

Report of the ‘Task Force for the Endorsement of PC as an IAGA index’

The PC Task Force was appointed during the Sopron meeting. Its members are C. Demetrescu, H. McCreadie, M. Menvielle (Chair). Please note: The Task force initially included Renata Lukianova. As she is not an independent party in the PC index history she withdrew from the task force and C. Demetrescu was appointed a member.

During the Sopron assembly:

- IAGA adopted the “Criteria for endorsement of indices by IAGA”, in which the ‘properties’ of the index and the ‘process’ by which it is endorsed are considered separately;
- WG V-DAT decided to call for applications of Institutes willing to take the responsibility of an IAGA endorsed PC index, and to take the final decision regarding the PC index endorsement during the 2011 Melbourne General Assembly.

The Task Force has had many email exchanges in the last two years. A working meeting was held in May 2010 at Vienna (in the Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Dynamik (ZAMG) premises) between the Task Force members, O. Troshichev, P. Stauning, Gerald Duma, Barbara Leichter, Wolfgang Lenhardt, and Jürgen Matzka attended via telephone. An informal meeting was held during the Melbourne Assembly, on Saturday, July 2nd, between the Task Force members, M. Rajaran (WG V-DAT chair), M. Korte (Div. V Chair), R. Lukianova, and A. Thomson

A paper “The PC index: a review of Methods” by McCreadie and Menvielle has been published in *Annales Geophysicae* (Ann. Geophys., 28, 1887-1903, doi:10.5194/angeo-28-1887-2010, 2010). This paper aims at making a critical analysis of the differences between the methods and of the points that are not fully described in the literature in order that these points will be addressed in future discourses, in order to give the basis for the discussion on a “unified PC index”.

Status in June 2011

The PC Task Force received only one application, from DTU Space.

DTU Space is planning to make a very thorough study of the PC-index in preparation for a proposal that is meeting the standards set by IAGA. As a result of important changes in the DTU responsibilities that occurred in 2010, it was not possible for DTU Space to complete a thorough study of the PC-index and the preparation of a proposal before the Melbourne meeting. DTU Space thus proposed to postpone the endorsement decision until the IAGA meeting in 2013,

Decisions taken during the Melbourne IUGG General Assembly

The Task Force reported on its activities during the WG V-DAT Business meeting.

The WG decided to maintain the Task Force, and that the Task Force will be active until a decision on the PC index endorsement is made.

On the basis of the Task Force propositions, the following decisions were taken by the WG, and endorsed during the Div. V Business meeting:

- to consider the DTU proposal, and to accept the requested 2-year delay;
- to encourage applications before 2011, Dec. 31st from institutes to host the PC Index to the Task Force and WG V-DAT;

- to encourage the institutes involved in deriving the PC indices to reach agreement on a single methodology for derivation;
- during 2012, the Task Force will organize at least one forum (i.e. at EGU) dedicated to technical discussion on the PC index and any proposals;
- based on the results of these meetings, the PC Task Force will make a final recommendation on the PC Index to the V-DAT WG by May 30, 2013 and this recommendation will be published on the V-DAT web site.
- the Task Force will present this recommendation to the next IAGA Scientific Assembly