
INTERNATIONAL MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION [IMA]

2008 IMA Report to IUGS

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International Mineralogical Association (IMA) Summary of the 2008 IMA report to IUGS

The International Mineralogical Association (IMA) is the only truly international association promoting mineralogy. Its aim is to support intercourse among mineralogists by organizing events, such as meetings, short courses and workshops, and by publishing relevant literature through the scientific activity of its 11 commissions and working groups (Com-WG).

The IMA is composed of 39 adhering mineralogical societies or groups. Only one society or group per country may adhere to IMA.

The IMA council comprises 12 members. The President is Takamitsu Yamanaka who organized the General Meeting of Kobe in 2006. Other council officers are Frances Wall, Communication Officer, Robert Downs, Treasurer, and Maryse Ohnenstetter, Secretary. Ian Parsons is the Past-President and Ekkehart Tillmanns and Nicolai Yushkin, are the first and second Vice-presidents, respectively. Joel Grice, Kari Kojonen, Anhuai Lu, Marcello Mellini and Walter Maresch are ordinary councillors.

IMA holds its General Meeting (GM) every 4 years and its business meeting every 2 years. This year, IMA held a business meeting in Vancouver, Canada, in conjunction with the Goldschmidt conference, July 13-18. The next one will occur with the IMA General Meeting which will be held in Budapest in 2010. A progress report on the 2010 GM was presented by E. Tillmanns, chair of the 2010 GM, in Vancouver. Final decisions on scientific sessions of the 2010 GM will be taken in February 2009.

The 2014 GM of IMA will be organized by the Mineralogical Society of South Africa which was selected in Vancouver by the IMA delegates. The following GM will take place in U.S.A. in 2018.

IMA decisions and news about IMA adhering societies and Com-WG are reported within the journal "Elements", the IMA page being under the responsibility of the Communication officer. Alternatively, a full list of IMA officials and news may be found on the IMA website [<http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/imanews.html>] and on that of the IMA Com-WG. The IMA website is in the process to be transformed into a dynamic website.

The Working Group on Astromineralogy and the Working Group on Organic Minerals were disbanded following decisions taken in Vancouver. On the other hand, a new Working Group on Solid Earth Composition and Evolution (WGSECE) was created.

In addition, 14 chairs of Com-WG stopped their function as IMA officers. On the other hand, 17 officers were elected by the IMA delegates in July, and since that time three additional officers were proposed to the IMA council by the Com-WG chairs. Additional officers are expected to be named in 2009 to complement the slate of officers in the Commission on Gem Materials (CGM), Commission on Museums, Working Group on Inclusions in Minerals (WGIM) and Working Group on Mineral Equilibria (WGME). Increasing number of officers results in the existence of a new working group and of new sub-commissions as for the Commission on Applied Mineralogy (CAM). The list of delegates and members in Com-WG was updated by the officers in parallel to the development of scientific activities in the respective Com-WG.

In 2008, the IMA commissions - working groups sponsored scientific sessions in several meetings: the Commissions on Applied Mineralogy (CAM), Ore Mineralogy (COM) and

Physics of Minerals (CPM) and the Working Groups on Environmental Mineralogy and Geochemistry (WGEMG), Inclusions in Minerals (WGIM) and Mineral Equilibria (WGME) participated to the IGC meeting, in Oslo, whereas the CPM and the WGEMG organized sessions during the Goldschmidt Conference.

The 9th International Congress for Applied Mineralogy (ICAM 2008) was organized jointly by ICAM and IMA-CAM, in Brisbane, Australia. Dogan Paktunc, Chair of the CAM, played as the acting vice president of ICAM2008, organizing also a workshop. In the future, the ICAM meetings will occur every three years instead of four, making easier the IMA-CAM participation to ICAM and IMA General Meetings. In order to improve communications between ICAM and CAM, Jan Elsen has been elected CAM Coordinator of ICAM.

The Commission on new Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC) and the Commission on Museums (CM) participated to several scientific sessions of the 6th International Conference on Mineralogy and Museums, in Colorado, USA.

The WGIM organized the second ACROFI meeting in India.

The IMA-CNMNC continuously provides new publications, available from the IMA-CNMNC website [<http://www.geo.vu.nl/users/ima-cnmmn/>], as mineral nomenclature and classification are revisited. The publication policy for the CNMNC results was reviewed following changes that occurred in the policy of the society journals. It was decided following Frances Wall's report that (1) Some of the CNMNC publications, which are unlikely to be cited directly and therefore of less benefit to a journal, are moved to web-site only publication. The 'Annual List of New Minerals and Changes in Nomenclature' is an example of this type of publication (see the CNMNC website); (2) Publication of other reports rotates around a group of learned society journals as the Editors of Canadian Mineralogist, Mineralogical Magazine, European Journal of Mineralogy and American Mineralogist have agreed to publish CNMNC reports, following normal submission procedures.

On the other hand, the CNMNC officers are regularly complaining with the low participation rate for some commission members, partly related to the heavy work load of the commission. By November 13 2008, the CNMNC has dealt with 64 new -mineral proposals, showing a slight increase on the previous years. Members of the Com-WG should evaluate all nomenclature proposals and cast their votes on a monthly basis.

In September, the issue of the CNMNC's role in nomenclature revisions came to the forefront via the MSA-Talk email-based forum. Concern has been expressed on the lost of historical mineral names. After lengthy discussions, a proposal was distributed to the CNMNC members for voting before the end of November 2008.

Other IMA Com-WG publications are special volumes of journals edited following scientific sessions organized by the respective IMA Com-WG, such as the CPM, WGEMG, WGME and now the newly created WGSECE.

In Vancouver, the IMA council followed the recommendation of the IMA Medal Committee which named Charles Prewitt as the first IMA Medal recipient. A presentation will be given by C. Prewitt during the Goldschmidt Conference in Davos where the IMA Council Meeting will be held. It has to be noted that the Medal Committee chaired by J. Grice worked very well for the first year of its existence. Marcello Mellini is now chairing the Medal Committee which will design the second IMA medal recipient in 2009. Nominations should be received by the Medal Committee chair not later than April 1.



