



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

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Dear Colleagues,

This first issue of 2007 begins with an introduction from Martin Koller, the new President of EAGE. The minutes of EAGE General Assembly, Association Council, and the Executive Committee Meetings are given next in the chronological order followed by the report of the Central Office Activities for the period of Sep. 2002 -Sept. 2006. The last item is the updated Summary Report of the Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering for the period of 2002-2006.

We lived a very busy year, we worked very hard and for long hours, however, it was rewarding and joyful. I hope this was the case for most of you as it was for EAGE. We had a very successful joint Conference together with the European Seismological Commission in Geneva. The organisation went very smoothly, the sessions were interesting, the invited lectures were very informative, the social events were very enjoyable. It was our first conference with the active participation of Individual Members to the General Assembly. It was our first conference where we had an exhibition booth with posters about EAGE and its history.

We would like to wish all of you a prosperous and peaceful 2007. As Central Office we hope our interaction with all EAGE members will increase in this coming year.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

SEISMOLOGISTS AND EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERS: TOGETHER OR TO EACH HIS OWN?

As you remember, the Geneva conference in 2006 was the first common European conference for earthquake engineers and seismologists. A key question for the Executive Committees of both the EAGE and the ESC is now whether to organise a common conference in four years time again, or to get back to the traditional separate conferences of the two communities.

The participants of the Geneva conference had the opportunity to vote for a common or a separate conference. What was the outcome of this consultative vote?

240 voting cards were deposited, i.e. about 20 % of all the participants voted. 116 voting participants considered themselves as engineers, 101 as seismologists and 23 as both or none of them. 63 engineers voted in favour of a common conference, 48 against, and 5 were undecided. The seismological score was tight: 51 in favour and 48 against a common conference, with 2 undecided. Finally, among those who considered themselves as both, engineers and seismologists, or neither of them, 15 voted in favour and only 7 against a common conference, with 1 undecided. In total, 54 % voted in favour and 43 % against a further common conference.

By far the main reason of those voting against a common conference was its size, in both terms, number of contributions – posters and parallel sessions – and number of participants. Evidently, for those working in fields situated far from the common interface, like seismologists working on the deep crust, or earthquake engineers developing computer codes, the bigger size of the conference is not outweighed by any advantages.

Nevertheless, there were (too) many occasions in Geneva to observe how the communication between the two worlds was difficult due to a lack of common language and understanding of the needs and capabilities of the ones and the others. Many of us NEED to work closer together, and common keynote lectures and especially common sessions are a good way of learning from each other and of improving the discussion and exchange of ideas between us.

An interesting idea has been advanced, namely to organise the European Conference of Earthquake Engineering and the General Assembly of the ESC with just one or two overlapping days. However, this might be difficult from an organisational point of view, since a large enough conference centre would be needed although its full size would only be necessary for one or two days. Furthermore, at least one of the two conferences would have to go over a week end.

The Executive Committee of the ESC will decide next summer whether the seismologists will join the engineers in Skopje in 2010. Our friends in Skopje would be ready to organise a common conference.

However, common conferences are not sufficient. An effort should also be made in education programmes: whereas many earthquake engineering courses include some basics of seismology – though probably not sufficient –, seismological courses do generally not contain any basics of earthquake engineering. To give a short course in earthquake engineering to seismologists should be a pedagogic challenge for professors of earthquake engineering.

Let's end with a positive sign: In Geneva, the Executive Committees of both the EAGE and the ESC have planned a common meeting in Crete in 2008 in order to discuss further common initiatives. I do hope that we shall learn more from each other in the future.

MARTIN KOLLER, February 2007

MINUTES OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING MEETINGS IN 1ECEES

Agenda

1. Monday 4.9.2006 18:30 Last Executive Committee Meeting for the 2002-2006 term
2. Tuesday 5.9.2006 19:00 Meeting of EAEE Association Council
3. Thursday 7.9.2006 18:30 EAEE General Assembly
4. Friday 8.9.2006 at 17:30 First Executive Committee Meeting for the 2006-2010 term

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

NUMBER: 7

DATE: SEPTEMBER 4, 2006

PLACE: GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Attendance:

Robin Spence, President
Panayotis Carydis, Vice President
Martin Koller, Vice President
Atilla Ansal, Secretary General
Mauro Dolce, Secretary
Rainer Flesch, Treasurer
Carlos Oliveira, Portugal
Rafael Blasquez, Spain
Peter Fajfar, Slovenia
Roger Musson, ESC Representative

Absentee:

Pierre-Alain Nazé, France

Observers:

Costas A. Syrmakizis (TG10 Coordinator)
Roy T. Severn (TG7 Coordinator)
Mario De Stefano (TG8 Co-coordinator)
Philippe Bisch, France

Prologue: The seventh and the last Executive Committee Meeting of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering for the 2002-2006 term was held in Geneva, Switzerland on Monday September 4, 2006 between 18:30 and 20:00 hours during the First Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology. The Executive Committee meeting was chaired by the President.

Item 1 Approval of the Agenda: The draft agenda was rearranged and approved by all members present with general consensus to give the Task Group Coordinators precedence.

Item 2 Endorsement of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meetings: The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meetings held during 2002-2006 period were endorsed and signed by all the Executive Committee Members.

Item 3 Activities of Task Groups during 2002-2006: Task Groups 3, 4, 7, 8 and 10 were presented by either their Coordinators or Co-coordinators in the meeting. All present TG Coordinators summarized their activities during the last four year and plans for the new term. All of them expressed their interest to continue with their activities, stressing the need to obtain EU funds for research and training courses.

Task Group Coordinators were previously asked to prepare a short "TG Report" summarising their activities during 2002-2006 and their activity plan for the next four years. These reports are included in the Central Office Report. The newly elected Executive Committee will review the achievements of each Task Group and will decide to end or extend the TG activities for one more term during their Second Meeting.

Item 4 President's Report for 2002-2006: The President summarised his ongoing activities and the meetings that took place recently. He mentioned briefly about the European Construction Technology Platform meeting where groups from different sectors of civil engineering would participate. It was considered that first priority would be to develop a strategic research agenda and second priority could be to organise a stakeholders meeting sometimes in the next six months where as EAEE the proposals for action in earthquake risk reduction at the

European level will be presented based on the conclusions of the Workshop held in Lisbon. The president informed Ex.Com that EAEE was invited to the Working Group on Natural and Man-made Hazards of the European Construction Technology Platform to represent earthquake hazards perspective.

The workshop to present the EAEE proposals on Earthquake Risk Reduction in Europe to European Parliamentarians was decided to take place in Brussels at the beginning of the next year. Information was given on this subject by Rainer Flesch, who with Robin Spence, and Carlos Oliveria was previously appointed by the Ex.Com as the contact committee.

Item 5 Vice President's Report about 1ECEES: The Vice President Martin Koller informed the Executive Committee concerning the organization of the First European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology and summarised the present status with respect to registration and other details.

He explained briefly difficulties encountered to harmonise the traditions of both organisers in conference details and also concerning the differences between administrative approaches of two associations. Despite all the difficulties, the organizers were able to find the moderate ways of solving all the problems and they are supporting the continuity of the joint events. That was the reason why a balloting was initiated among the conference participants to find out the preference of the participants.

It was suggested that Vice President should prepare a short report concerning the significant points regarding the organisation and the solutions adopted to give guidance and clues to the next joint conference organizers.

Item 6 Report on Central Office Activities for 2002-2006:

The Report of the Central Office Activities for September 2002 – September 2006 was presented briefly by the Secretary General. The main points during the presentation and the decisions of the Ex.Com can be summarised as:

6.1. During the past term, Statutes were revised to be registered as an international NGO, in Istanbul and were approved by Postal Balloting by the majority (28/32) of all the National Members. The approved Statutes were included in the last issue of the Newsletter that would be available in print during the Conference in the EAEE booth.

6.2. Based on the Guidelines for ECEE, an exhibition booth was allocated to EAEE for the first time. Central Office prepared posters explaining the historical development, publications and structure of EAEE to inform the conference participants and to increase the Individual Memberships registration.

6.3. Most of National Members paid their membership dues and their Delegates would be participating to the Association Council and General Assembly. Ex.Com approved the list of National Members that would participate to the First Association Council Meeting.

6.4. The issue that required Ex.Com decision concerning voting rights of the Executive Committee Members (in the Association Council) and of the Individual Members (in the General Assembly) who are at the same time Delegates of National Associations or Delegates of Corporate Members were discussed.

6.5. The Ex.Com decided unanimously on multiple voting rights for the Executive Committee Members in the Association Council if they are also National Delegates based on the fact that Executive Committee Members are elected not as representatives of their National Association but as individuals since the General Assembly held in London in 2002.

6.6. The Ex.Com decided unanimously on multiple voting rights for the Individual members in the General Assembly who are at the same time Delegates of National Associations or Delegates of Corporate Members since it would lead to inequity with respect to other Individual Members who are only Individual Members.

6.7. The Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering Summary Report for 2002-2006 was briefly presented. The number of issues was increased to four starting from 2006. The first three issues of Volume 4 are published; the last issue is in the printing process. The rate of manuscript submission has been increasing significantly, it is estimated that it could be as high as 80% in 2006 with respect to 2005. It was jointly decided with Springer to increase the number of pages starting from 2007 allowing six or seven articles per issue.

6.8. The Committee was informed about the number of individual members that will be participating to the General Assembly. According to the approved Statutes, individual members should have paid membership dues one month in advance to participate to the General Assembly. Thus Ex.Com decision became necessary for the 7 new Individual Members that were submitted by bank transfer after the lists were approved by Ex.Com. Ex.Com approved the participation of the new 7 Individual Members to GA unanimously.

