## **AGSSEA**

The Association of Geotechnical Societies in Southeast Asia (AGSSEA) had its origin at the 16<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference (16SEAGC) held in Kuala Lumpur in May 2007. Dr. Ooi Teik Aun was elected Protem Chairman and subsequently elected Chairman at the inaugural meeting the same year. Dr. Za-Chieh Moh was elected Honorary Chairman and Ir. Kenny Yee was elected Secretary-General.

Currently, the association has eight national member societies. They are the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (SEAGS), Vietnam Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (VSSMGE), Hong Kong Geotechnical Society (HKGES), Geotechnical Society of Singapore (GeoSS), Thai Geotechnical Society (TGS), Chinese Taipei Geotechnical Society (CTGS), Indonesian Society for Geotechnical Engineering (HATTI) and Malaysian Geotechnical Society (MGS). The current chairman is Prof. San-Shyan Lin from the National Taiwan Ocean University. The immediate past chairman is Prof. Yong Kwet Yew from the National University of Singapore (NUS).

The founding President of Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (SEAGS), Dr. Za-Chieh Moh has sensed the timing and mooted the idea of setting up a Federation of Geotechnical Societies in Southeast Asia. With the direct ISSMGE membership of many national societies or institutions in Southeast Asia, he conveyed a vision for the promotion of cooperation among the geotechnical societies in the region for the continued advancement of knowledge in geotechnical engineering and to provide necessary assistance to member societies with limited members and insufficient resources.

The inaugural meeting of AGSSEA was held on 5 December 2007 at the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia. A draft statute of the association was tabled, deliberated and accepted. Membership is opened to any professional society or institution engaged or otherwise actively interested in geotechnical engineering or related fields. The objectives were defined. They are (i) to arrange for periodic local meetings within the region for the discussion of geotechnical topics in cooperation with the member societies, (ii) to arrange for geotechnical conferences, symposia, seminars and lectures to be held in the region jointly with one or more member societies; and (iii) to publish a technical journal, in English which shall contain papers of interest to geotechnical engineers.

Since its inception in 2007, AGSSEA has organized many meetings to plan, discuss and co-ordinate the implementation of various activities. It has organized conferences, short courses, seminars, public lectures and touring lectures given by renowned speakers. AGSSEA has supported many regional conferences and symposia. AGSSEA and SEAGS jointly published the "Geotechnical Engineering" journal which is indexed by EI since 1970 and Scopus since 2001. The AGSSEA-SEAGS Newsletters are published on a regular basis. AGSSEA has its own website at www.agssea.com where journal papers, newsletters, notices, etc. can be downloaded.

The inaugural AGSSEA Geotechnical Conference under the joint "18<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference (18SEAGC) & Inaugural AGSSEA Conference (1AGSSEAC)" was held in Singapore in May

2013. The 19<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference and 2<sup>nd</sup> AGSSEA Conference was held in May – June 2016. It was well attended by more than 580 participants from more than 25 countries. The 20<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference and 3<sup>rd</sup> AGSSEA Conference will be held in 2018-19 in Indonesia.

Ir. Kenny Yee Hon. Secretary- General, AGSSEA 30 December 2016



The inaugural AGSSEA Conference in 2013 under the 18SEAGC-1AGSSEAC in Singapore



The Inaugural Meeting of AGSSEA on 5 December 2007 in Kuala Lumpur.



A 2-day short course on "Residual Soil Slope Engineering from Theory to Practice" conducted by Prof. Charles Ng in 2008.



A 2-day short course on "Construction on Soft Ground and Stability of Clay Slopes" conducted by Prof. G Mesri in 2008.



A 2-day short course on "Seismic Design using Eurocode EC8" conducted by Prof. Pedro S Pinto in 2009.



Ir. Kenny Yee presenting the Geotechnical Engineering Journals to the 5 local universities in Hanoi (NUCE, UCT, WRU, Transportation Technology College, and Military Technical Academy) in 2013



Group photograph at the end of the 2-day seminar in Hanoi in 2013 as part of the regional touring lectures by Prof. Jean L Briaud and Prof. Charles Ng.



Group photograph of the speakers after the end of the 1-day seminar in Bangkok in 2013 as part of the regional touring lectures by Prof. Jean L Briaud and Prof. Charles Ng.



Group photograph of the council members of AGSSEA taken during the 19SEAGC - 2AGSSEA Conference in May - June 2016 in Kuala Lumpur.