

**Minutes of the CC Meeting**

# 12th April 2023, Brussels

## List of Participants:

## IGU Management Team

### IGU President Madam LI Yalan

**IGU Vice President Mr. Andrea Stegher**

**CC Chair Dr. YANG Lei**

**CC Vice Chair Mr. Vittorio MUSAZZI**

**IGU Secretary General Mr. Milton Catelin**

## Committee and Task Force Chairs

**E&P Committee Mr. Emeka Ene**

**Storage Committee Mr. Ladislav Barkoci**

**Sustainability Committee Ms. Naiara Ortiz de Mendibil**

**Transmission Committee Mr. Maurizio Zangrandi**

**Strategy Committee Mr. Amir Foster**

**LNG Committee Dr. Jeongwook Khang**

**RD&I Committee Dr. Gerard Martinus**

**TFS Ms. Luz Stella Murgas**

**TFN Mr. Jean-marc Leroy**

**TFD Dr. Zhai Yongping**

## Committee Vice Chairs

**LNG Committee Mr. Atsuo Kanno**

**Transmission Committee Mr. Rudy Van Beurden**

## Committee Secretaries

**Storage Committee Mr. Petra Bocmanova**

**Distribution Committee Mr. Uwe Klaas**

**Transmission Committee Mr. Marco Fabbro**

**Marketing and Communications Committee Mr. Richard Kvasnovsky**

## CC China Office

**CC Secretary Dr. ZHU Kai**

**Manager Ms. ZHANG Yuanhua**

## IGU Secretariat

**IGU Flagship Events Director Mr. Rodney Cox**

### Public Affairs Director Ms. Lesley Coldham

### IGU Strategic Communications &

### Membership Director Ms. Tatiana Khanberg

**IGU Membership Engagement Manager Ms. Marcela Martinez**

**IGU Flagship Event Manager Mr. Simon Polledri**

**IGU Senior Advisor Public Affairs Ms. Marta Gonzalez**

## Guests

**NOC Secretary Mr. SHAN Weiping**

**IGU President Director Ms. TANG Xuan**

**IGU Presidency team member Mr. GENG Wenyu**

**CNPC Ms. YANG Chunxia**

## Minutes

The CC meeting took place on April 12th in Brussels, moderated by CC Chair Dr. YANG Lei. **The key task of this meeting was to call on Committees and Task Forces to propose numbers, themes and topics by June 16 for the sessions they would host during the WGC2025.**

The meeting has three sessions.

### The First Session

In the first session, Dr. Yang opened the meeting by welcoming all the attendees. He introduced the new CC family members and then invited Madam President to give a welcome speech. Then Dr. ZHU Kai, CC Secretary, updated the CC progress, WGC2025 preparation including new audience analysis, number of sessions proposed by Committees/TFs, and he introduced show a video about WGC venue (refer to the after-meeting document to get more details). Rodney Cox, FED of IGU Secretariat, introduced the IGRC audience design for example. Tatiana updated the SCOA progress. The only challenge now faced by the flagship reports lies in the Global Renewable Gas Report. The initial plan was to make the report a method of communication at COP. But now we risk losing the report for the lack of data support. She calls upon the Union to set up a working group to rescue the report. On the Global Voice of Gas part, Andrea invited insights and inputs on CCS. On the newsletter and Report, CC Secretary released CC news but emphasized it could not replace the news release of Committees/TFs. Dr. Yang and Dr. Zhu encouraged the CC members to contribute their news, photos, and activities to share with SCMD, and engage more actively as an IGU member (CNOOC as a good example).

The discussions are minuted as follows:

1. FED and RDI Chair are advised to share the materials from IGRC, which Committee Chairs could refer to, so that Chairs could be better positioned to prepare for WGC2025 in Perth phase. The feedback from FED and RDI Chair is positive.
2. The IGU magazine audience is a mixture of industry, politics, research, institutions, etc., and audience base is growing steadily.
3. Chairs are thinking about how to contribute to the IGU publications like magazine and newsletter on technical topics like methane abatement, flaring reduction. SCMD would like to help Chairs through informal channel on outline. Chairs are suggested to provide contents with several hundred words of short feature, editorial style (not technical report), and so on. SCMD will help polish the wording.

