

29 April 2008

EMCOL
JOINT MANAGEMENT AND USER COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Minutes

The Management and User Committee meeting were held jointly in the EMCOL meeting room at 16:00 hours on Tuesday, 29 April 2008, with the following agenda:

1. Communication items
2. EMCOL project activities
3. EMCOL labs and field facility
4. User commnets and recommendations
5. Other matters

1. Commnication items

Namık Çağatay informed the meeting with the following communication items:

- EMCOL scientists (Namık Çağatay, Naci Görür, Sena Akçer and Gül Sürmelihindi) participated in the EGU (European Geosciences Union) General Assembly 2008 held in Vienna during 14-18 April 2008. A total of five papers involving EMCOL scientists were presented at this meeting.
- Namık Çağatay, Naci Görür and Sena Akçer participated in the kick-off meeting of the EC FP7 infrastucture project “EMSO: European Seafloor Observation”, held in Vienna on 14 April 2008.
- Namık Çağatay participated in the Steering Committee meeting of the EC FP6 ESONET NoE project held in Vienna during 14-15 April 2008. Important decisions were taken regarding the Marmara Demonstration Mission (DM) project and ESONET 2008 General Assembly meeting (see below “EMCOL’s project activities”).
- EMCOL’s Advisory Committee (EAC) met in EMCOL during 21-22 April 2008, and reviewed the EMCOL’s third year progress. The EAC report, which is now placed the EMCOL’s web-site, is highly satisfactory.
- We will have to start preparing the third year progress and the final report of the EMCOL project. Task leaders are reminded to submit their second bi-annual task reports to the coordinator.
- For performance- and target-based management of EMCOL, Namık Çağatay and Naci Görür met on 9 April 2008, and decided on the various strategic work units for EMCOL (e.g., labs, study groups, or projects). Naci Görür was then provided with all the EMCOL’s project and task unit information. He will prepare the targets and work plan for the strategic work units, together with the duties and targets of the individual scientists to be working in each unit. He will present the information in a general EMCOL meeting to be held in about three weeks.

2. EMCOL project activities

- *EMSO infrastructure project*: After a formal letter to be sent by the EMSO project coordinator Paolo Favali, EMCOL Coordinator will inform TUBITAK about the start of the EMSO project, and request TUBITAK to assign a representative scientist for the project’s strategic committee.

- *ESONET NoE project:* Marmara-DM (Demonstration Mission) project funded under ESONET will officially start as of May 1st, 2008. A total of 125,000 Euro will be made available for the project partners for the DM project activities. The kick-off meeting involving the planning of the DM project activities will be organized by EMCOL in Istanbul Technical University during 18-19 June 2008. This kick-off meeting will follow a workshop during 16-17 June 2008, which will involve the presentation and discussion of the Marnaut cruise and Marnaut onshore studies. Namık Çağatay has invited the Turkish partners and collaborators of ESONET (DEU, KOERI and TUBITAK-MRC) for a meeting on 23 May 2008 before the workshop and kick-off meeting.
- The ESONET 2008 General Assembly meeting will be held in Istanbul during a four day period in Late September to early October. The meeting will be organized by EMCOL.
- EMCOL is planning to resubmit the research project proposal on Lake Van to TÜBİTAK for funding before the May 5th deadline. Another project proposal on a different aspect of Lake Van will be submitted by the Geophysics Department of Istanbul University (IU) to the IU Research Foundation. EMCOL field and lab facilities will be used in these projects, if the proposals are funded.

2. EMCOL's Labs and Field Facility

The new Mo X-ray tube was withdrawn from the customs and fitted in the Itrax XRF Core Scanner by Dursun Acar. The disposal of the old X-ray tube will be made according to instructions from TAEK (Türk Atomic Energy Commission).

Sena Akçer asked if EMCOL needed to obtain accreditation for the TOC analysis in the Geochemistry Lab. It was agreed that it was a good idea to request such an accreditation from the related University committee.

Sena Akçer informed that the EMCOL Platform is undergoing some maintenance work after last summer's work.

3. EMCOL User Committee comments

EMOL scientists and research assistants and other senior scientists and research assistants from within and outside ITU were invited to the meeting. Prof. Y. Altınok, Prof. Bedir Alpar, Özlem Bulkan Yeşiladalı and Özlem Makaroğlu from IU, as well as EMCOL research assistants and scientists were present in the meeting.

Namık Çağatay explained that last year the EMCOL facilities were used for the 3 EC FP projects: TRANSFER, Seismic Cycles of Anatolian Faults and ESONET projects, as well as for the student theses projects.

Yıldız Altınok expressed her satisfaction with the use of EMCOL lab and field facilities in the Transfer project. The only exception was the Vibrocorer, with which they could not achieve the expected penetration and core recovery. Sena explained that it was most probably because of the generator, and that Mahir Vardar would look into this matter as the task leader of EMCOL's Field Equipment Facility.

Özlem Bulkan Yeşiladalı commented that as one of the earliest users of the EMCOL facilities she has observed great progress in the development of the EMCOL facilities and project achievements.

There was no other items for discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 17:40.