Activity of the former Committee on Internet and Computer Applications (CICA) is now included within two Outreach sub-committees devoted to databases and IMA websites, which were created in the frame of the IMA Outreach Committee. The handbook of this committee was presented to the IMA council in July, as well as the project of the subcommittee on IMA databases and Mineral properties chaired by R. Downs.

In 2009, The IMA council will still work at developing the IMA Outreach Committee to integrate activities which concern the IMA components, and beyond the mineralogist community.

The IMA council will also continue to re-organize and develop the IMA Com-WG. Of interest is the "draft term of reference" prepared by the CAM officers to outline the purpose and management structure of the commission.

Before the 2010 IMA General Meeting of IMA, the IMA Com-WG will be involved in the organization of scientific sessions in meetings as well as in some workshops and short courses, and in publication.

19 November 2008
Maryse Ohnenstetter
Secretary of IMA

2 IMA objectives and structure

Objectives - The International Mineralogical Association (IMA) is the only truly international organisation promoting mineralogy. Since its creation in 1958, the IMA represents national mineralogical societies or mineralogical groups, the latter being usually affiliated to a geological society.

Mineralogy is one of the oldest branches of science and includes both fundamental and applied research.

Mineralogy is essential for the development of knowledge of the chemistry, mode of formation and age of rocks from the earth and gives us clues to the origin of the solar system. Today's mineralogy plays a vital role in human welfare, the remediation of pollution, and waste disposal, and the understanding of climate through the knowledge of reacting surfaces between the solid earth, the atmosphere and biosphere. Mineralogy is also of prime importance in the exploitation of industrial minerals, metalliferous mining, soils, and in petroleum exploration and exploitation.

The IMA supports the scientific development of mineralogical sciences, and interacts with other geoscience disciplines as geophysics, geochemistry and petrology. The IMA organizes a General Meeting every four years, scientific sessions every year in other international meetings, and symposium and workshop through the activity of its commissions and working groups, which may be followed by publication of books and special journal volumes.

The IMA is affiliated to the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS - <http://www.iugs.org>) and favours the relationships with other international geoscience bodies.

Structure - IMA is composed of 39 adhering societies or groups which are in regular contact to the IMA through a National Representative (Annex, item 1) and the IMA website: <http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/adh-org.html>.

The IMA is managed by a council (Annex, item 2) which regulates the IMA activity between the IMA Business meetings.

Council - It comprises twelve members: the President, the First and Second Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Communication Officer, the retiring President and five ordinary Councilors (Annex, item 2). The first six form the Council Officers, whereas the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Communication Officer form the Executive Committee.

Following recent practice, the First Vice-President belongs to the Mineralogical Society which is organizing the next General Meeting of IMA. He automatically becomes President of the IMA Council once the General Meeting has occurred.

The IMA council holds a meeting every year during a scientific meeting in which IMA and/or its commissions and working groups are organizing scientific sessions (Annex, item 8).

Commissions and Working Groups - The scientific activity of IMA is supported by its seven commissions and four working groups (Com-WG) which may interact with various organisations in Geosciences (Annex, item 3). They play a major role in sponsoring sessions within international meetings, organizing workshops and courses, and in publishing books, special volumes after meetings or catalogues (Annex, items 8 and 9).

Officers of the IMA Com-WG have to publish a yearly report on the activity of their respective Com-WG, which are integrated within the annex of the IMA annual report to the IUGS. Com-WG comprise national delegates and members from the adhering mineralogical societies and groups. Each Com-WG has a correspondent within the IMA council (see annex, item 3). The development of some commissions is now also assumed by the creation and development of sub-commissions.

One Commission, the Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC) provides each month information on New minerals and on the evolution of the list of minerals giving information on valid unnamed minerals, invalid unnamed minerals, and references for unnamed minerals, available from its website. Note the new address of the CNMNC website: <http://pubsites.uws.edu.au/ima-cnmnc>.

Committees - Since the Kobe meeting, IMA is working at developing committees to expedite some technical and administrative purposes. The IMA medal Committee was developed in 2007 and 2008 to select each year the recipient of the IMA Medal award (Annex, items 4 & 5). In 2008, the IMA Outreach committee (Annex, item 6) was developed and several subcommittees (Annex, item 7) were created to propose tools to be used by mineralogists or by the scientific community and the public.

Contact and information - Contacts between the IMA components: council members, officers of IMA commissions and working groups, national representatives of adhering societies, are usually done by electronic mail. Informations are provided through the IMA Secretariat [mohnen@crpg.cnrs-nancy.fr] to the different IMA components. The Communication Officer, Frances Wall [F.Wall@exeter.ac.uk], contacts the different IMA components to get papers on their respective activities, selecting informations to be delivered within the journal "Elements" (Annex, item 10). Current information are otherwise delivered on "Latest News" pages of the IMA website and otherwise reported on pages dedicated to the different IMA components.

Business meeting - The IMA business (Annex, item 11) are examined by delegates during the IMA Business Meetings (BM) which occurs every two years since the Edinburgh General Meeting in 2004. One BM occurs in conjunction with the IMA General Meeting and the other with a large meeting, either the International Geological Congress or the Goldschmidt meeting.

IMA delegates to the business meeting are named by their respective adhering society in a number not exceeding the balloting power of the society. Each member Society can vote during the business meeting according to the group under which it joins the Association. There are three mineralogical societies in category 5 (Germany, Russia and USA) and four in category 4 (Canada, France, Japan, United Kingdom), four in categories 3 (Australia, Austria, China and Italy), eight in category 2 and twenty in category 1.

