

**Report Meeting Subcommittee Paleogene and Neogene Stratigraphy
Physical meeting at the Geological Survey of Belgium, 15/10/2021**

Present: Stijn Everaert, Noël Vandenberghe, Jasper Verhaegen, Hervé Van Baelen, Stephen Louwye, Kris Welkenhuysen, Stijn Goolaerts, Katrien De Nil

Excused: Chandra Algoe, Michiel Dusar, Rik Houthuys, Robert Spijjer, Johan Yans, Marleen De Ceukelaire, Ilse Vergauwen, Jef Deckers, Yaana Bruneel, Michiel Dusar, Etienne Steurbaut, Peter Stassen

Meeting Report previous meeting 21/06/2021: approved

New Member

Stijn Everaert is welcomed as a new member of the subcommission. As a citizen scientist, palaeontologist and author, he has contributed to the Neogene stratigraphy of the Antwerp area.

Neogene stratigraphy

- **Inventory of the units: status**
 - **LIS submitted to subcommission**
 - Diest Fm (RH) (Diest, Dessel Mbr, Hageland, KempenDiest) and Borsbeek and Deurne Mbr: (SG)
 - Remarks SC: Good examples. It is suggested to make also a LIS for the facies mentioned (Opoeteren/clayey Diest) and include some type localities. Final check with guidelines is needed. The LIS can afterwards be placed on website
 - Kasterlee Fm (JV) (Hallaar, Beerzel, HodBerg, Lichtaart, Olen gravel bed, Poppel sand)
 - Remarks SC: Final check with guidelines is needed, afterwards it can be placed on website
 - Maaseik Fm (NVDB)
 - Remarks SC: the new name Wurfeld Formation is accepted, a final check with guidelines is needed, afterwards it can be placed on site
 - Inden Fm(NVDB)
 - Remarks SC: final version to be sent, Final check with guidelines is needed, afterwards it can be placed on the website
 - Mol Fm (NVDB) (Retie, Donk, Maatheide , Maat Lignite Bed, Incl. Abandoned units. , Informal units)
 - Remarks SC: Rees: the relation with Merksplas needs to be clarified which has only been identified in logs. The micropaleontology samples need to be re-evaluated. A discussion with Frieda Bogemans concerning regarding the stratigraphic position (Quaternary or not?) needs to take place. The other LIS: a final check with guidelines is needed, afterwards it can be placed on the website
 - Lillo Fm: Broechem Bed (NVDB)
 - Remarks SC: the characterizing description must be rewritten and has to focus solely on the main lithology. Not much information on this member is available. This LIS has to be incorporated in the other LIS from Lillo, add involvement of Frank Wesselingh is suggested.

- **LIS in draft**
 - Kiezelooyet - MD en NVDB
 - More discussion is needed in an extended author group
 - Lillo (JD)
 - Kattendijk (JD)
 - Flemish Hill sand (RH)
 - **LIS to be started**
 - Veldhoven (MD)
 - Berchem (SL)
 - Bolderberg (SL)
 - Molenbeersel (SL)
 - Merksplas (NVDB)
 - Poederlee (SL)
 - Introduction Nete Groep (NVDB)
 - This proposition will be discussed in the next meeting, as for now no LIS will be drafted yet.
- ⇒ **Many LIS still need to be finished. It is important for all authors to respect the deadlines in order to go through the formalising process for all Neogene units at the same time.**
- ⇒ **Remaining questions in the LIS need to be answered by the subcommission, but a discussion must have taken place between the author group before the LIS is sent to the subcommission.**
- ⇒ **Based on the LIS which are already submitted, more guidelines concerning the LIS content and structure are necessary, see attachment for the guidelines.**
- ⇒ **Available LIS, template and guidelines: will be sent in .zip format to the members, reading access can be given upon request to the “One Drive” which is frequently updated. Please contact the secretary Katrien De Nil, for access.**
- **Deadlines:**
 - Timing and deadlines are discussed. The LIS will be available for discussion on the website pages of the subcommission AT LEAST 1 month before the Spring meeting, i.e. publication for discussion on site 1/4/2022. After a period of 6 months without comment, the files will be sent to the national commission for a formal status.
 - **During the next meeting (14/01/2022), a discussion will take place on all remaining units.** In this manner, all LIS can have a final update before the online posting. If necessary, an intermediate meeting online can be organised.
 - **Spring meeting 2022:**
 - Proposition: 1 day on 3, 4 or 5 May. The reservation procedure with the Royal Academy is ongoing. The precise date will be confirmed later.
 - 10 talks, 20 min. each
 - 2 keynotes: TNO, GEUS or Krefeld
 - The first announcement will be mailed by the end of December.
 - The newly elaborated Neogene units will be presented, based on the files which will be available for discussion on the website. The rationale of the meeting is to present an overview of the formal Neogene lithostratigraphic changes in, the data sources, and the remaining research opportunities. It will be possible to add arguments to the discussions after publication on the pages of the subcommission.

- Possibilities for a field trip on day 2 will be examined. Jasper Verhaegen has offered to organise the field trip. The Region Mol, Rumst, Leuven, Hageland are possible locations.
- **Publication on NCS-website**
 - The technical details of the LIS publication will be further discussed with Kris Welkenhuysen. The LIS have to be published individually of the site. New site developments are being investigated by KBIN, and it is important that all units (formal, informal and abandoned) can be easily found on the site together with their status.

Paleogene stratigraphy

- **Decision:**
 - **Brussel Fm:** The subcommission expects the LIS to be submitted.
- **Status update:**
 - **Maaseik and Beselare Mbr:** This item is delayed as Johan is on sick leave.
 - **Chattian units:** see actions resulting from the Neogene inventory.
- No other status updates.

NCS stratigraphic overview – special issue GB 2023: not discussed during the meeting

- Latest information: the publication date is 2023.
- The subcommission expects further information and guidelines from the national commission after a previous discussion meeting during the summer of 2021.

Varia

- New report available temporary outcrop Saintes:
 - Report: <https://www.researchportal.be/nl/publicatie/documentering-van-de-tijdelijke-ontsluiting-bedrijventerrein-saintes> and DOV -access to the data points, report, pictures etc: <https://www.dov.vlaanderen.be/data/opdracht/2021-023430> . Samples are available in the Geotheek.
- In order to gain new Neogene data, VPO is carrying out analyses on:
 - samples from the Geotheek are analysed for grain size, glauconite content, (in)organic carbon content, heavy metals (internal research, contact Jasper Verhaegen)
 - samples from the Antwerp region are being analysed in the context of the re-use of excavated soil (public procurement, contact Roel De Koninck and Renate Schoofs)
 - together with samples from the KBIN and with Stijn Everaert, samples from temporary excavations in the context of correlation with CPT's are analysed for grain size, glauconite content, carbonate content for the distinction between Antwerp and Kiel Mbr (VLAKO reference task, contact Jef Deckers and Stijn Everaert).

The next meeting 14/01/2022 at the GSB with potential technical equipment for hybrid meeting by then.

Stephen Louwye, chair of the SC-PN
Katrien De Nil, secretary of the SC-PN