

## Report Subcommission Neogene-Paleogene 19/02/2016

**Present:** Annelise Folie, Thierry Smith, Noël Vandenberghe, Johan Matthijs, Peter Stassen, Hervé Van Baelen, Piet Laga, Timothy Lanckacker, Rik Houthuys, Marco Schiltz, Michiel Duser, Etienne Steurbaut, Marleen De Ceukelaire, Stephen Louwye, Katrien De Nil

### 1. Approval of meeting report of 13/07/2015

Piet Laga was not included as attendee of the previous meeting. This will be added to the report on the website. No further remarks.

### 2. Reflection of the Open Science Meeting of December 2015

The Open Science meeting was positively evaluated. It should and will be repeated, although not necessary annually, but based on the available input and evolutions.

### 3. Feedback of the NCS-meeting of 13/01/2016

Report of NCS meeting, see <http://ncs.naturalsciences.be/meeting-reports/report-2016-01>.

The chairman of the NCS stressed the importance of spreading the existence of the website in universities.

The item of the translation of the 'Formatie van Brussel' is discussed again. The majority of the meeting is in favor of the translation in French, English and Dutch, because of the bilingualism of the capital and because of the widely used English denomination in the literature. Other examples of translations already exist. The names 'Formatie van Brussel', 'Formation de Bruxelles' and 'Brussels Formation' are accepted as the three formal terms for this stratigraphical unit.

### 4. Ongoing Working Groups

- **Brussels Formation**

The texts of the formation and the variation of the facies is still on the website, and have not changes since publication. A field trip to outcrops of the Brussels Fm is organized in cooperation with the Société Géologique du Nord on 13/05/2016. Rik Houthuys invites the members of the working group. Rik Houthuys is personally not in favor of defining members, but he understands the need of defining members when describing an outcrop of drilling samples. For practical use, he prepared a text defining 'pseudo-members', based on grain size. Questions were raised concerning the importance of the glauconitic content, division of calcified/decalcified, Gobertange facies, sequences, the historical texts of Dumont, by Piet Laga, Michiel Duser, Etienne Steurbaut, Peter Stassen and Thierry Smith. These items were briefly discussed. Further discussions concerning the 'pseudo-members' can be held on the field trip. If no consensus is available at that time, the working group will meet afterwards.

- **Ieper Group**

Version 7 of the discussion text is on the website since November 2015. Thierry Smith is not sure his previous remark is included in this version. At the end of December 2015, the remaining discussion points were communicated to the working group. Remarks on this version were given by Rik Houthuys, Laurent Wouters, Etienne Steurbaut and Katrien De Nil. The coordinators plan a meeting by the end of march. Afterwards a meeting with the working group will be planned [*confirmed date after the meeting 27/04/2016*]. It is important to keep in mind that not all of the problems will be solved. Unsolved issues will be indicated in the text. The subcommission asks, and this goes for all working groups, to give feedback concerning the processing of the remarks to the individual people who gave remarks. The chairman indicated that it is a very difficult document to read and that a 'light' version should be available, including maps for example. This can also be a future idea for the Boom clay. The opportunity is given during the meeting to resume the individual remarks. Piet Laga

added during the meeting the importance of not changing names if not necessary. The units should be mapable. The coordinators of the text have noted this remark. The corresponding names of changed units will be defined on the website.

## **5. Discussion texts and texts reported to the Subcommittee**

### **• Inden Fm**

An adapted text is on the website since January 2016. The remarks of Timothy Lanckacker were discussed. Questions are raised concerning mapability, distinction from Kiezoolite Fm and whether the Maaseik borehole is a good reference. Noël Vandenberghe also raised some questions concerning the correlation with the Inden Fm in Germany, the correlation with Kasterlee Fm and the Maaseik borehole as a reference.

Fundamental discussion points remain. The Subcommittee proposes, and the members agrees, to install a 'Working Group Neogene' (WGN). In April, a technical note concerning the lithostratigraphy will be available in the H3O-De Kempen project. This is a good starting point for the working group. Belgian data need to be collected as input for the members of this working group, the correlation with the Dutch data needs to be looked at, and the bottlenecks identified. Members will be Michiel Dusar, Rik Houthuys, Noël Vandenberghe, Marco Schiltz, Piet Laga, Timothy Lanckacker, Stephen Louwye. The organization of this working group will be discussed among the members after the meeting.

### **• Kiezoolite Fm**

An adapted text is on the website since January 2016. The remarks of Timothy Lanckacker concerning the subdivisions, inclusion of aeolian sands and the difference with Stramproy Fm are discussed. Further discussion is also moved to the WGN.

Timothy Lanckacker also raised a specific issue concerning the name: it should be a location name, rather than a lithological one? The meeting decided that the name will remain unchanged since it is a traditional name in use since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **• Stramproy**

Michiel Dusar delivered at the beginning of January a text to the subcommittee. The discussion is also moved to the WGN.

### **• Neogene Continental Group**

Michiel Dusar delivered at the beginning of January a text to the subcommittee. The discussion is also moved to the WGN.

### **• Chattian**

The Chattian discussion text is on the website since September 2015. Jef Deckers formulated comments. The original idea for this discussion text on the website was to make the subdivision similar to the Dutch division. Research is needed to be sure about what's originally observed in Velthoven. Until then, no decision will be taken. The discussion text can remain on the website as a discussion text. For new or additional insights can be found in the PhD thesis of Ellen De Man or the final text of the H3O-De Kempen project (to be published soon).

### **• Eisdén**

This item was placed on the agenda because of input to the SC NP by Michiel Dusar. No change is necessary. This item is not further discussed.

### **• Maaseik**

Johan Matthijs gave a clear presentation on the proposal to define a marly clay between Heers Fm-Gelinden Mbr and Hannut Fm –Waterschei Mbr. This is based on an earlier definition from Etienne Steurbaut and insights gained during the 3D mapping and modelling. The relation between the occurrence of the Gelinden Mbr and the Maaseik Mbr is discussed.

The clay layer between the Maaseik Mbr and the Waterschei Mbr in Antwerp region and in the western part of Flanders is introduced as 'the clay of Beselare', as a member of the Hannut Fm. This unit was also mentioned in a publication of De Geyter. A borehole with loggings still needs to be found.

In conclusion, Johan proposes to keep the name of the Maaseik Member, but to include it in the Heers Fm and to introduce a new clay member as the lowest member of the Hannut Fm.

Etienne Steurbaut adds that the Mol borehole is a good reference. The Gelinden-Maaseik contact should be studied in the field. Also the Overbroek-section needs to be checked.

A few documents will be added on the website concerning this item: the discussion text, the powerpoint and the unfinished Professional Paper of De Geyter, which is relevant for the 'Beselare Mbr'.

- **Diest Fm**

Rieko was not present at the meeting. A meeting took place with Belgian and Dutch researches concerning the Breda unit. In continuation of this meeting, samples of the NIRAS-drilling will be looked at and a field trip will be organized.

The next meeting will be held at the end of the summer. The precise date will be communicated later.

Report by Katrien De Nil, secretary of the SC-PN  
Stephen Louwye, chairman of the SC-PN