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Edited by:

Prof Hassina MOURI

IUGS Councillor 2012-2016

Email: iugsmouri@uj.ac.za

***** NOTES *****

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NEWS FROM THE IUGS OFFICE

➤ **Message from the IUGS' President and Secretary General:**

The first five months of the new IUGS Executive Committee (EC) have proved to be interesting and productive. The EC is largely new, particularly since the unfortunate recent resignation of Past-President Alberto Riccardi for personal reasons; only two ongoing Councillors, Wesley Hill and Sampat Tandon, provide continuity. China has increased its involvement, providing the Treasurer, Dong Shuwen, and taking over the Secretariat function from the USGS' Richard Calnan and Nancy Zeigler (who are thanked most sincerely for their effective efforts over the term of the last EC). Anne Dehls, former IUGS Secretariat, has agreed to work part time with the new Secretariat, assisting Chinese colleagues Li Zhijian, Wang Wei, Chen Zhu and Li Wei in the new office.

Amongst the actions to date are: Councillor Hassina Mouri took over production of the e-Bulletin; the first meeting of the Bureau (President Roland Oberhaensli, Treasurer Dong Shuwen and Secretary General Ian Lambert) was held in Beijing, in association with opening the new Secretariat; reviews were conducted of the joint IUGS-UNESCO programs, International Geoscience Program (IGCP) and Geoscience Applications of Remote Sensing (GARS), involving Vice Presidents Yildirim Dilek and Marko Komac; President Oberhaensli held discussions with UNESCO on future collaboration, including on Global Geoparks; Wesley Hill represented IUGS at a meeting of the European Geoparks Network and the Global Geoparks Bureau meeting in Portugal; the new Publications Committee was appointed, chaired by Brian Marker; initial scoping was conducted by Ian Lambert and Dong Shuwen for a new initiative on mineral resources for future generations; initial planning was conducted by Councillor Yujiro Ogawa for a joint IUGS-Geological Society of Japan international workshop on tsunami; Brian Marker agreed to Chair the Publications Committee, which will also include Vice President Yildirim Dilek and webmaster Peter Bobrowsky; an electronic Reference Manual was prepared for the EC; approval was given for the International Commission for Stratigraphy's recommended the type section for the Santonian Stage; IUGS renewed its agreement with OneGeology; the Netherlands has rejoined IUGS, with TNO as the Adhering Organisation; President Roland Oberhaensli represented IUGS at the 24th colloquium on African geology that was held with the 14th conference of the Geology Society of Africa and the 40th anniversary of GSAf; organisation of the first annual meeting of the new EC (Paris 19-22 February) was progressed; and planning commenced for a significant IUGS presence at the GSA Annual Assembly in Denver in late October, including interactions with Affiliate Members.

➤ **Resignation of Professor Alberto C Riccardi (IUGS Past President):**

Alberto Riccardi provided strong and focussed leadership for the IUGS as President from 2008-12. As Past President Alberto was a member of the IUGS' Executive and Nominating Committees. He announced his resignation from these IUGS positions in mid January for personal reasons. As President, Alberto oversaw the move of the editorial office for the IUGS journal EPISODES from China to India. He negotiated the move of the Permanent Secretariat from Norway temporarily to the USA, and before his term ended he signed the agreement under which China agreed to host a larger Secretariat office until 2020. He played an influential role in the revision of the IUGS and IGC Statutes and Bylaws, which were approved at the 34th IGC in Brisbane. He worked hard to maintain a strong partnership with UNESCO, and arranged Ad hoc Reviews of several IUGS funded activities. The IUGS Executive Committee expresses its thanks to Alberto Riccardi.

➤ **The Relocated IUGS Permanent Secretariat Opens in Beijing:**

An unveiling ceremony was held in Beijing on December 11th, 2012 to mark the opening of the IUGS Permanent Secretariat, which has been relocated to China after it was hosted in USGS in 2010-2012 and the Geological Survey of Norway in 1993-2009. The new Secretariat started operation since 1st December 2012.

