



# ISSMGE Bulletin

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## Message to ISSMGE Members from Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov, The Vice President of ISSMGE for Asia

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I received a letter of invitation from our editor, Appointed Board member of ISSMGE, Professor Ikuo Towhata, to write an article for inclusion in this current issue of ISSMGE bulletin, regarding 14ARC and the recent developments of Asian member societies. I am delighted to accept the invitation letter and it is a great honor and privilege for me to address my message as Vice President of ISSMGE to all members of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. The Asian Region of ISSMGE is composed of 23 member geotechnical societies. I am glad to welcome Lebanon to become a new member society in the coming month. Among almost 30 technical committees of ISSMGE, several member societies in the Asian Region are hosting the following six very important technical committees :



TC 103: Numerical Methods in Geomechanics, hosted by HKGS, Chair K.T. Chan;  
TC 210: Dams and Embankments, CISMGE, Chair Xu Zeping;  
TC 302: Forensic Geotechnical Engineering, hosted by IGS, Chair V.V.S. Rao;  
TC 303: Coastal and River Disaster Mitigation and Rehabilitation, JGS, Chair Susumu Iai;  
TC 304: Engineering Practice of Risk Assessment and Management hosted by GSS, Chair K.K. Poon;  
TC 307: Dealing with Sea Level Changes and Subsidence: SEAGS, Chair is Tham-Soon Tan.

## Message to ISSMGE Members (continued)

### Professor A. Zhussupbekov

There are also Asian Technical Committees relating to different topics Asian Technical committees are including several topics such as

- ATC 3 Geotechnology for Natural Hazards, hosted by JGS and Chaired by Prof. Ikuo Towhata, University of Tokyo;
- ATC 7 Thick-Deltaic Deposits, hosted by KGS and Chaired by Prof. Nam - Jae Yoo, Konwoon National University;
- ATC 10 Urban Geoinformatics, hosted by JGS and Chaired by Prof. Mamoru Mimura, Kyoto University;
- ATC 15 Geotechnical Engineering of Collapsible Soils, hosted by KGS and Chaired by Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov, Eurasian National University;
- ATC 18 Mega Foundations, hosted by KGS and Chaired by Prof. Myoung -Mo Kim, Seoul National University;
- ATC 8 Ground Water Environment and Quality Management, hosted by JGS and Chaired by Prof. Makoto Nishigaki, Okayama University;
- ATC 19 Geoengineering for Conservation of Heritage Monuments and Historical Sites, hosted by JGS and Chaired by Prof. Yoshinori Iwasaki, Geo-Research Institute.

ATC19 is the latest on the list. It was established in 2010, but now this very important technical committee has 68 active members - geotechnical engineers all over the world. Prof. Iwasaki has been working for more than 15 years in studying the characteristics of geotechnical and masonry structures in Angkor, the ancient capital of Cambodia (see Photos 1 and 2). Since then, he has extended his activities to other areas in Asian Region including Iran, India, China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Russia and Afghanistan. These activities have allowed him to organize ATC 19 involving many well know scientists and experts of historical architectures and cultural heritage monuments. The secretary of ATC 19 is the talented Prof. Mamoru Mimura who has been working in the study of geotechnical problems of conservation of historical sites mainly in Japan.



Photo 1. North Library at Bayon, Angkor Thom.

## Message to ISSMGE Members (continued)

Professor A. Zhussupbekov



Photo 2. Elephant Terrace, Royal Plaza, Angkor Thom.

Asian geotechnical societies have organized several interesting and important international geotechnical events; in particular : 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Environmental Geotechnics, 2010, Nov. 8-12, New Delhi, India with 328 participants. Prior to the conference was ISSMGE Board meeting (see Photo 3) on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2010; 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geotechnical Engineering and Soil Mechanics, 31 October -3 November 2010, Tehran, Iran (Photo 4) ; 4<sup>th</sup> Japan- China Geotechnical symposium, Okinawa, Japan, 2010 (Photo 5); Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society( KGS) - Korean Geotechnical Society (KGS) joint geotechnical seminar (Photo 6), which was related with TC 305 on Geotechnical Infrastructure for Megacities and New Capitals, Astana, Kazakhstan ( 21-22 July, 2010) and others conferences in different parts of Asian region. I want also inform that Diponegoro University (Indonesia) under auspices of Indonesian Society for Geotechnical Engineering (Prof. Wardani, Photo 7) and ISSMGE organized excellent an one-day International Symposium on Recent Advances in Geotechnical Engineering (to mark the 40 years contributions of Prof. Hideki Ohta, Photos 8 and 9) and the Third International Conference in Geotechnical Engineering for Disaster Mitigation and Rehabilitation (17-20<sup>th</sup>, May, 2011 combined with the Fifth International Conference on Geotechnical Engineering with Theme “Geotechnical and Highway Engineering Practical Applications; Challenges and Opportunities in the Future”. The Organizing Committee of these three international events invited 14 Keynote speakers, including representatives (Photo 10) of ISSMGE and ISSMGE Board ( Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud, Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov, Prof. Buddhima Indraratna, Prof. Chu Jian, Prof. Dennes Bergado, Prof. Pedro Seco-e-Pinto, Prof. Michael Davies, Prof. Ikuo Towhata, Prof. Robert Lo, Prof. Susumu Iai, and Prof. Hideki Ohta) and also senior persons of the Ministry of Public Works of the Republic of Indonesia (Dr. Djoko Kirmanto, Dr. Hermanto Dardak, and Mr. Djoko Murjanto) . Dr. Djoko Kirmanto (Photos 11 and 12), who is the Minister of Public Works of the Republic of Indonesia, delivered an excellent lecture about Geotechnical Issues for Disaster Mitigation and Rehabilitation in Indonesia. Chair of the Organizing Committee, 3ICGEDMAR, 5ICGHE and International Symposium was very active Prof. Sri Prabandiyani Retno Wardani.



