

International Union of Geological Sciences

REPORTING FORM FOR CONSTITUENT BODIES

2000

1. TITLE OF CONSTITUENT BODY:

International Mineralogical Association (IMA)

2. OVERALL OBJECTIVES:

The object of IMA is to further international cooperation in the mineralogical sciences. To this end the activities of IMA include:

- (a) The promotion of intercourse among mineralogists of all nations by organizing meetings and field excursions and by sponsoring publications of mineralogical interest.**
- (b) The maintenance of Commissions to examine and report on certain aspects of mineralogical practice and of committees to expedite other matters.**
- (c) The participation in action with other international groups having mineralogical interests.**

3. FIT WITHIN IUGS SCIENCE POLICY (relate goals to IUGS scientific objectives):

IMA has traditionally been involved both in the basic and the applied part of mineral sciences. IMA has built strong bridges to all other fields of geosciences where solid matter is present as a component of the geo-system studied. IMA keeps similarly strong connections with related fields in environmental and material sciences.

From among the five high-priority earth science activities listed in the "International Earth Science in the 21st Century" booklet of IUGS IMA is directly related to four (#1, #2, #3, #5).

4. ORGANIZATION (broad description):

The members of IMA are national scientific societies representing mineral scientists of individual countries. There is individual membership of limited extent mainly for scientists working in countries where there is no society organized for mineralogists. Only one Member Society from any one country may join.

The work of the Association is conducted by the Business Meeting of Delegates and by the Council. Ordinary Business Meetings of Delegates are to be held as often as deemed necessary by the Council, but at least once every four years (during the General Meeting of IMA). Each Member Society is represented at Business Meetings by Delegates not exceeding in number the balloting power of that Society.

The Council consists of the President, the First and Second Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, five ordinary Councilors, and the retiring President. The President, Secretary and Treasurer form the Executive Committee. The members of the Council shall normally hold office for four years. IMA maintains Commissions to carry on its work. (New Commissions are to initiate as Working Groups.) Currently (for the term 1998-2002) 9 Commissions and 5 Working Groups of IMA exist. (See also paragraph 7.)

5. EXTENT OF NATIONAL/REGIONAL/GLOBAL SUPPORT FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN IUGS:

IMA is closely co-operating with its members: the national mineralogical societies (or with mineralogy related sections of national geological societies) from all continents. The financial background of IMA is partly based upon the membership fees paid by the member societies.

6. INTERFACE WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS:

IMA gives regular scientific sponsorship to IUGS by organizing symposia within its frame. (For current details see paragraph 7.) Traditional collaboration has been established between IMA and other related organizations/projects (e.g. IAGOD, ICAM, EMU, IGCP, SGA, IAVCEI, IUCr). There is a co-operation between some projects of IMA and that of EMU. E.g.: directory of mineralogy related institutions; teaching of mineralogy.

“2000”

7. CHIEF ACCOMPLISHMENT IN 2000:

Scientific activities

On the level of the Council

7.1. IMA took intensively part in the preparation of the mineralogy-related scientific activities of the 31st IGC. IMA sponsored or co-sponsored 28 symposia of the IGC 31. (D-5, D-6, F-1, 6-1–6-8, 7-1, 7-2, 8-1–8-11, 10-1–10-4)

7.2. IMA prepared (through its 5 commissions) the conference of the second largest international IMA related conference series (*Mineralogy and Museums 4, Melbourne, Australia, December 2000*).

The program of the CM, CNMMN, CCM, CHT sponsored meeting embraced the main aspects of museum work (research, public program/exhibitions, teaching, collection development). M&M 4 has been the first IMA meeting on the Southern Hemisphere since a very long time. The participants coming from 25 countries presented their results in both oral and poster sessions. Three field trips in the Southern part of Australia and Tasmania were organized. A fifth IMA commission, CGM, gave sponsorship to the Symposium of Gem-related topics in honour of Ralph Segnit.

7.3. IMA continued the preparation of its next *General Meeting (Edinburgh, UK, 2-6 September 2002)*. The Organizing Committee (headed by IMA Vice President Prof. Ian Parsons) distributed a preliminary Circular of the meeting during the IGC 31 and a full First Circular in September 2000. (See also paragraph 11.)