6.9. Due to the division of Montenegro and Serbia as independent separate states, and upon the application of the Yugoslav Association for Earthquake Engineering, the name of the Yugoslav Association for Earthquake Engineering was changed as Montenegrin Association for Earthquake Engineering (MAEE).

6.10. EAEE made two efforts both in 2005 and 2006 and submitted Marie Curie Training Course Proposals. The first proposal was rejected because one of the scores was below the threshold. Although, the second proposal passed all the thresholds, the given overall score was not

high. It is very likely that EAEE would not receive any support from EU also for the second proposal. However, similar proposals will be prepared in the future by the Central Office to find some funds for the activities of the Task Groups.

6.11. The Newsletter is being regularly published and electronically distributed twice a year, and web pages have been continuously updated. It was agreed with Springer that Central Office will be in charge of all electronic subscriptions for Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering starting 2007 by establishing a secure site from where only the Members could download BEE manuscripts and EAEE will pay to the Springer a mutually agreed annual fee (750 euros) for all electronically subscribed members. The Ex.Com approved this initiative.

Item 7 Budget for 2003-2006: Secretary General presented the budget report for the past four year period prepared by Central Office composed of annual income and expenditure tables. Income is only composed of membership dues and main expenditures are payment to Springer and salary payment to Central Office part time secretary starting from 2004. For this transition period, since Audit Committee will be elected in the forthcoming GA, Philippe Bisch (EAEE President for 1998-2002) and Emilia Juhasova (Executive Committee Member for 1994-1998) were asked to audit the budget for the General Assembly.

Secretary General explained the details concerning the income and expenditures: Executive Committee approved the budget and the expenses for the preparation of the posters for the EAEE booth and for the printing of the last Newsletter that will be distributed during the conference.

Item 8 Application of Serbia to EAEE National Membership: The complete membership application of the newly established Serbian Association (SAEE) was received by the Central Office. Executive Committee voted unanimously in favour and Serbian Association was accepted as 33rd National Member of EAEE. The Committee decided to ask Serbian Association membership dues for 2006 and to invite them to the Association Council Meeting and to the General Assembly.

Item 9 Applications to organize the ECEE in 2010: Two applications were received to organise the next ECEE: (1) Macedonia proposed Skopje and (2) Italy proposed ROME to organise the conference in 2010. The Executive Committee approved the candidacy of Macedonia and Italy and decided to submit both candidates to the Association Council where both candidates are expected to make their presentations after which there will be voting.

Item 10 Meeting of the Association Council of National Delegates: Ex.Com approved the Agenda of the Association Council meeting and the suggestion of the Secretary General to take some nominations in the Association Council and approach the General Assembly with a list of candidates for both Executive Committee and Audit Committee that could be modified in the General Assembly. It was also agreed not to elect more than one member in the Executive Committee and Audit Committee from the same country.

Item 11 EAEE General Assembly: Ex.Com approved the suggestion to propose Robin Spence as the chairman, Atilla Ansal as the vice-chairman and Gökçe Tönük as the Secretary to the General Assembly in accordance with the new EAEE Statutes. The Agenda of GA is approved, giving Martin Koller the first presentation since he has to attend ESC General Assembly, followed by the presentations from President, Secretary General and the Auditors.

Epilogue: The seventh meeting of the Executive Committee held in Geneva was finalized. The meeting ended with the thanks of the President to all members for all their efforts and contributions during the past four years.

MINUTES OF THE FIRST ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING

NUMBER: 1

DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2006

PLACE: GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Attendance:

Robin Spence, President

Martin Koller, Vice President

Mohamed Belazougui, Algerian Association for Earthquake Engineering

Rainer Flesch, Treasurer, Austrian Association for Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamics

Mihaela Zamolo, Croatian Society for Earthquake Engineering

Mohamed Sobaih, Egyptian Society for Earthquake Engineering

Thomas Bistry, German Society for Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamics

Andreas J Kappos, Hellenic Society for Earthquake Engineering

Edward Leibovich, Israeli Association for Earthquake Engineering

Mihail Garevski, Macedonian Society of Earthquake Engineering

Zbigniew Zembaty, Polish National Committee on Earthquake and Paraseismic Engineering

Emil-Sever Georgescu, Romanian Association for Earthquake Engineering

Emilia Juhasova, Slovak Association for Earthquake Engineering

Rafael Blazquez, Ex. Com. Member, Spanish Association for Earthquake Engineering

Atilla Ansal, Secretary General, Turkish National Committee on Earthquake Engineering

Alexander Khavkin, Association for Ukrainian Earthquake Engineering

Radomir Folic, Serbian Association for Earthquake Engineering

Panayotis Carydis, Vice President

Roger Musson, ESC Representative

Mikayel Melkumyan, Armenian Association for Earthquake Engineering

Marin Kostov, Bulgarian National Committee for Earthquake Engineering

Vladimir Schenk, Czech Society for Mechanics

Philippe Bisch, French Association for Earthquake Engineering

Guram Gabrichidze, Georgian National Committee of Earthquake Engineering & Engineering Seismology

Laszlo P. Kollár, Hungarian National Committee for Earthquake Engineering

Mauro Dolce, Ex. Com. Member, Italian National Association for Earthquake Engineering

Amir Kaynia, Norwegian Society for Earthquake Engineering

Carlos Sousa Oliveira, Ex. Com. Member, Portuguese Society for Earthquake Engineering

Jacob M. Eisenberg, Russian National Committee for Earthquake Engineering

Matjaz Dolsek, Slovenian Association for Earthquake Engineering

Thomas Wenk, Swiss Society for Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamics

Ahmed Elghazouli, The Society for Earthquake Engineering and Civil Engineering Dynamics

Bozidar Pavicevic, Montenegrin Association for Earthquake Engineering

Ali Akbar Moinfar, Honorary Member, Iranian Society for Earthquake Engineering

Absentee:

Peter Fajfar, Ex. Com. Member

Themos Demetriou, Cyprus Civil Engineers and Architects Association

Marat Ashimbayev, Kazakhstan Public Regional Foundation for Development of Earthquake Engineering

Pierre-Alain Nazé, Ex. Com. Member

Ragnar Sigbjornsson, Icelandic National Society of Earthquake Engineering

Prologue: The first meeting of the Association Council of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering was held in the Geneva Yacht Club (La Nautique) in Geneva, Switzerland on Tuesday evening, September 5, 2006 between 20:00 and 22:00 hours on the occasion of the 1st European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology. The Meeting started with the welcoming remarks of the Vice President Martin Koller and the Meeting was chaired by the President Robin Spence.

Item 1 Approval of the Agenda: The Proposed Agenda of the Meeting was approved.

Item 2 President's Summary for 2002-2006: President welcomed all the Delegates and summarised very briefly the purpose of the Meeting.

Item 3 Vice President's Summary about 1ECEES (13th ECEE & 30th GAESC): Vice President Martin Koller summarised the developments concerning the organization of the First European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology.

He explained briefly the difficulties encountered to harmonise the traditions of both organisers in conference details and also concerning the differences between administrative approaches of two associations. However, despite all the difficulties, moderate ways of solving all the problems were found and the organisers of 1st ECEES are supporting whole heartedly the continuation of the joint events.

Item 4 Summary of Central Office Activities for 2002-2006: The Report of the Central Office Activities for September 2002 – September 2006 was presented briefly by the Secretary General summarising the activities and present situation concerning to the Executive Committee

Meetings, Memberships, Task Groups, Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering, Marie Curie Proposals, EAEE Newsletter and Webpage.

Item 5 Presentations by Delegates proposing to organize the 14th ECEE in 2010: The Candidate National Organisations to organise the next ECEE were: (1) Macedonian Society of Earthquake Engineering proposing Skopje and (2) Italian National Association for Earthquake Engineering proposing ROME as the venue to organise the conference in 2010. The Delegates of the candidates made presentations in alphabetical order starting with Italy.

Item 6 Secret balloting to select the location of the 14th ECEE in 2010: A secret balloting was conducted to determine the venue of the next ECEE. Skopje, Macedonia was selected as the city for the next European Conference on Earthquake Engineering by the majority vote of 25 to 14. Prof. Garevski, the President of the Macedonian Society of Earthquake Engineering expressed his thanks to all Delegates for selecting Skopje as the city for the 14th European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and he assured that they will do their best to achieve perfect organisation.

Item 7 Recommendations for the EAEE General Assembly: Secretary General explained briefly the

procedures for the General Assembly according to the recently adopted Statutes and the EAEE traditions. He summarised the Ex.Com recommendations to propose a draft list of candidates for both Executive and Audit Committees.

Item 8 Election of Council Candidates for Executive Committee: The Association Council agreed to propose (Mauro Dolce, Rainer Flesch, Andreas Kappos, Emilia Juhasova, Mohamed Belazougui, Jacob Eisenberg, Carlos Oliveira, Ahmad Naderzadeh) as possible candidates for

the Executive and (Panayotis Carydis and Philippe Bisch) for the Audit Committees.

Item 9 Miscellaneous: Philippe Bisch made a brief presentation asking support to bring the WCEE to Europe to be organised in Nice, France in 2012.

Epilogue: The first meeting of the Association Council of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering held in Geneva was finalized. The evening ended with a joyful dinner hosted by Martin Koller and Domenico Giardini, the Co-Chairmen of 1st ECEES.

