

IMA-CAM status report – update dd. 08 October 2025

To: IMA Council
From: Maarten BROEKMANS (Chair), Jan ELSSEN (Secretary)
Date: 08OCT2023

Preamble

This is the annual report for the Commission for Applied Mineralogy – CAM of the International Mineralogical Association – IMA for the period until 01OCT25.

Governance

Broekmans was elected IMA-CAM Chair at the joint IMA-CAM/ICAM Council meeting held at the IMA-GM in Johannesburg/RSA in 2014, and Elsen as Secretary. Vice-Chair Ciftci was elected at the joint IMA-CAM/ICAM Council business meeting in 2015, held at ICAM Congress in Istanbul/TR to fill the position vacant since 2014.

Current officers at IMA-CAM

position	name	year elected	predecessor
Chair	Maarten BROEKMANS*	2014	Éric PIRARD
Vice-Chair	Emin CIFTCI	2015	vacant from 2014
Secretary	Jan ELSSEN	2014	Megan BECKER
Past-Chair	Éric PIRARD	2014	Dogan PAKTUNC

It should be noted that in principle, officers are appointed to serve one 4y term, ie. until the next IMA and -CAM) General Meeting. An officer can be re-elected for the same position if supported by the (autonomous) meeting.

Due to urgent private circumstances, Broekmans was for personal reasons unable to attend the IMA General Meetings in Melbourne/AU 2018 and Lyon/FR 2022. IMA-CAM Secretary Elsen attended IMA 2022, but no formal CAM Business Meeting was organized (prebooked room proved unavailable), no new officers were elected. Thus, existing positions were continued – no notice received from IMA.

LAST MINUTE UPDATE: Secretary Jan ELSSEN gives notice 07OCT25 of his recent retirement, and as emeritus ‘will not follow any longer these activities’ (*ipse dixit*).

Formally elected CAM Subcommission officers are tabulated below.

Subcommission officers at IMA-CAM

subcommission	name	year elected	predecessor
Building Materials	Maarten BROEKMANS	Established 2006	-
Cultural Heritage etc.	Patrick DEGRYSE ¹	2011	Isabella MEMMI TURBANTI
Advanced Materials etc.	Achim KLEEBE ²	Established 2007	-
Geomaterials	Dee BRADSHAW ³	Established 2009	-

notes:

¹ – cf. the Annual Report published available online

² – extended in absence, at IMA-CAM General Meeting in Johannesburg 2014. May have retired?

³ – deceased 07 June 2018.

As IMA-CAM and ICAM Council have been intensely intertwined since their establishment almost 40y ago, below are the present officers at the ICAM Council. In 2017, the bidding for the 2021 Congress was won by Fernando ROCHA representing Aveiro/PT, as confirmed at the 2019 ICAM in Belgorod/RU. However, due to the COVID pandemic starting early 2020, the 2021 ICAM was first delayed, then definitely canceled (without notice from organizer. Consequently, the Vice-Chair was not promoted to Chair, and the ICAM Council decided unanimously that Olga KOTOVA stays on as Chair until the ICAM Congress in Chengdu/CN 2023, after which ShiYong SUN took over as Chair.

During that event, no proposals for 16th and 17th ICAM venues were presented, hence were not discussed in the ICAM Council, nor voted in a plenary General Meeting of ICAM delegates. Most unfortunately, no ICAM Congress was organized in 2025 either.

Current officers at ICAM

position	name	year elected	comments
Chair	ShiYong SUN ¹	2022	extended until next ICAM (2027?)
Vice-Chair	<i>position vacant</i>	2023	tba. by 2027 organizer
Secretary	<i>position vacant</i>	2000?	RAMMLMAIR retired 2024
Second Secretary	Deshentree CHETTY	2013	successor to RAMMLMAIR?
Immediate Past-Chair	Olga KOTOVA ¹	2022	extended until next ICAM (2027?)

note:

¹ – by unanimous agreement ICAM Council; Aveiro/PT 2021 canceled due to corona

IMA-CAM activities since 2008

IMA-CAM activities have since the beginning been scheduled as ICAM Congress, organized by local committees overseen by ICAM Council for continuity. Yet, local committees have a large amount of autonomy in organizing the congress with respect to their choice of professional conference organizers (PCO), venue, session scheduling and programming, exhibitions, pre/post workshops and excursions, local technical visit, and the editorial process for the congress proceedings. Registration fees have increased only marginally for the most recent events, nearly regardless of the organizing country.

