

**International Mineralogical Association**  
**Commission on Museums**  
Minutes from the CM Meeting  
Melbourne, Australia, December 2000

The meeting was held during the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference “Mineralogy and Museums” in Melbourne (M&M4) on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm in the Royal Society Building.

**M&M 5**

The following topic has been taken first, because of the work of Giancarlo Parodi in another commission:

Giancarlo Parodi (National Museum of Natural History, Paris/France) referred about the planned meeting M&M5 in Paris/France 2004 (for details see the document attached) and gave a formal invitation to the CM.

Votes: 15 : 0 : 0 for Paris

15 Commission members or their representatives (r) attended: Australia – Fred Sutherland, Austria – Uwe Kolitsch (r), France – Giancarlo Parodi (r), Germany – Kay Schuermann, Hungary - Erzsébet Tóth (r), Italy – Curzio Cipriani, Japan – Michiaki Bunno, Netherland – Hanco Zwaan, New Zealand – Bill Watters, Norway – Fred Steinar Nordrum, Romania – Dana Pop (r), Russia – Dmitriy Belakovskiy, Sweden – Hans Annersten (r), United States – Anthony Kampf, Chairman – Carl Francis.

Guests included: Wiebke Grote – South Africa and James Hurlbut – United States.

Short introduction of those present followed.

The Chairman Carl A. Francis opened the session with some short but hearty words and mentioned the main topics to be discussed at this meeting.

**CTMS – work**

Tony Stalder (Museum of Natural History, Bern/Switzerland) became ill and could not show up in Melbourne. During the last two years CTMS – work done by Alexander Hölzel and himself came in the final stages. CTMS-drafts exist now (in the PC of Tony) for all countries with a type locality, and in the drafts about 3500 different mineral species are recorded.

Countries with the greatest amount of new mineral species are (first = number of species, second = % of species documented by type specimens): USA – 650/72, Russia – 480/85, Germany – 260/56, Italy – 194/68, Canada – 165/93, Sweden – 157/69, UK – 108/57, Australia – 102/84. Australian mineral species have been published recently in Austral. J. Mineral., Volume 6 (2), 105 – 128, 2000. A preliminary edition of “Type Mineralogy of Brazil” was available during the conference by the author Daniel Atencio (Sao Paulo/Brazil).

**IMA 2002 Edinburgh**

A general agreement of all members and representatives stated, that CM should be present during the IMA 2002 in Edinburgh with a special session in the scientific program. The chairman of CM will go in contact with the organizers of this meeting for details. Curzio Cipriani (Florence/Italy) initiated “cooperation and exchange of minerals for research and temporary exhibitions” as one possible topic. This will be discussed with the chairman in the next future. Moreover new officers have to be elected at the business meeting(s) by the CM members during the IMA-Meeting. Unfortunately Carl Francis announced that he will not be a candidate anymore.

### **Announcements of delegates or substitutes**

Several remarks about privatizing of museums and collections have been made. Especially in Austria (announcement of Gerhard Niedermayr – Museum of Natural History/Vienna given by Uwe Kolitsch) and in Italy state museums will be transferred into private ownership. In each case this should be accompanied by a reorganization on the most highest level. Hanco Zwaan (Leiden/Netherland) mentioned that museums in Netherland are privatized, but the collections are still owned by the government. Some comments about the situation of museums in the United States followed.

Dmitriy Belakovskiy (Moscow/Russia) announced a declaration about “Preservation of the Mineralogical Diversity” to develop an own mineralogical “Agenda 21” related to the main document of the Rio de Janeiro – conference 1992.

Necessity of an updating of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the *World Directory of Mineral Collections* (WDMC) was discussed again. There are still copies to sell, but an updating is absolutely necessary and future forms should be electronic.

Alan Hart (NHM London) reported about a so called “Safety commission” focussing for safety in museums and collections in respect of radiation, asbestos, and other environmental pollution items. Wiebke Grote (Pretoria) made some remarks related to the situation in South Africa.

### **SMMP**

It was mentioned by Tony Kampf (Los Angeles County Museum of National History), that there will be a necessity for bringing our mineralogy community together by more international working organisations. The “Society of Mineral Museum Professionals” (SMMP) should become more international and all curators worldwide are encouraged to join. As a first step official SMMP – meetings at the Munich fare should be arranged.

### **M&M 6**

There was quite a consensus about the country inviting for M&M6 (United States), but still not about the place (New York?).

The business meeting of the CM was adjourned at 7 pm and was followed by a very nice Commission Members' Dinner at 7:30 pm. Thousand thanks to the organizers around Bill Birch and Susan Henry.

February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2001  
Kay U. Schuermann  
(Secretary of the CM)