MINUTES OF THE EAEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NUMBER: 13

DATE: SEPTEMBER 7, 2006

PLACE: GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

ATTENDANCE:

Delegates of National Members:

Mohamed Belazougui, Algerian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Mikayel Melkumyan, Armenian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Rainer Flesch, Austrian Assoc. for EQ Engng. and Structural Dynamics
Marin Kostov, Bulgarian National Committee for Earthquake Engineering
Mihaela Zamolo, Croatian Society for Earthquake Engineering
Vladimir Schenk, Czech Society for Mechanics
Mohamed Sobaih, Egyptian Society for Earthquake Engineering
Philippe Bisch, French Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Wolfgang Bruestle, German Society for EQ Engng. & Structural Dynamics
Guram Gabrichidze, Georgian National Com of EQ Engng. & Engng. Seis.
Andreas J Kappos, Hellenic Society for Earthquake Engineering
Laszlo P. Kollár, Hungarian National Com for Earthquake Engineering
Ali Akbar Moinfar, Iranian Society for Earthquake Engineering
Edward Leibovich, Israeli Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Mauro Dolce, Italian National Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Marat Ashimbayev, Kazakhstan Public Reg. Foun. for Dev. of EQ Engng.
Mihail Garevski, Macedonian Society of Earthquake Engineering
Bozidar Pavicevic, Montenegrin Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Zbigniew Zembaty, Polish National Com. on EQ and Paraseismic Engng.
Carlos Sousa Oliveira, Portuguese Society for Earthquake Engineering
Emil-Sever Georgescu, Romanian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Jacob M.Eisenberg, Russian National Com for Earthquake Engineering
Radomir Folic, Serbian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Emilia Juhasova, Slovak Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Peter Fajfar, Slovenian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Rafael Blazquez, Spanish Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering
Thomas Wenk, Swiss Society for EQ Engng. and Structural Dynamics
Atilla Ansal, Turkish National Com on Earthquake Engineering
Ahmed Elghazouli, The Society for EQ Engng. and Civil Engng. Dyn.UK
Alexander Khavkin, Assoc. for Ukrainian Earthquake Engineering

Individual Members:

Atilla Ansal
Rita Bento
Philippe Bisch
Maria Bostenaru Dan
Zivko Bozinovsky
Panayotis Carydis
Maria Gabriella Castellano
Peter Fajfar
Mihail Garevski
Mark Klyachko
Martin Koller
Aissa Mellal
Zoran Milutinavic
Golubka Necevska – Cvetanovska
Bozidar Pavicevic
Alain Pecker
Danilo Ristic
Robin Spence
Alexander Uzdin

Delegate of Corporate Members:

Rainer Flesch, Arsenal Research

Prologue: The Thirteenth General Assembly of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering was held in the Conference Centre in Geneva, Switzerland on Thursday evening, September 7, 2006 on the occasion of the 1st European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology. The General Assembly started with the opening remarks of President Robin Spence at 18:15 pm.

Item 1: The Proposed Agenda of the Meeting was approved.

Item 2: Robin Spence, Atilla Ansal and Gökçe Tönük were elected as the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and as the Secretary for the General Assembly.

Item 3: The Draft Agenda was revised and approved giving the priority to Vice President Koller.

Item 4a: Martin Koller, as the Co-Chairman of the 1stECEES summarised the activities and organisational

issues related to the Conference informing the GA about the number of registered participants, oral and poster presentations. He outlined some problems of having joint conference with ESC. The option of sending full papers or only abstracts (which was preferred by ESC) caused some misunderstanding among some engineers that lead to some absentees in the presentations. He pointed out his interest to have 14thECEE again as joint conference with ESC and mentioned also other alternatives such as overlapping conferences at the same place.

In order to see the general preference of GA, an open balloting was conducted. There were 23 votes supporting and 8 votes against the joint conference organisation.

Item 4b: The President Robin Spence started his presentation by thanking all the Delegates for their participation, all the members of the Executive Committee for their support and Martin Koller for the organisation of the 1st ECEES. He briefly presented his report where he summarised his activities during the past four years. The Presidents Summary Report was distributed to all General Assembly participants.

Item 4c: The Secretary General presented the Central Office Report for 2002-2006 summarising the activities related to the Executive Committee, Member Associations, Individual Members, Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering, EAEE web pages, and EAEE Newsletter. He explained briefly the outcomes of the two Marie Curie training course projects that were submitted to EU in 2005 and 2006. He outlined the major changes in the new Statutes, the voting rights of the National, Individual, and Corporate Members, and the decision of the Ex.Com that the Individual members who are also Delegates of the National or Corporate Members will have multiple voting rights for the election of Executive and Audit Committee Members. The Central Office Summary Report for the 2002-2006 term was distributed to all General Assembly participants.

Item 4d: The Secretary General presented the Proposed Activity Plan for the 2006-2010 term with respect to different items as:

- **Executive Committee:** There will be one meeting every year. Initial contacts were made to have joint Ex.Com. Meeting with ESC in ESC General Assembly in Greece in 2008. The minutes of the meetings will be drafted and forwarded to all the Ex.Com Members, National Delegates, Honorary Members. They will be inserted in EAEE web pages and will be printed in the EAEE Newsletters after the approval of the Ex.Com.
- **Member Organisations of EAEE:** The Central Office will send out e-mail letters to Member Organisations every six months informing them about the EAEE activities.
- The Minutes of the EAEE Association Council and General Assembly will be drafted and will be forwarded to all related participants for review and approval before being distributed to all Members. They will be included in the First issue of the Newsletter for 2007 as well as in the EAEE web pages.
- The Central Office will be making efforts (campaigns) to increase the number of individual membership by sending invitation letters via e-mail to the participants of recently held conferences and to the members of EAEE National Associations.
- **Task Groups:** The past activities of the below listed existing Task Groups and their proposals for the new four year term will be evaluated to extend or to end TG activities.

TG1 on "Performance-Based Design",
Co-Coordinator Paolo Negro, Italy and Nuray Aydınoğlu, Turkey

TG2 on "Strong Motion Records for Engineering Applications"
Coordinator: Prof. N.N. Ambraseys, UK

TG3 on "Structural Vulnerability and Earthquake Scenario"
Coordinator: Prof. Mauro Dolce, Italy

TG4 on "Effects of Earthquake Vertical Component"
Coordinator: Prof. Panayotis Carydis, Greece

TG5 on "Seismic Isolation of Structures",
Coordinator: Prof. Alessandro Martelli, Italy

TG6 on "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering",
Coordinator: Prof. Kyriasiz Pitilakis (Greece)

TG7 on "Development of Shaking Table and Reaction Wall Testing Techniques",
Coordinator: Prof. Roy T. Severn, UK

TG8 on "Seismic Behaviour of Irregular and Complex Structures",
Coordinator: Prof. Victor Rutenberg, Israel

TG10 on "Seismic Aspects of Historical Monument Preservations",
Coordinator: Prof. Costas Syrmakezis, Greece

- **Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering (BEE):** Publication of 4 issues per year will continue and there are preliminary plans to increase to 6 issues per year in 2008. All the electronic subscriptions will be handled by the Central Office web server as of 2007.
- **Book Series on Geotechnical, Geological and Earthquake Engineering:** Plans are already made to publish two new books in the series.
- **Marie Curie Training Course Proposal to FP7:** The Secretary General with the collaboration of EAEE Task Group Coordinators and Executive Committee members will prepare a new Project Proposal to Marie Curie program (European Training Courses on Earthquake Engineering, ETCEE) for conducting training courses on earthquake engineering topics.
- **Newsletter:** The Central Office will continue preparing two issues of the partly electronic partly printed EAEE Newsletter per year.
- **Internet – Web:** The Internet-EAEE web Pages that will be updated regularly and they will be transferred to a new server at the Central Office in Kandilli in 2007.
- **Item 5a:** The Secretary General briefly presented the income and expenditures for the 2003-2006 period in terms of balances for the four years as given in Table 1.

Table 1. Balance Totals for the years of 2002-2006

BALANCE FROM 2003	€ 2,159.04
BALANCE FROM 2004	€ 863.85
BALANCE FROM 2005	- € 541.18
BALANCE FROM 2006	€ 2,744.19
TOTAL	€ 5,225.90
SPRINGER DEBT	€ 2,540.00

- The non-uniformity in Table 1 was due to the delays encountered in the payments of the National Organisations to EAEE as well as the payments of EAEE to Springer due to late arrival of Springer invoices. Efforts are being made to minimise these delays in the future years.

Item 5b: Proposed Draft Budget was summarised as given in Table 2.

Table 2. Budget Proposal for the years of 2006-2010

YEARLY	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Membership fees from National Members	€ 3,776	
Corporate members	€ 600	
Individual Members – Paper Copy	€ 2,400	
Individual Members – Electronic	€ 2,400	
Secretary of the Central Office		€ 3,000
Support to Ex.Com Members for the workshop in Brussels		€ 2,000
Office expenses		€ 500
Springer-Electronic		€ 750
Springer-Hard Copy		€ 2,000
SUM	€ 9,176	€ 8,250
DIFFERENCE		€ 926

Item 5c: Philippe Bisch and Emilia Juhasova were asked previously by the Executive Committee for unofficially auditing EAEE Budget. Philippe Bisch presented their audit report and proposed that the budget be approved. He also proposed some suggestions for the improvement of the budget management.

Item 6: The election of the new EAEE Executive Com was conducted. In accordance with the EAEE tradition, Martin Koller, from the country organizing the conference was nominated for the presidency, Robin Spence, the acting president, was nominated for the first vice-presidency and Mihail Garevski, delegate of the country selected for hosting the next conference, was nominated for the second vice-presidency of EAEE. Robin Spence proposed Atilla Ansal as the Secretary General for one more term. An open balloting was conducted by raising hands for each post after each nomination. All the nominees were elected to the proposed posts for 2006-2010 by the unanimous vote of Delegates and Members present.