Mr. Xu Shaoshi, Minister of Land and Resources of China and President of Geological Society of China, and IUGS President Prof. Roland Oberhänsli, jointly unveiled the plaque of the Secretariat. Also present at the unveiling ceremony were IUGS Secretary General Dr. Ian Lambert, Treasurer Prof. Dong Shuwen, Past IUGS President Prof. Zhang Hongren (2004-2008), Past Vice President Prof. Liu Dunyi (1992-2000) and Secretariat Director Mr. Li Zhijian.

The relocated IUGS Permanent Secretariat is hosted within the premises of the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences (CAGS) with a commitment of 8 years in accordance with the MOU between the Ministry of Land and Resources of China and the International Union of Geological Sciences signed during the 34th IGC in Brisbane, Australia on August 6th, 2012.

The Bureau members, Prof. Roland Oberhänsli, Dr. Ian Lambert and Prof. Dong Shuwen, held the IUGS Bureau meeting on December 10-12, 2012 during their stay in Beijing.

NEWS FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD

➤ **The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) announced the Earth Science Week 2013 theme: "Mapping Our World":**

The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) (<http://www.agiweb.org>) is pleased to announce that the theme of Earth Science Week 2013 will be "**Mapping Our World.**" This year's event will promote awareness of the many exciting uses of maps and mapping technologies in the geosciences.

Earth Science Week 2013 will be celebrated October 13-19. For more about this week and ways to get involved -- including newsletters, local events, and classroom activities -- please see the Earth Science Week web site at <http://www.earthsciweek.org/>

➤ **The European Federation of Geologists (EFG):**

The EFG is non-governmental organization that was established in 1981 and includes today 21 national association members. EFG is a professional organisation whose main aims are to contribute to a safer and more sustainable use of the natural environment, to protect and inform the public and to promote a more responsible exploitation of natural resources. The guidelines to achieve these aims are the promotion of excellence in the application of geology and the creation of public awareness of the importance of geoscience for the society. Further information on the EFG can be found at: <http://www.eurogeologists.eu/>. The latest news of the EFG can be accessed at: <http://www.eurogeologists.eu/index.php?page=175>

➤ **Some highlights from Africa:**

- **New World Heritage Sites.** "Featuring.... five new African world heritage sites inscribed this year..... including the first site for Chad (Lakes of Ounianga), Congo and the Central African Republic (Sangha Trinational). The additions include Morocco's elegant capital city; the old colonial capital of Cote d'Ivoire; a diverse 'cultural landscape' in rural Senegal; a series of freshwater lakes

nestled amongst the dunes in the heart of the Sahara; and an intriguing rainforest where gorillas share salt-lick clearings with forest elephants. The process of getting each new site added to the world heritage list is a long and rigorous one... designed to ensure that only the 'best of the best' places achieve this coveted status. We are inviting you to contribute to the development of the prestigious world heritage list by making your own nomination(s) for consideration in 2015". For more information, contact Dr. Peter Howard, Independent Consultant, African Heritage, Protected Areas & Wildlife Management, P.O. Box 24994, Karen 00502, NAIROBI, Kenya, email. phoward@africannaturalheritage.org, <http://www.AfricanWorldHeritageSites.org/>

• **South Africa: a Future Potential Destination for Earth Science Meetings of International Significance**

A number of important earth science meetings of international interest and importance are scheduled in South Africa this year, and over the next few years. Travel to South Africa is straightforward (and in a European time zone), and conferencing facilities and organization are world class. Meetings can generally be staged in South Africa at lower costs to delegates than in Europe or North America.

