

Anniversary Assembly of the International Association of Geodesy

In 1862, the Prussian General Johann Jacob Baeyer initiated the Central European Arc Measurement (â€MittleeuropÃ¤ische Gradmessungâ€™) project. By the end of that year, 15 countries had affirmed their participation, and in 1864 the first General Conference was held in Berlin. In 1870, the Prussian Geodetic Institute was established and entrusted with the operation of the Central Bureau. General Baeyerâ€™s project is considered the forerunner to todayâ€™s International Association of Geodesy (IAG). IAG will celebrate its 150th anniversary with a Scientific Assembly in Potsdam from 1 to 6 September 2013. The IAG is a foundation association of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), established in 1919.

The local organisation of the Assembly is being undertaken by the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ), scientific successor of the Geodetic Institute, located 30km from Berlin in Potsdam. Potsdam is undoubtedly one of Germany's most beautiful cities with a magnificent diversity of architectural monuments and gardens, and it offers a fascinating range of attractions such as the Babelsberg Filmpark and boat tours on the Havel River. Potsdam's key attractions are the Sanssouci Palace, summer residence of King Frederick II, and Cecilienhof Palace, venue of the 1945 Potsdam Conference.

Hundreds of scientists from all over the world are expected to attend the Assembly. The scientific sessions will be held in the 4-star Hotel Dorint Sanssouci in Potsdam. An exciting programme of presentations will highlight the contributions of modern geodesy to science and society, based around the following themes:

- Definition, Implementation and Scientific Applications of Reference Frames
- Gravity Field Determination and Applications
- Observing, Understanding and Assessing Earth Hazards
- Science and Applications of Earth Rotation and Dynamics
- Observation Systems and Services
- Imaging & Positioning Techniques and Applications

A session on IAG's history will be followed by a walk through the historic buildings at Telegrafenberg, site of the previous Geodetic Institute and today's GFZ.

The deadline for abstracts is 21 April 2013.