For the election of the additional five active and three reserve Executive Committee members; Andreas Kappos from Greece, Emilia Juhasova from Slovakia, Rainer Flesch from Austria, Mauro Dolce from Italy, Mohamed Belazougui from Algeria, Jakob Eisenberg from Russia, Carlos Oliveira from Portugal, Ahmad Naderzadeh from Iran, and Panayotis Carydis from Greece were nominated for the Executive Committee memberships. A secret balloting was conducted for the active five positions. Rainer Flesch received (33), Mauro Dolce received (32), Andreas Kappos received (23), Carlos Oliveira received (22), and Panayotis Carydis received (20) votes and except Panayotis Carydis other four candidates were elected as

the new Executive Committee members. Since in Executive Committee two members from the same country would not be acceptable, Emilia Juhasova who received (19) votes was elected instead of Panayotis Carydis, as the fifth member. Panayotis Carydis with (20), Jakob Eisenberg with (18) and Mohamed Belazougui with (17) votes were elected as the three reserve Executive Committee members according to the EAEE Statutes.

Item 7: For the election of the two active and one reserve Audit Committee members; Philippe Bisch from France, Panayotis Carydis from Greece and Emil Sever Georgescu from Romania were nominated. A secret balloting was conducted and Philippe Bisch received (38) and Panayotis Carydis received (27) votes and were elected as the Audit Committee members. Emil Sever Georgescu with (14) votes was elected as the reserve Audit Committee Member. Since Panayotis Carydis was elected as Audit Committee Member, his reserve Executive Committee Membership was cancelled and Ahmad Naderzadeh with (11) votes was elected as the third reserve Executive Committee Member.

Item 8: All Delegates expressed their appreciation to the members of the past Executive Com and to Martin Koller for his devoted efforts for the efficient organisation of the 1stECEES (13thECEE). They congratulated the members of the new Executive Committee and wished them success in their future activities.

The General Assembly ended with the decision to have the next General Assembly in Skopje in 2010 during the 14thECEE.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

NUMBER: 1

DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2006

PLACE: GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Attendance:

Martin Koller, President
Robin Spence, Vice President
Mihail Garevski, Vice President
Atilla Ansal, Secretary General
Mauro Dolce
Rainer Flesch
Andreas J Kappos
Carlos Oliveira
Roger Musson, ESC Representative
Philippe Bisch, Audit Committee
Panayotis Carydis, Audit Committee

Absentee:

Emilia Juhasova

Prologue: The first meeting of the Executive Committee of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering for 2006-2010 Period was held in Geneva, Switzerland on Friday September 8, 2006 between 17:00 and 18:00 after the Closing Ceremony of the 1st ECEES. The Executive Committee meeting was chaired by the President.

Item 1 Approval of the Agenda: Secretary General reviewed the items of the Agenda, and asked for suggestions. The proposed Agenda of the Meeting was approved by all the members present.

Item 2 Remarks by the President: The President welcomed the members to the first Executive Committee Meeting for the Period 2006-2010. He expressed his thanks to all Executive Committee Members for his election and his appreciation and thanks to Robin Spence for his past presidency. The President summarised his views and stressed the need to focus on EAEE objectives and implement an effective working plan for the following four years.

Item 3 Remarks by the Second Vice President: The Vice President thanked to all Executive Committee members for their support in electing Skopje as the next conference

venue. He expressed his desire to continue the success of the first EAEE-ESC joint conference with similar number of participants in Skopje. He mentioned that Skopje and the organizing team have the required experience based on their previous organizations. He suggested that all efforts should be made by announcing the 14th ECEE at every possible occasion to increase the participation of all related groups.

Item 4 Remarks by the Secretary General: Secretary General expressed his congratulations and thanks to the President for the very well organised conference. He summarised his views concerning the issues that will be in the agenda of the new Executive Committee during the coming four years: There will be Executive Committee meetings at least once every year. The Central Office will inform Member Organisations to pay their membership dues at the beginning of each year. The Central Office will

be making efforts (campaigns) to increase the number of individual membership by sending invitation letters via e-mail to the participants of recently held conferences and to the members of EAEE National Associations. The Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering and book series are being published at a steady rate however additional support and ideas are needed to publish BEE Special Issues and new books in the series.

The Central Office will continue preparing two issues of the EAEE Newsletter per year. The Internet-EAEE web Pages will be updated when additional information becomes available. The web pages will be transferred to a server at the Central Office in Kandilli if it becomes necessary. He expressed his hopes to have regional seminars or workshops in the coming four years and asked the support of the Executive Committee members to convince National Societies for organising regional seminars.

Item 5 Election of Treasurer: According to the EAEE Statutes, the election for the post of the Treasurer needs to be conducted during the first meeting of the new Executive Committee. Secretary General proposed the past treasurer, Rainer Flesch, as the Treasurer one more time. The nomination of Rainer Flesch as the Treasurer was approved unanimously by the members present.

Item 6 Guidelines for ECEE: Although the Guidelines for Organising EAEE Conferences were reviewed by the previous Executive Committee, the revisions were not finalised. The President accumulated significant experience during the organisation of this first joint EAEE-ESC conference that could be very helpful in revising the Guidelines. It was decided that Secretary General should prepare a draft document in the coming months to be distributed to all ExCom Members. The discussion and approval of the Guidelines for Organising EAEE Conferences will be in the agenda of the future meetings of the Executive Committee.

The President suggested inserting a new item in the Guidelines for Organising EAEE Conferences stating that Secretary General should be exempted from the registration fee in the future EAEE conferences. Secretary General proposed that this suggestion should also include EAEE employees as well as Secretary General in the EAEE Conferences.

Item 7 Statutes: During the revisions of the EAEE Statutes, in the item defining the members of the Executive Committee the sub item "one representative appointed by ESC" was omitted by mistake. It has been a long-term tradition between EAEE and ESC to have representatives of each other in their Executive Committees. It was decided unanimously to insert this item in its previous location in the new Statutes.

The revised Statutes was proposed to Turkish Government as a part of the attempt to gain legal identity as an NGO. Since the approval phase is still in progress, it is required to have all seven founding members in the ExCom. Peter Fajfar was among this seven founding members and was the only one who was not a candidate for the new ExCom. Secretary General proposed to invite Peter Fajfar as the

sixth member of ExCom because of the necessity from legal perspective. This suggestion was approved unanimously by the members present.

Andreas Kappos, on behalf of the Hellenic Association for Earthquake Engineering (ETAM) has voiced his concern regarding the change in the Statutes referring to the equal voting rights given to the individual and collective members (national associations) in the election of the ExCom members. He asked the ExCom to consider other possible choices that would more fairly reflect the number of people represented through their national societies (as opposed to individual members who only represent themselves), without necessarily adopting a fully proportional representation system (one member-one vote).

Item 8 Task Groups: The Secretary General summarised the latest situation with the Task Groups. He mentioned that there are presently ten Task Groups that need the approval of the Executive Committee for the extension of their activities. Task Groups have presented their reports to the Central Office. Their reports were included in the Central Office Report for 2002-2006 that was distributed in the General Assembly. The Coordinators of Task Groups will be asked formally by the Secretary General to submit their working plan for the following four years before the next ExCom meeting. The Executive Committee will review the presently submitted activity reports for 2002-2006 as well as the work plans for the future four years. The extension of the Task Group activities will be in the agenda of the next Executive Committee meeting for discussion and decision.

A new Task Group proposal was submitted by Andreas Kappos on the topic of "Seismic Design, Assessment and Retrofitting of Bridges". The proposal was received positively and Andreas Kappos was asked to prepare a short abstract concerning the proposal and a list of possible members, which will be circulated through ExCom Members and if voted in favour, eleventh TG will be established.

Item 9 FP7 Projects: The Secretary General informed ExCom members about the resubmission of the training course proposal to FP7 with the collaboration of EAEE Task Group Coordinators and Executive Committee members. The training course program appears to be an effective tool for most of the Task Groups to continue their activities. There are plans to cooperate with some agencies in Europe in addition to EAEE task groups to enhance the acceptability.

Item 10 Miscellaneous: It was decided to have the second Executive Committee Meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece on 24th of June, 2007 just before 4th International Conference on Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering.

Epilogue: The first meeting of the Executive Committee of the EAEE held in Geneva was finalized. The meeting ended with the thanks of the President to all participating members.

We cordially invite all interested scientists and engineers to be an Individual Member of EAEE. It is 30 Euros per year with electronic yearly subscription to Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering published by Springer. All the necessary information is in the EAEE web pages (<http://www.eaee.org>)

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITIES

SEPTEMBER 2002 – SEPTEMBER 2006

GENERAL

The main activities of the Central Office during the four-year term were:

- Preparation and distribution of the Minutes of the General Assembly of EAEE held on September 11, 2002 in London, UK during 12th ECEE,*
- Organising the Executive Committee Meetings, drafting and dissemination of the Minutes,*
- Preparation, publication and distribution of the EAEE Bulletin No .21,*
- Updating of EAEE Internet web pages,*
- Conducting individual membership campaigns,*
- Drafting and dissemination of the four EAEE Newsletters,*
- Correspondence with members, monitoring and updating membership records monthly,*
- Drafting and submitting Marie Curie Training Course Proposals to FP6 on May 2005 and 2006*
- Monitoring the EAEE funds and EAEE Bank Account in Istanbul as of 2006,*
- Drafting the revisions in the EAEE Statutes to be registered as an international NGO, in Istanbul*
- Postal Balloting on the revised EAEE Statutes after being approved by the Executive Committee*
- Preparations for the for the EAEE booth to be located in the exhibit are during 1ECCES in Geneva*
- Organisation of EAEE Association Council and General Assembly*
- Informing the National Delegates, Task Group Coordinators and related international organisations about the EAEE activities.*

Most likely for the first time in EAEE history in accordance with the Executive Committee decision taken at the 4th Executive Committee Meeting (Item #7), Mrs. Gökçe Tönük was hired as a part time Secretary for the Central Office starting as of October 2004, using the available EAEE funds.