7.4. The IMA Council organized its annual meeting during the IGC 31 (Rio de Janeiro, August 2000).

On the level of the IMA Commissions (C) and Working Groups (WG)

7.5. WG on Inclusions in Minerals (WGIM)

WGIM sponsored the session on „Modern Microbeam Techniques Applied to Fluid and Solid Species“ (inclusions in minerals: fluid, gaseous, solid; their applicability to geological materials, and their validity to derive geological processes in the crust and mantle) of the IGC 31.

7.6. Commission on Ore Mineralogy (COM)

COM organized a short course (on Ore and Environmental Mineralogy) with the cooperation of the Geological Survey of Finland and of the Helsinki University of Technology in June, 2000.

7.7. Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names (CNMMN)

The main roles of the Commission were in 2000, just like in the previous years, the ongoing assessment of proposals to establish new minerals, the reviewing of the status of existing minerals and the preparation of papers which provide mineralogists and petrologists with internationally accepted guidelines on nomenclature. Each month, members of the Commission, currently representing 30 countries, vote and comment on new mineral proposals received and assembled by the Chairman. Also on a monthly basis, the Vice-Chairman circulates proposals to change the status or name of minerals by members' votes. The Secretary is responsible for circulating discussion papers on Commission procedures and on nomenclature for mineral groups, as well as monitoring the activities of Commission subcommittees.

CNMMN sponsored a symposium on 'New minerals: their impact on the mineralogical sciences' during the IGC 31. CNMMN gave substantial scientific sponsorship for the M&M 4 meeting (see above). The biannual commission business meeting of CNMMN was held also during the M&M 4.

7.8. Commission on Classification of Minerals (CCM)

The current information about the activity connected with the further development of the classification of minerals was regularly distributed among the commission members. In cooperation with the CNMMN CCM discussed how to elaborate the principles of the definition of "mineral groups". CCM contributed to the programme of the microsposium "Mineralogical Crystallography" during the European Crystallographic Meeting in Nancy (France) in August 2000.

CCM gave substantial scientific sponsorship for the M&M 4 meeting (see above). The biannual commission business meeting of **CCM** was held also during the M&M 4.

7.9. Commission on Museums (CM)

The subcommission "Catalogue of the Type Mineral Specimens" (CTMS) has continued its job and reported the new results of the project during the M&M 4 conference.

CM gave substantial scientific sponsorship for the M&M 4 meeting (see above). The biannual commission business meeting of **CM** was held also during the M&M 4. The **CM** decided that the French Mineralogical Society (in co-operation with the three big museums in Paris) may organize the next conference (M&M 5, Paris, 2004).

7.10. Commission on History and Teaching of Mineralogy (CHT)

In order to help the preparation of the "History of the first 40 years of IMA" the **CHT** continued the collection of documents from early times of IMA.

CHT co-sponsored the "Preparation of a co-ordinated European core curriculum in Mineralogy" project running under the Socrates/Erasmus programme of the European Union. **CHT** co-sponsored the EMU School and Symposium on "Environmental Mineralogy" (Budapest, May, 2000).

7.11. Working Group on Mineral Equilibria (WGME)

In 2000 the **WGME** was dealing with the organization of a symposium during the IGC 31 on "Mineral Equilibria in Mantle Derived Rocks". There has been a preliminary agreement with "Lithos" on publication of a Special Issue containing the most interesting papers submitted to the Symposium.

7.12. Working Group on Organic Minerals (WGOM)

The **WGOM** continued its activity on the preparation of the list of Valid and Rejected Names of Organic Minerals. It distributes its regular **Newsletter of the WGOM** among the commission members.

8. CHIEF PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN 2000 (if any):

No special problems arose.

9. CHIEF PRODUCTS (e.g. publications, maps) IN 2000:

On behalf of the Council of IMA an open letter of the President of the IMA was published in the European Journal of Mineralogy in connection with the future of mineral sciences.

