

AGSSEA

ASSOCIATION OF GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Chairman:
Prof. San Shyan LIN

Honorary Secretary-General & Honorary Treasurer
Ir. Kenny YEE

Immediate Past Chairman
Prof. Kwet Yew YONG

Founder Chairman:
Ir. Dr. Teik Aun OOI

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MINUTES OF THE 5TH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (AGSSEA) HELD ON TUESDAY, 31ST MAY 2016 AT 5.00 P.M. MEZZANINE FLOOR, MELATI 4 ROOM, DORSETT GRAND SUBANG, MALAYSIA.

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| In Attendance: | Chairman: | Prof. Kwet Yew YONG |
| | Hon. Secretary-Gen: | Ir. Kenny YEE |
| | Hon. Treasurer: | Prof. Charles Wang Wai NG |
| | Immediate Past Chairman: | Ir. Dr. Teik Aun OOI |
| | Hon. Founder Chairman: | Dr. Za-Chieh MOH |
| | Advisors: | Dr. Wen Hui TING (Malaysia) Dr. Chung-Tien CHIN (Taiwan) |
| | Council Members: | Prof. Noppadol PHIENTWEJ (SEAGS) Dr. Van Long PHAM (VSSMGE) Dr. Kam Weng LEONG (GeoSS) Prof. Chun Fai LEUNG (GeoSS) Prof. Suttisak SORALUMP (TGS) Prof. Chang-Yu OU (CTGS) Prof. Der-Wen CHANG (CTGS)* Prof. Masyhur IRSYAM (HATTI) Dr. Pintor Tua SIMATUPANG (HATTI) Dr. Sin Fatt CHAN (MGS) Ir. Yew Weng YEE (MGS)* |
| | Co-opted Members: | Prof. Jian CHU (Singapore) Prof. Hung-Jiun LIAO (Taiwan) |
| | By invitation: | Prof. Ikuo TOWHATA (Japan / ISSMGE) Prof. Askar ZHUSSUPBEKOV (Kazakhstan) Prof. San Shyan LIN (Taiwan / CTGS) Prof. Eun Chul SHIN (Korea / KGS) Dr. Chin-Der OU (Taiwan) Dr. Erwin OH (Australia) Ir. Idrus Muhammad ALATAS (Indonesia / HATTI) Mr. Zaw Zaw AYE (Myanmar) |

Note: * denotes proxy members

Absent with apology:

Advisors: Prof. A S BALASUBRAMANIAM (Australia)

Dr. John Chien Chung LI (Taiwan)

Prof. Dennes BERGADO (Thailand)

Ir. Raymond CHAN (Hong Kong)

Council Members: Dr. Duc Long PHUNG (VSSMGE) – represented by Dr. Van Long PHAM as proxy

Ir. James SZE (HKGES)

Dr. Johnny CHEUK (HKGES) – represented by Prof. Charles NG as proxy

Dr. Apiniti JOTISANKASA (TGS) – represented by Prof. Suttisak SORALUMP as proxy

Prof. Yung Show FANG (CTGS) – represented by Prof. Der-Wen CHANG as proxy

Ir. Shaw Shong LIEW (MGS) – represented by Ir. Yew Weng YEE as proxy

Co-Opted Members: Prof. Minh Thu TRINH (VSSMGE)

The Chairman, Prof. K. Y. Yong called the meeting to order at 5.00 p.m.

He welcomed Prof. Ikuo Towhata, Vice President of ISSMGE for Asia, Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov, Immediate Past Vice President of ISSMGE for Asia, Prof. Eun Chul Shin, Vice President of Korean Geotechnical Society, Dr. Chin-Der Ou from Taiwan and Mr. Zaw Zaw Aye from Myanmar.

He thanked those present for taking their valuable time off to attend this 5th Council Meeting and the 19SEAGC-2AGSSEA Conference in Subang Jaya. He thanked the Chairman and Co-chairman of the conference organizing committee, Dr. Sin Fatt Chan and Dr. Teik Aun Ooi for hosting the meeting.

