

Crocodile Specialist Group Steering Committee Meeting

(Skukuza, South Africa, 22 May 2016)

Minutes

The meeting opened at 0900 h.

Present:

SC Members: Grahame Webb, Alejandro Larriera, Tom Dacey, Charlie Manolis, John Caldwell, Mark Merchant, Simone Comparini, Christine Lippai, Lonnie McCaskill, Perran Ross, Paolo Martelli, Samuel Martin, Howard Kelly, Alison Leslie, Eric Langelet, Alvaro Velasco, Carlos Piña, Marisa Tellez, Luis Bassetti, Sergio Medrano-Bitar, Allan Woodward, Thomas Rainwater, Kevin van Jaarsveldt, Kent Vliet, Val Lance, Phil Wilkinson, Matthew Shirley, Enrico Chiesa, Cathy Shilton, Jerome Caraguel

Other CSG Members: Sukenao Iida, Rainier Manalo, Michael Cruz, Samson Samuel, Sally Isberg, Agata Staniewicz, Helen Crowley, Laura Porrás Murillo, Columbus Chaitezvi, Danny Govender, Paul Reilly, Maria Alejandra Camargo, Matthew Brien, Brandon Sideleau, Rob Gandola, Alba Imhof, Juan Larriera, Mick Burns, Peter Watson, Craig Watson, Sergio Balaguera, Joe Partyka, Sebastian Brackhane, Lauren Augustine, Miryam Venegas, Weber Girardi, Hannes Botha, Russell Lowers, Benjamin Parrott, Ashley Percy, Jeff Lang, Shawn Heflick, Miriam Boucher, Pablo Siroski, Mohamed Ezat, Rachel Clulee, Danielle Kelly, Csaba Geczy, Julien Medrano Hoyos, Mariana Medrano, Tapiwanashe Hanyire, Robbie McLeod, Robert Godshalk, Adrian Sugiarto, Valerie Garcia, Gowrie Mallapur, Silke Pfitzer, Manuel Muñoz, William Belo, Careen Belo, Brian Sibongga, R.J. Rao, Hector Raisa, John Calderon, Mrs. Calderon, Alexander Meurer, Georges Hedegbetan, Joni Acay, Myrna Cureg, Charles Caraguel, Stephane Korvin, Xavier Gavaldon, Rafael Zarazua, Jaimie Gongora

Apologies, Steering Committee Members: Choon Heong Koh, Yoichi Takehara, Dietrich Jelden, Guy Apollinaire Mensah, Jiang Hongxing, Dr. Giam Choo Hoo, Steve Peucker, Anselm de Silva, Ruchira Somaweera, Maheswar Dhakal, Raju Vyas, Abdul Aleem Choudhury, Asghar Mobaraki, S.M.A. Rashid, Alfonso Llobet, Hesiquio Benítez Dias, Manuel Tabet, Bernardo Ortiz, Jon Hutton, Ruth Elsey, Noel Kinler, Frank Mazzotti, Yoshio Kaneko, Hank Jenkins, Don Ashley, Jorge Saieh, Thomas Kralle, Chris Plott, James McGregor, Steve Broad, Curt Harbsmeier, Bruce Shwedick, Thomas Ziegler, Parntep Ratanakorn, Yosapong Temsiripong, Bernardo Ortiz, Nao Thuok, Uthen Youngprapakorn

Apologies, other CSG Members: Chris Banks, Gordon Grigg, Pierre Charruau

1. Executive Reports

1.1. Chairman's Report

CSG Chairman Grahame Webb opened the meeting at 0920 h, welcomed participants, and thanked South African National Parks for hosting the regional

meeting and the South African crocodile industry organisations for sponsoring the meeting.

One minute's silence was held for the loss of CSG members since the last Steering Committee meeting in Cambodia - Ralf Sommerlad (Germany), Jean-Pierre Austruy (French Guiana), Professor Harry Messel (Australia), Louis J. Guillette Jr. (USA), Winston Kay (Australia), Walter Herd (France) and David Blake (South Africa).

The Chairman presented an overview of where the CSG fits within the IUCN Species Specialist Commission and how the CSG includes a wide range of members, that includes science, industry, government, etc. He also discussed how the CSG supports "sustainable use" issues within the IUCN-SSC structure.

