

TCs Chairs - TOC Meeting

Feb. – Mar. 2023

➤ TOC

- **Leadership Team**

- **Chair:** Marcelo Sanchez (USA/Argentina/Spain)
- **Vice-Chair:** Susmita Sharma (India)



Meeting Agenda
TOC Meeting – Feb. - Mar. 2023



**Technical Oversight
Committee (TOC)**

1. Welcome & Introduction (Sanchez)

Guidelines Highlights

2. TCs activities (Sánchez - all).

- Administrative meetings; TC specific conferences and technical events; TC website.
- ISSMGE Honor Lectures and Bright Spark lectures; others...

3. Monitoring of TCs Activities and Performance (Sanchez).

- Activity points and scores. Spreadsheet to monitor TCs performance.

4. Forthcoming ISSMGE Technical Committee Report (Sanchez).

5. New Guidelines ISSMGE Technical Committees. Rev. Oct. 2022 (Sanchez).

6. International Interactive Technical Talks, IIT'T (Sanchez).

- New ISSMGE IIT'T President's: initiative; Available IIT'Ts

7. Organization of Pre-Conference TCs Workshops, Courses, and TCs Meetings (Sanchez).

- XVIII ECSMGE 2024. European Conf. on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. Lisbon, Portugal, 08 / 26- 30th 2024
- XVII PANAMGEO 2024. Pan-American Cong. on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering La Serena, Chile. Nov. 2024.
- 21st ICSMGE 2026. International Conf. on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. Vienna, Austria. Jun 14th to 19th. 2026.

8. Heritage Time Capsule (HTC) Project (Sanchez).

- <https://www.issmge.org/the-society/time-capsule>

9. TCs and ATCs Report Activities 17ARC on Geotechnical Engineering, Astana, 14th to 18th Aug. 2023. (Prof. Zhussupbekov).

10. Other Business (all).

Meeting Agenda

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Technical Oversight
Committee (TOC)

1. Welcome & Introduction (Sanchez)

Guidelines Highlights

- The **topics** and **number** of **TCs** are set to meet the perceived **needs** within the **geotechnical community**.
- A **TC** is **responsible** for **discussing**, **advancing**, and **developing knowledge** in its specialist **subject area**.
- **TCs General objectives**:
 - **Develop** and **disseminate knowledge** and **practice** within the topic of the TC to the ISSMGE membership.
 - Establish **guidelines** and technical **recommendations** within the topic of the TC.
 - **Assist** with technical programs of **international** and **regional conferences** organised by the **ISSMGE**.
 - Interact with industry and overlapping groups working in areas related to the specialist area of the TC
- **Efforts** should be made to **synthesise** this **information** into a form that is of **use** to the geotechnical **profession**.
- **Efforts** should be made to **disseminate** it to the membership of the ISSMGE, as articulated in the TC Objectives.
- **Balance** between the advancement of academic **research** and the **translation** of appropriate research findings into **practice**
- **TCs** may use a variety of means for achieving their objectives. For example: **specialist discussions**, **symposia**, academic/practitioner **forums**, speciality **conferences**, **surveys**, etc.
- All the **events** organised under the auspices of the TC must adhere to the principles outlined in the **ISSMGE conf. manual**.
- The **TC** shall seek **approval** from the **TOC**, **President**, and **Secretary General** before it gives official endorsement to any conference or activity organised by bodies outside the ISSMGE.
- The **Terms of Reference** should include **tangible deliverables** (e.g., reports, seminars & proceedings, other demonstrable outputs)

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**Technical Oversight
Committee (TOC)**

