

Minutes of the SS&PWG Committee Meeting,
held during the 10th ICUD, Copenhagen, Denmark,
24th of August, 2005

Participants as WG members:

Jean-Luc Bertrand-Krajewski, José Matos, Maria Almeida, Thorkild Hvitved-Jacobsen, Jes Vollertsen, Simon Tait, Kapil Gupta, Sveinung Saegrov, Takashi Sakakibara, Thomas Ertl, Ana Deletic, Peter Krebs, Adrian Saul, Jiri Marsalek and Alberto Campisano.

Participants as invited members:

Raf Bouteligier (Belgium), Florian Kretschmmer (Austria), Guenter Gruber (Austria), Frédérique Larrarte (France), Ton Beenen (Netherlands), Jeroen Langeveld (Netherlands), Remy Schilperoort (Netherlands), Christof Lubbers (Netherlands), Cathelijne Flaemink (Netherlands), Mathias Uhl (France) and Willi Gujer (Switzerland).

Agenda of the meeting:

1. Minutes of the Committee meeting held in Funchal, Portugal, Nov. 2004
2. Designation of the new Chairman and election of the new vice-chairman
3. New members and leaving members
4. Next SOM 06 conference in Austria
5. 5th SPN conference in 2007
6. Next Committee meeting
7. Network of long-term experimental catchments and sites
8. New Group activities and new actions
9. Any other business

Item 1 on the Agenda – The minutes of the last SS&PWG Committee meeting, held in Funchal, Portugal, on 23rd November 2004, previously distributed by email, were approved without comments.

Item 2 on the Agenda – José Matos (JM), the past Vice-chairman, was designated the new Chairman of the Group. Francois Clemens (FC), from Netherlands, was elected the new Vice-chairman, without any vote against.

Item 3 on the Agenda – Jean-Luc Bertrand-Krajewski (JLBK) has informed he has contacted the most “silent” members of the SS&PWG asking for a confirmation of interest or resignation from the group, in order to have “room” available for active country representatives, that are limited to two per country. Pavel Blaszczyk (Poland), Tony Wong (Australia) and Naoya Tanaka (Japan) were contacted. Pavel is retiring and resigned. Tony resigned to be active in another JCUD working group. According to Thomas Ertl, Maria Führacker (Austria) is ok to resign as she is not active since a couple of years. Michel Verbanck (Belgium), one of the founders of the group, is now active in fluvial hydraulics and said that he is ready to leave if a new candidate to represent Belgium appears. Consequently, the Group has voted unanimously for the exit of all above members.

Neil Armitage (South Africa) had informed JM, that he considered himself perhaps not being enough active in the group. Anyway, he has maintained the position as South Africa representative.

JLBK has informed that Alberto Campisano (Italy) had been accepted as a new member of the SS&PWG.

New candidates to replace leaving members will be welcome.

Item 4 on the Agenda – Thomas Ertl has informed that the first announcement of the 2nd International Conference on “Sewer Operation and Maintenance” (SOM 2006) to be held in Vienna, Austria, on October 26-27, 2006 had already been prepared, including the call for papers.

Detailed information is available at : <http://www.wau.boku.ac.at/som06/>

The Conference will focus on operational subjects. Adrian Saul mentioned the fact that people from companies should be attracted to attend SOM 06. The Conference should have the cooperation from the new IWA specialist group dealing with *Asset Management* for participation on the paper reviewing. A formal contact with this group should be tried.

Ana Deletic and Kapil Gupta has referred that an effort should be made in order to merge conferences on similar topics, in the future. Combining or joining future SPN and SOM conference series could be a solution to reduce the increasing number of events that we are all facing to.

Item 5 on the Agenda – The next “*Sewer Processes and Networks* International Conference (5th SPN)” will be held in Delft, Netherlands. The Conference is in the initial stage of organization, but the planned dates are 29-31 August 2007.

JLBK has informed that the next Novatech 2007 conference is planned to be held on 25-28 June, 2007, in Lyon, and that efforts will be made to avoid similar topics and papers in both conferences.