A Memorandum of Understanding – MoU (introduced at ICAM 2011) clarifies the financial positions of ICAM Council and the local organizers, formalized in a countersigned document. Thus, local organizers are informed of the not-or-profit character and carry the associated financial risk, but get to keep a surplus. The MoU also alleviates ICAM Council from financial liability.

Summary of ICAM events

year	event, venue, conference/council chair, vice-chair	winner next
2008	9 th ICAM, Brisbane/QLD, Ying GU († 2019), Henrique KAHN	Maarten BROEKMANS wins votes for 2011 in Trondheim/NO
2011	10 th ICAM, Trondheim/NO, Maarten BROEKMANS, Faqin DONG	Faqin DONG wins votes for 2013 in MianYang/CN
2013	11 th ICAM, MianYang/CN, Faqin DONG, Emin CIFTCI	Emin CIFTCI wins votes for 2015 in Istanbul/TR Saverio FIORE wins votes for 2017 in Castellaneta Mare/IT
2015	12 th ICAM, Istanbul/TR, Emin CIFTCI, Saverio FIORE	Olga KOTOVA wins votes for 2019 in Belgorod/RU
2017	13 th ICAM/AMAM (joint), Castellaneta Marina/IT, Saverio FIORE, Olga KOTOVA	Fernando ROCHA wins votes for 2021 in Aveiro/PT
2019	14 th ICAM, Belgorod/RU, Leonid VAISBERG († 2021), Fernando ROCHA	ShiYong SUN wins votes for 2023 in Chengdu/CN
2021	15th ICAM, Aveiro/PT : Congress cancelled due to corona pandemic	
2022	unanimous ICAM Council decision: Olga KOTOVA stays on as Chair, ShiYong SUN becomes Vice-Chair	
2023	15 th ICAM, Chengdu/CN, ShiYong SUN (confirmed), Vice-Chair to be confirmed	publishing: yet to be confirmed
2025	16th ICAM, venue to be elected , ShiYong SUN stays on as Chair, Vice-Chair 2027 to be announced	
2027	16 th ICAM, venue to be selected by decree by present Chair ShiYong SUN 2027 Vice-Chair to be announced, Vice-Chair 2029 to be announced	

IMA-CAM publishing

IMA-CAM publishing is directed through ICAM Congress Proceedings, where it is in the hands of the local organizers. ICAM Council never provided formal instructions on publishing, leading to inconsistencies in editorial process and variable quality.

ICAM 2011 introduced a full journal-style peer-review process for the proceedings (later officially recognized as ‘scientific content’ in Norway), which were integrally published with Springer in 2012. ICAM 2013 in MianYang/CN followed a similar editorial process. No proceedings at all were published at ICAM 2015, and only a small collection of eight papers at a local publisher at ICAM 2017. The Proceedings for ICAM 2019 in Belgorod/RU were published with Springer.

Options for a more consistent channel to publish studies within ‘applied mineralogy *s.l.*’ have been discussed with Springer from 2016 onward. Because a dedicated topical journal was deemed unfeasible, the scope of the journal ‘Mineralogy & Petrology’ was redefined in 2017 to accommodate manuscripts within that field, and a few have been published since.

Coordination with an ICAM Congress would likely result in a Special Issue with *capita selecta* from an ICAM Congress. In addition, IMA-CAM officers have published other works within ‘applied’ mineralogy’ but independent of ICAM. An overview is given below.

Relevant Publications from IMA-CAM and/or ICAM officers

2010

Broekmans MATM (2010; guest editor): Special Issue 13th International Conference on Alkali-Aggregate Reactions in Concrete – ICAAR 2008, June 16-20, Trondheim/NO. Cement & Concrete Research (40/4): 501-680.

ICAM 2011

Broekmans MATM (2012, editor): Proceedings of the 10th International Congress for Applied Mineralogy – ICAM. Springer Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg/DE: pp823. ([403k downloads per date](#))

2012

Broekmans MATM, Pöllmann H (2012; editors): Applied mineralogy of cement and concrete. Reviews in Mineralogy & Geochemistry (74): pp364.