1. Welcome & Introduction (Sanchez)

Guidelines highlights

- The TC **Chair** should make a firm **commitment** to **organise** the **activities** of the TC.
- The **Chair** nominates the **Secretary** for the TC. He/she may also nominate a TC **Vice-Chair**.
- To reflect the **international nature** of TCs, TC Chairs are strongly encouraged to select a Secretary and a Vice Chair from a **different** member society (**MS**) from that of the Chair.
- The **Chair** may **nominate** up to **four members** from various **countries** to reflect the **international nature** of the TC.
- These individuals should be important specialists seen as essential to ensure satisfactory progress in TC activities..
- Each **MS** may **nominate** up to **two members** to serve on **each TC**.
- The length of their term of **appointment** is **8 years**.
- It can be **renewed** for **4 years**, upon proposal of the TC **Chair** and **approval** by the **TOC**.
- Approval is based on **evidence** of active and **essential participation**.
- At **any time**, a **MS** may nominate **new member(s)** or replace its member(s) in a given TC.
- MS may add **more** members who are termed '**Corresponding Members**'.
- The **corresponding** members may attend TC meetings but have **no voting rights**.
- **Only** nominations from **MSs in good standing** with the ISSMGE will be **considered**.
- Only individuals whose details have been entered onto the **TC database** by their MS are considered as members of a TC.
- The **official TC membership** is that appearing on the **ISSMGE website**.

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**Technical Oversight
Committee (TOC)**

1. Welcome & Introduction (Sanchez)

Guidelines highlights

- At the **start** of their term of office, the **Chair** should send an invitation to each **TC member** to confirm their availability and their willingness to participate in and advance the activities of the TC.
- The **Chair** may **invite** individuals to **join** the **TC**.
- The mechanism of joining is for the **individual** to **contact** their **MS** and ask that they be **added** to the **TC database**.
- **TC members** are **obliged** to respond when requested to do so and to **carry out** delegated **activities** as **agreed**.
- The **TC Chair** may suggest to the ISSMGE President and the TOC to **remove** or replace **inactive members**.
- An **inactive** TC member is one who **fails** to **respond** within a **reasonable timeframe** to requests from the TC Chair, giving due consideration to extenuating circumstances. Detailed **procedure** in the **guidelines**
- It is expected that TC **members report** to their **MS** all appropriate information about the TC **activities**.
- The **composition** of TCs should ensure a **mix** of **academics**, **researchers**, and **practitioners** on the committee.
- As a guideline, practitioner involvement should **exceed 25%** on any TC. Details in the **guidelines**
- Though the lifetime of a **TC** is not linked to the **period** of a **Presidency**.
- The TC **Chair** is encouraged to develop **task forces** for **specific activities** and **assign responsibility** to TC members to lead them.
- The **Leaders** of the Task Forces of a TC, together with the **Chair**, **Vice Chair** and Secretary form the **Executive of the TC**
- The **ISSMGE President** will consider **TOC recommendations** to **maintain** or **dissolve** existing **TCs** and to create new ones.
- The **ISSMGE President**, after **consultation** with the **TOC**, may elect to **dissolve** any **TC** whose mandate has been fulfilled or is perceived as being **inactive or ineffective**.

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**Technical Oversight
Committee (TOC)**

1. Welcome & Introduction (Sanchez)

2. TCs activities (Sánchez - all).

- Administrative meetings: at least 2 per year
- TC specific conferences: TCs are strongly encouraged to organize regular technical meetings.
- Technical sessions, workshops, and other events: TCs are encouraged to take advantage of the several opportunities to organize thematic events at international/national conferences.
- Other technical events: e.g., “GEOTECNICA ED ENERGIA” 1 day event organized by TC308 Italian members



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- Other technical events: e.g., “GEOTECNICA ED ENERGIA” 1 day event organized by TC308 Italian members
- The TCs website is key to maintain informed and updated the TCs members about the main activities related to the subject area.
- ISSMGE Honor Lectures and Bright Spark lectures
 - New ISSMGE Honour Lectures (HLs) should normally be initiated by a TC. No TC may have more than one HL
 - The TC proposing an ISSMGE HL shall have the support of at least 75% of its members.
 - TOC shall provide advice, prior to the President and the Board considering the proposal.
 - A decision will be made on the frequency of delivery (yearly, biennially or at other intervals).
 - Normally, the venue for the lecture shall be within a regular conference arranged by a TC.
 - The topic of the ISSMGE HL shall reside with the TC.
 - The ISSMGE HL shall enhance dissemination of knowledge within the field of the TC.
 - The title of the ISSMGE HL may be the name of a person (or several persons) who made acknowledged and significant contributions to the topic in different continents. If it is a name of a person, the TC should prepare a list of 3 nominees.
 - The proposed nominee shall be decided by a simple majority of the TC members.
 - The nominees shall form part of the proposal. The final decision resides with the President in consultation with the Board.
 - The lifespan of an ISSMGE HL shall normally be a minimum of 8 years. If a TC is dissolved, the ISSMGE HL will also cease.

