

## Report Meeting Subcommittee Neogene and Paleogene Stratigraphy

19/05/2017

**Present:** Hervé Van Baelen, Marleen De Ceukelaire, Thierry Smith, Chandra Algoe, Rik Houthuys, Noël Vandenberghe, Etienne Steurbaut, Stijn Goolaerts, Rieko Adriaens, Peter Stassen, Jasper Verhaegen, Michiel Duser, Johan Matthijs, Stephen Louwye, Katrien De Nil

**Excused:** Piet Laga, Marco Schiltz

**Meeting report last NCS-meeting:** <http://ncs.naturalsciences.be/meeting-reports/report-2017-01>

Jacques Verniers will succeed Eric Goemaere as secretary of the NCS.

**Previous meeting of the subcommission** was replaced by mail communication on 27/02/2017.

### 1. Ieper (Working) Group

- Discussion Practical Guide: Katrien De Nil presents (the draft of) the Practical Guide for the Ieper Group. The document is very well-received by the members of the subcommission. Some remarks are formulated and the flyer will be adjusted accordingly. The flyer will be printed by the VPO (ex-ALBON). DOV will act as the point of contact for questions and remarks, and will forward these to the working group. The flyer will be distributed among the members of the subcommission. Every institute can distribute this document together with a cover letter on meetings, clients, conferences etc. Also a digital pdf will be available. DOV will also include it in a newsletter. A list will be made with contacts for distribution of the printed version (NIRAS, BLUG, KVIV, drilling companies, extraction industry, ...). This work can benefit from as much publicity as possible. Depending on the received questions and comments on this Practical Guide and the published stratigraphical evolution of the Ieper Group, the subcommission will consider an open meeting concerning this topic.
- This Ieperian lithostratigraphic evolution can even benefit from a global communication, in which RBINS could play a major role. This idea will be launched at the next NCS meeting.
- Katrien De Nil presents the way DOV will deal with the evolution of the stratigraphy, now for the Ieper Group and later for any stratigraphic interval. The subcommission evaluates this proposition positively.

### 2. Brussels Formation

Rik Houthuys, Noël Vandenberghe and Johan Matthijs have discussed the possibility of defining members in the Brussels Formation, which is not easy regarding practical issues and sedimentation history. A draft text is ready, and needs finalizing. Three divisions can be made, according to grain size, which are practical in use: Diegem (fine sands), Neerijse (middle sands) and Bierbeek (coarse sands). Calcium and glauconite content vary between the members. Well-documented drillings with geophysical logs are lacking. Logs will be interpreted and reference outcrops will be searched for. Further research between drilling descriptions, grain size and interpretations is another possibility. Based on specific questions, DOV can make extracts data from the database available. By the autumn of 2017 the discussion text will be made available.

### 3. Beselare and Maaseik Members

Discussion text available from 10/05/217 at <http://ncs.naturalsciences.be/paleogene-neogene/discussion-text-web-20170510>.

Etienne Steurbaut illustrates the context of his interpretations as a reflection on the vision of Johan Matthijs and his discussion texts. An elaborates discussion follows between different members of the subcommission concerning the position of these members. Noël Vandenberghe mentions the importance of discussing the members as a group. Etienne Steurbaut will make his comments available at latest by the next meeting of the subcommission. The president appreciates the lively discussions. Anyone is welcomed to submit comments on the published discussion texts.

### 4. Neogene Working Group

- Chandra ALGOE (geologist at Geotechnics Division from Mobility and Public Works Department of the Flemish Government was invited to give a presentation about the difficulties of layer identification for the geotechnical and mineralogical characterization of sandy deposits in Antwerp area. The subcommission suggests to use the existing reference material for interpretation.
- Stephen Louwye underlines the opportunities of a publication based on the January meeting document. Afterwards a lithostratigraphic correlation with the neighboring countries will be possible.
- Noël Vandenberghe will act as coordinator for this publication and he illustrates his idea for the content in chapters with possible contact persons. A 'Mémoire de la Société Géologique de Belgique' or a special issue of 'Geologica Belgica' could be a good format for the publication. The deadline for finishing the publication is 2 years from now. The publication will be based on already existing research. New research is not be expected in this context. Noël Vandenberghe will communicate the start-up document of the initiative to work on a collection of papers describing the present knowledge on the Neogene in Belgium to the proposed coordinators and co-authors. This first communication will be open to all the members of the subcommission for suggestions and comments. [*➔ done by email 24/05/2017*]

### 5. Varia

Stijn Goolaerts announces that a Belgian Paleontology day will be organized in February 2018. The subcommission can be represented.

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

The date for the next meeting will be <b>27/10/2017</b> at 10:00AM in the meeting room of GSB.
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