

Minutes of the Business Meeting of IAGA WG V-OBS

Berlin, Germany, 13 July, 2023

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Agenda Approval**
2. **Report on the XIXth Observatory Workshop held in Tihany and Sopron, Hungary**
3. **Information about the XXth Observatory Workshop to be held at the Observatory Vassouras, Brazil, in 2024**
4. **Proposals for the XXIst Observatory Workshop in 2026**
5. **News from INTERMAGNET**
6. **Report from WG Chair & Co-Chair**
7. **Proposals for resolution**
8. **Session proposals for the IAGA Assembly 2025 in Lisbon, Portugal**
9. **Election of WG Chair and Co-Chair**
10. **AOB**

1. **Welcome and Agenda Approval**

Working Group (WG) Chair Jürgen Matzka and Co-Chair Katia Pinheiro welcomed the participants to the business meeting and presented the agenda. The agenda was unanimously approved.

2. **Report on the XIXth Observatory Workshop held in Tihany and Sopron, Hungary**

Roman Leonhardt gave a report on the recent workshop (22 to 26 May 2023) and the associated summer school (21 to 23 May 2023). The workshop was attended by 63 participants from 20 countries. Preliminary results of the DI-measurement session were presented, in which a total of 99 measurements were performed by 29 observers with 31 instruments for three days. A full summary is to be reported later. Special issues will be published in Copernicus ‘Geoscientific Instrumentation’ and ‘Publications in Geomatics’ (geomatika.epss.hu).

3. **Information about the XXth Observatory Workshop to be held at the Observatory Vassouras, Brazil, in 2024**

Katia Penheiro presented progress status of preparation for the next workshop, which included:

- ✧ Dates and schedule (30 Oct. to 7 Nov. 2024), and access to Vassouras
- ✧ Hotel in Vassouras (place for staying, science session and summer school lecture)
- ✧ Observatory facilities for DI-measurements, and LOC members.

4. **Proposals for the XXIst Observatory Workshop in 2026**

A proposal was put forward by Seiki Asari to host the 2026 workshop at Kakioka, which included:

- ✧ Hosting institution (Japan Meteorological Agency)
- ✧ Venues (Kakioka observatory and a public hall nearby) and their access
- ✧ Schedule (5 days in October)
- ✧ Observatory facilities (4 indoor pillars and 1 outdoor pillar for DI-measurement, besides 1 indoor pillar for summer school)

The proposal was approved by unanimous vote.

5. News from INTERMAGNET

Jürgen Matzka provided recent news:

- ✧ INTERMAGNET had its first annual meeting since Covid in Sopron, Hungary in May 2023.
- ✧ Some restructuring of the INTERMAGNET organization, including a new class of “General Member” with people nominated by the institutes running IMOs.
- ✧ The INTERMAGNET database and web access has moved from Ottawa to Edinburgh, it has new user-specified download, including HAPI.
- ✧ Progress on delivery and checking of definitive 1-second data.
- ✧ Two protocols for real time data are investigated for future use: seedlink and MQTT.
- ✧ More details in the minutes of the INTERMAGNET meeting, to be published soon.

6. Report from WG Chair & Co-Chair

Update on V-OBS observatory list,
new codes:

- GLK (Gyulagarak, Armenia)
- FIO (Fihaonana, Madagascar)

closed, or degraded:

- TAN (Antanarivo, Madagascar, replaced by FIO)

Updates are to be sent to V-OBS Chair.

Follow-up on previous discussion:

- Additional online meetings open to all? An online meeting was planned for 2022 but did not materialize.
- WG mandate for variometer stations? Still to be discussed.
- WG mandate for satellite missions? Yes.
- After discussions internal to WG, Division V could be approached to update mandate and mission statement.

Points raised by participants:

- What is the status of Apia?
- Can the IAGA meeting schedule be changed to allow for a better work/life balance (e.g. including free weekend)

7. Proposals for resolution

There was no resolution proposal to the WG.

8. Session proposals for the IAGA Assembly 2025 in Lisbon, Portugal

- ✧ Current developments of geomagnetic observatories and advances in higher time resolution geomagnetic measurements (S. Reay, P. Coisson, A. Nel)
- ✧ Automated instrumentation and automated data processing, including ML and AI, for geomagnetic observations (R. Leonhardt, L. Hegymegi, J. Matzka)

9. Election of WG Chair and Co-Chair

Both Chair and Co-Chair were simultaneously appointed because of stepdown of Jürgen Matzka and Katia Pinheiro. Seiki Asari (Japan Meteorological Agency) was an only candidate for Chair (until the end of IUGG Incheon, Korea in 2027), and Jürgen Matzka kindly agreed to serve as Co-Chair for another four years. They were elected unanimously.

10. AOB

The delegates thanked Jürgen Matzka for his service as Chair of the working group, and Katia Pinheiro for her service as Co-Chair. Jürgen Matzka thanked the participants for attending.