The Secretary General participated to:

- Third Int. Workshop on Earthquakes and Megacities, 31 Oct. - 3 Nov. 2002, Shanghai, China*
- Workshop on Ground motion simulations based on earthquake scenarios along the North Anatolian Fault Zone (NAFZ), 10-14 March 2003, Bergen, Norway*
- International Conference on Earthquake Engineering to Mark 40 Years from the Catastrophic 1963 Skopje Earthquake and Successful City Reconstruction, 26-29 Aug. 2003, Skopje & Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia*
- Protection of Historical Structures and Monuments Against Earthquakes, 5-10 November 2003, Crete, Greece*
- Third Int. Conf. on Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering, 7-9 January 2004, San Francisco: USA*
- International Workshop on Uncertainties in Nonlinear Soil Properties and their Impact on Modeling Dynamic Soil Response, 18-19 March 2004, Richmond, California, USA*
- Seismic Risk Mitigation Issues in Montenegro and the Region, 15-16 April 2004, Podgorica, Montenegro;*
- International Conference on Cyclic Behaviour of Soils and Liquefaction Phenomena, 31 March - 2 April 2004, Bochum, Germany*
- First 3CD Coordination Workshop, 26 - 27 June 2004 Seeheim, Germany;*
- 13th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, 1 - 6 August, 2004, Vancouver, Canada*
- XXIXth General Assembly of European Seismological Commission, 12-17 Sep., 2004, Potsdam, Germany;*

2004 Taiwan Post-Disaster Reconstruction School, 21-23 September 2004, Mingdao University, ChangHua 523, Taiwan, R.O.C.

International Symposium of Earthquake Engineering (ISEE2005), 13-15 January, 2005, Awaji Island, Japan;

General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union, 24-29 April, 2005, Wien, Austria;

International Conference on Problematic Soils, 25-27 May, 2005, Magosa, North Cyprus;

Workshop on the Progress of the EuroSeisrisk Experiments, 21-22 June, 2005, Thessaloniki, Greece;

TC4 Satellite Conference on Recent Developments in Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering, 10 September, 2005, Osaka, Japan;

16th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, 12-16 September, 2005, Osaka, Japan;

General Assembly of International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior, 2-8 October, 2005, Santiago, Chile;

EAEE Workshop on Reducing Earthquake Risks in Europe, 31 October 2005, Lisbon, Portugal;

International Conference on 250th Anniversary of the 1755 Lisbon Earthquake, 1-4 November, 2005, Lisbon, Portugal;

International Workshop on Risk Assessment and Disaster Management, 28-29 November 2005, "Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Tunis", Tunisia;

Athens Workshop of the European Technical Committee-12 of ISSMGE on Geotechnical Evaluation and Application of the Seismic Eurocode-EC8, January 21-22, 2006, Athens, Greece

Eighth U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, April 18-22, 2006, San Francisco, California

"Geohazards: Technical, Economical and Social Risk Evaluation" June 18-21, 2006, Lillehammer, Norway

to represent EAEE and to attend Task Group meetings and technical sessions. He made brief presentations about the EAEE and about Task Group activities in some of these meetings.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Central Office organised or helped in the organisation of:

the First Executive Committee Meeting on September 13, 2002 in London, UK, during the 12th ECEE;

the Second Executive Committee Meeting on November 22, 2003 in Geneva, Switzerland;

the Third Executive Committee Meeting on August 5, 2004 in Vancouver, Canada during the 13th WCEE;

the Fourth Executive Committee Meeting on September 15, 2004, in Potsdam, Germany during the 29th General Assembly of European Seismological Commission;

the Fifth Executive Committee Meeting on October 30, 2005 in Lisbon, Portugal before the International Conference on 250th Anniversary of the 1755 Lisbon Earthquake;

the Sixth Executive Committee Meeting on April 29, 2006, in Geneva, Switzerland;

the Seventh Executive Committee Meeting on September 4, 2006, in Geneva, Switzerland during the First European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology

The minutes of the first six meetings were prepared and forwarded to all the Executive Committee Members, National Delegates, Honorary Members, the representatives of ESC. They were also inserted in EAEE web pages and were printed in the EAEE Newsletters.

EUROPEAN SEISMOLOGICAL COMMISSION

The Secretary General has participated to

- o the Executive Committee Meeting of ESC held on 7 April 2003 in Nice, France.
- o the Meeting of ESC Council held on September 16, 2004 in Potsdam, Germany
- o ESC Executive Committee Meeting on October 5, 2005 in Santiago, Chile

He communicated with the ESC Secretary General and Executive Committee on different issue concerning the organisation of the joint conference in 2006.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OF EAEE

The Central Office received a complete formal application from Ukraine (Association for Ukrainian Earthquake Engineering), Georgia (Georgian National Committee of Earthquake Engineering & Engineering Seismology) and Kazakhstan (Public Regional Foundation for Development of Earthquake Engineering) expressing their intention to become a National Member Association of EAEE. The memberships of the all three National Associations were accepted on 22 November 2003 during the Third Executive Committee Meeting. The Membership of Greece was changed by the ExCom by postal balloting among the members from Technical Chamber of Greece to Hellenic Society of Earthquake Engineering upon the application of both societies.

Due to the division of Montenegro and Serbia as independent separate states, and upon the application of the Yugoslav Association for Earthquake Engineering the name of the Yugoslav Association for Earthquake Engineering was changed as Montenegrin Association for Earthquake Engineering (MAEE). The membership application of the newly established Serbian Association (SAEE) is in the Agenda of the Executive Committee Meeting in Geneva.

The Central Office sent out e-mail letters to Member Organisations almost every six months informing them about their membership dues. Most of the EAEE National Member Associations have paid all their National membership dues for 2003-2006.

The Central Office have been continuously making efforts (campaigns) to increase the number of individual membership by sending invitation letters via e-mail to the participants of recently held conferences and to the members of EAEE National Associations. The number of individual membership has increased to 81 by the 20th of August 2006. Out of these 81 members 46 have paid for 2006 and they are eligible to participate to the EAEE General Assembly.

A draft Agenda was prepared and all eligible Delegates and Members are invited to EAEE General Assembly to be held at 18:30 on Thursday September 7, 2006.

TASK GROUPS

During 2002-2006 term most of the Task Groups were not very active. A joint effort was made both in 2005 and 2006 to submit Marie Curie Training Course Proposals. The first proposal was rejected because one of the scores was below the thresholds, the second proposal passed all the thresholds but the given score was not high so there will be funding from EU for supporting EAEE Task Group activities in the near future.

Summary reports prepared by the Coordinators are given below and/or in the Appendix. All the Coordinators are invited to both Executive Committee Meetings to be held in Geneva to discuss the past and future activities.

TG1 on "Performance-Based Design"

Co-Coordinator Paolo Negro, Italy and Nuray Aydınoğlu, Turkey

TG2 on "Strong Motion Records for Engineering Applications"

Coordinator: Prof. N.N. Ambraseys, UK

Summary Report by N.N. Ambraseys

"Active Members of Working Group: Berge-Thierry C. (France); Douglas J. (UK); Margaris B. (Greece); Rinaldis D. (Italy); Sigbjornson R. (Iceland); Smit P. (Switzerland); Suhadolc P. (Italy)

European strong-motion database,

Earthquake resistant design of structures requires a large readily accessible body of high quality ground-motion data generated during earthquakes.

This research was supported by contingency funds contributed by each partner and provided for the first time uniformly processed design input data from European and Middleeastern earthquakes in two CD ROMS that can be used for research and for the design of engineered structures.

The two CD ROM provide 1,386 corrected acceleration, velocity and displacement time-histories generated by earthquakes in Europe and the Middle East. These records produce linear elastic response spectra, elastoplastic-constant-strength spectra and inelastic constant ductility spectra. The associated waveform parameters are also present on the CD ROM so that full use of the data can be made in design.

Dissemination of European Strong-Motion data

The establishment and running of a Web Sites in the Department of Civil Engineering at Imperial College with mirror sites in Paris, Reykjavik and Thessaloniki, are the first in Europe to provide on line engineers with design input data, today widely used by the profession in the UK and overseas. This work was supported again by funds contributed by the partners.

Earthquake design load data can be viewed and analyzed using the Strong-Motion Datascape Navigator (SMDN) software written specially for this which allows export the time-histories, spectra in a standard format. SMDN can also be used to view and analyze data downloaded from the Internet Site for European Strong-motion Data at Imperial College (www.isesd.cv.ic.ac.uk).

Pertinent References

Ambraseys N., Douglas J., Smit P., Rinaldis D., Margaris B. (2002) European Strong-motion Database CD-ROM vol. 1, European Commission DGXII, Bruxelles

Ambraseys N., Douglas J., Sigbjornsson R., Berge-Thierry C., Suhadolc P., Costa G., Smit P., (2004) Dissemination of European strong-motion data, Volume 2, Proc. 13th World Conf. Earthq. Eng., Paper no.32, Vancouver

Ambraseys N., Smit P., Douglas J., Margaris B., Sigbjornsson R., Olafsson S., Suhadolc P., Costa G. (2004) Internet site for European strong-motion data, Boll. Geofis. Applicata, vol.45, pp.113-129 <www.isesd.cv.ic.ac.uk>

Ambraseys N., Douglas J., Sara S., Smit P. (2005) Equations for the estimation of strong ground motion from shallow earthquakes using data from Europe and the Middle East: Horizontal peak ground acceleration and spectral acceleration, Bull. Europ. Earthq. Assoc., vol.3, pp.1-53

Ambraseys N., Douglas J., Sarma S., Smit P. (2005) Equations for the estimation of strong ground motion from shallow earthquakes using data from Europe and the Middle East: Vertical peak ground acceleration and spectral acceleration, Bull. Europ. Earthq. Assoc., vol.3, pp.55-73"

TG3 on "Structural Vulnerability and Earthquake Scenario"

