSEALAB proposal.

ii) Kadir Eriş proposed that research students should present seminars related to their thesis project to inform the others and encourage scientific interaction in EMCOL. This idea was welcomed by everybody.

iii) Ercan Özcan proposed that we should also have the published papers and presentations acknowledging EMCOL facilities displayed in a suitable place close to EMCOL labs.

There were no other matters for discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 16:30.