
IUGS E-BULLETIN (NO. 57, NOVEMBER 2010)

IUGS 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT PARIS 2011 - INVITATION TO ATTEND

As announced in E-Bulletin #56 to celebrate the 50 years since the IUGS was established in 1961 a 1 day Anniversary Symposium addressing the achievements, past relationships and future of the IUGS will be held on 21 February 2011 at the UNESCO Headquarters building, 7 Place de Fontenoy, Paris, commencing at 09.00am in Room XI. All those interested in, and associated with, IUGS activities are invited to attend this event. Check further announcements in future E-Bulletins, and on the IUGS website at <http://www.iugs.org/>

INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS 2012 - FIRST CIRCULAR ISSUED

The 34th IGC Planning Committee has issued the first Circular regarding the Draft program for the 34th IGC. To read the circular go to the link:

<https://mymail.ezemsgs.com/em/mail/view.php?id=1785200344&a=8781&k=4dfcea6>

The IGC Organising Committee seeks all feedback on the Draft program, including any proposed Symposia you would like to nominate, input to proposed Symposia, and also any volunteer Co-ordinators for proposed Symposia. Please note that there will not be a mail out of the printed Circular. Please pass on the information about the Circular to your colleagues in case they have not received the information. The Congress website www.34igc.org will be the main vehicle for dissemination of updated information.

GEO MEETINGS IN BEIJING, CHINA

As a GEO Participating Organization the IUGS participated in the Seventh Plenary session of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO-VII), and in the Ministerial Summit, which took place on 3-5 November 2010 at the China National Convention Centre (CNCC), Beijing, with was attended by representatives of 51 countries and 34 Participating Organizations. The Beijing Ministerial Summit offered an opportunity to engage with other global leaders and to shape the international strategy for Earth observation over the next five years.

The Ministerial Summit assessed the GEO's progress over the past five years, evaluated past and future GEOSS implementation, agreed on a Data Sharing Action Plan, and adopted the Beijing Declaration. At the closing session of the Ministerial Summit the IUGS Past President, Zhang Hongren, read a Statement written by IUGS President Alberto Riccardi. The connection and involvement of IUGS with the Purposes and activities of GEO and GEOSS were stressed. It was also stated that the IUGS is fully supportive of the important efforts being done by the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) to access and apply Earth observations, and fully endorses the GEOSS Data Sharing Principles. Finally it was remarked that the access and application of Earth observations worldwide, and the need to promote education, capacity building, and transference and sharing of scientific knowledge, will help to reduce the gap between developed and developing countries, and, therefore, to have a more prosperous and equalitarian society. (For additional information, and linkages, on GEO and GEOSS see <http://www.earthobservations.org/>).

EUROPEAN GEOPARKS NETWORK (EGN) MEETING REPORT

The EGN Advisory Committee meeting (September 28), and the 26th EGN Coordination Committee meeting (September 29-30) both took place in the small charming city of Molyvos, Lesvos Island, Greece. During the meeting of the EGN Coordination Committee 5 new Geoparks were accepted out of 8 applications bringing the current number of European Geoparks to 42. The new Geoparks are:

- Basque Coast, Guipuzcoa, Euskadi, Pais Vasco, Spain
- Parco Nazionale del Cilento e Vallo di Diano, Campania, Italy
- Rokua, Oulu-Northern Ostrobothnia and Kainuu Regions, Finland
- Tuscan Mining Park, Grosseto, Toscana, Italy
- Vikos-Aoos, Ioannina, Epirus, Greece.

On October 1st those attending moved to Mytiline for the 9th European Geoparks Network Conference (October 1-5) with the theme "Learning from the Past - Building a Sustainable Future" This EGN Conference celebrated 10 Years of Innovation under the auspices of UNESCO. The opening ceremony occurred in the evening of 1st October with the participation of the Greek Minister for Environment.