The **International Mineralogical Association** 21st general meeting (**IMA 2014** – Delving Deeper: Minerals as Mines of Information) will be staged in Johannesburg from 1 – 5 September 2014. Session theme calls were sent out and 40 proposals have been accepted so far. Further submissions for proposals are encouraged. During this event, a variety of field trips, as well as day visits to mineralogical/geochemical laboratories will be offered. This will be the key international mineralogical event of 2014, and should be attended by anyone involved in mineralogy and related aspects. Further information on the event are available at: <http://www.ima2014.co.za>

In 2016, the 35th International Geological Congress will be staged in Cape Town, from August 27 through September 4. In 2012, Table Mountain overlooking Cape Town was declared one of the New 7 Wonders of Nature, and Cape Town itself is one of the world's foremost business tourism destinations. If this is not reason enough to come to South Africa, there will be an extensive field trip program throughout Africa. This meeting is a 'must-attend' event for geoscientists from all parts of the world. See <http://www.35igc.org/> for further information.

In 2013, there are so far **four** meetings scheduled, which will also be of international interest:

From July 3 to 5, 2013, the Geological Society of South African (GSSA) will stage GeoForum 2013: Mineralization and Geosciences in Africa. The African continent has become a key target for international exploration, and the objective is to highlight some of the activity as well as key academic research focused on African resources. See <http://www.gssa.org.za/event/geoforum-2013/> for more information and contact addresses. The meeting will be held in Turbine Hall in the Newtown district of Johannesburg, in the heart of the historic mining centre.

For those interested in geoheritage and geotourism, the second South African Geoheritage meeting will take place on the 8-11 September 2013 and will be staged in the historic Western Cape town of Oudtshoorn, easily accessible from Cape Town or George in the Western Cape. Field excursions will highlight the geology and geomorphology of the Cape Fold Belt; the meeting will address various aspects of geoheritage in South Africa and globally, with special interest on the Klein Karoo. Email info@gssa.org.za for more information; a website will be available shortly.

For those who are in the field of "Medical Geology" and interested in geo-health issues in Africa, a 1st meeting in this field will be organised at the University of Johannesburg on 26th - 28th September 2013. The meeting will consist of 2 days short course to be presented by Prof Jose Centeno (USA) and collaborators, followed by 1 day oral and poster presentations, with a possibility of a 1day excursion. Further information can be obtained by contacting Hassina Mouri at: hmouri@uj.ac.za

For those geophysically inclined, the South African Geophysical Association will stage the SAGA-AEM 2013 conference from 7 – 11 October, 2013, with the theme ‘Geophysics in Elephant Country’. The meeting will take place at Skukuza Camp, within the Kruger National Park, the world’s second oldest national park. See <http://www.saga-aem2013.co.za/>.

For the 2013 meetings, the deadline dates for registration/abstract/title submissions have not yet been reached – but are getting close. We look forward to welcoming you to South Africa. *Craig Smith, Executive Manager, Geological Society of South Africa.*

RECENT INFORMATION ON PUBLICATIONS:

1) Books:

