

INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGISTS OF IRELAND



2006-7

ANNUAL REPORT

and

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MISSION

To promote and advance the science of geology and its professional application in all disciplines, especially the geosciences, and to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas in relation thereto.

To require its members to uphold, develop and maintain the highest professional standards in the practice of their profession, as described in the Company's Code of Ethics and Conduct.

Company Number 314400
Charity Number CHY 13580

April 2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CORPORATE DIRECTORY 2006-2007	4
PRESIDENT'S REPORT.....	9
HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.....	11
HON. TREASURER'S REPORT	12
REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN	13
DIRECTOR'S REPORTS	
IGI CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	14
IGI PUBLIC AFFAIRS / PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE.....	15
IGI COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE	16
IGI CONFERENCE COMMITTEE.....	16
IGI COURSES COMMITTEE	17
IGI MEMBERSHIP & HERITAGE REPORT	17
IGI DRILLING GUIDELINES V COMMITTEE	17
OTHER REPORTS	
IGI VALIDATION COMMITTEE.....	18
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS COMMITTEE	18
EFG GEOTHERMAL EXPERT PANEL	21
GSI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE	21
GSI LANDSLIDES COMMITTEE	21
GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE	21
NATIONAL GESOSCIENCE COMMITTEE	21
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE PLANET EARTH (IYPE)	22
REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES	
COMMITTEE FOR MINERAL RESERVES INTERNATIONAL	23
REPORTING STANDARDS (CRIRSCO).....	23
PERC MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2006.....	25
NEW MINERALS LEGISLATION.....	26
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	27
NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS.....	28
AUDITOR'S REPORT.....	29

CORPORATE DIRECTORY – 2006-7

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	EurGeol Gareth Ll Jones PGeo
Vice-President	EurGeol Dr. Piers Gardiner PGeo
Secretary	EurGeol Yvonne O’Connell PGeo
Treasurer	EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo
Non-executive Directors	EurGeol Stephen Bradley PGeo
	EurGeol Dr. Martin Feeley PGeo (resigned)
	EurGeol Dr. Sarah Gatley PGeo (co-opted)
	EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo
	EurGeol Dr. John Kelly PGeo
	EurGeol Nick O’Neill PGeo
	EurGeol Cecil Shine PGeo

BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

Administration	Yvonne O’Connell
Bologna Agreement	Martin Feeley (resigned)
Continuing Professional Development	John Kelly
Conference & EFG 2009	Kevin Cullen
Communications	Stephen Bradley
Courses	Cecil Shine
Drilling Guidelines	Margaret Keegan
European Federation of Geologists	Gareth Ll. Jones
Finance	Kevin Cullen
Public Affairs & Information	Margaret Keegan
Strategic Relations	Gareth Ll. Jones
Validation / IGI LB	Piers Gardiner
Minerals etc. Reporting Codes (CRIRSCO / PERC)	Piers Gardiner
Work Plan	Kevin Cullen, Gareth Ll. Jones, Yvonne O’Connell

SPONSORING BODIES

Geophysical Association of Ireland
 Geotechnical Society of Ireland (Engineers Ireland)
 Irish Association for Economic Geology
 International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group)
 Irish Mining and Quarrying Society

STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Ballot Committee	EurGeol Dr. Mark Holdstock PGeo (Chair)
Ethics Committee	EurGeol Prof. Ben Kennedy PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Dr. John Ashton PGeo EurGeol Shane O’Neill PGeo
CPD Audit Committee	EurGeol Dr. David Naylor PGeo EurGeol Dr. Ian Somerville PGeo
Disciplinary Committee	EurGeol Dr. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo (Chair) EurGeol John Arthurs PGeo EurGeol Dr. Stephen Daly PGeo
Nominating Committee	EurGeol Peter O’Connor PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Dr. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo EurGeol Eugene Daly PGeo
Validation Committee	EurGeol Dr John Colthurst PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Eamon Grennan PGeo EurGeol G V Jones PGeo EurGeol Ed Slowey PGeo EurGeol Shane O’ Neill PGeo EurGeol Dr Jonathan Derham PGeo EurGeol Hartmut Krahn PGeo EurGeol Martin Davies PGeo EurGeol Eugene Daly PGeo EurGeol Dr John Walsh PGeo
Fundraising Committee:	EurGeol Kevin T. Cullen PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Michael Boland PGeo EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky, PGeo Sean Finlay PGeo EurGeol John Clifford PGeo

REPRESENTATIVES ON EFG

European Federation of Geologists Delegates	EurGeol Kevin Cleary PGeo EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo
EFG Resources And Reserves: Minerals Expert Panel	EurGeol John A Clifford PGeo EurGeol Dr. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo
EFG CPD Working Group	EurGeol Dr. Julian Menuge PGeo
EFG Geological Heritage Expert Panel	EurGeol Dr. Matthew Parkes PGeo
EFG Natural Hazards Expert Panel	EurGeol Nick O’Neill PGeo
EFG Soil Protection Expert Panel	EurGeol Loreto Farrell PGeo
EFG Sustainable Use Natural Resources Expert Panel	EurGeol John A Clifford PGeo
EFG Environmental Impact Expert Panel	EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo
EFG Geo-employment Survey Working Group	EurGeol Dr. Robbie Meehan PGeo
EFG Hydrogeology Expert Panel	EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo
EFG Disciplinary Committee	EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo
EFG International Licensed Body	EurGeol Dr. Jonathan Derham PGeo
EFG Geothermal Expert Panel	EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo (Convenor) EurGeol Róisín Goodman PGeo

REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

GSI Consultative Committee	EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo
GSI National Landslide Working Group	EurGeol Nick O’Neill PGeo
GSNI Consultative Committee	EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo
National Committee for Geoscience & International Year of the Planet Earth	EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeos
Committee For Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO)	EurGeol John A Clifford PGeo
Pan European Reserves & Resources Reporting Code (PERC)	EurGeol Dr. Kerr Anderson PGeo

MEMBERS INVOLVED ON IGI WORKING GROUPS

Conference	EurGeol Stephen Bradley PGeo EurGeol Dr. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo Seán Finlay PGeo EurGeol Yvonne O’Connell PGeo
Drilling Guidelines	EurGeol Becci Cantrell PGeo EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo EurGeol Dr. Mark Holdstock PGeo EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo EurGeol Sean Moran PGeo EurGeol Shane O’Neill PGeo EurGeol John Pyne PGeo EurGeol Sean Moran PGeo
Continuing Professional Development	EurGeol Dr. Mark Holdstock PGeo EurGeol Dr. Julian Menuge PGeo

NON-MEMBERS INVOLVED ON WORKING GROUPS

David Ball	Drilling Guideline
Padraig Briody	Drilling Guidelines
Vincent Fitzsimons	Drilling Guidelines
Turlough Johnston	Drilling Guidelines
Turlough Johnston	EFG Geotech WG representative

EFG NATIONAL LICENSED BODY

The IGI is licensed by the EFG

to award the professional title of European Geologist (EurGeol)

BODIES WITH RECIPROCAL LINKS AND/OR CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS

American Institute of Professional Geologists

Canadian Council for Professional Geoscientists

Geological Society of London

BODIES RECOGNISING PGeo

Ireland

Exploration & Mining Division, DCMNR – required for licence reports

Environmental Protection Agency – preferred for professional reports

Stock Exchanges :

