



International Association of Geoanalysts

<http://geoanalyst.org>



Delegates attending the 33rd ISO/REMCO meeting in Hangzhou, China. Jacinta Enzweiler, IAG Deputy Liaison Officer to ISO/REMCO, is third from the right in the front row.

33rd MEETING OF ISO/REMCO COMMITTEE ON REFERENCE MATERIALS

The 33rd meeting of the ISO/REMCO committee was held on 3–7 May 2010 in Hangzhou, China. At these meetings, decisions are made concerning the international harmonization of the production and use of reference materials. These decisions affect all fields that rely on accurate measurements, including what is viewed as best practice in (geo)analytical science. The IAG has liaison status within ISO/REMCO, thereby giving the geoanalytical community a voice within this global body. As IAG's Deputy Liaison Officer to ISO/REMCO, I attended this recent meeting and participated in lively discussions over a broad spectrum of topics in metrology. Here I would like to report briefly on a number of current activities that will probably impact geoanalysts over the coming years.

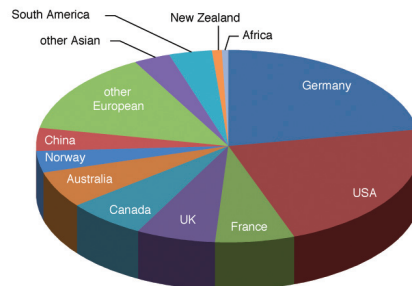
- ISO Guide 34 (*General Requirements for the Competence of Reference Materials Producers*): a reviewed third edition was published in November 2009.
- Guide 80 (working title: *Guidance for In-house Production of Quality Control Reference Materials*): this guide is at an advanced stage and a vote on its publication is expected soon.
- ISO Guide 33 (*Good Practices in Using Reference Materials*): this guide is under revision and will contain several practical examples for the analytical community.
- A new working group will provide guidance on how reference material producers can establish and express metrological traceability for certified values of reference materials.

Jacinta Enzweiler

GEOREM DATABASE

Recent download information has demonstrated that the GeoReM Database (<http://georem.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/>) has truly established itself as a critical tool for the analytical geochemist. Designed, implemented and continually updated by IAG Council member Klaus Peter Jochum of the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry in Mainz, this information source is being increasingly used by analysts seeking suitable reference materials to support their work. This database now contains information on over 2150 reference materials based on the results of 22,000 analyses reported in 4400 scientific publications. In an average month, this site is visited more than 2000 times, and this tool is now being consulted by researchers from over 50 countries. The IAG wishes to congratulate Klaus Peter on his efforts to expand the information available about potential reference materials.

GeoReM users worldwide



IAG COUNCIL

The IAG's governing council has expanded to 14 members. We wish to welcome Dr. Matt Horstwood of the British Geological Survey into our numbers. Matt brings with him expertise in the area of laser ablation-based U–Pb analyses and will lead IAG's contribution towards better metrology in the field of geochronology. At the 13 May 2010 Council meeting in London, Matt reported on the actions proposed at the first LA–ICP–MS U–Pb Geochronology Data Handling Workshop held last December in San Francisco. With Matt on the IAG's Council, our organization will establish a much closer link between the end users of age determinations and the IAG's expertise in geochemical metrology.



IAG Council members attending the May 2010 meeting in London. **Back row from left:** Jacinta Enzweiler (Unicamp, Brazil; IAG Vice President), Thomas Meisel (U. Leoben, Austria; Chair of IAG's Certification Committee), Michael Wiedenbeck (Helmholtz Centre Potsdam, Germany; IAG President), Steve Wilson (USGS, Denver, USA; leader of G-Probe programme), Phil Potts (Open University, UK; IAG Immediate Past President), Chris Jackson (Ashford, UK; IAG Hon. Treasurer), Matt Horstwood (BGS, Keyworth, UK;

leader, IAG geochronology initiative), Ed Williams (CRPG, Nancy, France; IAG publications manager). **Front row from left:** Doug Miles (Keyworth, UK; President IAGeo Limited), Jenny Cook (BGS, Keyworth, UK; IAG Hon. Secretary), Klaus Peter Jochum (Max Planck Institute, Mainz, Germany; lead coordinator of GeoReM database), Peter Webb (Open University, UK; leader of GeoPT programme). **Not in the picture:** Mathieu Benoit (Toulouse, France) and Michel Grégoire (Toulouse, France)