### The Second Session

In the second session, Dr. Yang invited Chairs of Committees and Task Forces to brief their work progress. Eight Committees presented by slides, one Committee and three Task Forces gave oral presentation (refer to the after-meeting document for more details).

Discussion is minuted as follows:

1. CC organisation

* The number of Committee nominees in this triennium is less than that in previous one. The committee deliverable is a bit worrisome. This concern was raised at the beginning of this triennium, and CC has organised discussions among Chairs to find ways to stimulate more active members.
* CC Vice Chair proposed joint researched topics among several Committees/TFs. TFN Chair commented that TFN, TFS, Sustainability and RDI Committee held a joint meeting online, with 60-70 people presented; they discussed gas technologies used to produce renewable gas, low-carbon bio-methane and hydrogen, and they were looking to translate the outputs into reports. For next step, the joint group is looking to work with RCs: The first stop is in Perth (Australasia), and followed by Asia, North America (talk with Tim), and Central and South America (talk with Luz). The problem is that joint study benefits only a limited number of individuals. The joint group seeks to expend the coverage to benefit more, and reduce topics overlap. TFN Chair also prepares to kick off some external engagement with three international organizations, IEA included, after a discussion with IGU President and CC Chair.
* SCMD pointed out that the Study Group’s representation on the LNG report was declining and suggested Committees could engage more long-standing groups of IGU members. The LNG Chair introduced that the Committee and its World LNG Report SG engaged at an early stage for good ideas and the CNOOC team had been working quite hard to put the first draft together as head of the SG, organised two meetings for the draft. This year the LNG report was in good shape and two months are allowed for review.
* The intermediary work outputs, not only publications, should be better used and support third-party agencies. CC work needs to involve more IGU members, and allow them to reward CC’s contribution.
* The physical meeting provides a good opportunity to encourage young people’s involvement in the Committee/TF activity, experience shared by the LNG Committee.
* Committee Chairs need to think more about the value of the committees (and Committees’ Chairs physical meeting), apart from contributing to WGC themes, because lots of good ideas come out of the discussion, and not enough methods are in place to translate the values into reality.
* Beyond cooperation, CC should think not only from the perspective of users, but share information and work with other institutions to reduce work overlaps. The IGU could also work with other organisations on some topics to push the industry from outward.
* Currently many of industries are looking to gas industries’ expertise to solve their problems. The gas industry needs to work with other industries, opening the IGU to other industries. The gas industry should not make things become its own problem, but provide the solution with gas industry wisdom to help solve the problems of others.

1. Research topics

* The issue about having more gases in the distribution system needs to be considered in the IGU circle. Following questions are raised: Does it mean hydrogen is substituting natural gas completely? Green hydrogen or blue hydrogen? Can hydrogen prove its energy efficiency? A workshop is suggested to discuss it, because it is both a chance and a challenge. CC members and even Excom members (also RCs) are expected to join the discussion.
* Last year, three records were broken - renewable production, CO2 emission and coal consumption. 83% of the world population are from non-OECD countries, and the primary energy consumption in OCED countries is three times that of non-OECD countries. People suffer the most from EU policies are those in Pakistan, Bangladesh and India. Now the world is not aligned on the climate change agenda. If the world is to succeed on addressing the climate agenda, natural gas has to play a role. The IGU needs to be more aggressive and less polite on the messaging. Coal and coal-to-gas are not avoidable in natural gas strategy thinking. The world is not lacking in molecules and methane, but their access and flexibility need infrastructure.
* It is suggested to find a new way to explain is the definition of “renewable” (Currently the only definition on renewable gas comes from EU. French Gas Association has changed name to France Gaz, because it will not only be dedicated to gas alone, but seek to broaden the concept of gas by including hydrogen, bio-methane, etc.). The IGU needs to strategically engage in the definition on renewable gas. The definition should be both technically accurate and easy to communicate, avoiding putting the IGU in an awkward place.
* Some topics are proposed to be considered as themes of the WGC2025, such as methane emission reduction, energy security, ammonia and fertilizer. The synthetic report of IGRC may be used to give new technological perspectives in the WGC.