- **SPRINGER-IYPE book series:** The IYPE-Springer book series contains the latest thinking on the main scientific themes by a large number of Earth Science professionals from around the world. The books are written at the advanced level demanded by a readership consisting of Earth Science professionals and students. The series is a legacy of the Science Programme and covers global themes that embrace a broad range of problems of widespread national and international concern, including: Human health - Climate - Groundwater - Oceans - Soils - Deep Earth – Megacities - Geohazards - Earth and Life - Resources issues. Additional book proposals relevant to these themes will be considered outside of the Series. An initial author/editor questionnaire and instructions for authors can be obtained from the Publisher, Dr. Robert K. Doe (robert.doe@springer.com). Further information can be obtained at: <http://www.springer.com/series/8096>
- **Orogenesis: The Making of Mountains**, by Michael R. W. Johnson and Simon L. Harley, University of Edinburgh. Publication year: 2012. ISBN: 9780521765565. 398 pages. www.cambridge.org/9780521765565/
- **A Passion for Science and Zion, the Yaalon Story**, by Dan H. Yaalon, 2012. Contact: yaalon@vms.huji.ac.il for more information.
- **Digital soil mapping: theoretical and experimental studies**. Dokuchaev Soil Science Institute, 2012. 350 p. (in Russian), e-mail: savigory@gmail.com
- **Dynamics of Wheel-Soil Systems. A Soil Stress and Deformation-Based Approach**. Series: Ground Vehicle Engineering. By Jaroslaw A. Pytko. CRC Press. Routledge, Taylor and Francis. ISBN: 978-1-46-651527-5. Hardcover, 331 pages.
- **Soil Water and Agronomic Productivity**. Series: Advances in Soil Science. Rattan Lal, B.A. Stewart (Eds.). CRC Press. Routledge, Taylor and Francis. ISBN: 978-1-43-985079-4. Hardcover, 594 pages.
- **Handbook of Processes and Modeling in the Soil-Plant System**. Rolf Neider, D. Bendi (Eds.). CRC Press. Routledge, Taylor and Francis. ISBN: 978-1-56022-915-5. Paperback, Price \$104.95. ISBN: 978-1-56022-914-8. Hardcover, Price \$179.99.
- **Field Sampling for Environmental Science and Management**, by Richard Webster, Murray Lark. CRC Press. Routledge, Taylor and Francis. ISBN: 978-184971-368-9. Paperback, 192 pages. Price \$49.95. ISBN: 978-1-84971-367-2. Hardcover, 192 pages. Price \$145.00.
- **La Gestión de Riesgos Geológicos**. Galbán Rodríguez, Liber; Vidaud Quintana Ingrid N.; Chuy Rodríguez Tomás Jacinto. Editorial Académica Española. ISBN: 978-3-8484-6869-0 Madrid.

Spain. 92 pages. <https://www.morebooks.de/store/es/book/la-gesti3n-de-riesgos-geol3gicos/isbn/978-3-8484-6869-0>

- **Indicadores M3s Comunes en La Evaluaci3n de Riesgos Geol3gicos.** Galb3n Rodr3guez, Liber; Vidaud Quintana Ingrid N.; Chuy Rodr3guez Tom3s Jacinto. Editorial Acad3mica Espa3ola. ISBN: 978-3-8484-6869-0 Madrid. Spain. 89 pages. <https://www.morebooks.de/store/es/book/indicadores-mas-comunes-en-la-evaluaci3n-de-riesgos-geol3gicos/isbn/978-3-659-02849-6>
- **Geolog3a B3sica Aplicada.** Elementos b3sicos de la ingenier3a geol3gica aplicados a la ingenier3a civil e hidr3ulica. Galb3n Rodr3guez, Liber. Editorial Acad3mica Espa3ola. ISBN: 978-3-659-04793-0 Madrid. Spain. 284 pages. <https://www.morebooks.de/store/es/book/geologia-basica-aplicada/isbn/978-3-659-04793-0>

2) Newsletters & E-Journals:

- **The 4th issue of the Newsletter of the IUSS Commission 1.4** can be accessed through the IUSS website: <http://www.iuss.org/>
- **The IUGG last E-Journal** can be accessed through the IUGG website: <http://www.iugg.org>

3) Videos

- **Soil videos:** The Soil Science Society of America has made a series of soil videos named: **The Story of Soil**, check them out at www.iheartsoil.org. Students from Technical University in Berlin have created short videos to raise the awareness of soil. They produced several videos, including **The day soil died**; Check out <http://www.youtube.com/user/mediasoil>
- **FAO produced a video titled Soils**, see here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8TyaL2DAPA> here a video named Let's Talk About Soil <http://vimeo.com/53618201>