REPORT "THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON URBAN GEOLOGY", SHANGHAI, CHINA

The "International Symposium on Urban Geology" sponsored by the China Geological Survey and the IUGS was held in Shanghai, China in 18-21 October 2010. More than 100 experts and scholars attended from China, Britain, Germany, Russia, Brazil, Norway, New Zealand, Singapore, India and other countries. Mr Wang MIN who is the Deputy Minister of Ministry of Land and Resources of the People's Republic of China, as well as the Director General of the China Geological Survey, gave a speech at the opening ceremony. He said that China is ready to make extensive exchanges and cooperation with other countries, and international organizations, to contribute to the development of urban geological work. Prof. Zhang HONGREN, Past President of the International Union of Geological Sciences, attended the meeting as the IUGS representative and expressed his compliments and congratulations for the Symposium. With the rapid economic development and high urbanization process in China, demands on urban geology are becoming more urgent for sustainable urban development. Urban geological surveying has developed rapidly in recent years, and it plays an increasingly important role in urban planning, construction, and management. Within China comprehensive urban geological surveys have been conducted in Shanghai, Beijing, Hangzhou, Guangzhou, Tianjin, and Nanjing. These surveys have played an important role in serving urban planning, construction, and management, and have achieved remarkable results. Based on this practice, the International Symposium on Urban Geology aimed to promote further development of international urban geology through exchanging progress and sharing experiences. The Symposium theme of "Urban Geology and Urban Sustainable Development" perfectly coordinated with the theme of "Better City, Better Life" of the Shanghai Expo 2010 which was held from 1 May to 31 October 2010. During the conference more than 50 academic papers were presented addressing the follow primary topics: Theory and progress of urban geology; Technical methods for urban geological survey; Results and applications of urban geology; and Urban geological information systems and social services. On the last day of the symposium most of the participants had an enjoyable visit to the EXPO 2010 Shanghai.

IDEAS WANTED FOR ICSU SPONSORED 2012 INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE.

On 26-29 March 2012 in London, six weeks before the UN's Rio +20 Conference on Sustainable Development (Earth Summit), another major conference on global sustainability the 2012 International science conference "Planet Under Pressure: new knowledge towards solutions", will be held. Sponsored by the International Council for Science's (ICSU) global environmental change research programmes the 3-day conference format will include solutions-focussed workshops, followed by a fourth high-level policy day. It will provide a comprehensive update of our knowledge of the Earth system and the pressure our planet is now under. The London conference will discuss global sustainability and the need to find solutions across scales. It will include transdisciplinary work that brings together natural and social scientists. The conference aims to attract and involve many communities and groups beyond the global-change programmes, including academia, business, policy, communications and other areas. It will draw on the expertise of some of these groups in preparation for the conference. The organizers have an initial database of 400 names and organizations beyond their core group that they will consult as they develop the conference. The scientific organizing committee will meet in London for the first time on 13-14 December 2010. In advance of this meeting they are inviting submissions of ideas for overarching themes you think are essential to help shape the conference, for example the relationship between Earth System Science, the green economy and governance, or issues-based approaches, food security, water, energy, etc, etc. Visit the conference website at: <http://www.planetunderpressure2012.net>. This call is a first step to gather your ideas to be developed further at the December meeting. Please discuss with your networks. Email your suggestions to Owen Gaffney (owen.gaffney@igbp.kva.se) by **10 December 2010**.

CARPATHIAN BALKAN GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (CBGA)

The new President of the Carpathian Balkan Geological Association (CBGA) is Prof. Arjan BEQIRAJ from Tirana, Albania. Contact email: ae_begiraj@yahoo.com

GEOAFRICASCIENCES SOCIETY CREATED

The GeoAfricaSciences Society has been created and is now open for Membership Applications. The first NewsLetter of GeoAfricaSciences Vol. 1 Issue 1 was also released 28th October 2010. To receive a newsletter containing news and membership details etc. email the President Dr Abdelkader SAADALLAH at: abdelkader.saadallah@geoafricasciences.org. Also check the GeoAfricaSciences Society website now under construction at: <http://www.geoafricasciences.org>

HUNGARY'S TOXIC SPILL POINTS TO VULNERABILITY OF WATER RESOURCES

The Central and Eastern Europe region of the Global Water Partnership (GWP CEE) has called for pollution prevention and the regular inspection of polluter operations in light of the recent toxic sludge disaster that occurred in Hungary during October 2010. GWP CEE has worked for years with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) on several issues related to the Danube, not least its water quality. See more of this article in the Latest News section of the website: <http://www.gwp.org/en/gwp-in-action/Central-and-Eastern-Europe/>. More information on the toxic spill is also available on the ICPDR site at: http://www.icpdr.org/icpdr-pages/spill_accident_hungary_list.htm.