ICAM 2013

Dong F (2015; editor): Proceedings of the 11th International Congress for Applied Mineralogy – ICAM. Springer Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg/DE: pp559. ([78k downloads per date](#))

2014

MSA-sponsored Short Course ‘Applied Mineralogy of Cement & Concrete’ held at IMA-GM in Johannesburg/RSA, 12 delegates attending
Broekmans MATM: invited Visiting Professor at ‘State Key Laboratory for Silicate Materials in Architectures’, WuHan University of Technology – WHUT, 2014-2017

ICAM 2015

no proceedings, only printed Program & Abstracts. No digital materials available.

2016

RILEM (2016): RILEM Recommended Test Method: Detection of potential alkali-reactivity – AAR-1.1. Petrographic examination method. In: Nixon PJ, Sims I (editors): RILEM recommendations for the prevention of damage by alkali-aggregate reactions in new concrete structures. Springer Verlag, Heidelberg-Berlin/DE. RILEM State-of-the-art Report (17): 35-60.

Fernandes I, Ribeiro MA, Broekmans MATM, Sims I (2016): RILEM Recommended Test Method: Detection of potential alkali-reactivity – AAR-1.2. Petrographic atlas: characterisation of aggregates regarding potential reactivity to alkalis. Springer Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg/DE: pp193.

ICAM 2017

Fiore S (2017; editor): Proceedings of 2nd International Conference on Applied Mineralogy and Advanced Materials – AMAM | 13th International Congress on Applied Mineralogy – ICAM. Prescience (4): 1-47. ([comprises eight \[8\] capita selecta – unknown number of downloads](#))

ICAM 2019

Glagolev S (2019; editor): Proceedings of the 14th International Congress for Applied Mineralogy – ICAM. Springer Open, Heidelberg/DE: pp488. ([1.4M \[!\] downloads per date](#))

2020

Guy B, Thiéry V, Garcia D, Bascou J, Broekmans MATM (2020): Columnar structures in pyrometamorphic rocks associated with coal-bearing spoil-heaps burned by self-ignition, La Ricamarie, Loire, France. *Mineralogy & Petrology* (114): 465-487.

ICAM 2021

15th ICAM, Aveiro/PT: event cancelled due to corona pandemic

2022

Valentini L, Broekmans MATM, Elsen J, Snellings R (editors; 2022): Cement and concrete: from the Romans to Mars. Special Issue, *Elements Magazine* (18/5): 296-332.

Contributions:

Elsen J, Jackson MD, Ruiz-Agudo E (2022): Historic concrete science: *opus caementicium* to 'natural cements'. *Elements* (18/5.2): 301-307.

Broekmans MATM, Fernandes I, Fredin O, Margreth A (2022): Polarization-fluorescence microscopy in the study of aggregates and concrete. *Elements Magazine* (18/5.5): 321-326.

ICAM 2023

15th ICAM, Chengdu/CN 20-25 August. Book of Abstracts and Proceedings published.

2025

Broekmans MATM, Menéndez-Méndez E, Giannini E (2025): Chapter 3. Analytical methods to determine the alkalis. In: Menéndez-Méndez E, Santos Silva A (editors): Total alkalis in concrete – Contribution of alkali-silica reaction. RILEM State-of-the-Art Report TC258-AAA WP3 – STAR (40): 53-153.

NOTE: Esperanza Menéndez-Méndez passed away 21NOV24 when the manuscript went through proofing

Perspective for IMA-CAM future

The 15th ICAM was held in Chengdu China from 20-23 August 2023, with over 300 delegates attending (though with a smaller than usual number of nationalities). Contrary to habit, proposals for 16th and 17th ICAM venues were not received, probably for still lingering uncertainty about the pandemic and how long (and which) restrictions would remain in effect. Thus, next venues were not discussed in the ICAM Council, nor voted in a plenary General Meeting of ICAM delegates. As a consequence, no ICAM Congress was organized in 2025 either.

We aim to confirm an organizer for a 16th ICAM to be held in 2027, and with that restore the main driving force for IMA-CAM.

Perspective for IMA-CAM future

The 24th IMA General Meeting is scheduled on 20-24 August 2026 in Nanjing/CN, and the next up CAM business meeting will be held there. Date and venue to be scheduled when more details are released. Agenda points will include: officer positions, status of subcommissions, others.

The next ICAM Council aims to organize a Congress in 2027. Details on time schedule, planning and venue will hopefully be clarified soon.