The Chairman reported on the establishment of the Future Leaders Working Group (FLWG) and the 2-day FLWG workshop held on 19-20 May 2016, and the Executive Meeting held on 21 May 2016.

Members were advised of important future meetings covered elsewhere in the agenda:

- 8th World Herpetology Congress, Hangzhou, China, 15-21 August 2016.
- IUCN World Congress, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, 1-10 September 2016.
- 67th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, Johannesburg, South Africa, 23 September 2016.
- 17th Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP17), Johannesburg, South Africa, 24 September-5 October 2016.
- 68th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, Johannesburg, South Africa, 5 October 2016.

The report was noted.

1.2. Minutes and actions from SC Meeting, Siem Reap, Cambodia

The agreed Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting were noted with the opportunity of participants to comment on any issues.

1.3. Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer presented his report, highlighting:

- Current CSG Steering Committee membership is 67 people
- CSG membership comprises 563 people from 63 countries
- Regional offices are currently maintained in Latin America & the Caribbean (Argentina), South Asia & Iran (Sri Lanka) and East & Southern Africa (South Africa)

- The CSG Student Research Assistance Scheme has approved 99 applications since its inception in 2009, including two applications approved under the Fritz Huchzermeyer Veterinary Science Student Research Assistance Scheme.

The report was noted.

1.4. CSG/IACS Financial Report

The Executive Officer reported that:

- (a) A “not-for-profit” NGO (International Association of Crocodile Specialists - USA Inc.) was now established in USA, and is managed by Perran Ross and Curt Harbsmeier. US donations to this account may be tax deductible.
- (b) The IACS bank balance, which is designed primarily as an endowment fund to financially sustain CSG operations, at 31 March 2016, was \$AUD790,507 (approximately \$US603,789).
- (c) The IACS Annual General Meeting was held on 28 October 2015, noting the Audit report and approving the re-election of office bearers.

Financial reports, IACS annual report and IACS audit statement were noted.

2. Regional Reports

2.1. East & Southern Africa

The report presented by Regional Chair Christine Lippai was coordinated with the assistance of the two Regional Vice Chairs, Alison Leslie and Howard Kelly.

Christine Lippai advised that she had been in contact with Jon Hutton regarding the African Survey Database, and will follow up with him on options to reactivate this database.

The report was noted.

Action 1: Christine Lippai to report back on options for reactivating the African Survey database.

2.2. West & Central Africa

The report was presented by Regional Chair Matthew Shirley, highlighting:

- Success of the 3rd CSG West and Central Africa Regional Meeting held in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire. The Proceedings will be posted on the CSG website shortly.
- Unspent funds from this meeting in Cote d’Ivoire enabled the participation of 9 people from the region at the 24th Working Meeting in South Africa.
- Cooperation is underway with some NGOs interested in mechanisms for restricting illegal trade.

- Samuel Martin has resigned as joint Regional Chair for the region, due to work commitments, but will continue as a CSG member with special interest in the region.

The report was noted.

2.3. East & Southeast Asia

The report was presented by Regional Chairman Lonnie McCaskill, highlighting:

- (a) Cambodia: There have been recent changes in Government administration, but WCS and FFI continue their work on the development of a strategy for reintroducing *C. siamensis* back into the wild.
- (b) Philippines:
 1. Mabuwaya Foundation program;
 2. Crocodylus Porosus Philippines Inc. (CPPI) program; and,
 3. Progress with the development of the “Conservation and Management Plan for Crocodiles in the Philippines, 2016-2020”.

The CSG Chairman highlighted the cooperation between industry and conservation successes in the Philippines.

The report was noted.

2.3.1. Lake Mesangat, East Kalimantan, Indonesia

The Chairman summarized the history of LIPI and CSG members finding a wild population of the Critically Endangered *C. siamensis* at Lake Mesangat, East Kalimantan, Indonesia, and how this stronghold for the species has been eroded by oil palm development over the last decade.

In 2014 a CSG review team visited Lake Mesangat, confirming ongoing habitat destruction for oil palm, water diversion structures designed to drain the swamp, and the adverse impacts on local people particularly fishermen.