Item 6 on the Agenda – JM has referred the intention to plan at least one meeting per year. The present members of the group were called to express their wishes about the date of the next SS&PWG Committee meeting. Three alternatives were considered: a) During the next IWA World Conference in Beijing, September 2006, b) During the next UDM, in Melbourne, April 2006 or c) During SOM 06 October, 2006. 6 members have voted for alternative b) and 7 members for alternative c). So, it was decided to have the next SS&PWG meeting during SOM 06, in Vienna. In 2007 and 2008, the Committee meetings will take place probably during the 5th SPN (Delft, NL) and during the 11th ICUD, (Edinburgh, UK) respectively.

Item 7 on the Agenda – JLBK has referred the fact that the idea to establish a collaborative “*network of long-term experimental catchments and sites*”, including development/harmonization of protocols, methods of measurements, etc., had been ventilated during the two previous committee meetings (in Lyon and Funchal). The idea seemed good but volunteers were required to coordinate the process. JLBK has informed that France has 2 long term monitoring sites (Lyon and Paris), as well as Netherlands and expressed the idea of a “1 day meeting” for presentation of used methods in different sites and situations, as a starting point. Adrian Saul informed that he was also planning a new experimental catchment. Remy Schilperoort has suggested that the TUDelft group might initiate the process organizing the starting point. The Austrian group on “on-line monitoring” should be also contacted, through Guenter Gruber. It was mentioned that Vienna (before or after SOM 06) should be a good place for the “one day meeting”. Ana Deletic has informed the existence of different sites at Melbourne, and suggested the circulation of a questionnaire about general data of the existing experimental sites. Adrian Saul has raised the problem of data confidentiality. JM informed he would ask Francois Clemens to initiate the process contacting the Austrian group.

Item 8 on the Agenda –JM has referred some challenges about new actions:

- To contact and involve potential members of different countries not yet represented in the SS&PWG.
- To develop a document about the future of the group, with a clear message of objectives and missions.

JLBK has informed that the JCUD had initiated a process to review its objectives, goals and boundaries, and members were invited to a brainstorming centered in the following lines:

- Core activities of the group (in this case of the SS&PWG); activities to be maintained; new topics/interests /ways.
- Activities and topics of the JCUD – core activities to be maintained; new topics and interactions to be developed and investigated in the future; barriers and limitations to be removed. A draft of 2/3 papers about the subject should be circulated by the members till mid-November 2005.

JM has informed to intend, with the help of Francois Clemens, to produce a first draft in October 2005. SS&PWG members were invited to express ideas and opinions to be included in the draft. The draft should circulate among the group in order to have a final version in November 2005.

JLBK has expressed some ideas about the work developed by the group: the difficulty to integrate sediment information in models, differences of behaviour between “real” sediments and “laboratory” sediments, development of knowledge about “sewer processes”, the SOM work (operation/rehabilitation) and the Interurba concept on interactions between different components of the urban wastewater systems.

Thorkild has referred to find a good idea to discuss the objectives of the group and has recommended the preparation of a 2nd edition of the book “*Sewer Solids*”.. Jiri Marsalek has asked about the impact of the book. JLBK has referred that the dissemination of the book was problematic and translation to different languages could be promoted by local organizations. After the meeting, JLBK discussed with Michael Dunn from IWA Publishing who considers favorably the idea to prepare either a second edition of the S&TR as it stands, or a series of short brochures focussing on limited topics but with a more practitioner oriented approach to facilitate the knowledge transfer from researchers and academics to practitioners in the field of sewer solids. Of course, the choice should be made by the SS&PWG.

Peter Krebs has expressed the opinion that the scope of the group was already large enough, and development and improvement of core activities were needed.

Item 9 on the Agenda – As “*other business*” Thorkild has announced a PhD Course on “*Process Engineering of Urban and Highway Runoff*” to be held in Aalborg University, on October 31 – November 2, 2005 (www.Sewer.dk)

September, 2006

José Saldanha Matos