Coordinator: Prof. Mauro Dolce, Italy

Summary Report by M.Dolce

"Recent earthquakes all over the world remind us that most of schools, hospitals and facilities, which play fundamental roles for Civil Protection or hosting high value social and economical content are highly vulnerable to earthquakes. A strong need for their vulnerability and risk assessment is now evident. Due to their awful number and the need of focusing on individual rather than class of structures and infrastructures, new methods for vulnerability assessment are required, that operate at a definition level higher than current methods for dwelling buildings. In the meanwhile, modelling and analysing methods, such as the ones required by seismic regulations, cannot be used to evaluate all the structures of public interest, at least in a first evaluation phase. In the period 2002-2006, the objective of Task Group 3 has, therefore, been re-addressed towards problems of structural vulnerability assessment of individual structures and of seismic hazard evaluation and local effect prediction in individual sites. Special attention has been devoted to methods and procedure that, though implying in situ inspections, tests and measurements, do not require large amount of money, take account of all structural (and non structural) features affecting the actual seismic behaviour of a structure and all the important hazard and amplification parameters affecting the shaking intensity and frequency content, use simplified up-to-date models, provide a satisfactory level of damage prediction for different earthquake intensities. A state of practice on the above problems and procedures has been carried out by TG3. A questionnaire (see Annex 1) has been sent to the European researchers potentially dealing with the different procedures applied in Europe. The attention has been focused on procedures that have been actually applied, not just research proposals. The results of the enquiry are being presented at the 1st ECEES (see Annex 2) and provide general information of the actual trend in Europe. Interesting considerations can be made on the data base of the procedures for seismic vulnerability and risk assessment utilised all over Europe. The data base is still incomplete, due to the increasing trend of the interest towards vulnerability and risk assessment studies, and its usefulness would increase sensibly if more contributions become available.

Within the ETCEE2 proposal, the training course TC4 is dedicated to Earthquake Damage and Loss Assessment. The training course would be organized in Potenza (Italy) under the coordination of Prof. Mauro Dolce, Prof. Robin Spence, and Prof. Mustafa Erdik. The main objectives are to increase the scientific and technological knowledge and capacity in the field of urban earthquake loss assessment, to contribute to the European harmonization of techniques for the assessment of urban earthquake loss and development of new techniques for the next generation of technical means as it is foreseen in the EU Global Monitoring for Environment and Security program, to permeate advanced knowledge on urban earthquake loss assessment within the European scientific community and regulation bodies.

Outline of future activities: It is clear that the vulnerability and risk assessment of constructions is a theme that is rapidly developing, by improving existing methods and implementing new ones, as well as by complementing different methods, according to the available types of information. Several practical studies have been and are being made all over Europe. Lacking specific funds to be dedicated to make case studies, the role of Task Group 3 for the new 4-years period could be that of improving the database of used procedures for vulnerability and risk assessment studies of different kinds of structures, by asking for more numerous and thorough contributions. A sort of "EAEF handbook" for seismic and vulnerability assessment based on the current state of the art and practice could be the result of next TG3, if a more active cooperation is obtained from the contributors.

A strong impulse towards this achievement could come from the approval and the activation of a new ETCEE proposal including a specific Training Course, or from a new network proposal."

TG4 on "Effects of Earthquake Vertical Component"

Coordinator: Prof. Panayotis Carydis, Greece

Summary Report by P.Carydis

"The Task Group 4, under the title "Effects of Earthquake Vertical Component", was established during the Second Meeting of the Executive Committee, held in Geneva on November 22, 2003.

During these three (3) years, the following activities have been carried out and are planned for the near future:

Activities up to now:

- 1. A small local task group was established, in order to investigate what the current situation of the subject around the world is. The work is in its final stage and the results will be published in a coming newsletter, in brief.*
- 2. A research work is under edition on the effects of the vertical earthquake component and the means for comforting it are going to be presented. The paper is going to be sent for publication in BEE very shortly.*

Future activities:

- 1. A small local task group has been established, in order to discriminate the effects of the vertical earthquake component from various earthquake study cases.*

The work, which has just started, will last for about six (6) months, and will include:

- a) Identification of damage cases, in which the effects of the vertical earthquake component are obvious.*
- b) Scanning of these pictures (most of which are in classical form).*
- c) Comments.*
- d) Publication.*

A web site will be established, including all this piece of information. We will try, after the positive opinion of the Ex. Com. of EAEF, the contact with this web site to be done through the existing one of the EAEF."

TG5 on "Seismic Isolation of Structures"

Coordinator: Prof. Alessandro Martelli, Italy

Summary Report by A.Martelli

"In November 2002 the most active members of EAEF-TG5 who had participated in the "7th International Seminar on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation and Active Control of Vibrations of Structures" held at Assisi in October 2001 (which was co-organized by EAEF-TG5), funded the Anti-Seismic Systems International Society (ASSISi), together with experts of several non-European countries.

ASSISi was founded in Bologna, Italy, according to the decisions taken in the Closing Panel Session of the Assisi Seminar. Its first and present President is the EAEF-TG5 Coordinator, who will keep this role to the end of May 2007. ASSISi has now 104 individual or corporate members from 30 countries, in addition to the European Commission; these memberships include all active members of EAEF-TG5.

One of the 8 corporate members of ASSISi is the Italian Working Group on Seismic Isolation (GLIS), which has, at present, over 290 individual members and is chaired by the EAEF-TG5 Coordinator. In 2004, GLIS promoted the foundation of the Italian Territorial Section of ASSISi; members of this Section are GLIS itself (which has the role of Section Coordinator) and all the Italian GLIS members who are, at the same time, ASSISi members.

In October 2003 ASSISi co-organized the "8th World Seminar on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation and Active Vibrations Control of Structures", which was held in Yerevan (Armenia) and was co-chaired by the ASSISi and EAEF member M. Melkumyan and the ASSISi President and EAEF-TG5 Coordinator. In June 2005 ASSISi co-organized the "9th World Seminar on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation and Active Vibrations Control of Structures", which was held in Kobe (Japan) and was co-chaired by the ASSISi President and EAEF-TG5 Coordinator. In June 2006 ASSISi co-organized the

"International Workshop on Base Isolated High Rise Buildings", which, again, was held in Yerevan (Armenia) and co-chaired by the ASSISI and EAAE member M. Melkumyan and the ASSISI President and EAAE-TG5 Coordinator. At present ASSISI is organizing (as main organizer) the "10th World Conference on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation and Active Vibrations Control of Structures", which will be held in Istanbul (Turkey) in May 2007 and will be co-chaired by the ASSISI and EAAE member M. Erdik and the ASSISI President and EAAE-TG5 Coordinator.

Finally, European members of ASSISI, who are also EAAE-TG5 active members, are planning to found the European Territorial Section of the Society: it is suggested by the EAAE-TG5 Coordinator that the EAAE and ASSISI agree on a joint action in this respect."

TG6 on "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering"

Coordinator: Atilla Ansal (Turkey) 2002-2005 Prof. Kyriasiz Pitilakis (Greece) 2005-2006

Even though it was only partly related to the TG activities, the Coordinator along with some of the members of the TG has published a joint book titled as "Recent Developments in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Microzonation" by Kluwer Academic Press.

During the 2004 as decided in the previous Executive Committee Meeting, Secretary General corresponded with Prof. Kyriasiz Pitilakis (Greece) concerning the future of the Task Group TG6 on "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering and Microzonation". Prof. Pitilakis kindly accepted to act as the Coordinator of TG6. The EC approved the appointment of Prof. Pitilakis by postal balloting during 2005.

TG7 on "Development of Shaking Table and Reaction Wall Testing Techniques"

Coordinator: Prof. Roy T. Severn, UK

Summary Report by Prof. Severn

"You will recall that through EC-funding I have coordinated European activity concerned with TG7 since 1991, and that I summarised the developments made until 2002 in a paper at the London Conference of the EAAE. Since that date there has been continuing progress on the same themes, which will be presented at the Geneva Conference in Special Technical Session STS7 on Monday afternoon, 4 Sept 06, by myself and colleagues who have been responsible for the research. There will be 5 papers presented which crystallise different aspects of the 15-year period of research, and these 5 papers, taken together, could constitute my report. However, I think it will be more useful if I direct those interested to 8 reports which have been produced by the same partners within another EC-contract having the title "Cooperative Advancements in Seismic and Dynamic Experiments". From the TG7 viewpoint the most important of these reports is No.6 - "Directory of European Facilities For Seismic And Dynamic Tests In Support Of Industry", the title of which explains its contents. Because the compilers of this Directory are Georgio Franchioni and Fabio Taucer from ISMES (now CESI), I believe that it includes all major facilities operating at the time it was compiled.

I would also like to draw attention to a 'deliverable' from the third, and last, of our EC-funded contracts NEFOREEE (New Fields of Research in Earthquake Engineering Experimentation). It carries the title "Reliability Of Qualification Tests By Using Shaking Tables". The research for this was carried out at ISMES by Franchioni and colleagues, and although specifically directed at Industry, it is of great importance for all of us who make use of shaking table results. At Geneva it will be presented as Paper 795 during the STS7 session mentioned above.

Regarding the future of TG7, I first point out that in the EC Framework6 our group made proposals on two separate occasions but both failed. The kernel of our proposals was real-time substructuring, the development of new sensors and creation of a European NEES (Network

for Earthquake Engineering Simulation) to parallel the US NEES programme. However, although I consider that the existing group of laboratories, augmented by a few additions, is a good way to carry these researches forward, I know that individual European laboratories will make their own progress in these areas. From the EAAE perspective therefore, TG7 activities should continue so that the progress made can become generally available."

TG8 on "Seismic Behaviour of Irregular and Complex Structures"

Coordinator: Prof. Victor Rutenberg, Israel

Summary Report by Prof. A. Rutenberg

"The main activities of TG8 during this period were the organization of two workshops, as reported subsequently.