The Chairman re-visited Indonesia in April 2016, and with CSG member Adrian Sugiarto met with the new Indonesian Director of Conservation, the Director General of Forestry, and the Provincial Regent. They all agreed that Lake Mesangat needed urgent conservation action and were committed to assisting. A survey is being considered for the next dry season (commencing July 2016), with assistance of satellite imagery from the Wildlife Conservation Society, to quantify the extent of habitat loss due to oil palms.

Given the ongoing destruction of Lake Mesangat, the support expressed for conservation action by Indonesian Government representatives at National and Provincial level, and the complicated status with oil palm leases clashing with conservation interests, the Steering Committee agreed unanimously that the IUCN Director General and Chairman of the Species Survival Commission should write directly to the Indonesian President

about the need to conserve Lake Mesangat and its *Crocodylus siamensis* population.

The report was noted.

Action 2: Executive Officer to coordinate preparation of letter to Indonesian President and contact IUCN Director General through the Chair of the SSC.

2.4. Australia & Oceania

Regional Chair Charlie Manolis provided a brief overview, highlighting human-crocodile conflict (HCC) incidents in Australia, Timor-Leste and the Solomon Islands.

The report was noted.

2.5. South Asia & Iran

Regional Chair Anslem de Silva was unable to attend the meeting. Jeff Lang gave a brief overview of the current situation in Nepal, particularly with regard to the abundance of wild female Gharial and the reduction in fertility and egg production in the captive population.

The Chair established a working group of Jeff Lang, Samuel Martin and the Nepalese delegates to meet and discuss the issues in Nepal and come back to the plenary with a report.

The report was noted.

Action 3: Working group to report on Nepalese issues at plenary.

2.6. Latin America & the Caribbean

Deputy Chairman Alejandro Larriera presented the report, highlighting:

- (a) Argentina: growing production with ranching operations - 35,000 skins exported annually (19,663 *C. latirostris* and 15,704 *C. yacare*).
- (b) Brazil: Exported 13,000 *Caiman yacare* skins and 874 *Melanosuchus niger* skins.
- (c) Central America: discussion was held on the possibility of a CSG review mission to Central America, and possibly the Caribbean to summarise current conservation and management issues, provide information, and identify contacts (focal points) in each country (eg Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama Honduras, Belize, Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Cuba and Jamaica).
- (d) Colombia:
 1. Proposal to CITES CoP17 to transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II, pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) on ranching, the population of *Crocodylus acutus* of Cispata Bay and nearby sections of the Estuarine Delta of Sinu River in the Department of Cordoba.
 2. *Crocodylus intermedius* program.

- (e) Mexico:
 - 1. Proposal to CITES CoP17
 - 2. National Morelet's Crocodile Monitoring Program
- (f) Venezuela: *Caiman c. crocodilus* harvest, 17,000-19,000 per year.

In respect of the suggestion for a separate Central America and Caribbean region, the Chairman suggested that those interested should form a Working Group to meet during the meeting and come back with a suggested way forward on this issue.

The report was noted.

Action 4: Working group to report back to meeting at plenary on possible establishment of Central American and Caribbean region.

2.6.1. & 2.6.2. Jamaica update

Perran Ross addressed the paper, highlighting:

- (a) Successful fund raising events raised over \$US26,000 to support conservation of *C. acutus* in Jamaica, including relocations and the "Crocodile Conservation Fair" organized by the "Jamaica Crocodile Working Group".
- (b) The persecution and killing of crocodiles continues at an alarming rate.
- (c) Particular concern over the situation with the Goat Islands, where a Chinese corporation is planning to build an international trans-shipping terminal.

The report was noted.

Action 5: Perran Ross was requested to draft a CSG letter that the Chairman could send to the Jamaican authorities.

2.7. Europe

Thomas Ziegler and Fabian Schmidt were unable to attend the meeting - the report was noted.

2.8. North America

Joint Regional Chair for North America, Allan Woodward, presented the report, highlighting:

- (a) There are 11 States with alligator programs (8 undertaking ranching and 3 undertaking wild harvesting).
- (b) The successful conservation programs are also now experiencing HCC problems. They are currently developing policies on alligator removal.
- (c) Louisiana and Florida are working on developing CITES tags with a barcode.
- (d) There was a general discussion on the benefits/non-benefits of the TV "alligator" programs (Swamp People in Louisiana and Gator Boys in Florida). Generally, it was thought that such programs were beneficial to the conservation of alligators and crocodiles.