Ireland, Dublin Stock Exchange

UK, London Stock Exchange

Australian Stock Exchange

Canadian Securities Administrators

South Africa, JSE Securities Exchange

IGI OFFICE

UCD School of Geological Sciences,
Belfield, Dublin 4
tel 01-716 20 85; fax 01-283 7733; admin@igi.ie; www.igi.ie

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

Mrs. Susan Pyne

ACCOUNTS PERSON

Mrs. Ethel Stringer

AUDITORS

Casey McGrath & Associates
6 Northbrook Road, Dublin 6

BANKERS

Bank of Ireland,
College Green, Dublin

REGISTERED OFFICE

6 Northbrook Road, Dublin 6

COMPANY NUMBER

31440

CHARITY NUMBER

CHY 13580

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I wish to thank the Board and particularly Kevin Cullen for the support that I have received during the last two years and especially during the last few months whilst I was sick. The appearance of a strong and active Board is an annual miracle. You will see in this report the wide variety of work that is carried on throughout the IGI, both on the Board and through Standing Committees and other bodies. We are extremely fortunate to have so many professionals who are prepared to give of their time and efforts on behalf of the greater good.

The IGI has been able to make strides in its organisation and how it functions. Central to this has been the Strategic Plan, which has allowed all aspects of our activity to be delineated and thoroughly addressed. In particular a series of successful annual conferences has allowed our finances to recover and for us to stabilise our financial position. The IGI is a constantly developing organisation and it is now examining how its relationship with its founding Sponsoring Bodies should progress.

We continue to be indebted to the UCD School of Geological Sciences for hosting the IGI office. This last year saw us regularise our position on the legal and insurance front with UCD. At present we are talking to one of our Sponsoring Bodies about providing some office facilities at the IGI office. We have gradually been upgrading the office, with the purchase of a new shredder and a new computer, to allow our business to proceed more efficiently.

This year we proceeded with our membership drive, which is now beginning to yield results. Please help us by encouraging and mentoring your colleagues to develop as professional geologists. We have also been examining the possibility of providing a category of 'Semi-Retired Member', in addition to that of (fully) "Retired Member", since a number of our members are working part-time after retirement. Unfortunately, we have not yet found a formula that would allow this, and also meet the CPD requirements and our international reciprocal agreements.

Whilst the annual chore of making out our CPD return has been made more straightforward, we are still trying to refine the interactive aspect of the forms on the website. We also hope to have a system in place later this year, whereby we will accredit companies who require, facilitate and support their geologists to maintain their professional membership and their CPD record.

Our annual autumn conference is now an established event on the geological calendar. The 'Ireland's Natural Resources - Developing Our Assets' theme at the end of last year was very successful and encouraged great interest. We were fortunate that the Minister was able to open the conference and also that we had good sponsorship from White Young Green and from Apex Geophysical, and we gladly acknowledge their support.



Mr. Denis Rooney (White Young Green Ireland), Mr. John Teeling (Connemara Mining Company Plc) and Minister Noel Dempsey (Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources) at the IGI's Annual Conference, Ireland's Natural Resources 2006 - 2020, 15th November 2006

A spin-off from the recent successful meeting with the Concrete Federation of Ireland has been the production of a template of procedures to be followed by quarries when making EISs. This is yet another in a series of publications that the IGI has brought out, which includes the Bottled Mineral Water leaflet and the IGI poster distributed to colleges. We are especially pleased to see the final production of the Drilling Guidelines publication. This has been the fruition of a major piece of work which has been in gestation for several years. We hope that this will give a solid basis to practice in this sector of our industry.

We anticipate other joint meetings including one on Geothermal Energy to be held in conjunction with the GT Skills geothermal training programme and the Geothermal Association of Ireland later this year. I also look forward to 2009 when the IGI will host the EFG Council Meeting for the first time since 1996.

The Courses that we run are a fundamental instrument whereby we provide vital training to our members, both as an aid towards their careers and also to count towards their CPD requirements. Do let us know if there are topics that you think that we should cover.

The IGI has been a member of the European Federation of Geologists (EFG) since it took over from the IAEG in 1999. It has continued the deep involvement with the EFG, working on the Board and with many members involved in EFG working groups and expert panels. We are always looking for our members to take part in Expert Panels and Working Groups in their area of expertise. Please let us know of your interest in participating. Allied to this has been John Clifford's Reserves & Resources involvement with CRIRSCO, which lead to the developing work with PERC, which is reported below by Kerr Anderson.

We have recently been pleased to provide copies of the excellent new GSI/GSNI geological map of Ireland to all our members, which has had an excellent response. We have also been able to help in the final production of an A4 geological map and text by Padhraig Kennan and UCD and look forward to distributing this to our members soon. This will be made available to schools and throughout the country.

We are also interested to know of any new acts which will affect our profession and here we carry a report on the forthcoming new Minerals legislation. We keep in touch with you by email, letter, newsletter and the website. The latter two have been maintained by Stephen Bradley who has been doing an outstanding job, but do let us know of any improvements that you would like to see implemented – and of course send us material!

In 2008, the International Year of the Planet Earth (IYPE) will be celebrated. The IGI will be involved in support of the organisation by the Royal Irish Academy of events and lectures. It also has this duty through its membership of the EFG, which is a supporting European body for the IYPE

Finally we will be having our usual Annual Conference at the start of October and I look forward to seeing you all there. Please make sure to support the IGI at this important event.

**EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo
President**

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT

~~This is in 11 point, yours was in 12 pt~~

2006 AGM:

The 2006 Annual General Meeting of IGI was held on Wednesday 17th May 2006 at 7 p.m. in the GSI Lecture Theatre, Beggars Bush, Dublin 4. It was attended by 17 members. Minutes of the meeting have been distributed separately. The meeting was chaired by the IGI President, EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones.

Members present were: Mike Boland, Stephen Bradley, Kevin Cullen, Eugene Daly, Jonathan Derham, Eibhlín Doyle, Piers Gardiner, Gareth Ll. Jones, Margaret Keegan, Deirdre Lewis, Hugh McCullough, Julian Menuge, Yvonne O'Connell, Peter O'Connor, Nick O'Neill, Gerry Stanley, Geoff Wright. Susan Pyne (IGI Administration) also attended.

Apologies were received from: Peter Bruck, Viv Byrne, Fionnula Collins, John Colthurst, Mark Conroy, Donal Daly, Dan Deeny, Anthony Deevy, Garth Earls, Loreto Farrell, Laz Fleming, Roisin Goodman, John Kelly, Ben Kennedy, Hartmut Krahn, Mike Lowther, Robbie Meehan, Sean Moran, John Pyne, Marie Ryan, Christian Schaffalitzky.

Board meetings:

The Board met 10 times in 2006/7 between the 2006 AGM and 4th April 2007, on 6 June, 5 July, 1 August, 29 August, 27 September, 31 October, 9 January, 30 January, 6 March and 4th April. A further meeting was scheduled for 3 May.

The number of meetings (out of 10) attended by Directors was as follows:

Gareth Ll Jones 10; Kevin Cullen 9; Yvonne O'Connell 8; John Kelly 5; Stephen Bradley 6; Piers Gardiner 5; Cecil Shine 3; Nick O'Neill 3; Sarah Gatley 3; Margaret Keegan 2 and Martin Feely 0.

Martin Feely resigned from the board in August 2006 and was replaced by Sarah Gatley.