Delegates vote on all IMA affairs prepared by the Council, some of the items having been suggested in due time to the IMA secretariat by national representatives or by Officers of IMA Com-WG. More specifically, delegates vote on the composition of the Council, the creation, maintenance or ending of IMA Commissions and Working Groups, on the designation of Officers of these commissions/working groups, on the location of the General Meeting of IMA and on the change of the IMA constitution.

3. IMA decisions and performance

3.1. IMA Council Meetings and Business Meeting in Vancouver

Two council meetings and two business meetings (Annex, item 11) were held in Vancouver at the following dates and places:

Council Meetings: Building Hebb, 2045 East Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1. Room 12
July 13, 2008 13:30 - 18:00
July 16, 2008 14:00 - 18:00

Business Meetings: Chemistry, 2036 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1. Room 124
July 14, 2008 17:00 - 19:00
July 17, 2008 17:00 - 19:00

The IMA Council has expressed its regrets to the IMA delegates attending the Business Meeting (BM) for the change of location of the 2008 BM. Initially, the 2008 BM was planned to occur during the Oslo

International Geological Congress, but in Kobe, the Council decided to hold the 2008 BM in Vancouver, in conjunction with the Goldschmidt Conference.

For financial reasons, IMA did not rent a booth in Vancouver. Advertising on IMA and the next General Meeting in Budapest was displayed in a booth during the IGC meeting in Oslo.

Current IMA affairs were discussed during the first BM, and activities of IMA Commissions and Working Groups were reviewed during the second BM. Power point presentations (ppp) were shown during the two BM informing on IMA Council activities and on the different items to be voted by the IMA delegates during the second BM.

3.2. Evolution of IMA Commissions and Working Groups

Activities of the IMA Commissions and Working Groups were considered by the IMA Council which worked by e-mail exchanges since the last council meeting in 2007, and during the two council meetings in Vancouver. Reports on the different Com-WG prepared by the IMA Council were presented to the IMA delegates during the first and second BM.

The following chapters report on the main decisions voted by the IMA delegates during the second BM.

3.2.1. Termination of two Working Groups and one Committee

The IMA council has recognized the difficulties encountered by the Working Group on Astromineralogy to develop its activities and decided to disband the group, recognizing however the scientific interest of extraterrestrial materials.

The IMA Council noted that the Working Group on Organic Minerals (WGOM) comprises a few members held by a chair which is now retired, after staying a long time in his position. As the working group was mainly involved in the study of ambers, the IMA council decided to terminate the WGOM. This will give much more opportunities and facilities to make new proposals in the interdisciplinary field between Biology and Mineralogy to create a new working group.

Taking into account the development of the Outreach Committee (Annex, items 6 & 7) which comprises now three subcommittees (see chapter 3.5), the end of the Committee on Internet and Computer Applications (CICA) was decided in Vancouver. Activities of the former CICA will be developed under two Outreach subcommittees (see below the item on the Outreach Committee).

3.2.2. Creation of a new Working Group

The Working group on Solid Earth Composition and Evolution (WG-SECE) was created (Annex, item 19).

Its Objectives is to encourage and promote collective effort through the international community using mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry of igneous and metamorphic rocks as a basic means, assisted by tectonic and geophysical methods, to understanding the origin and evolution of the solid Earth, including its mantle and crust on land and beneath ocean basins.

The major tasks aimed at promoting petrologic and geochemical investigation of the Earth crust and mantle through organization of symposia on the subject at international meetings/conferences; publication of proceedings of sponsored conferences; and importantly support participation of young Earth Scientists (students) in international conferences, symposia and workshops.

Memberships: Chair: Yaoling Niu; Vice-chair (and Treasurer): Andrew C. Kerr; Secretary: Ian Campbell; Other Current members : Nick Arndt, Marge Wilson, David Peate, Pat Castillo, Xisheng Xu, Lifei Zhang, Jim Mungall, Ayalew Dereje, Eizo Nakamura, Colin Devey, Sue Webb, Suzanne Baldwin.

3.2.3. Objectives of the IMA Com-WG

The Commission on Applied Mineralogy - To provide leadership in knowledge sharing for the broad range of applied mineralogy fields and to offer means for professional development for applied mineralogists. Mission: To build and sustain a strong commission that provides value to its members in alignment with the IMA's vision.

CAM's interest areas cover a full spectrum of applied mineralogy activities in extractive metallurgy, mineral exploration and mine development, building materials, ceramics, glasses, preservation of cultural heritage and archaeological materials, disposal of mine and industrial wastes, and development of advanced characterization techniques.

The Commission on Mineral growth and Interface Processes (WMGIP) - The scope of the CMGIP commission is to bring together experts in crystal growth and geoscientists interested in the rich range of phenomena associated with mineral crystallization and dissolution processes in nature. Although there has been interaction between the "crystal growth community" and geoscientists in the past, there is still a strong demand to strengthen and employ the most modern tools for "in situ" observation of these process and advanced ideas if we are to advance our understanding of these processes. Four major categories may be classified: (1) Interface phenomena on the molecular level, (2) mineral texture formation, (3) crystallization and dissolution mechanisms and (4) novel "in situ" techniques to visualize the process of nucleation and crystal growth.

The Commission on Gem Materials (CGM) - During the Business Meeting in Vancouver, Lee graot was elected as the chair of the CGM. He is presently looking for new officers to develop the commission and its scientific activities.

The Commission on Museums (CM) - The CM was established to link the mineralogical sections of museums around the world. The best specimens of minerals, and those described for the first time, are often collected in museums, and the history of mineralogy is intimately bound to the history of museum mineral collections.

The Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC) - This commission (CNMNC) was established in 1959 (under the former title of Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names, or CNMMN) to deal with all nomenclature matters in mineralogy. Its main roles are to ensure that strict procedures are followed before new mineral species can be established and before redefinitions and changes to nomenclature can be applied. The CNMNC also coordinates the procedures for classification of minerals.