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**Technical Oversight
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1. Welcome & Introduction (Sanchez)

2. TCs activities (Sánchez - all).

3. Monitoring of TCs Activities and Performance (Sanchez).

- A spreadsheet was developed to monitor the TCs activity.
- The table contemplates different aspects related to the TCs activities.
- Points are associated with different activities.
- This score is used to establish an indicative but imprecise ranking (i.e., very good TCs, good, and problematic ones).
- The main items contemplate in the spreadsheet are:
 - Regular running of administrative meetings (3 points).
 - Running of a series of specific conferences regularly organized by the TC (3 points).
 - Maintaining an updated website (1 to 3 points) with relevant information (either within the ISSMGE website or within specific TC website).
 - Other items include:
 - Managing ISSMGE Honour Lectures and Bright Spark Lectures.
 - Participation in ISSMGE Conferences through specific workshops are also considered.
 - Contributions to other initiatives like:
 - ✓ Virtual University,
 - ✓ Heritage Time Capsule Project (HTCP),
 - ✓ International Interactive Technical Talks (ITTs),
 - ✓ Case History Journal,
 - ✓ Newsletters, surveys.

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**Technical Oversight
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1. Welcome & Introduction (Sanchez)
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3. Monitoring of TCs Activities and Performance (Sanchez).
4. **Forthcoming ISSMGE Technical Committee Report (Sanchez).**

Within a Presidential period, each TC is required to submit 2 reports to the ISSMGE Board:

- interim report in time for the mid-term Council meeting and
- one administrative report 6 months prior to the International Conference for presentation at the Council meeting.
- Both reports are to be submitted to the TOC and the Secretary General. ISSMGE provides the format for the 2 reports.

The date for the next report will be discussed during the forthcoming Board meeting

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**Technical Oversight
Committee (TOC)**

1. Welcome & Introduction (Sanchez)
2. TCs activities (Sánchez - all).
3. Monitoring of TCs Activities and Performance (Sanchez).
4. Forthcoming ISSMGE Technical Committee Report (Sanchez).
5. **New Guidelines ISSMGE Technical Committees.** Rev. Oct. 2022 (Sanchez).
 - The term of office of a TC Chair is 4 years and can be renewed, normally, for just one additional term.
 - At the end of the first term, the TC Chair has to call for a motion of confidence.
 - The TC Chair needs to be supported by the simple majority of the votes to continue in office for a second term.
 - At the end of the second 4 years term, the TC Chair needs to organize an election to select a new TC Chair.
 - It shall be an open call among all the TC members interested in the TC Chair position.
 - Before starting the election process, the TC Chair needs to contact to TOC Chair to coordinate it.
 - Once the voting and scrutiny processes are completed, the list of the nominated candidates (in the order they were voted) is shared with the TOC chair for his/her consideration.
 - Normally, the new TC Chair is the person who received the maximum number of votes.
 - Once approved by the TOC chair, the selected personality asks for an official support to his/her member society, that should forward to the TOC Chair.
 - Once this official support is received, the TOC chair proposes to the ISSMGE president the nomination of the selected personality.
 - Based on the TOC Chair's suggestion, normally, the ISSMGE President officially appoints the new TC Chair