Kevin Cleary attended 1 meeting as EFG Delegate

There were no meetings during the year of the Ethics or Disciplinary Committees.

Membership:

There are currently 125 Professional Members of the Institute, 17 Members-in-Training, 3 Retired Members and 3 Associate Members.

3 new Professional Members joined during the year with 3 awaiting interview:

Sarah Casey
Emma Sweeny
Paul Gordon

5 Members-in-Training were elected during the year:

Conor McKeon
Francis Roe
Julian McDowell
Dino Gandera
Simon Scholl

8 PGeos were awarded the title of European Geologist (EurGeol) by the European Federation of Geologists (EFG) during the year.

Fergal Mcnamara
Sarah Casey
Emma Sweeny
Paul Gordon
Stephen Bradley
Janette Cullen
Billy O'Keefe
Marie Ryan

One member resigned during the year.

1 member transferred to the Associate Member category

EurGeol Yvonne O'Connell PGeo
Hon. Secretary

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy of the 2006 Financial Statement for the IGI as prepared by LHM Casey McGrath is attached to the Annual Report.

The financial statement reflects the Institute's financial position in the year 2006 to the 31st of December.

Assuming that all invoices issued by the Institute in relation to courses and the annual Conference held in 2006 then there will be positive difference of € 25,719 between the Institutes' income and expenditure for 2006. There is a high degree of confidence that most of the outstanding monies will be received within the coming months.

The surplus of € 25,719 between income and expenditure for 2006 compares with € 8,064 for 2005. The increase in the surplus reflects the increased level of sponsorship associated with the annual conference and the income received from courses run by the Institute in 2006.

The administrative expenses associated the office and managing the conference and courses remained at the 2005 level. Maintaining a low cost base for the year also contributed to the size of the 2006 surplus.

The 2006 surplus allows the Institute to develop further the services it presently offers to its members. However, a similar surplus will be required in the current year to ensure the financial solvency of the Institute for the immediate future.

The membership annual subscription rate should be raised in 2008 in line with inflation and to reflect increase in the cost of the day to day running of the office. Maintaining a reasonable surplus from the conference and courses is critical to keeping any increase in annual subscriptions to acceptable levels.

EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo

STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

A 5-Year Strategic Plan (SP) was presented at the 2006 AGM to provide a template for the management of the IGI and to lay a path for the future development of the Institute.

Different elements of the SP have been used at Board meetings to ensure that the Institute continues to build on the sound foundation laid in its early years while not losing touch with the principles and reasons for its formation by the five Founding Bodies. The following provides a brief review of progress on the main headings of the Strategic Plan.

Core Activities

In addition to maintaining an effective office and carrying out the routine management of the Institute the primary Core Activity of the Board in the current year was to ensure the financial viability of the Institute. The Board recognises that outside financial support is critical to maintaining the level of services provided by the Institute to its members if the annual subscription levels are to be maintained at current levels plus normal inflation. This support must come from courses and conferences run by the Institute. The annual number of such events should increase to at least 4 courses and 1 conference.

Conferences & Courses

The Board continues to organize and run courses for its members and other interested parties. In the current year, courses on Groundwater Recharge and Safe Pass were held. The annual IGI Conference was held in Dublin Castle on November 15th, 2006.

Web Page, Newsletter & Directory

The Board continues to publish a regular Newsletter and maintains an effective Web Page. The Bi-annual Directory of IGI Members will be published in 2007 with the support of commercial advertisements.

Professional Relations

The Board continues to maintain links with the Founding Bodies and to develop new and stronger links with related bodies such as the Irish Concrete Federation, the EPA and An Bord Pleanala.

Promote IGI & EurGeol Titles

The Board has established a two-stage strategy to increase the membership numbers. The first stage of the strategy focuses on those who have made an application for membership, at any level, are regularly encouraged to complete all the necessary documentation. The second stage will concentrate on identifying those who should be interested in joining the Institute and making contact with them and to encourage them to make the application. This aspect of the strategy will be implemented in 2007. In the current year, the attendance of an An Bord Pleanala speaker at the IGI Annual Conference and the attendance of IGI speakers at the ICF Environmental Conference are examples of how the role of geologists in society is being actively promoted by the Board.

Standards

In the current year it is hoped to publish IGI standards on 'Well Drilling Guidelines' and a template on the level of information to accompany quarry-planning applications. It is hoped to convene a working group on the development of guidelines on geothermal wells and similar installations.

Maintaining Links

The institute continues to be represented at the EFG Council meetings and to assist where possible the promotion of geology and geologists across Europe.

EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo

EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo

EurGeol Yvonne O'Connell PGeo

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

IGI CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

With increasing engagement of professional geologists with regulatory authorities, industry and the general public, together with more stringent definition of the experience and qualifications of the competent professional person in guidelines, relevant and up-to-date accreditation of professionals has now become an essential part of professional activity.

The entrance requirements and vetting procedure of the IGI deal with the previous experience of applicants prior to admission to the IGI. The measure of the ongoing experience and knowledge gain of the member is assessed through Continuing Professional Development (CPD). This is designed to quantify the ongoing improvement and broadening of knowledge and skills, accompanied by the development of the personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout a geoscientist's working life.

In order to keep up to date with the ever increasing technical and regulatory changes in our profession, and in line with the stated IGI objective of improving professional standards, all IGI members must devise and carry out a CPD programme. The success of meeting this CPD programme is summarized in the CPD form which members are required to complete annually. This approach is in line with best practice in professional geology organizations in other countries, and is a programme that the IGI is increasingly required to implement to meet the minimum requirements of an increasing number of regulatory bodies of which various stock exchanges, the Exploration and Mining Division and the Environmental Protection Agency are examples.

The majority of members successfully completed and returned CPD forms for 2005 in a timely fashion. Initial reminders produced a quick response from most who had missed the initial deadline but again, repeated reminders were required to prompt a rump of defaulters into action. One member resigned when informed that his membership was to be cancelled due to non-submission.

It is essential that any CPD scheme implemented by a professional body meets the requirements of the members and any regulatory bodies recognizing that professional organization. The IGI CPD scheme is regulated by the European Federation of Geologists (EFG). The IGI CPD programme was audited by the EFG in 2006 and was deemed to meet the required standards of the EFG.

The IGI CPD auditing committee was updated with one previous auditor resigning and one new auditor being appointed. A total of 24% of all CPD returns were audited in 2006, predominantly from those who submitted returns in a timely manner. It is proposed that auditing in 2007 will concentrate on those returns, which are received significantly after the deadline.

Future Development of the IGI CPD scheme

The following issues are currently being addressed by the IGI CPD committee:

- Introduction of Corporate CPD to certify companies with active and compliant in-house CPD schemes.
- Definitions of professional activities, which qualify as CPD activities and the relative weight to be applied to these activities.
- Ongoing update of the IGI CPD forms.

EurGeol Dr John Kelly PGeo

IGI PUBLIC AFFAIRS / PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Educational Series


Following the successful publication of the ‘Irish Bottled Waters’ leaflet, a new ‘Mining in Ireland’ leaflet is in preparation.

Promotional Information and Leaflets

An IGI poster was prepared for use at conferences and workshops (see below). In addition, in October 2006, an information flyer/poster was disseminated to all third level institutions outlining the role and functions of the IGI, which will hopefully encourage new members to join.


EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo

EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo



Institute of Geologists of Ireland



UCD School of Geological Sciences, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland.
Tel: +353 1 7162085 Fax: +353 1 2837733 Web: www.igi.ie E-mail: info@igi.ie



Mission Statement

To promote and advance the science of geology and its professional application in all disciplines, especially the geosciences, and to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas in relation thereto.

To require its members to uphold, develop and maintain the highest professional standards in the practice of their profession, as described in the Code of Ethics and Conduct.

<p>What is the IGI?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The IGI represents the professional interests of geologists working in Ireland through an elected Board and its office in UCD •The IGI promotes the professional practice of geology through its Code of Ethics •The IGI awards the title of Professional Geologist (PGeo) to geologists •The IGI has reciprocal links and/or co-operation agreements with American Institute of Professional Geologists Canadian Council for Professional Geoscientists Geological Society of London  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The IGI manages the title of EurGeol in Ireland on behalf of the European Federation of Geologists •The IGI lobbies government and other bodies on behalf of the geoscience profession for the recognition of the PGeo certification and for professional reports submitted to them to be signed by holders of PGeo •The IGI also recognises the importance of promoting the status and use of geology and geosciences in industry and in the community in general •A number of bodies recognise PGeo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Ireland: Exploration and Mining Division, DCMNR – required for licence reports Environmental Protection Agency – preferred for professional reports Stock Exchanges: Dublin Stock Exchange London Stock Exchange Australian Stock Exchange Canadian Securities Administrators South Africa, JSE Securities Exchange 	<p>What does the IGI do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •it operates a Continuing Professional Development Scheme (CPD) on behalf of its members •it runs Technical Courses such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report Writing Using BS 593 Groundwater Recharge Safe Pass Geology in EIS •The IGI hosts Annual Conferences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Use and Planning (2003) Geohazards (2004) Breaking Ground (2005) Developing Our Assets (2006) •The IGI publishes a Geoservices Directory, technical guidelines and pamphlets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.igi.ie/pages/directory.shtml www.igi.ie/pages/publications.shtml •The IGI maintains a web page and circulates a quarterly Newsletter to its members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.igi.ie/pages/pub-newsletter.shtml •The IGI highlights employment opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.igi.ie/pages/employment.shtml •The IGI nominates representatives to other geoscience committees and working groups both in Ireland and abroad including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Federation of Geologists Geological Survey of Ireland Consultative Committee Geological Survey of Northern Ireland Consultative Committee GSI National Landslide Working Group Royal Irish Academy Committee for Geosciences Combined Reserves International Reporting Standards Committee (CRRISCO) •The IGI provides spokespersons, comment to TV, radio and newspapers 
---	--

Interested in Joining the IGI?
 Check out our website www.igi.ie
 Or contact our office at
 UCD School of Geological Sciences, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland
 Tel: +353 1 7162085 Fax: +353 1 2837733 Web: www.igi.ie E-mail: info@igi.ie

SPONSORING BODIES



IGI COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

To date four electronic format IGI Newsletters have been published and distributed to the membership during 2006 - 2007 (Issues 10 - 13 inclusive). Alongside email bulletins the Board continues to develop the Newsletter as one of the two main communications resources available to the membership by publicising upcoming events (lectures, workshops, field-trips, and courses), providing news of members and news from industry. It is hoped that with the participation of the membership that in future the Newsletter will also develop as a forum for open discussion among members on a variety of issues. The publication of the newsletter is quarterly, with deadlines for receipt of articles at the end of March, June, September and December. Members are requested to submit articles for inclusion in future editions and to alert the editor (stephen.bradley@arup.com) to upcoming events that may be of interest to members. The Newsletter continues to be produced at no cost to the Institute. All past Newsletters are archived on the IGI website.

The fourth edition of the IGI Directory is due to be published in 2007. This is an updated comprehensive record of the IGI membership, listing the main fields of expertise and specialist skills of each member. As with previous editions it will be distributed widely to the geoscience community in Ireland, as well as to local authorities and other public and private sector organisations that form the main client base of IGI members. The Board gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance provided by advertisers. As a result of this support, it is predicted that production of the 2007 Directory will result in a small financial surplus for the Institute. Additional copies of the directory will be available for purchase and details are given on the Institute's website (www.igi.ie).

The IGI website (www.igi.ie) continues to be updated. The events diary and the employment opportunities page in particular. All current and past IGI Newsletters have been archived and are be downloadable from the website. Complete pdf copies of presentations given by most of the speakers at the IGI's 2006 Annual Conference on 'Ireland's Natural Resources' are also downloadable from the site along with previous year's presentations.

EurGeol Stephen Bradley PGeo

IGI CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Annual IGI Conference

Another very successful annual IGI conference entitled Ireland's Natural Resources 2006 – 2007, Developing Our Assets' was held in Dublin Castle on 15th November 2006. The main conference sponsor was White Young Green with Apex Geophysics as a junior sponsor.

The conference was formally opened by Minister Noel Dempsey, Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources. The Directors of the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland and the Geological Survey of Ireland provided the opening and closing presentations respectively. The conference was attended by some 80 attendees and supported a number of institutional and commercial stands. The commercial stands from Shell, Alcontrol and Geoscience Wales also contributed to the financial success of the conference.

The 2006 Conference focused on the future development of the island's natural resources and included sessions on minerals, aggregates, and water with the final session dealing with hydrocarbons and renewables.

Irish Concrete Federation - Environmental Seminar

The IGI was requested by the ICF to contribute speakers to the federation's environmental seminar, which was held on February 21st in the Marriot Hotel in Johnstown in County Meath. The conference was directed at examining the environmental issues relating to quarry planning and operation, with particular emphasis on geology, hydrogeology, biodiversity, heritage and archaeology.

The Institute was represented by Kevin Cullen, Peter Strogon, Eugene Daly and Sean Finlay. These PGeos addressed the conference on geological and hydrogeological issues affecting quarry planning applications and the required level of information to be submitted within Environmental Impact Statements for quarry developments.

The conference was attended by some 200 representatives from the operational, consulting and regulatory elements of the industry. It is intended following on from the conference that the IGI will publish a list of recommended geological and hydrogeological information that should, at a minimum, be collected, interpreted and presented as part of quarry applications.

EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo

IGI COURSES COMMITTEE

During the past year two courses were run, a Safe Pass course with 17 attendees and a Subsoil descriptions course with some 18 attendees. During February 2007 IGI members lobbied with regards to the range of their requirements that had approximately 30% response. The pie chart shows the breakdown in members requirements

The next course will be in early Autumn 2007. This will be a jointly run IGI-GSI-EPA course that may involve a groundwater source protection workshop dealing with:-

- subsoil permeability / groundwater vulnerability session considering recharge
- the drilling guidelines launched in May, or be held,
- a wellhead protection course.

EurGeol Cecil Shine PGeo

MEMBERSHIP & HERITAGE

Potential New Members:

Four GSI staff expressed a serious intention of applying for membership, but there are still many more potentials to be tackled. Four applicants were contacted and are aware of the final actions needed; all are expected to be complete shortly. Several sponsors have been contacted and more are still to be contacted in order to obtain telephone numbers of the other applicants. These new contact and progress details will be updated on the Membership Spreadsheet.

Membership cards

At the initial stages of action, including sourcing a printing company.

Draft Meath Heritage Plan 2007-11

Contact with Geoff Wright re the existence of an IGI template for comments on County Heritage Plans (CHPs), indicated that there is not one at present. A reply has not been sent to Meath, but geology and geological heritage are well covered in their Plan as a submission had been made from IGH, GSI who currently have a consultant doing an audit and report on geological heritage sites in the county.