The Programme and Abstracts volumes of the Mineralogy and Museums 4 conference and the field trip guides of the conference related field trips were published.

10. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES IN 2000:

For 2000 the donation of travel grants for excellent would be participants of the M&M 4 conference, coming from countries of financial difficulties was the main special expenditure. The standard (minimal) administrative costs and the financial contribution of IMA to the activity of the CNMMN represented the main other expenditures.

“Next Year”

11. WORK PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR:

In 2001 the main activity for both the IMA Council and the Cs and WGs is the preparation of the 2002 IMA GM in Edinburgh, Scotland. For the particular goals see paragraph 12.

12. CRITICAL MILESTONES TO BE ACHIEVED NEXT YEAR:

On the level of the Council

12.1. Review of the activity of the Cs and WGs with special attention to their continuation/termination/restructuring during the 2002 GM.

12.2. Review of the membership matters of the IMA Cs and WGs.

12.3. Preparation of the necessary changes in the “Statutes” of IMA

12.4. Preparation of the slate for the new IMA Council to be elected in 2002

12.5. Refreshing of the structure of the IMA homepage (www.dst.unipi.it/ima/)

12.6. Setting up the IMA Archive.

On the level of the Cs and WGs

12.7. Proper scientific preparation of the 2002 GM

13. ANTICIPATED RESULTS/PRODUCTS NEXT YEAR:

On the level of the Council

13.1. Properly prepared documents for the preparation of the 2002 GM distributed among the Member Societies and the Cs/WGs

On the level of the Cs/WGs

13.2. Continuous publication of the new, discredited, redefined mineral species/names.

13.3. Distribution of the first harmonized list of “Mineral Groups” for comments.

13.4. Scientific sponsorship to several microsymbiosia organized under the umbrella of related sister societies (national and international).

14. COMMUNICATION PLANS:

In 2001, preparatory year of the next IMA GM, proper communication is of special importance both within IMA and in between IMA and its Member Societies.

Communication with IUGS, other ICSU Scientific Union Members and ICSU National Scientific Members is also vital in connection with our planned application in the frame of the ICSU “Grants Programme” for 2002.

15. SUMMARY BUDGET FOR NEXT YEAR (Affiliates should report only if requesting IUGS financial support):

IMA is running basically on a four year budget. The special budget details in connection with our planned application for a Category II grant of ICSU (through IUGS) will be communicated later as part of the Draft Application to be submitted to IUGS by Mid-February 2001.

16. POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES OUTSIDE IUGS (Affiliates should report only if requesting IUGS financial support):

See paragraph 15.

"Last and Next 5 Years"

17. REVIEW CHIEF ACCOMPLISHMENTS/RESULTS OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS (PERIOD 1996-2000):

17.1. The promotion of intercourse among mineralogists of all nations by organizing large meetings (e.g.: 1996: M&M 3; 1998: 17th GM; 2000: M&M 4), by participating in the organization of large meeting organized by other bodies (e.g.: 1996: IGC 30; 2000: IGC 31) and by organizing numerous international workshops, smaller symposia (on the level of the IMA commissions).

17.2. The maintenance of 9 Commissions and 5 Working Groups to examine and report on certain aspects of mineralogical practice and of committees to expedite other matters.

18. SUMMARIZE ANTICIPATED OBJECTIVES AND WORK PLAN FOR THE NEXT 5 YEARS (PERIOD 2001-2005):

18.1. The promotion of intercourse among mineralogists of all nations by organizing large meetings (e.g.: 2002: 18th GM, Edinburgh, Scotland; 2004: M&M 5, Paris, France; preparation of the 19th GM: 2006, Japan), by participating in the organization of large meeting organized by other bodies (e.g.: 2004: IGC 32) and by organizing numerous international workshops, smaller symposia (on the level of the IMA commissions).

18.2. The maintenance of the IMA Commissions and Working Groups in a structure defined by the IMA General Assembly in 2002 for the period of 2002-2006 (to examine and report on certain aspects of mineralogical practice and of committees to expedite other matters).

NAME (of person preparing form, please print):

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