The 3rd European Workshop on the Seismic Behaviour of Irregular and Complex Structures was held in Florence, Italy, from 17 to 18 September 2002.

This was the third in a series of successful workshops held under the auspices of the EAAE TG 8, and was organized by the Department of Construction of the University of Florence with the support of the University. Prof. Mario De Stefano chaired the International Scientific Committee and the Organizing Committee.

In the 2002 Workshop special emphasis was placed on the nonlinear behaviour of irregular single- and multi-storey structures, the assessment of code specifications and on results from experimental studies. About 35 specialists in the field, including Prof. Luis Esteve, President of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering, gathered from eight Countries: Canada, Israel, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Slovenia and Turkey.

The CD-ROM Proceedings, co-edited by Prof. Mario De Stefano and Prof. A. Rutenberg (EAAE TG 8 Coordinator) comprise 24 papers, grouped into six Sessions:

- Asymmetric one-storey buildings (7 papers),
- Asymmetric multi-storey buildings (5 papers),
- Irregular buildings in elevation (3 papers),
- Tests and experimental techniques (3 papers),
- Code specifications for irregular buildings (2 papers),
- Special cases of irregularity (4 papers).

The proceedings also include the two Keynote lectures, providing insight into some of the most important research advances.

At the end of the second day, a Panel Session on 'Research needs in the field of seismic behaviour of irregular structures and future activities of Task Group 8 (Moderators: Prof. P. Fajfar and Prof. A. Rutenberg) was organized, and it provided the participants with the opportunity for discussion and exchange of information.

The 4th European Workshop on the Seismic Behaviour of Irregular and Complex Structures was held in Thessaloniki, Greece, from 26 to 27 August 2005.

This was the fourth in a series of successful workshops organised by the EAAE TG 8 (the third one was in Florence in 2002), and was held under the auspices of EAAE, the HSAE (Hellenic Society of Earthquake Engineering), and the Department of Civil Engineering of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. The International Scientific Committee was co-chaired by Prof. Andreas Kappos of the Aristotle University and Prof. Avigdor Rutenberg from the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology (EAAE TG 8 Coordinator). Prof. Kappos also chaired to Organizing Committee (full member lists of the two committees that included several well-known experts in Earthquake Engineering) can be found at the Workshop website <http://taz.civil.auth.gr/4ewics>.

A total of 115 participants registered for the Workshop, which far exceeded the attendance in previous such events. They came from a total of 15 different countries, mostly European (Greece and Italy being the two most represented ones), but also from non-European countries such as the US, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, Israel, and Iran.

The Workshop was organised in a number of technical sessions each focussing on a specific topic (within the general theme of irregular and complex structures), as follows:

- Asymmetric one-storey buildings (5 presentations)
- Asymmetric multistorey buildings (9 presentations)
- Vertically irregular structures – Setback multistorey buildings (15 presentations)
- Irregular and/or complex bridge structures (11 presentations)
- Particular cases of irregularity/complexity in structures (5 presentations)
- Seismically isolated and controlled asymmetric structures (4 presentations)

At the end of the second day, a panel session (with M. De Stefano, P. Fajfar, A. Kappos, A. Reinhorn, A. Rutenberg, W. K. Tso, as panellists) was organised, and gave the workshop participants the opportunity to discuss a number of issues regarding the seismic analysis and assessment of irregular and/or complex structures and, notably, their treatment in seismic codes (which still remains a critical issue).

TG8 members also participated in the preparation of proposals to the EU for European Training Courses on Earthquake Engineering.

Administrative: Professor Roberto Ramasco, who was one of the founders of TG 8, resigned from the position of Co-convenor earlier this year.

Professor Ramasco: "We thank you for your important contributions to the Task Group throughout the years. We have no doubt that you will continue to contribute to the areas of your choice for many years to come."

Professor Mario De Stefano is the new Co-convenor.

TG8 is planning to have the 5th Workshop in Sept 2008 probably in Catania."

TG10 on "Seismic Aspects of Historical Monument Preservations"

Coordinator: Prof. Costas Syrmakezis

Summary Report by C. Syrmakezis

"The Coordinator of the TG10 participated, on behalf of the group, to the Marie Curie proposal entitled 'European Training courses on Earthquake Engineering', submitted twice (2005 and 2006) to the European Commission. The TG10 contribution was the part TC9 entitled 'Earthquake Protection of Cultural Heritage'.

An extended group (five days) meeting has been organized in Creta, on November 2003. Within the frame of that meeting, special visits have been organized, as well as a workshop, where new trends on the subject have been presented."

BULLETIN OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING (BEE)

The summary report for the period of 2002-2006 is attached separately.

BOOK SERIES ON GEOTECHNICAL, GEOLOGICAL AND EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

A new book series was established by Kluwer/Springer and the first two books of the series "Recent Advances in Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering and Microzonation" and "Assessing and Managing Earthquake Risk" are published. Even though this activity is established independent of EAEE, in the long run it can be an official book series of EAEE to publish the conference proceedings as well a book that may come out of TGs. Springer offers 20% to EAEE Individual Members for this book series.

BULLETIN

The Central Office published only one and the last issue of the EAEE Bulletin, Vol. 21 (December 2002). This issue was printed as 1000 copies and were distributed to all Delegates, TG Coordinators, major earthquake related organisations abroad, all Delegates of the International

Society for Earthquake Engineering and all Titular Members of the ESC. In order to increase the availability and for easier downloading of the EAEE Bulletins, pdf version of this issue was also inserted in EAEE web pages.

MARIE CURIE TRAINING COURSE PROPOSAL TO FP6 in 2005

The Secretary General with the collaboration of EAEE Task Group Coordinators and Executive Committee members (Professors N.Ambraseys, N.Aydinoglu, O.Bursi, A.Castellani, A.Colombo, M.De Stefano, M.Dolce, M.Erdik, P.Fajfar, R.Flesch, A.Martelli, K.Pitilakis, A.Rutenberg, R.Spence, and C.Syrmekesis) has drafted a FP6 Project Proposal to Marie Curie program (European Training Courses on Earthquake Engineering, ETCEE) for conducting training courses on eleven topics as listed below:

A proposal was submitted to 6th Framework Programme for Marie Curie Actions in May 2005 to organise 11 training courses on: (TC1) Performance Based Seismic Evaluation and Design; (TC2) Strong Ground Motion Simulation; (TC3) Structural Vulnerability and Earthquake Scenario; (TC4) Earthquake Scenarios, Early Warning and Rapid Response Applications; (TC5) The Evaluation and Strengthening of Existing Buildings; (TC6) Seismic Isolation of Structures and Innovative Antiseismic Techniques; (TC7) Site Effects and Seismic Microzonation; (TC8) Seismic Design and Retrofitting of Irregular and Complex Structures; (TC9) Dynamic Response of Structures to Seismic Loading; (TC10) Repair and Strengthening in Seismic Regions; (TC11) Earthquake Protection of the Cultural Heritage. The partners and organisers of the training course were: 1.Bogaziçi University, Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute, Turkey; 2.University of Basilicata - Department of Structures, Geotechnics, Engineering Geology, Italy; 3.University of Cambridge, Cambridge Uni. Department of Architecture, United Kingdom; 4.ENEA, Italy; 5.Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Auth), Laboratory of Soil Mechanics, Foundation and Earthquake Engineering, Greece; 6.The University of Florence, Italy; 7.Arsenal Research, Austria; 8.University of Trento, Italy; 9.National Technical Uni. of Athens, School of Civil Engineering, Institute of Structural Analysis and Aseismic Research, Greece.

The Central Office was informed by the related EU Project Officer on August 25, 2005 that the submitted proposal has failed to pass the threshold levels and was declined.

MARIE CURIE TRAINING COURSE PROPOSAL TO FP6 in 2006

The Secretary General with the collaboration of some EAEE Task Group Coordinators and Executive Committee members (Professors N.Ambraseys, N.Aydinoglu, A.Castellani, A.Colombo, M.Dolce, E.Durukal, P.Fajfar, R.Flesch, A.Martelli, K.Pitilakis, A.Rutenberg, R.T.Severn, C.Syrmekesis, and R.Zandonini) has drafted a FP6 Project Proposal to Marie Curie program (European Training Courses on Earthquake Engineering, ETCEE) for conducting training courses on nine topics as listed below:

A proposal was submitted to 6th Framework Programme for Marie Curie Actions in May 2006 to organise 9 training courses on: (TC1) Simulation of Strong Ground Motion, Turkey; (TC2) Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Microzonation, Greece; (TC3) Performance Based Seismic Evaluation and Design, Turkey; (TC4) Earthquake Damage and Loss Assessment , Italy; (TC5) Seismic Design and Retrofitting of Irregular and Complex Structures, Italy; (TC6) Repair and Strengthening in Seismic Regions, Italy; (TC7) Experimental Methods and Procedures, UK; (TC8) Innovative Antiseismic Techniques and Base Isolation, Italy; (TC9) Earthquake Protection of the Cultural Heritage, Greece.

The partners and organisers of the training course were: 1.Bogaziçi University, Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute, Turkey; 2.University of Basilicata -

Department of Structures, Geotechnics, Engineering Geology, Italy; 3. ENEA, Italy; 4. Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Auth), Laboratory of Soil Mechanics, Foundation and Earthquake Engineering, Greece; 5. The University of Florence, Italy; 6. University of Trento, Italy; 7. National Technical Uni. of Athens, School of Civil Engineering, Institute of Structural Analysis and Aseismic Research, Greece and 8. University of Bristol, Earthquake Engineering Research Centre. The Central Office was informed by the EU Project Officer on August 17, 2005 that the submitted proposal has passed all threshold levels however did not receive a score high enough to assure funding.

