

COMMITTEE ON INTERNET AND COMPUTER APPLICATION (CICA)

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(Attached document (10/10/03))

The IMA Working Group on Databases and computer applications (WGDB) was disbanded at the 18th IMA General Meeting in Edingurgh, september 2002. As stated in a letter that was given to the IMA council at the end of the second business meeting in Edinburgh, former members of the IMA Working Group on Databases and computer applications strongly felt that the IMA should maintain some kind of structure concerned with computer and internet applications.

The creation of a Committee for Internet and Computer Applications (CICA) within the IMA was proposed to, and accepted by, the IMA council. The main responsibility of this group is to develop and maintain the web site of the IMA. This site aims (as a minimum) to offering active links to the individual web sites of IMA commissions and working groups, as well as links to the web sites of National Societies. Regular updates of the web site, as well as news or links to ressources usefull to mineralogists (databases...), should be available as well.

A new version of the IMA web-site has been developped during the last year. It is currently accessible at: <http://wwwobs.univ-bpclermont.fr/ima/>

An additional task of the IMA-CICA committee will be to start developing an interchange file format for the various mineralogical databases. Such an ambitious project of setting a worldwide standard could only be conducted within the scope of the IMA.

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