The Commission on Ore Mineralogy (COM) - The Commission on Ore Mineralogy of the International Mineralogical Association was set up in 1962 to serve the interests of ore mineralogists in universities, research institutions, museums, and the minerals industry across the world. Our goals are to promote ore mineralogy within the scientific community, to train fellow members in investigative skills through a series of short courses, and to support the activities of other IMA commissions by providing advice and expert opinion on issues related to our fields of research. Through its regular short courses, regional meetings, scientific sessions, other symposia and field excursions, as well as its website, COM offers a platform to ore mineralogists to share their knowledge with others, exchange information, and to speak with a collective voice on issues that affect our branch of science. As one of the commissions of IMA, the COM supports the goals of international cooperation and collaborative research in pure and applied mineralogy.

The Commission on Physics of Minerals (CPM) - The Commission on Physics of Minerals was established for the promotion of the application of modern solid state physics to minerals at low and high temperatures as well as at high pressures and dynamics of the earth and planetary interior by workshop, conferences and publications.

Working Group on Environmental Mineralogy and Geochemistry (WGEMG) - Environmental mineralogy and geochemistry is an interdisciplinary field dealing with systems at, or near, the surface of the Earth where the geosphere comes into contact with the hydrosphere, atmosphere and biosphere. This is the 'environment' on which plants and animals (including humans) depend for survival and which can be disrupted by human activity, particularly that associated with exploitation and utilization of Earth's resources. It deals with those systems containing minerals that constitute key environments (modern sediments, soils, atmospheric aerosols, parts of certain micro and macro organisms including the human body). Both pure systems and those contaminated through human activities are considered, and with emphasis on a fundamental (predictive) understanding of such systems at scales which can range from molecular to global. The full armory of modern analytical, imaging, diffraction, spectroscopic and computer modeling techniques are employed. Examples of specific topics within the remit of environmental mineralogy and geochemistry include: release, transport and dispersal of toxic wastes from mining and industry (including the nuclear industry) and the safe containment of such wastes; mineral based atmospheric aerosols; minerals in the human body; geochemistry and human health; preservation of minerals and rocks in culturally important buildings and artefacts.

The IMA Working Group on Environmental Mineralogy and Geochemistry (WGEMG) is seeking to promote this new field through organization of relevant sessions at international conferences, short courses, specialist publications, networking and an internet presence. The officers of the WGEMG and other scientists involved believe that mineralogy and geochemistry have a central role to play in the larger field of environmental science, and in tackling the many environmental problems faced by humanity in the 21st century.

Working Group on Inclusions in Minerals (WGIM) - The objectives of WGIM is to bring mineral inclusion researchers together for scientific exchanges, promoting technological awareness and technology development in mineral inclusion researches, and therefore to support researches in related fields including but not limited to mineralogy, petrology, mineral deposit study, geochemistry, astrochemistry, tectonic geology, and petroleum geology, etc.

Working Group on Mineral Equilibria (WGME) - The WGME comprises geoscientists who work with experimental and thermodynamic modeling of mineral equilibria and apply models to determine the physico-chemical and geodynamic conditions of formation of both magmatic and metamorphic rocks. All the chairs have to be named.

Working Group on Solid Earth Composition and Evolution (WGSECE) - See 3.2.2.

3.2.4. Election of IMA officers

17 IMA officers of IMA Commissions and Working Groups were elected in Vancouver. Some changes were triggered by the too long duration of chairs as already noticed during the General Meeting in Kobe. Some other changes were decided by the respective Commission-Working Group (Com-WG) members.

The new officers elected in Com-WG are as follow:

- * Commission on Applied Mineralogy chaired by Dogan Paktunc: Three chairs of sub-commissions were named following their creation:

- (1) Maarten Broekmans, chair of the subcommissionson on Mineralogy applied to building materials

- (2) Isabella Memmi, chair of the subcommissionson on Cultural Heritage and Archaeolpiica Materials

- (3) Hans Joachim Kleebe, chair of the subcommissionson on Advances Ceramics and Glasses

- * Commission on Gems Materials : Lee Groat was named as the new chair

- * Commission on Mineral Growth and Interface Processes:
Chair: Katsuo Tsukamoto; Vice-chairman : Andreas Lutge; Secretary: Jeanne Paquette
- * Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification:
Chair: Peter Williams; Secretary : Stuart Mills
- * Commission on Ore Mineralogy chaired by Nigel Cook:
Secretary: Federica Zaccharini
- * Commission on Physics of Minerals :
Chair: Edji Ohtani; Vice-chairman: Daniel Neuville; Secretary: Susan Schorr
- * Working Group on Environmental Mineralogy and Geochemistry chaired by David Vaughan:
Vice-chairman: Tom Sato; Secretary : Anne Thompson
- * Working Group on Solid Earth Composition and Evolution
Chair: Yaoling Niu; Treasurer: A. Kerr; Secretary: Ian Campbell.

Following the Vancouver business meeting, Henrique Kahn, Secretary of the CAM, has decided to resign from his position. He was a CAM officer since the 14th of August, 1993. In addition, from January 1st 2009, Andrew Kerr will be the new Chairman and Treasurer of the WG-SECE, replacing Yaoling Niu, the present-day chair. Pat Castillo will be the new vice-chairman instead of A. Kerr, and David Peate will be the new Secretary, replacing Ian Campbell.

Following the 2008 M&M Congress, Stanislas Filatov retired due to ill health and was replaced by Marco Pasero in the CNMNC.

The updated list of IMA Officers is available in the annex (item 3). In 2008, 14 officers stopped their function as executive officers of Com-WG. The creation of a new working group and that of sub-commissions in the CAM explain the increasing number of officers in the IMA Cam-WG. Additional officers are expected to be named in 2009 to complement the slate of officers in some Com-WG, namely the CGM, CM, WGIM and WGEM (see below).

In addition, honorary members are named in some Commissions, in the Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC) and in the Commission on Ore Minerals (COM). E. Burke was named this year in the CNMNC and L. Cabri in the COM.

