



*Towards an  
improved use  
of underground  
Space*

*In Consultative Status, Category II with the  
United Nations Economic and Social Council  
<http://www.ita-aites.org>*

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING COMMUNICATION 2006

**SATURDAY 22 APRIL**

### Attending

ITA President	Harvey Parker
South Africa	Anthony Cross
Germany	Alfred Haack
Austria	Harald Wagner
Belgium	Willy De Lathauwer
Brazil	Andre Assis
Canada	Rick P. Lovat
Korea	Jun S. Lee
Egypt	M. E. Abdel Salam
United States of America	Thomas Peyton
France	Olivier Vion
Hungary	Pal Kocsonya
Japan	Yoshikazu Ota
The Netherlands	Han Admiraal
Poland	Wojciech Grodecki
Portugal	Antonio Pinto da Cunha
Romania	Ovidiu Arghiroiu
United Kingdom	Donald Lamont
Sweden	Daniel Morfeldt
Switzerland	Felix Amberg
Czech Republic	Miloslav Novotny
Turkey	Yucel Erdem
Secretariat:	Claude Berenguier, Bettina Gugger

## 1. OPENING SPEECHES

President In-Mo LEE opened the meeting and welcomed the participants

President H. PARKER welcomed the representatives of the Member Nations, the Animateurs of the Working Groups, and the representatives of the publishers who participate in the actions of communication of the Association: Elsevier (Keith LAMBERT) and Olivier VION.

He reminded that the preparation file of the meeting was sent to the Member Nations along with the notice to the General Assembly in Seoul (report of activity of the Executive Council - item 4 of the agenda).

Encl.1 The present minutes come with the Slide Show presented in session.

## 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved without amendments.

## 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF 2005

The minutes of the meeting held in 2005 were approved without amendments.

## 4. REPORT OF ACTIVITY

### 4.1 *Annual TRIBUNE*

The Secretary General presented the results of the Annual TRIBUNE published on the occasion of the meeting held in Seoul; he reminded that the distribution includes 10 copies free of charge for the Member Nations, the Animateurs and the Vice-Animateurs, 1 copy to the Affiliate Members and 1 copy to the Executive Members.

He reminded that the provision for 2006 will be reduced to the publication of the annual issue before the meeting in Prague.

### 4.2 *ita@news*

The Secretary General presented the state of publication of the letter prepared with Olivier VION; the letter comes out on the basis of 6 issues per year; every member of the Association is naturally invited to send some news about themselves to the Association.

The letter is sent free of charge by @mail from the website to all the members (Member Nations, IAM and CAM) as well as all the people who gave their visiting card to the Secretariat. The letter is also sent to the non-members of the Association who ask for it, through their Member Nation or directly through the website after the agreement of their Member Nation. The letter is also available for consultation on the website.

Those who will not want to receive the letter may also say so through the website.

The participants are invited to send to the Secretariat the e-mail address of all the people likely to be interested in receiving the ita@news letter.

The potential number of addressees is of 20,000!

#### **4.3 WEBSITE**

The Secretary General presented the main results of the consultation of the site in 2005, its new functionalities, the main pages introduced since 2005; he showed the really positive progress since the renovation of the site at the beginning of 2004, and notably the progress of the number of distinct visits that has reached 17,000 per month on average.

He reminded that the aim of the renovation of the site was to have at their disposal an access page better adapted to the different publics, to enable the Member Nations to insert directly the news concerning them, after the approval of the Executive Council, and finally to introduce the possibility for CAM and Member Nations to proceed to advertising inserts.

#### **4.4 TUST**

Keith LAMBERT presented the results for 2005 as well as the programme for 2006.

The Secretary General pointed out that the 2004 subscription rate for ITA Members (73 €) has remained the same for 2005 but it will increase for 2006 up to 75 €

#### **4.5 OTHERS**

The Secretary general briefly reported on the Training Session organized now each year for the Young Professionals at the occasion of the Annual meeting

### **5. PREPARATION OF THE ACTIVITY 2006**

#### **5.1. USE OF THE WEBSITE**

As mentioned here above, the Executive Council concentrated their efforts from 2003 to 2005 on the renovation of the website.