NEWSLETTER

The Central Office drafted and disseminated the four issues of the EAAE Newsletter. In these four issues brief information were given concerning the member Associations from Germany, Austria, Croatia, Georgia, Italy, Russia and Yugoslavia. There were also articles concerning the EAAE Earthquake Protection Policy Statement, International Partnership Advocating Global Earthquake Safety, Progress Report For the Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering for the Period of 2002-2005, FP6 project proposal on European Training Courses on Earthquake Engineering, EAAE Proposals For A European Earthquake Risk Reduction Programme, Minutes of the Executive Committee Meetings, and the new Statutes approved by the 27/32 majority of EAAE National Delegates. The fourth issue of the Newsletter was printed as 500 copies to be distributed during 1ECEES in Geneva.

INTERNET - WEB

The Internet-EAAE web Pages that were created in 1995 were updated continuously. The format of the web was last revised in March 2006. The present address of the EAAE Web Pages is: <http://www.eaae.org>

OTHERS

Information concerning EAAE and its activities were sent to following organisations:

- o *Union of International Organisation for Who's Who in International Organisations and for Yearbook of International Organisations,*
- o *American Association for Engineering Societies for International Directory of Engineering Societies and Related Organisations,*
- o *EAAE has joined SINAPSE e-network (Scientific INformation for Policy Support in Europe) which has been launched during the Science and Society Forum in Brussels by the European Commission. SINAPSE offers its members the following communication tools: Library of scientific advice, EC consultation, Early warning system, Surveys and discussions, Yellow pages and a Web search. The invitation was approved by the Executive Committee and Secretary General has completed the registration procedure in May 2006.*

Atila Ansal
Secretary General

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

12-17.10.2008 14th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (14WCEE) Beijing, China; 14WCEE Secretariat, c/o Chinese Association of Earthquake Engineering, 9 Xuefu Road, Harbin 150080, China; Phone: 86-451-86652900; Fax: 86-451-86652651; e-mail: secretariat@14wcee.org ; Web Site: <http://www.14wcee.org>

5-7.12.2007 8th Pacific Conference On Earthquake Engineering (8th PCEE) Singapore; 8PCEE Secretariat, c/o CMA International Consultants Pte Ltd, 1 Liang Seah Street, #02-12 Liang Seah Place Singapore 189022; Phone:(65) 6336-2328; Fax: (65) 6336-2583; e-mail: 8PCEE@ntu.edu.sg; Web: <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/cee/8PCEE/>

16-20.10.2007 6th Turkish National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Istanbul, Turkey, Contact: UCTEA - Chamber of Civil Engineers Istanbul Branch, Halaskargazi Cad. No:35/1, 34373 Harbiye / ISTANBUL, Phone: +90 212 219 99 62-63, Fax: +90 212 232 0912; e-mail: rbulut@imoistanbul.org.tr; Web Site: www.6udmk.org.tr

24-27.9.2007 XIV European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ECSMGE 2007), Madrid, Contact: ECSMGE 2007, Sociedad Española de Mecánica del Suelo e Ingeniería Geotécnica, Laboratorio de Geotecnia C/ Alfonso XII, nº3, 28014 Madrid (Spain); Fax: +34 91 335 7322; e-mail: secretary@ecsmge2007.org ; Web Site: www.ecsmge2007.org

13-15.6.2007 ECCOMAS Thematic Conference on Computational Methods in Structural Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering-COMPDYN 2007. Rethymno, Crete, Greece, Contact: Conference Secretariat, Institute of Structural Analysis and Seismic Research, National Technical University of Athens, Zografou Campus, Athens 15780, Greece, Phone: +30 210 7721654, Fax: +30 210 7721693, e-mail: compdyn2007@central.ntua.gr, Web Site: <http://www.eng.ucy.ac.cy/compdyn2007>

25-28.6.2007 4th International Conference on Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering. Thessaloniki, Greece, Contact: Prof. Kyriazis Pitilakis, Mrs. Anastasia Argyroudi (secretariat) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Univ. Box. 450 Thessaloniki 54124, Greece; Phone / Fax: 30-2310-995842; e-mail: kpitilak@civil.auth.gr or anastarg@civil.auth.gr; Web Site: www.4icege.org

28-31.5.2007 10th World Conference on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation and Active Vibrations Control of Structures. Istanbul, Turkey, Contact: ASSISI 10th World Conference Istanbul / Turkey ; Fax: +90-0216-467 82 49; Web Site: conference@did-tasi.org

14-16.5.2007 5th International Conference on Seismology and Earthquake Engineering (SEE5). Tehran, Iran, Web Site: <http://www.iiees.ac.ir/SEE5/index.html>

1-3.3.2007 Thirty Years from the Romania Earthquake of 4 March 1977, International Symposium, Bucharest, Romania, Symposium Secretariat: Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest, Romanian National Center for Earthquake Engineering and Vibrations, 124 Lacul Tei, sector 2, 020396 – Bucharest; Tel/Fax: 0040 21 242 58 03; e-mail: vladi@itcnet.ro and vlad@dial.kappa.ro



The date of the computer file of the first manuscript submitted to Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering was 23 August 2002. It has been four years since then and during this period including 3 Special Issues, 141 manuscripts were submitted to BEE. Out of these 141 manuscripts; 66 were published in the already printed 13 issues, 15 are inline for printing, 17 are under review, 39 were declined and 4 were withdrawn by the authors. Almost all of the manuscripts were reviewed by two referees.

We anticipated that the inflow of manuscripts would be slow in the beginning and the plan was to publish three issues per year. The inflow rapidly reached a sufficient level after the first six months to easily support this publication frequency. Interestingly the same number, 26 manuscripts were submitted in 2003 and in 2004. The number of manuscripts submitted during 2005 increased to 38 which meant 46% increase in submission compared to 2004. The acceleration in the manuscript inflow appears to continue in 2006 with 54 manuscripts. The rate of increase in 2006 is similar to the rate of increase in 2005 approximately 45%.

The first issue of the first volume, composed of invited papers was printed in August 2003. The remaining two issues were available as paper copy in the last quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004. The first volume of BEE had 13 papers, 2 technical notes and an editorial.

The three issues of the second volume were printed in 2004 and in the first quarter of 2005. The second volume of BEE had 13 papers, one discussion and one reply. The third issue of this volume was the first issue of BEE that included a discussion and a reply.

During this period Kluwer Academic Publishers merged with Springer Verlag and this process sometimes caused delays in the production process. After this merger, the third issue of Volume 2 was the first issue printed under the new Springer imprint.

The two issues of Volume 3 were in print in February and April 2005. The third issue was printed in December 2005. Volume 3 Issue 2 was the First Special Issue of BEE containing the Mallet-Milne Lecture delivered by Prof. W. Liam Finn. Volume 3 had 10 papers, 1 technical note and an introduction to the Mallet-Milne lecture.

It was decided based on mutual agreement with Springer that Volume 4 will consist of 4 issues. I am also happy to inform that Springer has offered BEE for evaluation to ISI for inclusion in the Science Citation Index. The evaluation may be concluded after all issues of Volume 4(2006) are published and the outcome is most likely to be communicated in 2007.

The issues of Volume 4 came out in February, May, August, and December of 2006. Second issue of this volume was the Second Special Issue on "Natural Hazards' Impact on Urban Areas and

Infrastructure" with the Guest Editor Maria Bostenaru Dan. The fourth issue of this volume was the Third Special Issue on "Risk-EU Project" with Guest Editors Robin Spence and Benoît Le Brun.

All the manuscripts for the first issue of Volume 5 are ready for printing and we already agreed to publish the Eleventh Mallet-Milne Lecture to be delivered in 2007 by Robin Spence as the second issue of Volume 5. The third issue of Volume 5 is nearly completed.

During the first three years as the Editor, I handled all the correspondence with the authors and referees during the submission and review stages. All the reviews were conducted based on the manuscripts forwarded as e-mail attachments or downloading from the editors ftp site. As of May 1, 2005, manuscript submissions and the review process is being monitored by the Springer Editorial Manager (EM) online peer review system. We have received the 48 manuscripts through this system. All of the Editorial Board Members and all of the referees are registered on the system. The authors submit their manuscripts through this system by loading their manuscript to the EM. The system informs me by an e-mail. I visit the EM site, download the paper and assign the referees. The system prepares the invitation letters for the referees asking them if they would be able to review the manuscript directed to them. Once the referee gives a positive answer he or she would be able to download the manuscript to perform the review. The referee after finishing the review downloads his or her review to the EM site, and I am informed me by an e-mail that one review is completed. Up to the present EM has been functioning efficiently for BEE.

I would like to acknowledge and express my gratitude for all the support given by the Editorial Board Members as reviewers and as authors. I would also like to acknowledge the referees listed below in the alphabetical order in taking part in the review process during these four years.

A.Akinci, S.Bakır, G.Birgören Tanırçan, H.Boduroğlu, E.Booth, G.Bouckovalas, N.Bouden-Romdhane, J.Bray, G.M.Calvi, A.C.Costa, E.Carvalho, Z.Celep, K.O.Cetin, M.Constantinou, D.F.D'Ayala, J.Douglas, E.Durukal, M.Erdik, A.Erken, D.Faeh, Y.Fahjan, M.A.Garevski, M.Ghafory-Ashtiany, J-S.Hwang, S.Iai, A.J.Kappos, N.Karanci, P.Lestuzzi, D.C.Lo Presti, B.Margaris, M.Melkumyan, M.Mucciarelli, R.Musson, A.Occhiuzzi, K.Ozaydin, G.Ozcebe, O.Özel, R.Pinho, P.Pinto, F.Sabetta, E.Safak, C.Scawthorn, A.Sextos, F.Sivestri, D.Slejko, R.Spence, P.Spudich, J.Studer, H.Sucuoglu, P.Suhadolc, M.D.Trifunac, M.Wieland, E.Yüksel, A.Zerva

*Atilla Ansal
Editor*

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