3.2.5. A call for new officers in some IMA Com-WG

Some IMA Commissions and Working Groups (Com-WG) need to complement their officer slate or to replace some of them who were elected since a long time.

Commission on Museums - A Vice-chairman has to be named.

Working Group on Mineral Equilibria. The past chairs, Leonid L. Perchuk and Masaki Akaogi, are looking for new officers.

Working Group on Inclusions in Minerals - A Vice-chairman has to be named.

3.2.6. A call for the creation of new working groups

The council recognizes the scientific interest of extraterrestrial materials and expects that such a theme based on their study would find a new place within the IMA structure in a near future.

The council also recognizes the scientific interest of the Working Group on Mineral Equilibria (WGME), and suggests that the new officers enlarge the fields of investigation of the WGME. It should be the objective of a long standing working group to be transformed one day into a commission.

New proposals in the interdisciplinary field between Biology and Mineralogy are expected following the Working Group on Organic Minerals (WGOM) disbanding. The council recognizes the scientific interest of the theme on Organic minerals, not only that of ambers, but also the present-day interest in the relationships between biology and mineralogy. It is expected that new Group(s) could start based on an enlarged theme.

3.2.7. A handbook for the Commission on Applied Mineralogy (CAM)

A draft terms of reference that outlines purpose, management structure, and roles and responsibilities of the executive committee members of CAM was proposed to the IMA council on the 19th of September by Dogan Paktunc, chair of the CAM. According to Dogan Paktunc, "the roles and responsibilities will make it clear what is expected of the committee members and will bring improved functionality to the commission". The new structure is planned "to engage more people and bring in new ideas and energy to the organization, and create opportunities for other people to seek term by getting involved in CAM's activities."

3.2.8. Concluding remarks from the IMA Council

Creation of sub-commissions was appreciated by the IMA council as this involves more people in the activities of the respective IMA commissions, creating better conditions for their development (Annex, item 3 & 13). There is still the idea of creating a nucleus of experts at the head of some Com-WG to lead the Com-WG more pro-active in addition to keeping up the national representative delegates.

The IMA Council thanks a lot the past IMA officers for their investment in IMA scientific activities.

3.3. Medal Committee

2008 was the inaugural year for the IMA Medal Committee which worked very well.

An updated list of the Medal Committee members is available in the present annex (item 4) while the medal Committee handbook is available on the IMA website.

Nomination packages (Annex, item 5) were sent to the eight committee members on April 1 by Joel Grice, chair of the IMA Medal Committee, after having received the first proposals for nominations in March. Later on a Medal Committee report, was received at the IMA secretariat on the 5th of May, with a candidate proposed for the First IMA Medal. The final list of nominations with four names was received later on from the chair J. Grice.

The IMA Council arrived at a decision in July during the first Council Meeting and the name of the Medal recipient, Charles Prewitt, was given during the IMA Business Meeting in Vancouver.

Decision was taken in May-June 2008 by the IMA Council on the respective date of nomination of the Medal winner and that of its presentation, which will be given a year after.

The new chair of the IMA Medal Committee is Marcello Mellini who accepted this position following the IMA Council in Vancouver (Annex, items 4 & 5).

3.4. IMA medal

Professor Charles Prewitt is the first IMA Medal winner.

The IMA is proud to announce that Professor Charles Prewitt of the Carnegie Institution has been designed as the First recipient of the IMA Medal for Excellence in Mineralogical Research.

Charles Prewitt is nominated as the inaugural recipient of the IMA Medal for Excellence. The IMA expressed their admiration for his research eminence in developing a wide variety of new fields in crystal chemistry, material sciences and mineral physics. In crystallography he was one of the pioneers in the use of the single-crystal diffractometer, creating computer programs to handle diffraction data and more recently in his use of synchrotron radiation for solving problems in mineral physics. In experimental techniques he was in the forefront of developing new methods in high-temperature and high-pressure mineral synthesis. Charles Prewitt has not only produced an enormous number of extraordinary publications of his own but he is responsible for directing much larger research projects on an international basis.

According to the IMA procedure, a lecture will be given by C. Prewitt during the 2009 Goldschmidt Conference in Davos, in the frame of the IMA medal award ceremony.

3.5. Outreach Committee

Decision to create an Outreach Committee (OC) was taken during the Cambridge council meeting in 2007. This decision followed discussions which started during the Kobe meeting on the necessity to create a steering committee, which would look after the development of the RRUFF project initiated by Bob Downs in 2006.

The primary purpose of the Outreach Committee (Annex, item 6) is to recommend and develop research activities, useful and educative outreach materials that will be used by IMA society members, mineralogists, and to a larger extent by Earth scientists including teachers. This will help the interest in Mineralogical Sciences and complementary Earth Sciences. Emphasis will be concentrated on developments of tools for mineralogists, including database development, interactivity between mineralogists through IMA websites development, and communication to members and non-members. The outreach committee should also advise on how IMA may communicate and follow different activities related to mineral databases, IMA website, IMA papers in Elements, as well as other IMA publications.

The Outreach Committee will include councillors involved in communication, members of commissions directly concerned by activities of the Outreach Committee and chairs of the Outreach subcommittees. The Outreach Committee comprises the communication officer, Frances Wall, the Vice-chairman of the CNMNC, Frédéric Hatert, the Chair of the subcommittee on IMA databases on mineral properties, Robert Downs, the Chair of the subcommittee on Optic Instruments, David Hirsch, and the IMA Secretary and webmaster of the IMA website, Maryse Ohnenstetter,.

Three sub-committees have been created :

(1) IMA Outreach Subcommittee on IMA Databases on Mineralogical Properties chaired by Robert Downs (Annex, item 7).

Objectives: The duties of the IMA Database on Mineral Properties include managing the content of the website at www.rruff.info/ima, that interactively displays the list of all the IMA CNMNC minerals recognized as valid species with accessory information and links and its functions. It is actually a database and JAVA program that is downloaded and used through a browser. A professional programmer is funded by the RRUFF project to write the computer code for the website.

