

18 September 2008

EMCOL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes

The Management meeting was held in the EMCOL meeting room at 10:00 hours on Thursday, 18 September 2008, with the following agenda:

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

1. Communication items

Namık Çağatay informed the meeting with the following communication items:

- Umut Ulgen (PhD student) and Dursun Acar (engineer) started working for the ESONET Marmara-DM project, effective 1st August 2008.
- EMCOL project (contract no: 17490): Evaluation of the Third Period Activity and Final Reports are near completion. We recently made some revision to the financial report (Form-C, Summary Financial Reports). We will send the documents after we receive the additional audit document from Deloitte, requested by the Financial project officer Ms. Gambarota.
- We had a very successful Workshop of the ESONET Marmara Demonstration Mission project organized by EMCOL in ITU during 16-18 June 2008. The quality of scientific presentations were very high. The second workshop of the project will be held during 29-30 October in Ifremer, Brest.
- MARNAUT project: Seven Flowmeters and osmometers deployed in the Çınarcık basin, Western High and Tekirdağ Basin during the Marnaut cruise during 12 May-11 June 2007 were recovered by Mike Tryon (SCRIPSS) and Dursun Acar (EMCOL) using the IU Faculty of Fisheries' research vessel Yunus during 19-20 June. The instruments are still in ITU because of some difficulties with the customs concerning their shipping back to Scripps. We hope to solve the problem soon by providing the needed documents and talking to the shipping agent..
- Our project proposal *EMCLIME* “*Eastern Mediterranean Climate and Environmental Changes*” submitted to FP7 REGPOT2008-1 call, passed the first evaluation thresholds, but its chances for funding appears very small.
- HYPOX project: “*In situ monitoring of oxygen depletion in hypoxic ecosystems of coastal and open seas, and landlocked water bodies*”, submitted to EC FP7 Call ENV.2008.4.1.2.1”

is in the the negotiation and contract-signing stage. EMCOL is one of the partners in this project.

- EMSO project: A letter was sent to TUBITAK as a funding organization to provide a member on the Strategic Committee of the EMSO, as requested by the project coordinator, Paolo Favali of INGV, Rome. Namık Çağatay recieved a phone call from a TUBITAK, saying that they will provide an answer soon.
- Namık Çağatay participated in the PI meeting of the ICDP Lake Van Drilling Project held in Van during 8-9 September, 2008. EMCOL will actively take part in this project with especially the MSCL analysis of cores in Van next summer.
- Namık Çağatay participated in the Euro-Med 2 Symposium held in Messina, Sicily, Italy during 11-12 September, 2008
- EMCOL will apply for VAT exemption certificates for ESONET and EMSO projects. We have received the necessary financial document from Roland Person, the project coordinator of ESONET. Sena Akçer and Umut Ulgen will take care of these applications.

2. EMCOL's Project Activities

- We have submitted a project proposal to TUBITAK entitled “High resolution water level changes of Lake Van during late Pleistocene-Holocene”. This project is intended to support the scientific activities of EMCOL in the ICDP Paleo Van project.
- EMCOL carried out a successful seismic profiling and coring campaign in Lake Van during 8 August- 3 SeptemberSeptember 2008, using EMCOL equipment. This joint project with Istanbul University (IU) was funded by IU Research Foundation. The major objective is the high resolution climate and environmental reconstructions during the Holocene using geochemical and paleomagnetic properties. The data will be used in PhD thesis of Funda Barlas from and Özlem Makaroğlu.
- Istanbul Municipality (IBB) funded “Earthquake Risk Assessment in the Sea of Marmara” project: The Final report is due on 15 December 2008. We need to write a chapter on the Earthquake risk assessment based on all project and published data.

3. EMCOL's Labs and Field Facility

Core Analysis lab: The MSCL and Itrax XRF core scanner will soon be used to analyze the Lake Van cores for Funda Barlas's PhD thesis.

We urgently need new cold room for core storage. It was suggested to buy a cooled container for the purpose. Umut and Dursun will look for the manufacturer or supplier companies.

4. Other matters

- Naci Görür will present next week his plan for “the performance-based management of EMCOL based projects”.
- Namık Çağatay suggested that we put in the application for the EMCOL to be upgraded to the status of “Applied Research Centre” (UYGAR) in early October 2008.
- Kadir Eriş, a former EMCOL graduate assistant, started his post-doctorate studies in France on seismoturbidites.
- Nil Irvalı, a former EMCOL student, is now in University of Bergen, Norway for her PhD studies with a scholarship. Before leaving she and Namık Çağatay submitted a paper to Geo-Marine Letters on “Holocene history of the Golden Horn Estuary”, derived from her Msc thesis.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20.