

IAHS Bureau Meeting, 5th December 2024, 14.00-17.00 CAT

Agenda

Chair Berit Arheimer

Zoom Meeting: <https://waternetonline-org.zoom.us/j/82508948682?pwd=RxO184GwRN4R3IR0O4ZZirliJPrbT4.1>

Meeting ID: 825 0894 8682 Passcode: 114730

1. Opening remarks (Berit) & Tour de table (Claire) (presence and voting rights for the protocol)- 5 min

BA welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Checked on who is present and those with voting rights.

2. Update on IAHS activities, especially those with deadlines by turn of year (info by Jean-Marie)-10 min

JMKO gave an overview of IAHS Management Team activities during 2024. Monthly IAHS Management Team meetings and Annual IAHS Ltd Board meeting 12-13 March 2024 in Wallingford.

Also highlighted presentation of IAHS prizes (IHP, Tison, Falkenmark) at the joint ICWRS-ICSH meeting in Florianópolis, Brazil, in November 2024. Reminded Bureau members to make nominations for the 2025 awards.

Framework agreement with Copernicus has been renewed. Update on PIAHS volumes – 3 volumes completed/underway.

In 2024 725 new applications to join IAHS were accepted, increasing the representation in IAHS. Total membership currently ~11,800. Countries with greatest number of members are India, then USA, UK and Nigeria. In 2024 greatest numbers of new member applications from India, Brazil, USA, Nigeria, and increasing applications from DRC. Fewer applications from Australia.

Preparations are underway for IUGG 2027 in South Korea, including a site visit planned for July 2025. IAHS has nominated IAHS representatives for the IUGG Awards Committee (Fuqiang), Early Career Committee (Moctar) and Diversity Committee (Archana).

Communications overview: 36 eNews issued in 2024 so far. Presented statistics for IAHS website, HSJ and IAHS Facebook accounts, X (Twitter) and LinkedIn (up to 40,000 impressions). HSJ Digests started in 2024, 7 editions shared so far.

Fuqiang gave an update on the Panta Rhei book. Contract signed with Elsevier in November 2024, and the book will be published by June 2025. A high-level synthesis paper is planned for 2025.

3. IAHS Scientific Assembly 2025-Roorkee (Salvatore)- 5 min

The call for abstracts will open in the next few days. Salvatore explained the new format for the IAHS Scientific Assembly – only plenary oral presentations, with more time for discussion across the whole hydrological community, and no parallel sessions. There will be call for sessions as in previous Scientific Assemblies. The 6 different types of contributions were described. Salvatore explained how the plenary contributions would be evaluated and selected to ensure representation across all the Commissions, Working Groups and other IAHS initiatives (HELPING, UPH). At the end of the evaluation procedure 48 oral contributions will be selected.

Flash presentation sessions were tested during the Florianópolis meeting and based on this the maximum number of flash presentations per session at the Scientific Assembly will be 20.

BA reminded Bureau that they could apply to hold more specialised pre-events for Commissions, Working Groups, etc. before the Scientific Assembly.

KS clarified that the plenary will be held in one large room and was enthusiastic about not having to make decisions about which parallel sessions to attend. Heidi Kreibich (HK) also expressed support for the new format, especially the interviews around the posters that could be shared on social media. She also asked how diversity would be ensured in the selected oral presentations, e.g. that early career researchers from many countries are represented. SG explained that Commission Presidents would select the contributions and introduce and chair the relevant presentations and discussion during the Scientific Assembly. SG stated that all the oral presentations will have been selected by the time of the June 2025 Bureau meeting and there can be more discussions then.

4. Finances 2024 and budgets 2025 & 2026 (Treasurer + decision by Bureau)- 10 min

A paper detailing the estimated end of 2024 IAHS finances and the budgets for 2025-2026 had been circulated already to the Bureau. KH presented a short overview of the IAHS finances in 2024 and the budgets proposed for 2025-2026. The good news is that there will be an estimated surplus at the end of 2024, compared to the deficit projected in the 2024 budget. Nevertheless, a cautious approach on spending is still needed going forward to maintain a reserve to cover 1 year of costs in case there is a large drop in income, and also to sustain grants for IAHS activities. KH also reminded Bureau how IAHS officers and members can help support IAHS finances through organising and participating IAHS meetings, promoting and publishing in IAHS journals, and populating the IAHS DWG.