The report was noted.

3. Thematic Group Reports

3.1. CITES

Vice Chair Hank Jenkins did not attend the meeting. The Executive Officer highlighted:

- (a) Four amendment proposals were submitted for consideration at CoP17; Colombia (*C. acutus* in Cispata Bay), Mexico (*C. moreletii*), Malaysia (*C. porosus*) and Madagascar (*C. niloticus*).
- (b) CSG representatives Hank Jenkins and Matthew Shirley participated at CITES Animals Committee (AC28) (Tel Aviv, 2015) and participated in discussions on: application of correct CITES codes; and, global traceability system for reptile skins, prepared by RESP and submitted by Mexico and Italy.

Matthew Shirley provided an overview on what happened with these issues at AC28.

The CSG Chairman provided some background on the RESP group and issued a warning for people to be very careful when dealing with RESP, because they appear to be promising traceability outcomes to fashion companies, and funding support to producer nations, but delivering neither. The technical expertise required to assess crocodilian production in any country is considerable as evidenced by the newly published CSG Best Management Practices for Crocodilian Farming. He suggested it was more an industry than conservation issue and that industry members should take the opportunity to discuss the RESP issue and see if there might be a positive way forward.

The report was noted.

3.1.1. Colombia proposal (*Crocodylus acutus*)

The paper was addressed by the Chairman, advising that this was a unique project that had been operating for some 10 years, in a small but clearly defined area. Colombia was now seeking to have a formal ranching program that will have benefits for the local community. The CSG had offered comments to Colombia on early drafts of its proposal.

The report was noted.

3.1.2. Mexico Proposal (*Crocodylus moreletii*)

Mexico is seeking to remove the “zero quota” for trade in the wild population of *C. moreletii*. The CSG had offered comments to Mexico on a

proposal summary during the drafting stage, but the final version of the proposal was not provided to CSG before it was submitted to the CITES Secretariat.

The report was noted.

3.1.3. Malaysia proposal (*Crocodylus porosus*)

The CSG Chairman provided the background to this proposal. Sarawak was seeking a down-listing for *C. porosus* that would allow for controlled use, that could be integrated into its overall conservation and management program increasingly threatened by increasing HCC. The CSG offered comments to Malaysia on its proposal during the drafting stage.

The report was noted.

3.1.4. Madagascar proposal (*Crocodylus niloticus*)

The Chairman provided the background on the current Appendix-II ranching program, how it was initially implemented, the role of the artisanal industry, the inability of Madagascar to manage use of the resource, which eventually led to trade in *C. niloticus* from Madagascar being banned by CITES for 4 years. To rectify the situation Madagascar was now proposing to retain the Appendix-II listing, but under Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15), with several notations. This allows more flexibility with management and an opportunity to sustain the artisanal leather industry that has significant livelihood advantages.

The report was noted.

3.1.5. Notes on sustainable use of crocodylians

The paper submitted by Yoichi Takehara was addressed by the Chairman, emphasizing the statement - "If only we, CSG, can somehow devise a system that distributes the profits from ranching to all the people whose habitat overlaps with that of crocodiles, I think the situation will improve".

The report was noted.

3.1.6. Colombia Update

The CSG Chairman addressed the issue of *Caiman c. fuscus* farming in Colombia, highlighting:

- (a) Within Colombia, the farming of *Caiman c. fuscus* is legally restricted to closed captive breeding (since 1990), which is a stricter domestic measure (not required by CITES).
- (b) But considerable numbers of caimans come from the wild through ranching and wild skin harvest, which contravenes Colombian laws and thus CITES.