EurGeol Sarah Gatley PGeo

IGI DRILLING GUIDELINES

The EPA agreed in October 2006 to endorse and to take over the publication of the guidelines. Following a review and amendments by David Ball of the diagrams, the booklets are now in the process of being printed. The editorial work of Geoff Wright, the input and review by the Contributors, the significant work by David Ball on the diagrams and the setup, design and layout by John Dooley of the GSI is greatly appreciated and acknowledged.

EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo

OTHER REPORTS

IGI VALIDATION COMMITTEE

The Validation Committee is the IGI sub-committee with responsibility for assessing and validating new applicants for membership of the IGI. At present John Colthurst chairs the Validation Committee.

When potential new members seek to join the IGI they submit their application forms and the accompanying documentation to the IGI office, which ensures that all of the required paperwork is complete, and in order. This paperwork is then passed on to the Validation Committee, which organises an interview with the candidate as quickly as possible. The interview panel consists of at least two IGI members in good standing, at least one of whom is an expert in the main field of work of the applicant, and one of who is a member of the Validation Sub-Committee.

In the last year six validation interviews took place for PGeo and all of the candidates were found to be qualified for membership. As a result the following were elected to membership of the IGI :-

Emma Sweeney
Sarah Casey
Paul Gordon

The Validation Committee also recommended that five applicants for Member in Training be accepted and the IGI ratified these:-

Conor McKeon
Frances Roe
Dino Gandara
Julian Moore McDowell
Simon Scholl

The IGI Validation Committee wish to thank everyone who served on an interview panel and in particular Shane O'Neill, David Blaney and Graham Reid. We are also grateful to O'Neill Groundwater Engineering and Lisheen Mine who made their offices available for the holding of interviews throughout the year.

EurGeol John Colthurst PGeo

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS

The EFG continues to promote the professional status of geologists in 19 countries across Europe through the promotion of the **EurGeol** title, making representations to the EU Commission and liaising with other international geological bodies. The EFG promotes geology through its publication of the European Geologist Magazine, publication of the EFG newsletter, close liaison with the EU parliament and its Web Site at www.eurogeologists.de.

There were two meetings in 2006; Porto in May and Brussels in December. The items of note from the two meetings are:

- In 2006 there were seven new Eur Geols from the IGI
- The annual fee for the title increased from €15 to €25 per annum from January 2007.
- The Summer Council meeting for 2009 is to be held in Dublin. An international conference is to be organized to coincide with the Summer meetings
- Gareth Jones is making a strong contribution to the EFG through the Past Presidents Panel
- There is a constant need for articles for inclusion in the European Geologist Magazine. Please liaise with Gareth Jones or Kevin Cleary for further details
- The presidents presented an interesting paper on the state of the EFG, which was summarised in the report to the IGI from the May and December Meetings
- The EU Delegate has made strong progress and has managed to get requests from DGs for EFG input on a number of issues
- Proclamation of 2008 as the International Year of Planet Earth was effected at the UN General Assembly in New York on 22 December 2005. The EFG as IYPE Associate Partner has agreed to encourage and coordinate

National Geology Days to promote the geology profession and its contribution to society. There is a proposal to have a unified National Geology Day during 2008 Year of Planet Earth.

May 2006 Council Meeting

The 2006 EFG Council Meeting was held in Porto on May 20th to 21st and was attended by 32 people (delegates and observers) from 14 member countries and 2 observer countries (Lithuania and Greenland). A four person delegation from the IAPG (USA) also attended the meeting as an Associate Member. On behalf of the IGI Gareth LI Jones and Kevin Cleary attended the meeting.

The President identified the key issues of visibility of geology, sustainability of the Federation and improvement of the status of geology. Key Actions for June 2006 – June 2007 should include

- Maintaining the organisation (through achieving additional funding)
- Extending influence and reach (to decision makers)
- Improving credibility (international ethics)
- Increasing portability (recognition of title)

Current Council weaknesses include lack of such consistent efforts, poor connections/ networking and poor publicity for geology.

Council APPROVED the 2005 accounts and reports unanimously. Commissaires aux Comptes report on 2005 accounts noted that employment of accountant has greatly improved the presented accounts to a fully professional state.

The EU delegate focussed on current issues in Brussels, rather than maintaining a broad approach to all possible activities. This resulted in contact with DGs, invitations to make presentations, and requests to provide expertise into EU working panels. The EFG have now achieved the position of the point of advice being sought by some DG departments

The Past Presidents Panel proposed a plan to organize conferences around Council Meetings to assist with fund raising as well as visibility and image. A meeting on Natural Hazards is being organised in connection with the Rome 2007 meeting. This proposal has major implications for the IGI as we are to hold the 2009 EFG Council meeting.

The European Tuning Project which is trying to create a more unified structure for training was discussed. This only applies to academic training, and does not cover the professional post-graduate experience. It was clear from the discussion that the paper forms a useful start, but greater precision is required in the data. Training criteria need to reflect today's training situation with the operation of university courses. The question may be 'What is a geologist?', and what are the requirements of industry so that appropriately trained graduates can enter industry and evolve into useful professionals, with the help of Masters and CPD. The EFG Board agreed to consider the discussions and make proposals for the Common Platform criteria.

President Larry Weber of Associate Member AIPG expressed the mutual learning benefits of the AIPG – EFG exchange visits and advertised the third International Professional Geological Conference in Flagstaff, Arizona in 2008.

The Secretary General David Norbury (UK) completed his term of office and was standing for a second term, he was unanimously re-elected.

The Vice President Slavko Solar (Slovenia) completed his term of office and was not seeking a second term. Dirk de Costa (Belgium & Luxembourg) was proposed and unanimously elected.

December 2006 Council Meeting

The informal winter meeting was attended by 27 people (delegates and observers) from 11 member countries and 3 observer countries (Croatia, Ukraine and Russia). On behalf of the IGI Kevin Cleary attended the meeting.

The International Year of Planet Earth proclamation of 2008 as was effected at the UN General Assembly in New York on 22 December 2005. At least three years will be needed to realize most of the ambitious science and outreach plans, and the Year's triennium will thus run from 2007 to 2009. A Science Programme Committee (SPC) developed its Terms of Reference in 2002. Ten broad Themes provide the

operational framework of the Year's Science programme. Brochures were written by specialists and are available in both printed and electronic forms. Printing of the brochures has been made possible by the generosity of several European geological surveys (Austria, Finland, **Ireland**, Norway, Spain, and Sweden), Ministries, national scientific bodies, and UNESCO. All brochures may be downloaded from www.yearofplanetearth.org. The EFG as IYPE Associate Partner has agreed to encourage and coordinate National Geology Days to promote the geology profession and its contribution to society.

Terrafirma - The contract for Stage 2 project has been awarded by ESA to the team led by NPA. EFG are included within the team as part of the User Service Group with the task of promoting the technology and products among the European geoscience community. The project activities underway are the completion of service agreements with various member countries and the development and delivery of processed data for the selected demonstration sites. This work is ongoing between the service providers and the national geological surveys, and so many EFG Members are already directly aware of and involved in this project

Budget - Cash flow at near year end is approximately in line with budget expectation.

EFG Working Groups

Environmental Impact Assessment report summarised

- Coordinator trying to increase number of experts working, and to provide input closely related to EC agenda items. Coordinator considers number of experts is poor, but will continue to try and recruit.