### The Third Session

The third session focused on WGC2025 preparation. Dr. Yang opened the discussion with a short introduction, followed by topics proposed by Dr. Zhu.

The discussion is minuted as follows:

1. Potential special sessions to facilitate triennial results of Committees/TFs

* Traditionally, CC meeting is organised before the 4-day WGC event, and the TI&II sessions are based on invited VIPs and speakers selected by CfA. Committees/TFs need a platform to show themselves to the audience and present their most important triennial results during the WGC, to allow audience to best understand the outcomes and value of the IGU committees/TFs. The IGU does not only organise conference, but also create contents and innovations produced by IGU Committees/TFs. NOC suggests to provide CC special sessions during the WGC.
* Chairs agreed that some form of showcasing of the triennial work results was necessary and helpful, because this is something the Committees/TFs have been working for 3 years and it is worth celebrating. Committees/TFs members need the demonstration of their remarkable outcomes to their companies and organisations. The outcomes could be synergized with their companies to reward them for years of support to the IGU.

1. Formats of outcomes demonstration

* New forms need to be considered, maybe in combination with IGU awards, or open to the wider world.
* Internal and external audience are both important. Insisting on report may risk losing external audience, who are the key to sustain CC efforts. A mixture of session and report (maybe case study) is an option. Formal sessions must be selective.
* The outcomes of several Committees/TFs could be grouped as each Committee/TF may give a view from a different angle.
* FED reminded that content is the key for the sessions.

1. CfA

Jason introduced the session analysis and the draft of CfA guidance structure. Questions are focused on timeline and quality of selected authors.

* If the WGC CfA paper reviewing process overlaps with that of IGRC, RDI Chair and his team will struggle with the time allocation and workload.
* If the CfA ends too early, CC risks losing the good ones (reviewing the abstracts 1.5 years ahead of the event risks not being able to attract the right audience and missing the out-front. Sometimes good papers/technology come shortly before the conference). A solution is given in the current timetable that the Call for Paper is finalized on Oct. 21 of 2024, so the authors have time to edit the paper with the latest information.
* Sometimes the abstract is good, but the authors make a bad public speaker, thus sabotaging the result of the session. A 2-minute video is recommended from the author to see if he/she is a good public speaker. Maybe a joint team could be put together to look at that. But FED suggests too many barriers may stop people from engaging.
* A good moderator (in this case, Committee Chairs) could save the sessions and give a good lead. A template should be given to avoid the abstract being neither too short, nor too long (which was already prepared by ETF, 250 words for an abstract).
* It is suggested to make the Committee sessions a platform to advertise, so as to attract more committee members for the next triennium. This would be a legacy that Chairs could leave to his/her committee.

Anyway, putting in place a road-map is a practical way moving forward. To be noted that the CfA goes public, not only limited to internal IGU members.

1. CC reminder for tasks in Perth Phase

* Dr. Zhu listed CC reminders and asked for advice. He encouraged again Committees/TFs to propose the numbers of sessions they would undertake in WGC2025. TFS was also invited to contribute sessions to the WGC, not only II and TI, but also Current Debates. In the following months, Committees/TFs need to follow the timetable to fulfill their tasks.
* Dr. Yang encouraged the Committee and TF Chairs to make the work results visible and synergize the outputs. Better start sooner than later. CC risks waiting too much and come out with nothing. People come to the conference because it’s a “gas” conference, not because of a specific topic.
* The CfA schedule is very similar with that in IGRC. Lessons from the current paper rolling process of IGRC is worth learning.
* It is suggested to bring in the panels with more women and young people involvement. The suggestion is welcome by NOC, while Chairs are expected to play a role in inviting speakers.
* It is suggested to award the most appealing presentation, maybe in combination with young speakers.

The minute is prepared by CC China Office.