- (c) Export of wild skins using CITES source codes for captive-bred, is a further ongoing CITES infraction. The EU has picked up on the source code issue.
- (d) At the CITES Standing Committee meeting in January 2016, the EU held fruitful bilateral meetings with Colombia that resulted in a formal “Declaration” by Colombia, to stop the export of large wild harvested skin pieces, particularly flanks (by 28 February 2016), and to legalise the current illegal ranching program in Colombia (by 31 May 2016).
- (e) Colombia needs to be congratulated for its commitment to the EU to rectify the wild harvest and ranching problems, which after 25 years have become institutionalized.
- (f) Delivery on the first deadline (CITES Notification 2016/017) did not restrict the export of wild skins, and had various other problems. The time frame Colombia committed itself to, to solve the wild harvest problem, was unrealistically short, and production and exports of ranches and wild skins continues unabated.
- (g) The second deadline (31 May 2016) has only just passed, and CSG anticipates Colombia will indeed stop the export of wild harvested skins and legalise ranching by that time.
- (h) Resolution of these issues by Colombia, first raised in Standing Committee in the early 1990s, will ideally be fully reported at the next Standing Committee meeting prior to CITES CoP17 (Johannesburg, South Africa, 24 September-5 October 2016).
- (i) Clear demonstration that Colombia is implementing the many laws it has concerning crocodilians, and specifically *Caiman crocodilus fuscus*, before CoP17, will be critical to the Parties having confidence in the Colombian proposal to transfer its Cispatá Bay population of *Crocodylus acutus* from Appendix I to Appendix II for ranching.

The report was noted.

3.2. Industry

In the absence of Vice Chair Don Ashley, the Chairman addressed the report. Two major issues include:

- (a) Animal welfare issues - it is important for all crocodilian producers and the industry to recognize the need to be pre-emptive and proactive concerning animal welfare issues, and to rely on science-based rather than emotion-based evidence.
- (b) The CSG has produced a manual “Best Management Practices for Crocodilian Farming”, now available on the CSG website, which should assist managers and industry to better understand the role of animal welfare in the production of crocodilians.

The report was noted.

3.3. Trade Monitoring

The report was presented by Vice Chair John Caldwell, who highlighted:

- (a) Two further IACTS reports have been completed (Caldwell 2014 and Caldwell 2015) and these can be accessed through links on the CSG website (<http://www.iucncsg.org/pages/Farming-and-the-Crocodile-Industry.html>).
- (b) Missing CITES Annual Reports for 2014 include Argentina, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malawi and Uganda. Reports for 2013 are also missing for Uganda and Zambia.

The report was noted.

3.4. Veterinary Science

The report was presented by Joint Vice Chair Paolo Martelli, highlighting:

- (a) Continuation of the Fritz Huchzermeyer Veterinary Science Student Research Assistance Scheme (FHVS-SRAS).
- (b) The veterinary science group currently has 20 members.
- (c) Preparation of the “Health Assessment Guidelines for Crocodile Releases” is progressing.
- (d) List of most important veterinary conditions of farmed crocodylians is proceeding.
- (e) The veterinary science website is being updated in four languages.
- (f) Continue to hold veterinary workshops preceding CSG Working Meetings. In Skukuza 50 participants were able to attend the veterinary workshop.

The report was noted.

3.5. Zoos

The report was addressed in some detail by Vice Chair Kent Vliet, highlighting a wide range of matters, including:

- (a) Passing of Ralf Sommerlad.
- (b) 16th annual training course in “Crocodylian Biology and Captive Management”.
- (c) The CAG maintains official studbooks on 8 species of Critically Endangered and Endangered crocodylian species.
- (d) CAG has provided funding for a number of crocodylian projects.
- (e) Organizing of “Croctober” fundraising events.
- (f) Various activities in Europe and Latin America.
- (g) Promotion of World Tomistoma Day in August 2016 by Bruce Shwedick (CSG-TTF) and Rob Stuebing.

The report was noted.

3.6. Public Education & Community Participation

The paper was addressed by Vice Chair Myrna C. Cureg, highlighting:

- (a) Establishment of the PECP group and its Terms of Reference (July 2014)

- (b) A number of case studies have been gathered for presentation at the Working Meeting.
- (c) An out-of-session workshop with interested people will be held during the Working Meeting, which will report back to the Plenary session on the last day.

The report was noted.

Action 6: PECP to report back to plenary of working meeting.

3.7. General Research

The paper was addressed by Joint Vice Chair Mark Merchant highlighting:

- (a) Publication of special issue of the South American Journal of Herpetology, using some of the papers presented at the 23rd CSG Working Meeting (May 2014).
- (b) The 8th World Herpetology Congress being held in Hangzhou, China, 15-21 August 2016, which will include a Crocodylian Symposium. Papers are being presented by various CSG members (Charlie Manolis, Mark Merchant, Marisa Tellez-Kohlman, Pablo Siroski, Paolo Martelli, Matthew Shirley) and Chinese researchers.
- (c) Proceedings from the Louisiana meeting are now available from Mark Merchant.
- (d) Proposal by Mark Merchant to host a “Crocodylian Genetics Meeting” in the 2nd week of August 2017.