Natural Hazards

- Most activity has been directed towards flood risk mapping input to Floods Directive. Focus on Rome workshop and thematic issue for EGM 23 (May 2007).

Geoheritage

- PE very active in preparing manifestos, attending TAIEX in Budapest, and planning a further TAIEX workshop for 2007. Preparing document responding to EU initiative, integrating input from a number of European organisations, and promotion of geology through tourist offices with appropriate sites of special tourist value.

Resources and Reserves (Report presented by Allington on behalf of Clifford)

- Work progressing on reporting standards and coding/ classifications being mapped to correlate Western and Eastern Europe approaches including Russia.
- PERC (comes under CRIRSCO) where EFG is a member in its own right, with representation by named members. Source of recent successful TAIEX Meeting. Upcoming conference August 2007

Engineering Geology in Europe

- This PE is now coming back to life with completion of changes in Learned Society partner organisations. Next stage will be led by professional bodies (EFG, FEANI) and discussions with FEANI have been started to obtain their agreement to participate.

EurGeol Title. The monitoring CPD returns and fees by the ILB is not satisfactory at present. The title is the single most important asset of the EFG and we must take all steps to preserve its integrity and international standing.

Following extensive discussions agreed to propose revision to Regulations for third pathway

- RA to set up template useful to NVC to help developing EFG requirements
- RA to provide a check list of requirements for local use
- NA/ NVC to submit vetting procedures

Strategic Plan. For 2007, three major steps identified –

- accelerate the process of new members to EFG,
- participate in European projects and events in preparation for IYPE and IGC, WPC and IPGC3 (all 2008)
- Enhance visibility of EFG to Europe and to NA members within Europe (including dormant members, and other eastern members states)

The next Summer Formal **Council Meeting** is in Rome in May 2007, with Greece hosting the 2008 meeting. It was confirmed that **Ireland will be hosting the EFG Summer meeting in 2009.**

EurGeol Kevin Cleary PGeo

kevin.cleary@wyg.com

EurGeol Gareth Ll Jones PGeo conodate@mac.com

EFG GEOTHERMAL EXPERT PANEL

The EFG Geothermal Expert Panel completed its submission to the European Commission. An edited version was published in the European Geologist magazine. The full version can be obtained from the EFG Brussels office.

EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo (Convenor)

GSI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Geological Survey of Ireland Consultative Committee met twice in 2006 on the 27th April and 26th October 2006. Some of the main items discussed were:

GSI Resources and Status: There was a comprehensive discussion on GSI staffing and the Assistant Secretary had committed himself to addressing key staffing deficiencies faced by GSI; The Committee paid tribute to Mr Geoff Wright for his significant contribution over many years as he retired from the Groundwater Program; Acknowledgement of the enormous contribution to the Groundwater Section by Donal Daly;

GSI Business Plan and Current Projects: There was a summary of the airborne geophysics and INFOMAR projects presented. Surveys were carried out in Bantry and Dunmannus Bays using Lidar. Three areas were targeted for airborne geophysics – Cavan-Monaghan-Leitrim area, Tralee-Castleisland area and the Silvermines area and the preliminary results were available.

National Development Plan/Geoscience Initiative: The geophysics and INFOMAR projects were referred to under this section.

Publications: Two strategic publications were published by the GSI – Geo-Solutions and Cherishing Our Earth. The 1:500,000 Bedrock Map of Ireland was also published in 2006.

Outreach/Education at the Copper Coast: A presentation on the Copper Coast Geopark in Waterford was made by Ms Preteseille.

Year of the Planet Earth (2008): The GSI established an inclusive National Committee on an all island basis and events would be aimed at the media, educational sector and the general public.

Several different types of events were discussed and questions were raised about funding.

EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo

GSI LANDSLIDES WORKING GROUP

The Geological Survey of Ireland Irish Landslides Working Group completed its work and issued its report “Landslides in Ireland” in July 2006.

EurGeol Nick O'Neill, PGeo

GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

It was only possible to attend the May GSNI CC meeting in 2006.

In May the Director Garth Earls presented a review of highlights from the 2005-6 programme, which included: The forthcoming 1:50,000 geological maps of Cushendall, Dungannon & Newtown Stewart will include Tellus data. GSNI is on schedule to complete revision mapping across Northern Ireland by 2010.

A 1:500,000 geological map of whole of Ireland, (first of its kind **agreed** by GSNI and GSI), was launched in June 2006.

Planning Service consultations have continued to increase over the last couple of years, leading to increased demands on personnel.

The GSNI website is nearly completed. It has involved a lot of consultation between BGS & DETI. The main feature is a 250,000 “zoomable” geological map of Northern Ireland.

The Breifne Project has been designed to promote natural and cultural heritage of area with high quality and user friendliness of the associated products. Positive comment was also made re the 10-12 panels erected in the Mourne / South Armagh areas describing landscapes, geology and folklore

A new Borehole Leaflet publication is designed to provide guidance to drilling companies and to provide a list of the relevant legislation involved

The Belfast Geoscience Information System that covers the Belfast Metropolitan Area with a population of 650,000, 40% of that of NI was described, along with the Abandoned Mine Data Base and GIS system.

The TELLUS project is on budget and schedule at the end of year 2 and was due to wrap up in March 2007. However funding has not been secured for years 4 & 5 when most of the interpretation is due to take place.

Other maps produced include the radon map, near surface pollution map, peat map, various agricultural maps. There are presently 3 QUB research programmes and scope for many more.

EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo

NATIONAL GEOSCIENCE COMMITTEE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE PLANET EARTH (IYPE)

International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE) is a unique opportunity for the geoscience community to promote the value and contribution to society of its science. The UN General Assembly declaration of 2008 as the central year of a Planet Earth triennium (2007-2009), has given an enormous boost at international level to demonstrate that understanding of the Earth can help us to plan and manage our resources effectively. The challenge is for us in Ireland to demonstrate this at national level. GSI has partnered with geoscience organisations throughout the island of Ireland in order to achieve the maximum impact for all our efforts, to bring a greater understanding of the role of geoscience in sustainable development through IYPE to the citizens of Ireland.

The Irish IYPE Committee is up-and-running with four working groups busily planning the year's activities, co-ordinated by Mary Carter at GSI. A Draft Programme was devised by the working groups, which was placed on our website www.planetearth.ie for public consultation. A diverse range of feedback was received from the geoscience and wider communities, to allow a **Prioritised Programme** to be developed, focused on priority events and activities for Ireland's celebration of IYPE throughout 2008. Its contents have been almost finalised, taking account of the potential impact and cost, as well as the availability of organising volunteers for each. There may be disappointment that certain items have had to be dropped or curtailed,

The focus of the Committee will now move to ensuring that the programme is effectively implemented. Every event in the programme must be properly planned and resourced, with named individuals or bodies taking responsibility in each case. We are looking to members of the IYPE National Committee and their organisations, as well as those on the growing list of Regional Contacts to support and implement the programme. We believe that **Planet Earth** will be a powerful brand during 2008 and we would wish that every relevant conference or seminar, however specialised or local, would use the IYPE logo. We intend to publicly launch the Programme later this year and we will take that opportunity to bring together the Committee, Regional Contacts, participating bodies and sponsors, as well as policy- and decision-makers.