The meeting started with a round of introduction of those present.

1.0 MATTERS ARISING

1.1 Opening Address by the Chairman

The Chairman, Prof. K. Y. Yong welcomed the Malaysian Geotechnical Society (MGS) as the 8th member of AGSSEA. The other members are Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (SEAGS), Vietnam Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (VSSMGE), Hong Kong Geotechnical Society (HKGES), Geotechnical Society of Singapore (GeoSS), Thai Geotechnical Society (TGS), Chinese Taipei Geotechnical Society (CTGS) and Indonesian Society for Geotechnical Engineering (HATTI). He informed the meeting that Myanmar is keen to join AGSSEA upon admitted as a member of ISSMGE.

He re-iterated the objectives of the AGSSEA as follows:

- (i) The promotion of cooperation among geotechnical societies in Southeast Asia for the advancement of knowledge in geotechnical engineering; and
- (ii) The assistance to member societies who have limited number of members.

1.1.1 Confirmation of Quorum

The Chairman confirmed quorum (min. 15 is required for quorum) was in order.

Twenty-three council members were present with five council members represented by proxies. Eight invited guests were present as observers. All member societies are represented in the meeting.

1.1.2 Reading of Agenda

The Chairman reviewed the agenda and members present accepted the proposal.

1.2 Address by the Hon. Founder Chairman

Dr. Za-Chieh Moh gave a brief remark concerning the objectives of AGSSEA and also commented on the SEAGS' 50th Anniversary in 2017.

1.3 Remarks by the Presidents of Member Societies

Brief presentations covering the members' current committee, current and future activities and suggestion for future development of AGSSEA were made by the Presidents of the member societies.

The following presentations were made:

Dr. Teik Aun Ooi representing SEAGS

Dr. Sin Fatt Chan representing MGS

Dr. Van Long Pham (proxy for Dr. Duc Long Phung) representing VSSMGE

Prof. Charles W W Ng representing HKGES

Dr. Kam Weng Leong representing GeoSS

Prof. Suttisak Soralump representing TGS

Prof. Chang Yu Ou representing CTGS

Prof. Masyhur Irsyam representing HATTI

Dr. Van Long Pham informed the meeting that VSSMGE has to withdraw from hosting the 19SEAGC-2AGSSEA Conference due to the sudden demise of Prof. Tien, the former President of VSSMGE. VSSMGE offered their apologies and congratulate the conference organizing committee for successfully organized this conference within a short period of a year and a half for preparation works.

1.4 Messages by Invited Guests

Prof. Ikuo Towhata, VP of ISSMGE for Asia presented the proposal of Iran for Asia to be divided into East and West. He wanted the opinions from the members. The meeting concluded that Asia should stay as one maintaining the status quo.

Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov, Immediate Past VP of ISSMGE for Asia presented the 8th Asian Young Geotechnical Engineering Conference to be held in Astana, Kazakhstan from 5 to 7 August 2016. He seeks support from AGSSEA to encourage participation from member societies.

Prof. Eun Chul Shin, VP of the Korean Geotechnical Society presented the 19th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering in Seoul, Korea from 17 to 22 September 2017. He would like to see active participation from AGSSEA members. He also made known to the meeting that he is vying for the post of the Vice President of ISSMGE for Asia. He was given an opportunity to promote his candidacy for the VP post during his presentation.

Prof. Towhata, Prof. Zhussupbekov and Prof. Shin left the meeting after delivering their messages.

2.0 Minutes of the 4th Council Meeting held in Singapore on 29th May 2013

The minutes of the 4th Council Meeting held in Singapore on 29th May 2013 were sent by e-mails to all members before the meeting and as there was no matter arising, the Chairman proposed the minutes to be adopted.

Members present accepted the proposal unanimously and the Minutes were adopted without amendment.