HK asked about the number and allocation for SYSTA awards for 2025. KH replied that 10 SYSTA awards are planned for 2025 (6 for the Scientific Assembly, 2 for the Sociohydrology meeting, 1 for the annual STAHY meeting and 1 for the normally annual ICCE meeting). HK noted that the International Sociohydrology meeting in July 2025 will be an IAHS meeting returning participant licence fees for an estimated 300-400 participants, and asked whether the number of SYSTA awards could be increased. KH responded that the number of SYSTA awards planned for 2025 is only one fewer than the usual allocation (11 awards per year if the maximum award amounts are used). Furthermore, the IAHS Management Team had discussed the balance between funding for the SYSTA scheme and for IAHS regional Committees and had decided to target some more funding in 2025 and 2026 to Regional Committees to help engage a wider number of IAHS members. It was agreed that the funding for the 2025 and 2026 budgets would be reviewed again at the annual IAHS Ltd Board meeting in February 2025 when the end of 2024 accounts had been finalised, and an update on the budget presented at the June 2025 Bureau meeting.

100% of Bureau votes approved the budget.

5. New IAHS Treasurer in 2025 (approval by Bureau) and appointment of new IAHS Ltd Chair in 2026 (Berit & Kate)- 10 min

BA explained that KH currently held the IAHS Treasurer and IAHS Ltd Chair roles and will be standing down from these on 1 January 2025 and in March 2026, respectively. The process in the IAHS statutes for appointing new role-holders was outlined and the selection considerations.

Relevant IAHS Statutes about Treasurer appointment:

8.1 The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Bureau, and shall be eligible for re-appointment without limit.

Relevant IAHS Statutes about Chair appointment:

15.2. The International Association of Hydrological Sciences Limited shall have as its Board the Secretary General, the President and Treasurer of the Association and those persons appointed by the President. The Chair of the Limited Company will report to the President.

15.3. For the purpose of continuity of administration of the Limited Company, the President shall have absolute discretion regarding the appointment of the Chair and the Board in accordance with article 15.2.”

BA introduced the new post holders: Konstantinos Soulis (Greece) for IAHS Treasurer and Melody Sandells (UK) for Chair IAHS Ltd. 100% of Bureau votes approved the appointment of Konstantinos Soulis (Greece) as IAHS Treasurer. BA and SG thanked KH for her dedicated contributions in both roles.

6. Summary and updated working plans 2024-2025: International Commissions, Working Groups/Committees, IAHS office (info: 2 min presentation 2024 achievements and 2025 Plan, focus on community papers & IAHS meetings only)- 45 min

ICCE – no update to report.

ICCLAS – community synthesis paper expected in 2025. Collecting papers to upload on the DWG. Planning a proposal for a special issue for HSJ in first quarter of 2025. Increased engagement with the ICCLAS ECC representative. Now meeting online every 6 months.

ICGW – no representative.

ICHWF – main activity is organising the 2nd Sociohydrology Conference, 19-21 July 2025 in Tokyo. Panta Rhei synthesis paper submitted in summer 2024, and is undergoing major revisions to be submitted in January 2025.

ICRS - no representative.

ICSH – Very successful 2024 joint meeting with ICWRS in Brazil in November 2024. Normal annual STAHY workshop will not be held in 2025 due to the IAHS Scientific Assembly. Next STAHY meeting will be in 2026 at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Active in HELPING working group on hydrological disasters, which has already published a first paper.

ICSIH – Asked to engage with the 2025 UN International Year of Glaciers' Preservation and are leading 2 task groups. Involved in some HELPING working groups. Planning for SnowHydro meeting in 2026. Adding content to the DWG, including sites in the international alpine hydrology network.

ICSW – 2 community papers published – one in Nature Water, other Perspectives of Earth and Space Scientists. Other community papers are planned including one in HSJ with Co-Creating Water Knowledge WG. Participating in HELPING working groups. Adding datasets (for Africa) and case-studies to the DWG.

ICT – Established a periodical workshop, held in Vienna in November 2024 joint with IAEA. Plan that this meeting will become a regular IAHS meeting, starting in 2027 to be held every 3 years. Planning a community paper in 2025 to be submitted to HSJ. The Commission is adding case-studies to the DWG.