NEED TO CONTACT A GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD?

See the Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World website: <http://www.gsj.jp/Intl/Dir/a.htm>

RECENT INFORMATION ON PUBLICATIONS, JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS

To download any individual IUGS E-Bulletins issued since October 2002 go to: <http://iugs.org/index.php?page=e-bulletins>.

"ICSU Insight" the Newsletter of the International Council for Science (ICSU) can be downloaded from the ICSU website at:

http://www.icsu.org/2_resourcecentre/RESOURCE_list_base.php4?rub=12

To subscribe to the newsletter go to: http://www.icsu.org/3_mediacentre/INSIGHT_1.php4

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) latest electronic E-Journal is on their website at: <http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/>

"Erosion Control" For details on the latest edition of the official journal of the Erosion Control Association go to: <http://www.erosioncontrol.com/index.aspx>

The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA) website has information about the organisation's activities together with such items as a full listing of The SGA News issued since 1996. Visit the website at: <https://www.e-sga.org/>

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

NOTE the listings of forthcoming meetings shown below will normally be included in an IUGS E-Bulletin only once and then they will appear on the IUGS website. To see the IUGS listing of forthcoming geoscience meetings, conferences, and workshops, check the Calendar section of the IUGS website at:

<http://iugs.org/index.php?page=calendar&phpMyAdmin=2c9f06db78f0953a55b10dcfdc5907f6>

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January 17-20, 2011. ENHANS workshop on Extreme Natural Hazards and Disaster Risk in Africa, Pretoria, South Africa. For information on the Extreme Natural Hazards and Societal Implications (EHANS) project see their website <http://www.ENHANS.org>. For full details on the Workshop, including Abstract submission etc, go to the website: <http://www.technoscene.co.za/hazardsws/>

May 8-13, 2011. Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, Switzerland. The Second Announcement about the Session has been released see: <http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/>. The challenges of disaster recovery and reconstruction will be addressed in diverse ways at the World Reconstruction Conference as part of the Global Platform. See also: <http://www.wrc-2011.org> and <http://www.gfdr.org/gfdr/wrc>.

July 3-8, 2011, "The XVII International Congress for Carboniferous and Permian" will be held in Perth, Australia. For details see the conference website at: <http://www.iccp2011.org> or for more information contact to Dr. Zhong CHEN (zqchen@cyllene.uwa.edu.au) or Prof. David HAIG (dhaig@uwa.edu.au).

August 2-10, 2011. INHIGEO Conference, Toyohashi, Japan. Theme "Visual Images and Geological Concepts." The First Circular has been released and can be found at the conference website www.inhigeo-jp.org

September 26-29, 2011. 11th Biennial SGA Biennial Meeting, Antofagasta, Chile. "Lets Talk Ore Deposits". Visit the SGA2011 website at: <http://www.sga2011.ucn.cl/> or download the First Circular at: https://www.e-sga.org/fileadmin/sga/SGA_meetings/Antofagasta_2011/First-circular-SGA-2011.pdf

-----2012-----

August 2-10, 2012. "34th International Geological Congress" (IGC) in Brisbane, Australia. This is the primary IUGS conference that is held every 4 years. See the Congress website at: <http://www.34iqc.org/>

August 2-10, 2012. INHIGEO will meet in conjunction with the 34th International Geological Congress in Brisbane, Australia.

August 26-30, 2012. The "32nd International Geographical Congress" in Cologne, Germany. Theme "Down to Earth". Geographers bring the wide-ranging perspectives and methodology of their subject to bear on four major thematic complexes – bringing research down to earth: Global Change and Globalisation; Society and Environment; Risks and Conflicts; Urbanisation and Demographic Change. For details see: <http://www.igc2012.org/>

-----2013-----

July 22-28, 2013. INHIGEO will convene in Manchester, United Kingdom in co-ordination with the 24th International Congress on the History of Science, Technology and Medicine. www.inhigeo.org

-----2014 and 2015 -----

The INHIGEO Board is currently considering the conference venues for 2014 and 2015. If any member or national delegation is interested in hosting the annual INHIGEO conference in either of these years please contact the Secretary General (email: barry@ananian-cooper.com) or any member of the INHIGEO Board as soon as possible. Details of all INHIGEO activities are on the website www.inhigeo.org.

With best regards,
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