What remains to be done is:

- To enable the Member Nations and the Animateurs to insert directly the news concerning them, after the approval of the Executive Council; this will be done at the request of the Member Nations;
- To improve the page of the site of every Member Nation;
- To produce and publish the pages of the “Underground Worldwide” part; in particular the carrying out of the Screaming Video will enable to better illustrate the corresponding pages;
- To create Restricted areas to the ITA members temporary or permanently;

- To add new pages such as: UN, EU
- To think about the multilingualism of the site, and notably its French version.
- To add in the homepage a special link “Other links of interest” for the outside Journals and website

What also remains to be done now is to get organized so that the site is correctly updated, permanently, notably by the Member Nations and by the WG.

## 5.2. INVOLVEMENT OF THE MEMBER NATIONS

- Encl. 2
- a) The Secretary General reported that 36 Member Nations appointed their correspondent for the Communication (website, [ita@news](mailto:ita@news), TUST); he reminded the usefulness to proceed to this appointment.
  - b) Progress on the survey on the journals of the MN; the Secretary General reminded the questions raised:
    - to publish the summaries of the journals of the Member Nations in the website?
    - to establish the reciprocity of publication between the journals of the Member Nations?
    - to create an “International Editorial Committee” to supply the website, notably the “How Go Underground” part (see letter from the Secretariat dated 12 November 2003)?
  - c) The Secretary General also reminded that the Secretariat would like to develop its activities with the support of the Member Nations; these activities may be:
    - of a technical nature: follow-up of the activity of the WG, preparation of position papers,...
    - of an “administrative” nature: website, [ita@news](mailto:ita@news), Documentation, Bibliography, creation of files,...
    - of a prospective nature: relations with the UN, with the European Union, with the Sister Organizations,..

## 5.3. RELATION WITH THE SPECIALISED PRESS

A lot of Publications specialized in Underground Works are closely linked to ITA Member Nations; however, several of them, totally or partly specialized in Underground Works, are independent from these Member Nations; the website Tunnelbuilder, the TMI journals, Felsbau, ... may notably be mentioned without forgetting the Journals published by ITA’s Sister Organizations.

The question whether to establish links between ITA and these publications was raised, and the Executive Council is planning to establish, first of all, a link between ITA’s website and the one of the publishers who would like to help ITA, according to conditions to be defined in each case.

#### **5.4. COMMUNICATION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

ITA received this year some demands from non specialized Journals (Le Monde, Le Temps, ...) and from Discovery Channel; these demands needed generally a very quick answer and, so, a good capacity of reaction of the concerned member nation.

ITA could be proactive and prepare some communication material; comments on the availability of the representatives of the member nations.

#### **5.5 COMMENTS**

In conclusion, the President asked the participants to make the activities of their country more “visible” in using the means of communication put at their disposal by ITA, for instance in strategic fields such as Risk Management and the news concerning the achievement of remarkable Tunnels.

Several participants confirmed this request from the President, notably Henry RUSSELL, Harald WAGNER, Felix AMBERG, Jian ZHAO, Han ADMIRAAL, Alfred HAACK, Andre ASSIS as well as the Secretary General.

It was agreed that a particular effort will be made this year:

- on the news concerning Risk Management;
- on the preparation of special issues of TUST and/or of TRIBUNE on topics of particular interest, notably the publication of reports from Working Groups (WG12, COSUF,..) and the achievement of remarkable works (Boston Artery,..);
- on the involvement of Task Forces in publication (Risk Management, Training,..);
- on the development of the “Underground Worldwide” part of the website.

The Secretary General  
Claude Berenguiet

**Encl. 1:** Slide show

**Encl. 2:** List of Member Nations Correspondents for communication