Minutes from the meeting of the Organizing Committee of the IAU Commission 22 held in Barcelona on June 12 and 15, 2007

Present: P. Spurný (president), J. Watanabe (vice-president), J. Borovička (secretary), P. Brown, P. Jenniskens, A. Pellinen-Wannberg (June 12 only), V. Porubčan, I. Williams

Absent: J. Baggaley, G. Consolmagno, H. Yano

Invited guests: B. Cook, D. Janches (June 15 only)

1. Meteoroids 2010 conference

The Committee was informed about the proposal of B. Cook to hold the next Meteoroids conference at the Marshall Space Flight Research Center, Hunstville, Alabama, USA. Later on, the Committee was also informed about the proposal of D. Janches to hold the conference in Boulder, Colorado, USA or a nearby mountain resort. B. Cook proclaimed that he will be able to support the conference financially even if it is held in Colorado. The Committee decided by a majority of votes to hold the conference in Colorado. The dates of the conference should ideally be a few weeks before the planned re-entry of the Hayabusa spacecraft (June 2010). D. Janches, as the future chair of the LOC, was asked to collaborate on the scientific program of the conference with J. Watanabe, the future president of Commission 22.

Since there were misunderstandings concerning the procedure of proposing the organization of the Meteoroids conference, the Committee asked the president to explain the role of the Commission during the closing ceremony of the Meteoroids 2007 conference. The formal procedure will be also explained on the web page of the Commission.

2. Commission report

The Committee regrets that the report of Commission 22 for the period 2002–2005 was published in a much abbreviated form only. The next report should conform to the standards established in the previous periods. The anticipated deadline is August 2008. The persons responsible for preparing individual sections will be named at the beginning of 2008. P. Jenniskens suggested that the sections are organized by scientific goals instead of by observational technique.

3. Merging with Commission 21

I. Williams informed about the current legal status. Commissions 21 and 22 will merge in 2009 unless there are good reasons to convince the Division III for aborting the merge. J. Watanabe informed that Commission 21 is currently quite passive. The Committee expressed the readiness of Commission 22 to expand partly the field of the Commission and take over the responsibility for the subjects covered currently by Commission 21, which concern the Solar System. Such an expansion would not necessitate a change of the name of Commission 22.

4. Future IAU Symposia and Joint Discussions

I. Williams suggested proposing both a Joint Discussion and a Symposium to be held during the XXVIIth General Assembly of IAU in Rio de Janeiro in 2009. Any proposal for Symposia and Join Discussions must be of interdisciplinary nature. The proposal should be supported by the president of Division III and at least one additional division president (most likely of Division I). Good proposals are welcome and may be sent to the Commission president (P. Spurný). The deadline for the Letter of Intent is September 15, 2007. The deadline for the final proposal is December 1, 2007. Note that Commission 22 already supported a proposal for the Symposium named "Icy Bodies in the Solar System", submitted by J. Fernández (Commission 20).

5. Web pages of Commission 22

The pages of Commission 22 are located at the address http://meteor.asu.cas.cz/IAU/ and are maintained by J. Borovička. They are not yet in their final form. Any contributions are welcome.

6. Planned conference on Bolides and Meteorite Falls

P. Spurný informed about the intention to organize a small conference (~50 participants) on Bolides and Meteorite Falls in the Czech Republic in 2009. The conference will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Příbram meteorite fall, the first scientifically observed meteorite fall (April 7, 1959). The Committee supported that intention. The date and site of the conference was briefly discussed.