4) Magazines

EARTH magazine online published by the American Geosciences Institute (AGI) (<http://www.agiweb.org/>) can be accessed through: <http://www.earthmagazine.org/>.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOTE the listings of forthcoming meetings shown below will normally be included in an IUGS E-Bulletin only once but will appear on the IUGS website until the event. The IUGS website (<http://www.iugs.org>) lists more "geo"related events than any other website devoted to such information. Analysis of the IUGS 2010 website statistics indicates that the "IUGS Calendar" section is the most frequently visited element of our website with regular hits from over 160 countries. The IUGS is pleased to continue this service to help promote all "geo" related events. Please email your meeting posting requests directly to the IUGS Secretariat at IUGS@usgs.gov, or to the IUGS E-Bulletin Editor. To see the IUGS listing of forthcoming geoscience meetings, conferences and workshops, go to the Calendar section of the IUGS website at:

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

2013:

• **February 20-21, 2013.** Mountains Under Watch, Observing Climate Change Effects in the Alps, Forte di Bard, Aosta Valley – Italy: Mountains Under Watch is an interdisciplinary conference that aims at bringing together scientists and experts working in the diverse fields of climate change studies in mountain areas around the world. The specific goal of the conference is to share experiences, methods and strategies for long term observations and monitoring of the climate change effects on different alpine environments ranging from the cryosphere to the biosphere. Details can be found at: <http://www.muw2013.it/program/>

• **April 07 - 12 2013.** European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2013, Vienna (Austria).

✓ Session SSS 8.3 will address Cost effective tools for soil organic carbon monitoring. For further information and submission of abstracts:

<http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2013/sessionprogramme/SSS#SSS8>

✓ Session SSS 6.3/GM1.5. Special Session on Geodiversity and geoheritage in geoscience research. Convener: Emmanuel Reynard. Co-Conveners: Han-neke van den Ancker, José Brilha, Erik Cammeraat. Deadline to submit abstracts: 9 January 2013. Details can be found at: <http://www.egu2013.eu/>

• **May 17-20th, 2013** Hammamet, Tunisia. The Tunisian Association of Applied Geology (ATGA) and The Tunisian Association of Geomatics (ATG) in collaboration with the Research Laboratory « Water-Energy-Environment» (Sfax University), the North African Group for Earthquakes and Tsunamis Studies (NAGET) and the Center for Research on terrestrial Environment (CRET, Lausanne, Switzerland) organize 2 events:

✓1) The 5th Tunisian Days of Applied Geology from May 17th to May 19th 2013

✓2) International Conference on Natural Hazards and Geomatics (ICNHG2013) from May 17th to May 20th 2013

For further information, please visit: <http://www.atga.fr/>

▪ **June 3-6, 2013.** The IUSS Global Soil C Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, USA. Details at: <http://iuss-c-conference.org>

▪ **June 19-20, 2013.** The International Conference Four Decades of Progress in Monitoring and Modeling of Processes in the Soil-Plant-Atmosphere System: Applications and Challenges Naples (Italy). Details at: <http://www.spa-conference-naples2013.org>

▪ **July 7-11, 2013.** 15th International Clay Conference (XVICC), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. More information is available at: <http://www.aipea.org/> or at the site of the event at www.15icc.org and by e-mail at: info@15icc.org

▪ **August 5 - 9, 2013.** The International Mine Water Association and the Colorado School of Mines are hosting the 2013 International Mine Water Association Symposium in Golden, Colorado, USA. Details at: <http://csmospace.com/events/imwa2013/>

▪ **August 10-15 2013.** XIIth International Symposium and Field Workshop on Paleopedology (Kursk & Voronezh regions, Russia). For further info, contact: paleopedology2013@gmail.com, or visit the website: <http://agora.guru.ru/display.php?conf=paleopedology2013>