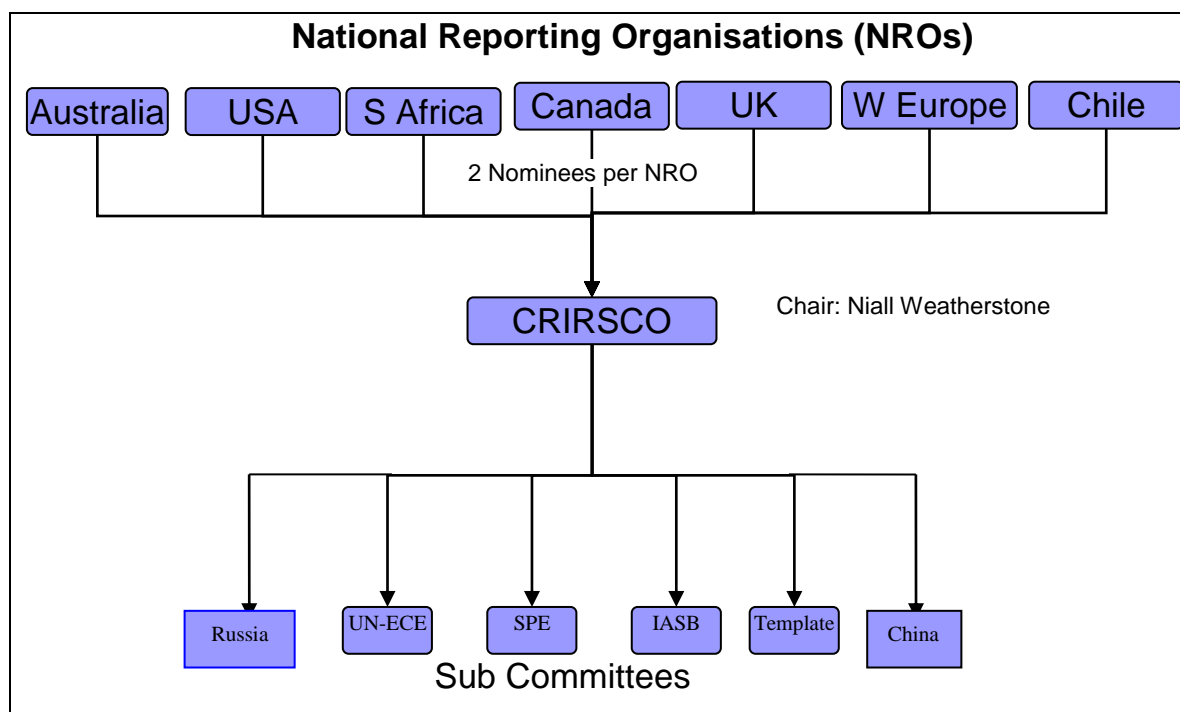
It would be very helpful if all Irish geoscience organizations and individuals would embrace the IYPE in whatever way possible, through sponsorship, volunteering time, etc. Key organisations have already offered assistance, including the Environmental Protection Agency, the Heritage Council, the Naval Service and the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland. We are also seeking sponsorship and the appointment of a consultant to act as Programme Coordinator.

**EurGeol Deirdre Lewis PGeo
EurGeol Mary Carter PGeo**

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

COMMITTEE FOR MINERAL RESERVES INTERNATIONAL REPORTING STANDARDS (CRIRSCO)

The Committee was established to promote international best practice in the reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves and international compatibility of national reporting systems. This effort has been particularly successful and the reporting standards of the countries represented by CRIRSCO have been described as 95% compatible. The current CRIRSCO structure is outlined below:



The International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) has agreed to incorporate CRIRSCO as a Task Force on a 2-year trial basis and to support it both financially and administratively. ICMM was formed in October 2001 to represent leading international mining and metals companies. Its vision is a *"viable mining, minerals and metals industry that is widely recognized as essential for modern living and a key contributor to sustainable development."*

As part of its 2006 – 2008 Work Plan, CRIRSCO has established a number of Sub-committees as follows:

The International Reporting Template

The CRIRSCO Template, which was launched in August 2006, is intended to be a guideline for countries newly developing their own reporting standards, and for comparison with other international reporting systems, including the United Nations Framework Classification (UNFC) and the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) Guidelines. It is not intended as a replacement for existing well-established national reporting standards. As each new, or updated, national reporting standard is developed, it is reviewed by the other members of CRIRSCO in cooperation with the particular national reporting committee, to ensure that it continues to maintain compatibility with other standards. Just as importantly, improvements introduced by the most recent standard can be captured and built into the Template. This rolling process of comparison with previous standards and upgrading by international consensus is highly effective and ensures that changes are kept to a sensible minimum and that the most recent standard is generally seen as 'best practice'.

International Financial Reporting Standards for the Extractive Industries

CRIRSCO has been asked by the IASB to examine the potential for convergence of definitions with the hydrocarbon industry and to work with it to provide high level, non-technical guidance on resource and reserve definitions for the accounting profession. The ‘rules’ whereby the major assets of an exploration or mining company, its mineral resources and reserves, are used for example in depreciation and impairment are obviously highly relevant to the companies concerned. With the general global acceptance of IFRS, CRIRSCO believes it is increasingly important to engage with regulators such as the IASB to ensure that the eventual standards do not disadvantage resource companies or render ineffective the various current national reporting standards.

Convergence of Definitions between the Hydrocarbon and Solid Minerals Industries

CRIRSCO and the SPE Oil and Gas Reserves Committee are co-operating in a study to examine the convergence of resource definitions between the mineral and hydrocarbons sectors. This exercise has started with the ‘mapping’ of the SPE Guidelines to the CRIRSCO Template. It is not intended to produce a joint document that would cover estimation and reporting of resources and reserves in all of the extractive industries (solid minerals and oil & gas). Instead, it is proposed that terminology would be clarified for financial users, and to the extent possible a single set of terms will be used, although their application might vary slightly between industries.

Alignment with the United Nations Framework Classification

CRIRSCO is working with the UN-ECE, as is the SPE, to produce definitions and guidelines based on the CRIRSCO Template that are compatible with the needs of the users of the UNFC. CRIRSCO and SPE propose that ownership of the Template and SPE Guidelines would remain with the two organisations, and a ‘mapping module’ would be developed between the two guidelines and the UNFC.

Russian Code

A working group, operating on behalf of CRIRSCO and with representatives from the Russian State Commission on Reserves, has been established under the auspices of PERC (the Pan-European Reserves & Resources Reporting Committee - the European counterpart to JORC in Australasia see www.percreserves.com) to establish procedures for conversion, in either direction, between resource and reserve estimates classified and reported according to the Russian and CRIRSCO Template, as well as to identify mutually acceptable criteria for international recognition of Russian professionals as ‘Competent Persons’ according to the Codes which follow the CRIRSCO template. Hitherto, conversion between Russian and international reserves reporting systems has required a separate Competent Person’s report, and has been both time consuming and expensive. By defining objective procedures and criteria it is intended that resources and reserves which are reported under the Russian Code will become more generally acceptable to western markets and stock exchange listing authorities.

Chinese Code

A parallel group, operating under the auspices of JORC, is working on a similar conversion exercise with the Chinese authorities.

In the USA, no progress has been made in the discussions between the SME and the Securities and Exchange Commission on up-dating the SEC regulations on resource – reserve reporting. Meanwhile, the SME has established a new class of Registered Members that enables members to be internationally recognised as Competent Persons.

