

25 October 2007

EMCOL
MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes

The meeting was convened in the Palaeontology Laboratory (General Geology) at 16:00 hours on Thursday, 25 October 2007, with the following agenda:

1. Communication items
2. EMCOL project activities
3. EMCOL labs
4. Other matters

1. Commnication items

Namık Çağatay informed the meeting with the following developments.

- Final changes in the 2nd year Management Activity Report and audit certificate of the EMCOL project have been made and sent to EC project office in Brussels. Payment for third year year is expected within the next few weeks.
- On invitation from TUBITAK, Namık Çağatay participated in the ESFRI (European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures) meeting in Istanbul on 2 October 2007. Turkish participation in this projects is very low; the only EC research infrastructures project that Turkey is participating is the EMSO (European Multidisciplinary Seafloor Observtation) in which EMCOL is the representing organization.
- EMCOL web-site was attacked. New EMCOL web site with the same address (www.emcol.itu.edu.tr) has been constructed with updates by Cengiz Zabci. EMCOL researches are requested to provide research and educational news items for this newly constructed EMCOL web site.

2. EMCOL project activities

The following project activities concerning EMCOL were reported:

- Tsunami project with Istanbul University: A successful coring campaign with recovery of was 5-m long cores carried out in the Küçük Çekmece Lagoon during Mid-September for tsunami and climate records. Sena Akçer and Dursun Acar from EMCOL participated in the coring operations.
- The “Seismic Risk assessment in the Sea of Marmara” funded by Istanbul Municipality (IBB): the fourth progress report preparation is well underway. This report is due on 15 December 2007.
- A project proposal “MARMARA-DM (Title: Permanent, Long-Term, Seafloor Monitoring of Seismogenic Hazards in the Sea of Marmara)” was submitted to ESONET NoE project under Demonstration Missions. EMCOL is one of the main partners in this proposal, together with IFREMER, INGV Rome, DEU-IMST Izmir, CNRS, and CNR-ISMAR Bologna. If accepted, there will be demonstration excercises on the Marmara Sea floor with 2-year data collection and 1 year of evaluation.

3. EMCOL's Labs and Field facility

MSCL has been continuously used to log the Hazar cores for Gul's thesis project, Marnaut project cores and cores for the Earthquake Risk Assessment project. A work plan has been prepared in the lab for the use of the MSCL.

UPS (power supply unit) for ITRAX XRF Core Scanner have been repaired, upgraded and tested by ENEL. It will soon be coupled with the Itrax core scanner to operate the scanner at full capacity.

4. Other matters

A discussion was held regarding possible organizations and sponsors for funding EMCOL's research projects. Namık Çağatay pointed out that Istanbul Chamber of Industry (ISO) and Organization of Turkish Industrialists and Businessmen (TUSIAD) have been recently approached by Naci Görür on behalf of EMCOL for their support for permanent seafloor observatories in the Marmara Sea. These organizations have a lot at stake and should have considerable interest in monitoring for geohazards in the Marmara Sea. It is hoped that they take a favorable decision to support such research actions. Another potential group of organizations for geohazard monitoring is the insurance companies.

The meeting was adjourned at 17:15.