The main items are as follows:

1 - Managing the definitive list of mineral names and their chemical compositions. Our highest priority is to ensure that this information is perfect. The effort primarily involves two components, a) identifying new mineral information, from the CNMNC website b) keeping track of changes to the existing minerals.

2 - A goal of the committee is to identify the original descriptive articles for each mineral, and obtain and post the associated PDF.

3 - The ability to group minerals into various classification schemes is important. To this end the website has invoked the web-design concept of tags.

Additional goals for 2009 include:

1 - Get others involved! especially from the IMA Commissions and Working groups

2 - Streamline the access to the database so that other websites and individuals can make optimal use of it.

Memberships: Robert Downs (chair), Marco Ciriotti, Frédéric Hatert, Pat Mooney, Ernie Nickel

(2) IMA Outreach Subcommittee on Optic Instruments - chaired by David Hirsch

(3) IMA Outreach Subcommittee on IMA Website development chaired by Maryse Ohnenstetter

The aim is to develop a dynamic website for IMA and to increase interactivity between all the IMA components (see chapter 3.9.3).

Outreach activity of the Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC). The ex-Chairman and current Secretary regularly participate in discussion on minerals and their nomenclature in the Message Board of the website www.mindat.org, a forum aimed at collectors and amateur mineralogists, but also used by professionals to discuss mineralogical issues.

Updated versions of the official IMA–CNMNC list of mineral names were uploaded onto the Commission’s website, as well as newer versions of valid unnamed minerals, invalid unnamed minerals, and references for unnamed minerals.

Also published on the CNMNC website was a complete list of all CNMNC decisions made in 2007, as well as monthly summaries of the most recent new minerals approved by the Commission.

Outreach activity of the Commission on Ore Mineralogy (COM). The COM has attempted to take a more active role in ensuring quality control of reported ore mineralogical data. The IMA-COM President Roland Merkle (2002-2006) made a call for COM ‘members’ to become involved in international initiatives of the International Standards Organisation (ISO) aimed at establishing guidelines for standardisation of microbeam data acquisition routines.

IMA-COM has called for valuable – and often irreplaceable collections of polished ore mineral specimens to be deposited in museums and mineralogical institutions to be preserved, and catalogued for future researchers. Discussion among various institutions has been initiated on the optimal way to ensure a systematic and common approach.

COM has also continued to promote ‘Virtual Ore Mineralogy’, in which a series of descriptions of ore minerals with optical images will be available free of charge on the IMA-COM website.

3.6. IMA General Meeting

3.6.1. IMA 2010 General Meeting in Budapest

Information on this meeting is available on the website conference at the following address: <http://www.ima2010.hu>. Information on the 2010 General Meeting was displayed in a booth during the 33rd IGC in August 2008.

The President of the 2010 General Meeting, Ekkehart Tillmanns, prepared a 2008 progress report following the previous one distributed during the Council Meeting in Cambridge, June 2007. A power point presentation was shown during the Council meeting and business meeting in Vancouver.

The 20th General Meeting of IMA (IMA2010 conference) will take place in August 21-27, 2010. The conference is organised by the IMA2010 Consortium; it will be hosted by the Eötvös L. University (ELTE) Budapest.

The Consortium includes the national mineralogical societies of 7 Organising Countries (OC): Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, and of 3 Supporting Countries (SC): Bulgaria, Serbia, and Slovenia.

The International Organising Committee (IOC), the Field Trip Subcommittee (FTSC), and the Publications Subcommittee (PSC) have been fully established (2007).

The Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) was recently completed (June 2008): **Chairman:** Ekkehart Tillmanns (A); **Vice-Chairman:** Georges Calas (F); **Members:** M. A. Carpenter (UK, USA), P. Komadel (SK), A. Lu (CN), D. Yu. Pushcharovsky (RUS), M. Rieder (CZ), Tsutomu Sato (J), Annibale Mottana (I), Anne Hofmeister (USA), Georg Hoinkes (A), Herbert Palme (D), Björn Winkler (D) and **representatives of the OC:** V. Bermanec (HR), M. Novák (CZ), P. Árkai, M. Pósfai (H), M. Michalik (PL), G. Ilinca, B. Onac (RO), M. Chovan, J. Majzlan (SK).

The Executive Committee (EC) offices/members are: Ekkehart Tillmanns (Vienna) - General Chairman and Chairman, SPC; Tamás G. Weiszbürg (Budapest) – Chairman, IOC; Dana Pop (Cluj-Napoca) – Secretary General, IOC; Friedrich Koller (Vienna), Ferenc Molnár (Budapest) – Chairmen, FTSC; Gábor Papp (Budapest) – Chairman, PSC; Friedrich Koller – Austrian Representative; Vladimir

Bermanec – Croatian Representative, Milan Novák - Czech Representative; Marek Michalik - Polish Representative; Corina Ionescu - Romanian Representative; Igor Broska - Slovak Representative.

The IMA 2010 Consortium Round Table (CRT) and the subcommittees held two meetings in 2008, on the 22th and 23th of February in Budapest, with 26 participants from 10 countries, and on the 17th and 18th of October.

Scientific program - There are more than 60 preliminary proposals for scientific sessions and three proposals for workshops submitted. New proposals are expected before ending the 2010 program. The peer-reviewed proposals have been discussed during the CRT meeting in October 2008. The final decision on the Scientific Programme will be taken by the SPC by February, 2009.

The CAM, COM, CGM, CPM and WGEMG have proposed sessions to the 2010 General Meeting.

3.6.2. IMA 2014 General Meeting in South Africa

The Mineralogical Society of South Africa was selected by the IMA Council and the IMA delegates during the 2008 BM to organize the 2014 General Meeting of IMA. Information on the provisional program provided by the MINSAs representative, Sabine Verryen, is available on the IMA website.

Initially two societies planned to organize the 2014 General Meeting of IMA: The mineralogical Society of India and that of South Africa (MINSAs).