Membership

After many years of dedicated service, Gordon Riddler and Pat Stephenson have retired from CRIRSCO and related NRO (PERC and JORC) at the end of 2006. Both have made immense contribution to the development of resource – reserve reporting standards.

EurGeol John A Clifford PGeo, FIMMM, FAusIMM, CEng(UK).

PERC MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2006

During 2006, four meetings of the Pan European Reserves and Resources Reporting Committee (PERC) were held in London. At the second of these meetings, the name PERC was selected to replace the original UKREC name, designed to reflect a more “European” approach to resources and reserves and the direction of the committee. This report summarises the meetings and activities in 2006, these meetings being held on 2 March, 3 May, 28 June and 4 October respectively. The committee includes representatives from the IGI and is believed to be the best way for the IGI to have an involvement in discussion and decisions on resources and reserves in a European context.

PERC Terms of Reference

PERC is constituted to provide good practice in the public reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves and in this context serves as the National Reporting Organisation (NRO) for Ireland, UK and Western Europe. It provides a forum representing a broad spectrum of national interests concerning public reporting including professional accreditation and competence, industry, technical consultancy, finance, regulation and related agencies.

The formation of PERC recognises the need for the provision of accredited competent persons, for the coordination and application of reporting standards at national and international level, and for a single point of contact on these issues which is credible and whose representatives carry the authority of their constituent member organisations to fulfil the remit as defined within these terms of reference.

PERC relies on its constituent members to ensure regulatory and disciplinary oversight at a national level. It recognises the global nature of the minerals industry and the international consensus on reporting standards developed through the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO).

The PERC remit is to:

- Promote the consistency and improvement of national reporting standards for Mineral Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Reserves, through consultation and cooperation at national and international level.
- Represent the minerals industry and related stakeholders on resource and reserve reporting issues.
- Maintain international reciprocity of Competent Persons through nationally based Recognised Overseas Professional Organisation (“ROPO”) schemes.
- Maintain, improve and promote the use of the Reporting Code covering Mineral Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Reserves, recognising and contributing from time to time developments and improvements relating to the CRIRSCO International Reporting Template.
- Facilitate the exchange of information and dialogue among PERC members and other stakeholders through an actively managed web site that promotes discussion on current issues.

Committee Structure and meetings

The committee includes representatives from metals and industrial minerals, major and smaller mining companies, professional bodies (e.g. CRIRSCO, IoM3, IGI, EFG) consultants and financial advisors. The Chairman is Steve Henley (consultant) and Paul Gribble (RioTinto) is Secretary. Agendas are circulated ahead of meetings and minutes prepared following meetings. A file note is prepared by the IGI representative at the meeting (K. Anderson / J. Clifford / J. Barry) for distribution within the IGI.

Principal Activities

During 2006, principal activities were as follows:

- 1) Up-dating of The Reporting Code for mineral resources and ore reserves in a European context, to be termed the PERC Code; this will incorporate aspects of the main existing reporting codes, including JORC, CRIRSCO, SME and CMMI. It is hoped that this will be in place during 2007
- 2) A mechanism for the integration of a Russian sub-committee in relation to the “conversion” of the CRIRSCO Template and Russian Code.

- 3) Continuing liaison with AIM regarding updates to the reporting guidelines for minerals and oil/gas companies
- 4) Sources and aspects of funding for PERC
- 5) Website monitoring and updating

Invited Speakers

During the year, two invited speakers gave presentations to the committee; Ray Knowles – Manager AIM Regulation, London Stock Exchange, and Graham Woodrow – Deputy Chief of the IoM3.

Ray Knowles provided an update on the new AIM Rules published on 16 March 2006 as guidance for mining and oil & gas companies. Ray described how these regulations or guidelines had been designed for the smaller growth companies on AIM. Difficulties had been experienced 12-18 months ago with some oil & gas entities. Ray stressed that the publication of 16 March is designed as AIM “guidance” rather than a “rule book”, and it will be updated on an ongoing basis. He also suggested that it might be appropriate to have access to an “expert” at the Exchange to advise on particular issues.

Graham Woodrow spoke about the role of the IoM3 (the “Institute”) in professional accreditation. The Institute’s role is to ensure that professionals practicing in the disciplines covered are competent in the roles they fulfil. The Institute provides a peer-reviewed test of competence for candidates applying for membership, involving 2-3 peers. Members are expected to maintain their competence and knowledge (Continuing Professional Development – CPD) through a code of conduct. However, the CPD is not compulsory. Any Members defaulting are investigated under the disciplinary rules of the Institute. Following a “hearing”, if they are found guilty of breaching these rules they can be struck of the Institute register and lose their CE or CSc status.

EurGeol Kerr Anderson PGeo / EurGeol John Clifford PGeo

NEW MINERALS LEGISLATION

The current legislation regarding the regulation of minerals exploration and development is contained in several Acts, namely the Minerals Development Act, 1940, the Petroleum and other Minerals Development Act, 1960 and the Minerals Development Acts 1979, 1995 and 1999. Although of longstanding effectiveness, the need to update and consolidate the various Acts was recognised for some time by Government. As a result, submissions were sought in mid-2005 from a wide range of interested parties. These included exploration and mining companies, county councils, universities, industry and other organisations. There were numerous responses, including one from the IGI, and in June 2006 the Government approved the drafting of new legislation. This takes into account issues raised as a result of the stakeholder consultations concerning procedural simplification, clarity and improved effectiveness on what was regarded as a satisfactory basic framework. Such issues include:-

- Clearer definitions
- Better clarity, for example in the level of royalties to be charged
- Improved security of tenure over exploration discoveries
- Compensation elements regarding private mineral ownership
- Updating of the procedures relating to compulsory acquisition of ancillary rights

At present the proposals, which involve over 150 sections, are with the Attorney General’s Office for drafting. Completion of the Bill is unlikely before year-end, but the schedule is dependent on political priorities.

Legislation regarding the rehabilitation of abandoned mine sites has also been put in place in the last year. This is the Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2006, which empowers the Minister to prepare and implement rehabilitation plans for such sites. Work under this Act has already started in the Silvermines, Co Tipperary, area.

EurGeol Piers Gardiner PGeo

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited will be held at 7.00 p.m. on May 16th 2007 at the Geological Survey, Beggars Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin 4 for the following purposes:

1. To receive and consider the Directors' Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended December 31st 2006.
2. To elect Directors.
3. To re-elect Casey McGrath and Associates as Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.
4. To transact any other ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

Yvonne O'Connell
Secretary

Dated April 4th 2007.

NOMINATIONS FOR IGI DIRECTORS

The nominations from the Nominating Committee (Chair Peter O'Connor) are shown below, no other nominations have been received at this date,:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

President:	Kevin Cullen, Consultant / Hydrogeology
Vice President:	Piers Gardiner ex-EMD / Minerals (2nd year)
Treasurer:	Stephen Bradley Arups / Eng. Geol.
Secretary:	Yvonne O' Connell APEX / Geophysics (2nd year)

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Board:	John Kelly JBA / Mineral/IndustrialMin/Geotechnical
Board:	Cecil Shine Minerex / Hydrogeology
Board:	Sarah Gatley GSI / Heritage
Board:	Barry Balding Golders / Geophysics/Env.Geol
Board:	John Walsh UCD / Academic
Board:	Fionnuala Collins RPS / Hydro/Env.Geol.

AUDITOR'S REPORT