ICWQ: Community paper is planned. Annual water quality workshop held in China (but is not an IAHS meeting).

ICWRS: Holds regular online meetings. Very successful joint IAHS meeting held in Florianópolis organised by Pedro Chaffe. Two community papers planned, including a foresight paper for the future of the Commission.

MOXXI – no representative.

CANDHy - no representative.

History of Hydrology – main activity in 2024 was HSJ Special Issue, 20 submissions, 14 papers accepted to date. Deadline for Special Collection to be extended to August 2025. History of Hydrology session accepted for EGU2025. Produce more video interviews in 2025 and plan to turn the existing video interviews into podcasts as well as YouTube videos. Liaising with Mario Mendiando (EMM) about inputs to the DWG.

UPH – In 2024 there was a meeting in India about UPHs. Community paper on Latin American UPHs to be submitted in January 2025.

ECC – contributing to community papers and conferences (e.g. EGU, IAHS Florianópolis meeting). Working with IUGG to give more visibility to ECRs. ECC community paper planned for HSJ in 2025. Encouraging ECC researchers to add content to the DWG.

Africa Regional Committee – established 5 regional chapters within Africa, each with a co-ordinator to increase engagement and activity. Three community papers in the pipeline. HSJ Special Issue on African Hydrology. Contributing to HELPING working groups. Encouraging members to add content to the DWG. Sessions on African Hydrology being held at AGU 2024 and EGU 2025.

Latin America Regional Committee – 2024 meeting in Santiago, Chile. Special HSJ issue on Latin American Hydrology is underway and has received submissions. Next meeting will be in Lima, Peru.

Health Break: 10 min

7. EDI task force initiative (Archana)- 5 min

Archana gave the background to EDI in IAHS. IAHS EDI statement in 2022. IAHS EDI Task Force is being established and outlined the role and activities that the Task Force will fulfil. These include developing an EDI action plan to present to the IAHS Bureau in 2026. A pre-event focused on EDI may take place before the 2025 Scientific Assembly. The development of the IAHS EDI team is underway. The EDI Chair (Archana Sarkar) was appointed by the IAHS Management Team. A number of applications have been received for the open call for members of the IAHS EDI Task Force, and their evaluation is underway.

8. Digital Water Globe (info by EMM)- 5 min

EMM introduced the DWG Editorial team and reminded Bureau about the DWG user guides. The DWG Editorial Team meets monthly and is active in promoting the DWG at conferences. EMM noted that the number of DWG visits peaks around conferences, so it is important to promote the DWG in person at conferences. Activities in promoting the DWG in 2024 were outlined, including EGU newsletter and blog post, social media, presentation at the IAHS Florianópolis meeting. In 2025 will promote DWG at a number of meetings including 2025 EGU Splinter meeting, Sociohydrology meeting in Tokyo. Open invitation to contribute to a community paper to be submitted to HSJ about using the DWG to promote research and support communication and collaboration.

BA encouraged all Bureau members and officers to upload their personal profiles to the DWG. EMM noted that need more DWG posts from women; at the moment only 1 in 4 DWG posts are from women.

9. HELPING decade: updates (by Chair & Theme leaders) 15 min

BA presented as HELPING Chair until end of 2024; none of the Theme Leaders could attend. HELPING visionary community paper in HSJ published in HSJ in August 2024. BA showed the HELPING webpages and explained how IAHS Bureau and members can engage with and follow the progress of HELPING. Each of the HELPING working groups has their own dedicated webpage on the IAHS website and are encouraged to populate them. BA explained how HELPING papers should acknowledge HELPING and inform IAHS so that the papers can be collected on the IAHS website.

Currently more than 1000 people have signed up to the 29 HELPING working groups. BA explained that a guidance document has been written to support the organisation and leadership of the working groups. BA gave an overview of dedicated HELPING sessions at conferences in 2024, and also the online annual HELPING conference held on 26 November 2024. 250 people signed up to the conference from almost 60 countries, although 100 participated. Finally, BA introduced the next HELPING Chair 2025-2026 as Thom Bogaard (Netherlands) who has been appointed following an open call.