➤ TCs Chair Election Protocol Steps



**Technical Oversight
Committee (TOC)**

- The TC Chair needs to contact the TOC Chair to inform that a process to select a new Chair will start.
- The process is started by an open call for candidates organized by the TC officers among all the TC members (nominated, chair nominated, corresponding, officers)
- Candidates interested in the position are invited to prepare, within a given deadline, a document that shall include the candidate's short bio (half a page) and a vision statement (half a page) to be shared.
- Organizing and overseeing the voting and scrutiny processes can be made either by the TC officers or by a devoted TC subcommittee
- A TC meeting (in person or virtual) can be set up to allow the candidates to present themselves and their vision
- The voting and scrutiny processes are conducted online* within a period of time defined by either the TC officers or the organizing subcommittee
- The process followed and the list of the nominated candidates (in the order they were voted) is shared with the TOC chair for his consideration.
- Once approved by the TOC chair, the selected personality asks for an official support to his/her member society, that he should forward to the TOC chair
- Once this official support is received, the TOC chair proposes to the ISSMGE president the nomination of the selected personality
- Based on the TOC chair's suggestion, normally, the ISSMGE president officially appoints the new TC chair

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3. Monitoring of TCs Activities and Performance (Sanchez).
4. Forthcoming ISSMGE Technical Committee Report (Sanchez).
5. New Guidelines ISSMGE Technical Committees. Rev. Oct. 2022 (Sanchez).
6. **International Interactive Technical Talks, IITT (Sanchez).**
 - New educational initiative gathering young and renowned engineers from both sides of the spectrum, academia and industry, from around the world.
 - [New ISSMGE IITT President's initiative](#)
 - The TOC coordinates the talks.
 - The TCs are invited to participate.
 - Three speakers in total.
 - A renowned speaker, we suggest the TC Chair or Vice-Chair for that role, but an alternative speaker can be suggested.
 - The ISSMGE President moderate the talk
 - Diversity in geographic locations (i.e., from different regions/continents), gender, and practice (i.e., academia and industry).
 - It is a 50 to 60min effort, discussing a particular field of expertise
 - To stimulate the participation in IITTs, points will be given to those TCs that develop this type of talk.
 - The goal is to cover all TC topics in the coming years.
 - [Available IITTs](#)



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5. New Guidelines ISSMGE Technical Committees. Rev. Oct. 2022 (Sanchez).

6. International Interactive Technical Talks, IIT'T (Sanchez).

7. **Organization of Pre-Conference TCs Workshops, Courses, and TCs Meetings (Sanchez).**

- [XVIII ECSMGE 2024](#). European Conf. on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. Lisbon, Portugal, Aug. 26- 30th 2024.
 - Opportunity to organize TCs meetings, pre conference, workshops, courses, and technical sessions. Information circulated.
 - Deadline to submit proposals: 15th April 2023.
- [XVII PANAMGEO 2024](#). Pan-American Cong. on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering La Serena, Chile. Nov. 2024.
 - Opportunity to organize TCs meetings, pre congress, workshops, and courses, Information to be circulated.
 - Deadline to submit proposals: 1st July 2023.
- [21st ICSMGE 2026](#). Int. Conf. on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. Vienna, Austria. Jun 14th to 19th. 2026.
 - Possible opportunity to organize TCs events.
 - I will meet with the ICSMGE organizer in May 2023. I will update with the news in due time

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8. **Heritage Time Capsule (HTC) Project (Sanchez).**
 - <https://www.issmge.org/the-society/time-capsule>
 - It is expected that those TCs that have not contributed yet to the HTC initiate need to work to complete their contributions by mid of June 2023