The report was noted.

Action 7: Executive Officer to follow up on details for proposed genetics meeting with Mark Merchant.

3.8. Legal Affairs

Vice Chair Curt Harbsmeier was unable to attend the meeting. Issues discussed included:

- (a) Establishment of a charitable (not-for-profit) organisation in the USA (International Association of Crocodile Specialists-USA Inc.) to support the CSG. Donations to this organization may be tax deductible.
- (b) Bank Account established for IACS-USA Inc.
- (c) Development with the Chairman of a proposed CSG Code of Professional Conduct to act as an interim code pending the development of an overarching SSC Code.

The report was noted.

3.9. IUCN Red List Authority

Vice Chair Perran Ross addressed his report, highlighting:

- (a) Significant advances have been made in training a cadre of Red List assessor/coordinators. Sally Isberg, Robbie McLeod and Olivia Plume have completed the on-line SSC Red List training.
- (b) Draft assessment for *C. johnstoni*, currently in review, suggesting it may be Least Concern (LC).
- (c) *C. suchus* may be Vulnerable (VU A2bd; C1). An assessment team of Nathalie Kpera, Ekke Waitkuwait, Stephane Kehou, Gabriel Segniagbeto and Shawn Heflick will refine the draft.
- (d) A re-assessment of *Alligator sinensis* confirms its status remains Critically Endangered [CR Aib,B1ab+2ab(ii);C1+2a(i)].

The report was noted.

4. Task Force/Working Group Reports

4.1. Tomistoma Task Force

CSG-TTF Vice Chair Bruce Shwedick was unable to attend the meeting. It was subsequently learned that the TTF report that was provided to the Steering Committee was not the current report, and the correct report will be circulated to CSG Steering Committee members out-of-session.

Action 8: Executive Officer to circulate CSG-TTF report to SC members out-of-session.

4.2. Siamese Crocodile Task Force

SCTF Vice Chair Parntep Ratanakorn was unable to attend the meeting - the report was noted.

4.3. Future Leaders Working Group

The report was presented by FLWG Chair Matthew Shirley, highlighting:

- (a) History on the recent formation of the Future Leaders Working Group.
- (b) Intensive 2-day workshop at Skukuza, just prior to the SC meeting, involving a group of young and senior CSG members.
- (c) Considerable discussion on the future directions of the CSG.
- (d) Proposed FLWG side-event to be held during the working meeting, with a report back to Plenary.

The report was noted.

Action 9: FLWG to report back to Plenary.

5. General Business

5.1. Best Management Practices

Charlie Manolis advised that version 1 of the Best Management Practices for Crocodilian Farming has been completed and is now accessible on the CSG website. The BMP is considered to be a “living” document that will be updated as new knowledge becomes available, etc.
The report was noted.

5.2. Crocodilian Capacity Building Manual

Charlie Manolis provided an explanation on the background and current progress with this project. Two-thirds of the sections are complete and will be added to the CSG website by Colin Stevenson very shortly. The remaining 10-12 sections will be allocated to select members during the course of the working meeting.

The report was noted.

Action 10: Completed sections of the CCBM to be loaded onto CSG website as a matter of urgency.

Action 11: Charlie Manolis and Colin Stevenson to identify authors of remaining sections of the CCBM.

5.3. Junior CSG Program

Mark Merchant and Shawn Heflick provided an electronic version of a report, as there was insufficient time to provide it to the Steering Committee for discussion.

Action 12: Executive Officer to circulate the Junior CSG Report to SC members out-of-session.

6. 25th CSG Working Meeting

Deputy Chairman Alejandro Larriera advised that the 25th Working Meeting will be held in Santa Fe, Argentina, in the second or third week of May 2018 - possibly 7-11 May. He also provided an overview of the proposed meeting venue, accommodation options, meeting sponsors, etc. A formal submission has been made to the CSG Chairman.

The meeting closed at 1530 h.

Tom Dacey, CSG Executive Officer