

TC201 Meeting Minutes

Date: 17 June 2026

Time: 13:00-13:45 (CEST)

Chair: Alessandro Tarantino

Meeting attendees

Alessandro Tarantino	University of Strathclyde	United Kingdom	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Francesca Ceccato	Università di Padova	Italy	TC201 Non-Member
Baris Trak	-----	Türkiye	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Gregor Portmann	HSLU	Switzerland	TC201 Non-Member
Sahar Hemmati	Université Gustave Eiffel	France	TC201 Non-Member
Cor Zwanenburg	Deltares	The Netherlands	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Hirotoishi Mori	Yamaguchi University	Japan	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Rémy Tourment	INRAE	France	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Farshid Vahedifard	Tufts University	USA	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Martin Pohl	Bundesanstalt fuer Wasserbau	Germany	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Elena Dodaro	University of Bologna	Italy	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Meindert Van	Deltares	The Netherlands	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Florian Hörtkor	Hka	Germany	TC201 Non-Member
Patrick Mengé	DEME	Belgium	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Alexandre Pinto	JETSj	Portugal	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Simonetta Cola	University Padova	Italy	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Norma Patricia López Acosta	UNAM	Mexico	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Edina Koch	Széchenyi István University	Hungary	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
Laura Tonni	University of Bologna	Italy	TC201 Member (or Member to be)
			TC201 Member (or Member to be)

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

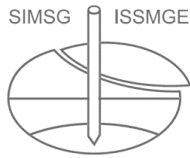
- The Chair welcomed all participants (in-person and online).
- Attendance was recorded via QR code (available during and after the meeting).

2. CORE TEAM UPDATE

- Current core team:
 - **Chair:** Alessandro Tarantino
 - **Vice-Chair:** Patricia Lopez Acosta (former Secretary)
 - **Secretary:** Yida Tao (currently on maternity leave until November)
- Interim secretarial duties are handled by the Chair and Vice-Chair.
- The Immediate Past Chair: Cor Zwanenburg remains part of the core team.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- Recognition of long-term contribution from Meindert Van:
 - 20 years of service, including 10 years as Chair
 - Significant contributions, notably coordination of two major reports on dykes and levees



- Appreciation formally expressed.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

4.1 Journal of Case Histories

- The International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) has launched a **Journal on Case Histories**
- TC201 is required to:
 - Nominate a member for **editorial/review contributions**
 - Support **special issue coordination**
- Existing editorial involvement of Cor Zwanenburg (Immediate Past Chair) will continue.

4.2 Terms of Reference

- Updated Terms of Reference are now available on the TC201 website
- **Action on Chair and Vice-Chair:**
 - **Form Task Forces**

4.3 Membership Review

- Ongoing audit of member engagement:
 - Members contacted individually to confirm continued participation
 - Non-responsive members will be followed up; potential removal via societies if lack of engagement
- Key principle introduced:
 - **“Contribution must be > 0” (active participation required)**
- **Action on Members:**
 - **Confirm membership engagement when contacted**

4.4 Membership Structure

- Two categories:
 - **Nominated Members** (with voting rights, max. two per country)
 - **Corresponding Members** (no limit)
- Active participation encouraged regardless of category
- Flexibility to expand membership through corresponding roles

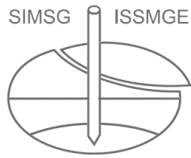
5. WIDER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Website sign-up allows broader community to receive updates
- Importance of collaboration with:
 - Other Technical Committees
 - External organisations (e.g. ICOLD European groups on internal and external erosion of levees)
- **Action on Members:**
 - **Identify additional relevant international groups for collaboration**
- **Action on Chair:**
 - **Identify Working Groups within ICOLD with the support of Member Rémy Tourment**

6. TASK FORCES

6.1 Formation

- Task forces will act as the **operational units** of TC201



- Topics include both:
 - Technical themes
 - Cross-cutting areas (education, industry links, case histories, etc.)
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6.2 Survey Feedback

- Strong interest across most proposed topics
 - Key areas of interest:
 - Case studies
 - Workshops and networking activities
 - Education and industry collaboration
 - **Action on Members:**
 - **Provide feedback on Task Forces via the Survey Form**
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6.3 Implementation Plan

- Members encouraged to complete the survey (if not already done)
 - Task forces will be:
 - Formed based on expressed interest
 - Balanced by region, expertise, and sector
 - Each member:
 - Will be assigned to **one primary task force**
 - Can contribute to additional groups
 - Task Forces' kick-off
 - Task forces are expected to have the kick-off meeting in September 2026 (the first meeting to be attended by the Chair and/or the Vice-Chair)
 - **Action on Chair and Vice-Chair:**
 - **Form Task Forces**
 - **Action on Members:**
 - **Organise Kick-off meeting in September 2026**
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6.4 Timeline

- Task forces to be established in coming months
 - First meetings planned for **September 2026**
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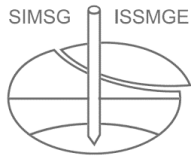
7. PAST AND ONGOING ACTIVITIES

7.1 Recent Report

- Major report published on:
 - Levee renovation and reinforcement techniques
 - Includes global case study inventory
 - Potential follow-up:
 - Webinars or deeper engagement with contributors
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7.2 International Projects

- Notable projects:
 - **Beaver Life** (starting September 2026)
 - **Digital Dikes** (Netherlands)



- Opportunity to:
 - Align TC201 activities with project events
 - Develop joint workshops or sessions
- Action on Members:
 - Members to share relevant projects with TC

8. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

8.1 Conferences and Sessions

- Participation in major conferences encouraged
- Strategy:
 - Organise **dedicated sessions or symposia** within existing conferences
- Upcoming opportunity:
 - Unsaturated soils conference, June 6-9, 2027, Greater Boston, MA, USA
Abstract deadline: 26 June 2026
 - **XVIII DANUBE-EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING**
9-12 June 2027, Budapest, Hungary
Abstract Deadline: Contact ASAP Edina Koch (Conference chair) at info@18decge.hu
- Potential collaboration with US levee community before or after the Unsaturated Soils conference
- Action on Members:
 - Contact the Core Team if you intend to submit an abstract to these conferences
 - Members to share relevant events with TC

8.2 Collaboration with TC220 (Monitoring)

- Proposed joint activities:
 - Hybrid workshop (monitoring in levees)
 - Introductory lectures on instrumentation
 - Troubleshooting sessions

9. EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION

- Members encouraged to share:
 - Conferences
 - Workshops
 - Relevant initiatives
- TC201 will:
 - Promote via TC201 website
 - Circulate to wider community

10. MEETINGS AND COORDINATION

- Future plenary meetings:
 - Approximately **every 6 months**
- Global participation challenge:

- Likely one meeting time covering all regions
- Alternative option (two sessions) considered but less preferred

11. CLOSING AND NEXT STEPS

- Two technical sessions scheduled following the meeting
- Presentations and materials will be shared via TC201 website
- Minutes to be circulated

ACTIONS SUMMARY

- Action on Chair and Vice-Chair:
 - Form Task Forces
 - Identify Working Groups within ICOLD with the support of Member Rémy Tourment
- Action on Members:
 - Confirm membership engagement when contacted
 - Identify additional relevant international groups for collaboration
 - Provide feedback on Task Forces via the Survey Form
 - Organise Kick-off meeting in September 2026
 - Contact the Core Team if you intend to submit an abstract to the above-mentioned conferences
 - Share relevant projects/events with TC201