3.0 Honorary Secretary-General Report

The Secretary Report was sent by e-mails to all members in advance of the meeting. As there was no comment received, the Chairman proposed that the Secretary-General to briefly highlight the important points made in the report.

Points highlighted by the Secretary-General were:

- (1) Twelve activities were organized or supported by AGSSEA during the period of May 2013 to May 2016. The Secretary touched on the need for more touring seminars / short courses as a mean to foster closer co-operation among member societies. For an example, the Applied Course on Engineering Geology and Rock Engineering in July – August 2013 by Prof. Paul Marinos took place in several cities including Brisbane, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Yangon, Bangkok, Hanoi, Danang and Ho Chi Minh.
- (2) Taiwan has hosted a summer training course for slope land disaster reduction in 2013. The host has offered financial support to AGSSEA member societies. Participants from Vietnam and Thailand attended the training course. The Secretary expressed his gratitude to CTGS for their generosity.
- (3) The joint SEAGS-AGSSEA Newsletter has a new format for easy reading beginning with the Feb 2014 issue. The jointly published SEAGS-AGSSEA “Geotechnical Engineering” journal began with the Dec 2009 issue and it is currently published on schedule and having sufficient papers until 2018. The Secretary expressed his gratitude to Prof. Bala, Dr. Ooi and Prof. Lin for their continuous devotion and contribution to the success of this journal.
- (4) The AGSSEA website was set up in Jun 2011 and is hosted by Prof. Charles Ng. He will continue hosting the website. The Secretary expressed his thanks to Prof. Charles Ng.

4.0 Honorary Treasurer-General Report

The Treasurer-General, Prof. Charles Ng briefed the meeting that the accounts of AGSSEA in Kuala Lumpur is maintained by Kuala Lumpur local account held under joint names of Drs. T A Ooi and W H Ting. He thanked Dr. Ooi and Dr. Ting for their contribution. The funds of AGSSEA are kept in fixed deposits and currently the amount is in excess of RM100,000..

5.0 Election and Appointment of the Chairman, Hon. Secretary-Gen. and Hon. Treasurer-Gen.

- 5.1 According to the clause 3.2.1 of the Statutes (1st Revision dated 9 May 2010), the Chairman shall retire. A new chairman shall be elected by a simple majority of the Council Members.

Nomination for Chairman:

- Prof. San Shyan Lin: nominated by Prof. Chang-Yu Ou; seconded by Prof. Charles Ng
Since there was no more nomination for chairman, Prof. Suttisak Sorolump proposed nomination closed; seconded by Ir. Kenny Yee.

Prof. San Shyan Lin was elected as the Chairman for the session 2016 – 2019.

- 5.2 According to the clause 3.2.2 of the Statutes (1st Revision dated 9 May 2010), the Hon. Secretary-General and the Hon. Treasurer-General shall retire. New Secretary-General and Treasurer-General shall be elected by a simple majority of the Council Members.

Nominations for Hon. Secretary-General:

- Ir. Kenny Yee : nominated by Dr. Teik Aun Ooi; seconded by Prof. Charles Ng
Since there was no more nomination, Prof. Chun Fai Leung proposed nomination closed; seconded by Dr. Van Long Pham.

Ir. Kenny Yee was re-elected as the Hon. Secretary-General for the session 2016 – 2019.

- 5.3 Nominations for Hon. Treasurer:

- Ir. Kenny Yee : nominated by Dr. Teik Aun Ooi; seconded by Prof. Charles Ng
Since there was no more nomination, Prof. Suttisak Sorolump proposed nomination closed; seconded by Dr. Van Long Pham.

Ir. Kenny Yee was elected as the Hon. Treasurer for the session 2016 – 2019

- 5.4 According to the clause 3.2.3 of the Statutes (1st Revision dated 9 May 2010), the Representatives of Member Societies shall be nominated by the respective societies and shall serve for the same period as the new Chairman-elect. The President of each member society or his designate and one additional representative from the member society shall be in the Council.