3.6.3. IMA 2018 General Meeting in USA

This meeting will be in conjunction with the centenary of the Mineralogical Society of USA.

3.7. Meetings with IMA participation (list of sessions in Annex, item 8)

3.7.1. International Symposium on Archeometry, Siena, 12-16 May 2008. Invitation to this symposium was done by Isabella Memmi, Chair of the Sub-Commission on Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Materials belonging to the Commission on Applied Mineralogy (CAM-CHAM).

3.7.2. 33rd International Geological Congress in Oslo (5-14 August 2008)
Website address: <http://www.33igc.org/>
9 sessions were organized by IMA and its commissions and Working Groups during the Mineralogical Symposia: the COM, CPM, WGEMG, WGIM and WGME. A list of the sessions with abstract and convenor names is available in the annex (item 8). In addition, several IMA Commissions and Working Groups held in Oslo their business meetings.

3.7.3. 2008 Goldschmidt Conference "from Sea to Sky"(July 13-18)
Two Com-WG organized scientific sessions.

The Commission on Physics of Minerals (CPM) organized a session "Diffraction and Absorption Spectroscopies at high temperatures and pressures chaired by Grand Henderson, Daniel Neuville, and Eiji Ohtani -

The symposium organized by the Working Group on Environmental Mineralogy and Geochemistry (WGEMG) was extremely successful. This symposium entitled "Mineralogy and Geochemistry of Metalliferous Mine Wastes" was held in honor of John Jambor, whose death in January 2008 deprived the environmental mineralogy community of one of its most eminent and productive scientists.

IMA 2008 Council and Business Meeting in Vancouver (14 and 17 July 2008)

Information was provided to the National representatives (27 May 2008) on the agenda and location of the IMA Business meetings to be held during the Goldschmidt Conference in Vancouver.

3.7.4. 6th Mineralogy and Museums Conference, Denver, Colorado (September 7-9) with the participation of the Commission on Museums and that on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (see the website http://inside.mines.edu/Outreach/cont_ed/ICMM6/program.html for the list of sessions). Several sessions were organized by the two commissions and/or members of these commissions.

3.7.5. ICAM 2008 was organized jointly by ICAM and IMA-CAM, 8-10 september 2008, Brisbane, Australia. Oslo (August 5-14). This included the role Dogan Paktunc played as the acting vice president of ICAM2008. Several sessions were organized by the CAM

It was decided that the ICAM meetings will occur every three years instead of four. This will allow an easier participation of the IMA-CAM in the IMA General Meetings and vice versa, as some IMA commissions and Working Groups could more easily participate to the ICAM meetings. In order to improve communications between ICAM and CAM, Jan Elsen has been elected CAM Coordinator of ICAM.

The next ICAM meeting will be held in Trondheim, Norway, in 2011. Marteen Broekmans, CAM's sub-commission chair on building materials was elected Vice-President of the next ICAM meeting.

3.7.6. ACROFI-II, 12-14 November 2008, Haragpur India organized by the WGIM. IMA provided a financial help to this meeting.

3.7.7. AGU Fall Meeting, San Fransisco

The CPM chair, Eiji Ohtani, organized a session on melt and fluid at high pressure with Hans Mueller, Yanbin Wang, Charles Lesher.

3.7.8. Other meetings

- Asia Oceania Geoscience Society (AOGS) meeting: 16-20 June, 2008 in Busan, Korea: CPM organizes a session on Mineral Physics in the mantle.
- Japan Geoscience union (JPGU) annual meeting was held at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan on 19-24th, May, 2008. CPM organizes two sessions on High Pressure Earth Science and Physics and Chemistry of Earth's Minerals.

3.7.9. Workshops (Annex, item 8)

IMA-CAM Workshop

Quantitative Mineralogy, Sept 6, 2008, Brisbane, Australia. This workshop was organized by Dogan Paktunc, in conjunction with the International Congress for Applied Mineralogy (ICAM) meeting.

This Workshop was a success. Following the meeting, a steering committee was created to oversee the follow-up activities. Details on the workshop and other related informations may be found within a document titled "workshop" on the Dogan Paktunc's website pages. "Workshop notes and findings".

Two other short courses were organized in the frame of the ICAM meeting.

3.7.10. Short courses

Three short courses were organized and sponsored by the CAM, in Peru, during ICAM meeting in Brisbane, Australia, and in Texas, USA (see the annex 8).

3.8. IMA financial aspects

IMA Treasurer's Report,
Nov 1, 2007 to Oct 31, 2008

Previous balance,	117991.03
Banking fees	-25.00
CNMNC expenses	-811.11
Webpage	-6725.99
ACROFI	-2000.00
Goldschmidt expenses	-476.01
Society dues	+6925.00
Interest	+3604.52
<hr/> Total Assets	<hr/> US\$ 118482.44

3.9. Publication and communication

3.9.1. Publication of CNMNC results

IMA has several times discussed the IMA publication policy, especially during the Council Meetings in Kobe, 2006 and Cambridge, 2007. The fact is that IMA operated on a small budget and unfortunately simply does not have sufficient funds to pay for the page charges. Raising the IMA subscriptions was already suggested by the IMA council during the Business Meeting in Florence, but it appears that this proposal was not favoured by the IMA society members.

The solution is the following :

(1) Some of the CNMNC publications, which are unlikely to be cited directly and therefore of less benefit to a journal, are moved to web-site only publication. The 'Annual List of New Minerals and Changes in Nomenclature' is an example of this type of publication (see the CNMNC website);

(2) Publication of other reports rotates around a group of learned society journals. Editors of Canadian Mineralogist, Mineralogical Magazine, European Journal of Mineralogy and American Mineralogist agreed to publish CNMNC reports. The IMA thanked these different Journals for publishing IMA-CNMNC results. The IMA is particularly grateful to the Mineralogical Association of Canada and, in particular to Bob Martin, editor of the Canadian Mineralogist for the support to CNMNC over many years.