10. Bureau meeting dates in 2025 (Berit) 5 min

BA apologised for the late organisation of this Bureau meeting and explained the procedure for regular IAHS Bureau meetings.

11. Relationships with partners (info) a) UN organizations and others: UNESCO, WMO, IAEA, UN Water, WaterNet (Jean-Marie) 10 min

JMKO gave an overview of IAHS interactions with UN institutions in 2024. A UN Water / UNESCO book is planned for publications in 2026 for which BA will be a co-editor. IAHS will be involved in the World Water Development Reports in 2025 (focused on ice) and in 2026 (focused on gender). IAHS interacts with WMO through CC. WMO supports IAHS prizes and funding for IAHS conference participants but have not yet confirmed their contribution for 2025.

JMKO indicated that their future partnerships with the Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN), the Gates Foundation, IHE, and IWMI. In the future it is important that IAHS is officially recognised as a partner institution by UN Water. IAHS would need to complete an application form to gain official recognition.

Dhiraj (ICSIH) mentioned the new World Glacier Day that is being held for the first time on 21 March 2025 and will take place every year.

Ann van Griensven (ICWQ) 50 years IHP celebration will be held in Paris on 10-13 June 2025 and suggested that IAHS should contribute to this.

12. Any other business 5 min

Dhiraj (ICSIH) – planning to organise 2nd Mountain Hydrology & Cryosphere conference in Nepal in 2026.

Update from SG on IAHS Academy 2025 plans – to be held around 2025 IAHS Scientific Assembly in Roorkee. Problem that if held for 5 days before the SA it overlaps with a national holiday in India and 10 days (Academy + SA) is too long the 100 Academy students and 8 teachers. A resolution could be that the academy overlaps with the Scientific Assembly. Archana and Fernando Nardi are working on a roadmap.

13. Closure 5 min

List of Officers attending 2024 December Bureau meeting				initials
IAHS	PE	Salvatore Grimaldi	Nat/Res Italy	SG
	P	Berit Arheimer	Sweden	BA
	3 VPs	Christophe Cudennec	France	CC
		Archana Sarkar	India	AS
		Fuqiang Tian	China	FT
		Jean-Marie Kileshye Onema	Congo / RSA	JMKO
	SG			
	T / C IAHS Ltd	Kate Heal	UK	KH
	HSJ			
	Editor-in-Chief	Attilio Castellarin	Italy	
IAHS Ltd	Secretary	Helen Houghton-Carr	UK	
	new			
Treasurer				
	2025	Konstantinos Soulis	Greece	KS

ICCE	VP	Allen Gellis	USA	
ICCE	S	Michal Habel	Poland	
ICCLAS	PE	Christopher White	Australia/UK	
ICCLAS	P	Richard Petrone	Canada	
ICHWF	P	Heidi Kreibich	Germany	HK
ICSH	PE	Krzysztof Kochanek	Poland	
ICSH	P	Elena Volpi	Italy	
ICSH	S	Svenja Fischer	Germany	
ICSIH	VP	Dhiraj Pradhananga	Nepal	
ICSW	VP	Ernest Amoussou	Bénin	
ICSW	S	Yonca Cavus	Turkey	
ICT	PE	Maki Tsujimura	Japan	
ICT	P	Zhonghe Pang	China	
ICT	S	Wei Jiang	China	
ICWQ	PE	Dedi Liu	China	
ICWQ	Co-P	Elango Lakshmanan	India	
ICWQ	2021-23			
ICWQ	3 VPs	Remegio B. Confesor	USA/Norway	
ICWQ		Ann van Griensven	Belgium	
ICWRS	PE	Pedro Chaffe	Brazil	
ICWRS	P	Barry Croke	Australia	
ICWRS	VP	Suxia Liu	China	
ICWRS	S	Gökçen Uysal	Turkey	
ICWRS	ECC	Chris Leong	Fiji/Japan	
WG	History of Hydrology	Keith Beven	UK	
Committee	ECC	Moctar Dembélé	Burkina Faso/Ghana	
Committee	Africa	Hodson Makurira	Zimbabwe	
HELPING	new Chair	Thom Bogaard	Netherlands	
Academy	Chair	Fernando Nardi	Italy	
		Eduardo Mario		
DWG	Editor	Mendiondo	Brazil	EMM