Heritage Time Capsule Project: Contributions by Technical Committees

**HTC provides a platform for
TCs to showcase their
worth.**

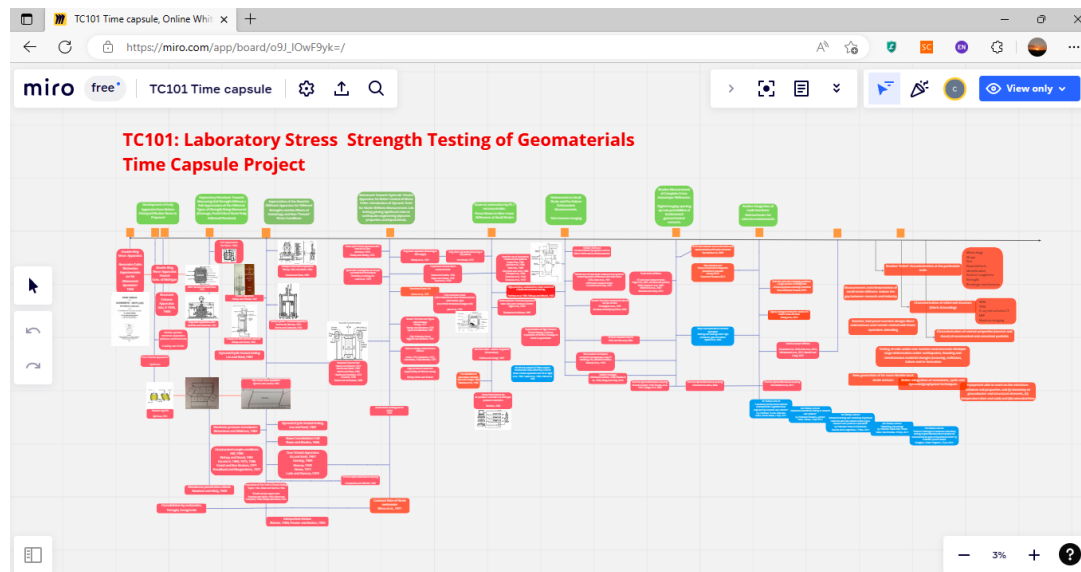
**Use of created knowledge
relies on interacting with
the grass-roots geotechnical
community.**

**Go beyond reflecting on
achievements and dreams
to engagement.**

**Digital platforms allow
engagement beyond
conferences and workshops.**

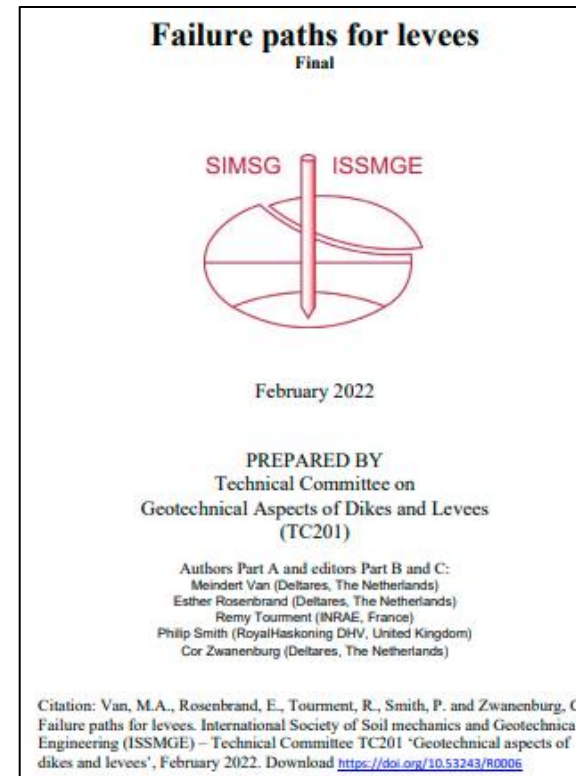
Heritage Time Capsule Project: Contributions by Technical Committees

Online exhibits of past, present and future speculations



TC101: An active miro board illustrating the journey in time accounting for the main soil mechanics laboratory equipment, apparatus, and procedures.

Promote guidelines and recommendations



TC201: Report on moving dike stability assessment, from evaluating individual mechanisms (past) to evaluating entire failure paths containing several mechanisms (future).

Majority of
contributions

Heritage Time Capsule Project: Contributions by Technical Committees

14 contributions to inspire at:

<https://www.issmge.org/the-society/time-capsule/part-a>



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9. **TCs and ATCs Report Activities 17ARC on Geotechnical Engineering, Astana, 14th to 18th Aug. 2023.**
 - **Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov**



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10. Other Business (all).