



ENGINE COORDINATION ACTION

Executive Group

Minutes

Date and Time:

January 10, 2007 – 8h30 / 10h

Location:

GFZ Potsdam

Participants:

- EG Members :

R Emmermann (GFZ), G. Fridleifsson (ISOR), C. Fouillac (BRGM), E. Huenges (GFZ), A. Manzella (CNR-IGG), P. Ledru (BRGM), L. Rybach (GEOWATT AG), E. Elewaut (TNO), J. Schuppers (EC DG Research)

Invited: F. Boissier (BRGM), Z. Sarmiento (FEDCO), M. Monterrosa (LAGEO)

Excused: S. Cloetingh (VUA), O. Flovenz (ISOR), J. Maas (Shell),

Agenda 8h30 / 10h

1. Formalities (Welcome/Apologies/Attendance)

C. Fouillac, President of the Executive Group, welcomes G. Fridleifsson, representing O. Flovenz, F. Boissier, Director of the newly created Department of Geothermics in BRGM, Z. Sarmiento from FEDCO (Philippines) and M. Monterrosa from LAGEO (El Salvador). He apologizes S. Cloetingh (VUA) and J. Maas (Shell)

2. Approval of the Minutes of the EG meeting dated 2006

The minutes of the Executive Group meeting dated 13 February 2006 are approved.

3. Organization of the Co-ordination action

P. Ledru, coordinator of ENGINE, presents Z. Sarmiento and M. Monterrosa as new members of the Executive Group, representing the new partners from Targeted Third Countries included now in the ENGINE network. Planning and organisation of the different forthcoming events (organisation of the mid-term conference, stakeholders meeting, workshops...) are reviewed. The preparation of the intermediate report is discussed. The

commission has been informed of the delay related to the difficulty to collect administrative and financial forms from all partners. It is mentioned that financial readjustment could be done taking into account involvement of partners within work packages, expert groups and management committees. It is also underlined that this mid-term conference marks the onset of the expert group corresponding to work packages 6, 7, 8 and 9.

L Rybach underlines and acknowledges the involvement of the partners and of the European Community for the way they contribute and support the Co-ordination Action. This situation is very favourable to strengthen the relationships with other agencies as the International Energy Agency – Geothermal Implementing Agreement. Thus, the ENGINE Co-ordination Action provides a unique opportunity for international agencies and R&D teams to get into contact with a panel of experts representing European geothermal community and awakes a strong interest for the conception of new projects.

The implications of the Basel induced earthquake and the opportunity for ENGINE to react is discussed. It is considered that, although ENGINE network would have the expertise and know-how to analyse the event, it is unlikely to provide any comment as no data are presently available and thus no expert judgment can be made. It is already known that the seismicity induced by hydraulic stimulation is a key issue for the future of EGS and project leaders of ongoing project like Soultz, just after the Basel event, have communicated on the fact that the future of EGS is not endangered because of it and that this phenomenon is taken into account through monitoring and information of the population. Then, the most appropriate answer for ENGINE is to put a priority on the work done in work packages 4 and 5 and to communicate on the needs for research. ENGINE will also assist as much as possible the preparation of the answer to the call for proposal of the FP7 concerning induced seismicity

4. Other matters

The question of the future of the co-ordination action is raised. Definition of research priorities and proposal of spin off R&D projects constitutes a natural follow up of the project as partners will have the opportunity to continue their collaboration. However, a call for proposal including the co-ordination of research on some key issues for the development of EGS is not excluded by the European Commission.

A special attention is paid to the development of the links with the stakeholders. Thus a meeting with the Stakeholders Committee has been hold following up this meeting of the Executive Group. A short report is attached presenting several points of convergence between stakeholders and R&D teams. It is considered that the development of EGS requires the definition of an ambitious research program at the scale of Europe that will federate the research capacity and limit the financial risk by sharing the investment of the stakeholders. Such a program, that could be for example a European geothermal drilling program, requires an unified approach of both scientist and stakeholders. In order to proceed on this way, a meeting of the Stakeholder Committee is planned on the 20 September, in Brussels, with the Executive Group and Steering Committee. At this occasion, the work package leader of the expert groups will present a first evaluation of the R&D priorities as defined in the framework of ENGINE.

5. Date and place of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Group will be 20 September, 10:00-12:00 am in Brussels and will be followed by the meeting with the Stakeholders Committee and Steering Committee. The location will be defined soon.