The Hon. Secretary-General will write to the member societies for their representation for the session 2016 - 2019.

- 5.5 According to the clause 3.1.2 of the Statutes (1st Revision dated 9 May 2010), up to maximum of three Co-opted Members shall be nominated by the new Chairman-elect and subject to the approval of the Council. Co-opted members shall have no voting rights.

The Chairman shall nominate three Co-opted Members for the session 2016 – 2019 to the Council for approval.

6.0 Any Other Business

6.1 AGSSEA Subscription Fee

The Chairman briefed the meeting that until to-date there is no payment of AGSSEA membership and shall maintain status quo until the next meeting. The only contribution is from the SEAGC-AGSSEA Conference account.

6.2 20SEAGC – 3AGSSEA Conference

HATTI has been nominated to host the next conference (20SEAGC-3AGSSEA Conference) in Indonesia in 2018 / 2019. Members present accepted the nomination unanimously.

6.3 SEAGS – AGSSEA Geotechnical Engineering Journal

During the meeting, the idea of having 6 issues per year was mooted but the members present proposed to maintain 4 issues per year.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Prof. A. S. Balasubramaniam, Dr. T. A. Ooi, Prof. San Shyan Lin and others who have played a key role in maintaining the standard of our journal and maintaining a timely publication schedule.

6.4 AGSSEA Website

Prof. Charles Ng agreed to continue hosting the website with the assistance of his computer staff at the university.

6.5 New Member Society

It was informed by Mr. Zaw Zaw Aye that the Myanmar Engineering Society / Myanmar Geoscience Society is keen to join AGSSEA. However, they will seek direct membership with ISSMGE and upon admitted, AGSSEA will write to invite them to be a member of AGSSEA.

6.6 Nomination of Kevin Nash Medal

Prof. Chu Jian proposed Dr Teik Aun Ooi for the nomination and seconded by Prof. Charles Ng. The members decided unanimously to support Dr Ooi for the nomination. The Chairman then called upon the members to vote collectively for Dr. Ooi.

6.7 A S Balasubramaniam Lecture

The meeting commended on the devotion and contributions of Prof. Bala to the SEAGS and AGSSEA and confirmed that starting from the 20SEAGC – 3AGSSEA Conference, a named lecture in the name of A. S. Balasubramaniam will be instituted.

The meeting also confirmed Prof. Bala remains as the Editor-in-Chief of the SEAGS-AGSSEA Journal “Geotechnical Engineering”.

6.8 New President of ISSMGE

Prof. Charles Ng made known to the meeting that he is vying for the post of the President of ISSMGE. He was given an opportunity to promote his candidacy for the presidency. After his presentation, he excused himself from the meeting.

After deliberation and discussion, the members decided to support Prof. Charles Ng for the presidency. The Chairman then called upon the members to vote collectively for Prof. Charles Ng.

6.9 16ARC in Taipei

Prof. Der-Wen Chang was given an opportunity to brief the meeting regarding the preparation of ARC in Taipei in October 2019.

6.10 SEAGS 50th Anniversary

Prof. Suttisak Soralump was given an opportunity to brief the meeting regarding the venue and date for the 50th Anniversary of SEAGS conference. He will officially write to AGSSEA on the confirmed date and venue.

6.11 Date & Venue for Next AGSSEA Meeting

The date and venue for the 6th Council Meeting is not decided but preferably to be held in 2017 to coincide with the 50th Anniversary of SEAGS conference in Bangkok.

7.0 Adjournment

There being no other matters, the meeting was adjourned at 7.00 pm on 31st May 2013 with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

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Prof. K Y Yong
Chairman

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Ir. Kenny Yee
Hon. Secretary General

Minutes recorded and prepared by Ir. Kenny Yee and vetted by Prof. Kwet Yew Yong and Dr. Teik Aun Ooi. A draft copy of this MOM was sent to all members for comment.

3rd July 2016