The list of the CNMNC publications are given in the annex (item 9) together with Publications in Journals which have been sponsored by the IMA Com-WG when organizing scientific sessions during meetings.

By November 13 2008, the CNMNC will have dealt with 64 new-mineral proposals, which will most likely end up being ~70 and a slight increase on previous years (66 proposals in 2007; 63 proposals in 2006, 64 proposals in 2005; 59 in 2004). Members will also have deliberated on and approved five proposals involving mineral nomenclature revisions and are currently deliberating on a new proposal to extend historical naming and the suffix rule. The approval of revisions to the dominant-constituent rule was also a milestone of the year.

3.9.2. Publication in Elements

IMA publications in Elements are reported in the annex (annex, item 10).

According to F. Wall (July 2008) the plan for the next few issues is:

- * August deadline for October issue, News from IMA Council and Business meeting and an advert for IMA2010
- * October deadline for December issue: A report on the 6th Mineralogy and Museums Conference held in Denver, Colorado by Peter Modresky. IMA news by Frances Wall (see the annex).
- * December deadline for February 2009 issue, a major feature on the IMA 2010 conference to go with the second circular.

3.9.3. IMA Websites

IMA website evolution

In June the local host for the IMA website moved to the server of the University of Sciences, within the Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine (INPL). C. Hernandez from INPL is in charge of the server and S. Niquet of the IMA project. The INPL server can be used to develop a dynamic website for IMA and security aspect has been considered.

The Ducret's proposal to help the transformation of the IMA website into a dynamic one was accepted during the IMA council meeting in Vancouver (3000 Euro). It comprises the creation of an IMA database and the formation of Christine Lecluse, Web designer and Maryse Ohnenstetter, Webmaster to XHTML, PHP and MySQL languages, in order to create dynamic pages for the IMA website which would be compatible with the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) standard.

The Dreamweaver file is still used to develop the new IMA website linked to an Apache server.

The first database project for IMA was received from Julien Ducret on the 16th of September 2008. The different tables were constructed together with the IMA Secretary. Most of the informations concerning IMA or which are produced by the IMA components can be included in the IMA database. The IMA secretary is inserting records in the different tables to test the database. The XHTML language is now used to convert the current webpages before adding the dynamic component.

Websites of IMA Commissions and Working groups

Informations on the IMA Commissions and Working Groups (Com-WG) could be available from Com-WG websites or from specific pages of the IMA website. Adresses are reported below:

	Name of COM/WG
CAM	Commission on Applied Mineralogy http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/CAM/CAM.html
CGM	Commission on Gem Materials http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/CGM/CGM.html
CMGIP	Commission on Mineral Growth and Interface Processes http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/CMGIP/CMGIP.html
CM	Commission on Museums http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/CM/CM.html http://www.smp.net/IMA-CM
CNMNC !! New address	Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification and Mineral Names http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/CNMNC/CNMNC.html http://pubsites.uws.edu.au/ima-cnmnc/ forum : www.mindat.org
COM	Commission on Ore Mineralogy http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/COM/COM.html http://www.gsf.fi/domestic/com/ima-com.htm
CPM	Commission on Physics of Minerals http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/CPM/CPM.html http://www.sbg.ac.at/min/cpm/cpm_index.htm (to move on)
WGEMG	Working Group on Environmental Mineralogy and Geochemistry

	http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/WGEM/WGEM.html
WGIM	Working Group on Inclusions in Minerals http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/WGIM/WGIM.html
WGME	Working Group on Mineral Equilibria http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/WGME/WGME.html
WGSECE	Working Group on Solid Earth Composition and Evolution http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/com-wg/WGSECE/WGSECE.html

3.10. Relationships with other societies

3.10.1. IUGS

The IMA secretary participated to the Global Launch Event (GLE) which occurred at Unesco's headquarters for the International Year of Planet Earth in Paris (January 2008).

3.10.2. EMU

Herta Silvia Effenberger represented the IMA during the EMU Council Meeting on Wednesday, April 16, 2008. The meeting took place during the EGU conference in Vienna. Herta participated also to the IMA council meeting in Vancouver.

3.10.3 Other relationships

COM participates in all major IMA events and interacts with other commissions, particularly CNMMN and CAM. COM is also enthusiastically involved in International Geoscience Project (IGCP) 486.

3.11. IMA activities in 2009

The IMA Council Meeting will be held in Davos, during the Goldschmidt Conference (June 21-26). The Goldschmidt Organising Conference is very happy to invite Prof. C. Prewitt to present a plenary lecture on the occasion of the IMA medal award. A second IMA medal should be awarded in July 2009 following nominations which have to be sent to the Medal Committee chair before April 1.

The IMA Council will review the organization of the IMA Commissions and Working groups. A text is being prepared at the IMA Secretariat to sum up the main guidelines for the constitution and development of the IMA Commissions and Working groups. Discussion will include the draft "terms of reference" proposed by the CAM officers on the CAM organization and management structure.

The policy of IMA participation to international meetings should be also considered by all the IMA components. The IMA Outreach sub-committee will be developed to integrate outreach activities concerning the IMA components.

In 2009, the IMA Commissions Working groups will be involved in scientific sessions, workshops and short courses, as well as in publishing activities. Scientific sessions to be held during the IMA 2010 General meeting will be decided by the organizing consortium in February 2009.

Regarding the CNMNC activity, it is anticipated that the number of new mineral proposals, nomenclature revisions and discreditations will rise slightly in 2009. This is mostly due to the current subcommittees nearing completion. It is hoped that most if not all of the subcommittees will have submitted a draft report, or their final reports will have been voted on, by the end of 2009.

In addition, the CAM is planning a long term project to lead and coordinate the development of reference and standard materials for quantitative mineralogy, whereas the COM is looking at developing the 'Virtual Ore Mineralogy' website, preservation of valuable collections of polished ore mineral specimens, and ensuring the quality control of reported ore mineralogical data.