- **August 12-15, 2013.** 12th SGA Biennial Meeting, Uppsala, Sweden. Theme: Mineral deposit research for a high-tech world. See: <http://www-conference.slu.se/sga2013>. Note the session “**S6.2 Construction materials**” organized in the frame of this meeting. Conveners: Richard Přikryl (Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic; e-mail: prikryl@natur.cuni.cz) Karel Miskovsky (Luleå University of Technology, Sweden; e-mail: karel.miskovsky@envix.se)
- **August 25-29, 2013. MEDGEO 2013.** IMGA 5th International Conference on Medical Geology, USA. Information are available at: http://rock.geosociety.org/GeoHealth/MEDGEO_2013/Welcome.html
- **August 26-31, 2013.** Pedometrics 2013 Conference, Nairobi, Kenya. Details at: <https://sites.google.com/a/cgxchange.org/pedometrics2013/home>
- **September 4–6, 2013.** 12th European Geopark Conference. Geoparks: an innovative approach to raise public awareness about geohazard, climate change and the sustain-able use of our natural resources. Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark is hosting the 12th EGN conference, in Ascea-Velia-Elea, southern Italy. For details see: <http://egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it/index.asp?ref=pagine&id=109&lan=ita>
- **September 16–20, 2013.** Geological heritage and geoconservation at the North Western edge of Europe. ProGEO Working group for Northern Europe. 2013 Meeting in New-castle upon Tyne, UK. Contact: Lesley Dunlop at: les-ley.dunlop@northumbria.ac.uk.
- **September 23–25, 2013.** 6th International Symposium on Submarine Mass Movements and Their Consequences. GEOMAR, Kiel, Germany. For further details contact: secretariat@igcp585.org
- **October 27–30, 2013.** Geological Society of America (GSA) Annual Meeting & Exposition 2013, Denver, Colorado USA. GSA is celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2013 with a yearlong series of events focusing on Celebrating Advances in Geosciences – Our Science, Societal Impact and Unique Thought Processes. <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2013/>

2014:

- **May 11 – 16, 2014.** 5th Edition of the International Congress on Arsenic in the Environment will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Details can be found at: <http://www.as2014.com.ar>
- **October 14–16, 2014.** The Soul of Soil and Civilization. Details can be found at: <http://www.soil2014.com/>
- **November 9-15, 2014.** XX Latinamerican Soil Science Congress will be organized by the Latinamerican Soil Science Society (SLCS) www.slcs.org.mx and the Peruvian Soil Science Society in Cuzco Peru. Details can be found at: www.esss.org.eg
- **November 12 – 19, 2014.** IUCN World Parks Congress 2014, Sydney, Australia. The Congress will serve as a vital link to achieving IUCN’s overall vision of a “just world that values and conserves nature”. Details can be found at: <http://www.iucn.org/>

WORKSHOPS & SHORT COURSES:

2013:

September 24-28, 2013. Workshop "Rates of Soil Forming Processes in Mediterranean Climate", Calabria and Basilicata, South Italy.

2014:

April 3-5, 2014. Soil-Waste-Water 2013 workshop, Landau, Germany. More information can be found at: www.soil-waste-water.de

2015:

August 24-27, 2015. 50th SGA Anniversary meeting - 13th SGA Biennial Meeting, Nancy, France. Theme: Mineral Resources in a Sustainable World. Email: sga-2015@univ-lorraine.fr

NEED TO CONTACT A GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD?

The Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World produced by The Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, includes web links to Geological Surveys, University Geoscience Departments, Geoscience Journals, Societies, and Oil & Gas Companies. Go to:

<http://www.uni-mainz.de/FB/Geo/Geologie/GeoSurv.html>

If you have comments, corrections, updates, or to add a link, please email: denbrok@erdw.ethz.ch

The Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World produced by the Geological Survey of Japan and containing information on national geological surveys as well as state and provincial geological surveys is available at: <http://www.gsj.jp/information/gsj-link/dir/index.html>

The geology.com website with news and information about geology and earth science also lists geological organizations and agencies: <http://geology.com/groups.html>

With best regards,

Prof Hassina MOURI

IUGS Councillor 2012 – 2016

Department of Geology
Faculty of Science
University of Johannesburg
Republic of South Africa
www.uj.ac.za