

**Report Meeting Subcommittee Paleogene and Neogene Stratigraphy
Meeting 24/11/2023, Conscience building Brussels**

Present: Chandra Algae, Jef Deckers, Katrien De Nil, Stijn Everaert, Stijn Goolaerts, Rik Houthuys, Stephen Louwye, Marco Schiltz, Robert Speijer, Hervé Van Baelen, Noël Vandenberghe, Johan Vellekoop, Jasper Verhaegen, Laurent Wouters

This meeting consisted of two parts: a short formal meeting followed by an informal open meeting with presentations of and discussions on ongoing research.

Formal Part 1

- The meeting report of March 2023 is accepted without remarks.

Rupel Group

The Rupel Group LIS-document as compiled by Noël Vandenberghe and Laurent Wouters, is online since mid-July 2023. In the second part of the meeting, Noël gave a summary of the stratigraphy, the changes compared to the online published stratigraphy and the remaining discussion items. As a result, the document, figures and data file need some small changes.

Subsequently, the Rupel Group document can be sent to the NCS for formal approval.

Neogene stratigraphy

The proposal of the renewed Neogene Stratigraphy was formally accepted on September 1 2023 by the NCS. The huge number of LIS-files of Neogene units (#60, +200 pages) was compiled by Katrien De Nil and Jasper Verhaegen and was based on input from many members of the Subcommittee. https://ncs.naturalsciences.be/sites/default/files/Comp_LIS_Neogene_proposal_20230619.pdf, published as a link on <https://ncs.naturalsciences.be/paleogene-neogene/neogene>, next to the 'old' stratigraphy.

Members of the subcommittee stressed the urgent need for publication on the NCS website of the new stratigraphical information based on a templated html-publication. The NCS website is an essential player for the efficient dissemination of the new stratigraphical insights by providing a uniform compilation of all stratigraphic units. Until now, webpages are updated solely by placing links to pdf-files, a procedure that is certainly not optimal. Several discussions on this issue were held in and outside the meetings of the subcommittee, and all members urge the NCS to start the construction of the website.

A prime example is the compilation document of the Neogene formations, members, and beds. The entire document is based on the LIS-files template and is now only published as a pdf-file on the website. The present-day Neogene pages on the website provide only a non-actual state of the stratigraphical status and knowledge.

The document and the incorporated LIS-files need a referable link; to be updated and maintained as new stratigraphical insights become available.

When new information is only uploaded as pdf, the users of the NCS website do not have access to the latest formal information: e.g. the present-day link to Kasterlee Formation does not provide the latest information which is only available in the pdf of the Neogene home-page:

<https://ncs.naturalsciences.be/alfabetic-list-lithostratigraphic-units>

Members of the subcommission consider if it is feasible to start looking for an alternative way for the web-based publication of the LIS files.

The example of the leper Group Flyer was discussed as an accessible, ready-to-use document, applicable for daily desk use, and serves a summary of the larger complete published documentation.

Varia

Some future potential opportunities for temporary outcrops, mainly in the Antwerp area, were discussed.

Informal Part 2

All present members of the Subcommission joined this informal part. Monika Doubrawa (KUL) and Alexandra Siebels (VU-NI) joined the meeting.

This part dealt with new insights and results on the Neogene stratigraphy of Belgium and the correlation with The Netherlands.

Program of presentations and discussions:

		Titel	name
10:30	10:45	Update of the research and data on the Neogene units **	Jef Deckers (VITO)
10:45	11:15	The base of the Merksplas Formation: new insights**	Jef Deckers (VITO)
11:15	11:45	Miocene stratigraphy in the Roer Valley Rift System	Alexandra Siebels (VU-NI)
11:45	12:15	Integrated stratigraphy of the Paleocene-Eocene transition in the U.S. Atlantic Coastal Plain	Monika Doubrawa (KUL)
12:15	13:30	Lunch in restaurant Conscience-building	
13:30	14:00	Rumst Quarry - update of the findings**	Stijn Everaert (KBIN)
14:00	14:30	The new NCS proposal/discussion on the Lithostratigraphy of the Rupel Group**	Noël Vandenberghe (KUL)
14:30	15:00	Reference database and geologic passport of the Flemish subsurface**	Jasper Verhaegen (VO - dOMG)

Next meeting: will take place in the spring of 2024. Contact us if an opportunity appears for a field trip with the subcommission.

Attachment:

- [**]Ppts Part 2 (only those with consent of the authors).

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