## Message to ISSMGE Members (continued)

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Photo 3. ISSMGE Board in Delhi (6th International Conference on Environmental Geotechnics, New Delhi, India), 7 November, 2010.



Photo 4. 4th International Conference on Geotechnical Engineering and Soil Mechanics, 2010, Tehran, Iran.



Photo 5. 4<sup>th</sup> Japan-China joint geotechnical symposium, Okinawa, 2010, Japan.



Photo 6. KGS-KGS joint geotechnical seminar, Eurasian National University, Astana, 21-22 July, 2010, Kazakhstan.

## Message to ISSMGE Members (continued)

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Photo 7. Chair of the Organizing Committee, 3ICGEDMAR, 5ICGHE and International Symposium - Prof. Sri Prabandiyani Retno Wardani and myself.



Photo 8. Great Honor for Dr. Hideki Ohta (Prof. of Chuo University) - As the Vice President of ISSMGE for Asia I presented a National Kazakhstan Chapman to Prof. Ohta for his 40-year great contributions to geotechnical engineering, and Prof. Pedro Seco-e-Pinto (Past President of ISSMGE) first congratulated Prof. Ohta in this inaugural event.



Photo 9. Group Photo of participants of International Symposium on Recent Advances in Geotechnical Engineering (to mark the 40-year contributions of Prof. Ohta, 17th May 2011), Gumaya Tower Hotel, Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia.



Photo 10. Group Photo of Keynote Lecturers of the 3rd International Conference on Geotechnical Engineering for Disaster Mitigation and Rehabilitation (18-20 May, 2011, Gumaya Tower Hotel, Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia.

## Message to ISSMGE Members (continued)

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Photo 11. VIPs opens ICGEDMAR and 5th ICGHE, Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia, 18th May, 2011.



Photo 12. The Invited Lecture of Dr. Djoko Kirmanto, Minister of Public Works of the Republic of Indonesia at 3rd ICGEDMAR and 5th ICGHE, Semarang.

The most recent event was the 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering which was held in Hong Kong (China) from 23 to 27 May, 2011. The 14<sup>th</sup> ARC which was hosted by Hong Kong Geotechnical Society (Photo 13) and Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Photos 14 and 15) under the auspices of ISSMGE. I am very happy to report that this most recent Conference with the theme on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering: Challenges and Solutions was resounding success, by all measures. The total number of participants was 627 from 36 countries.

The topics in the theme area were : Characterization of soils, local and problematical soils, slopes, foundations, Geotechnics for transportation and infrastructure, underground construction and tunneling, dam and embankment, rock engineering, soil dynamics and earthquake geotechnical engineering, geoenvironmental engineering, ground improvement, geotechnical risk mitigation and management, quantitative risk assessment, geosynthetics, forensic investigation, case histories, innovative technologies for geotechnical applications. Hong Kong has a land area of only 1,100 km<sup>2</sup> and a population of over 7 million. It is one of the geotechnical centers of the world with thousands of geotechnical practitioners and intensive geotechnical activities. This conference provided a forum for engineers and researchers from the Asian region and participants from other regions to meet together and share new ideas, achievements, and experiences through presentations and discussions. The proceedings of the conference include a booklet of 9 keynote papers and 414 extended abstracts and a CD-Rom with 414 normal papers and 9 keynote lectures. Before the opening ceremony was one-minute silence for March 11 Japan Disaster. Also in this conference there was an inaugural session dedicated to the 75<sup>th</sup> Years Anniversary Celebration of ISSMGE chaired by the Past Vice-President of ISSMGE for Asia Prof. Madhira Madhav. The session comprised of three presentations starting with Former Vice President of ISSMGE for Asia Dr. Za-Chieh Moh who spoke about the past; followed by myself about the present time; and Dr. N.H. Priyankara, a young representative from Sri-Lanka Geotechnical Society speaking about the future (Photo 16).



## Message to ISSMGE Members (continued)

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Photo 13. Group photo of the organizing committee of 14<sup>th</sup> ARC with ISSMGE Board members, Hong Kong, 23rd May, 2011.



Photo 14. Group photo of Young Geotechnical Students of Hong Kong Polytechnic University with President of ISSMGE Prof. Briaud, Co-Chairs of 14 ARC : Prof. Jian-hua Yin, Ir. Albert Ngai Leung Ho and Secretary of LOC of 14<sup>th</sup> ARC : Robina Wong.



Photo 15. Welcome performance: Lion Dance at the Opening Ceremony of 14<sup>th</sup> ARC, Hong Kong, 23rd May 2011.



Photo 16. Ceremony of Award for Dr. N.H. Priyankara (Young representative of Sri Lanka Geotechnical Society) after his Invited lecture about future of development of Asian Geotechnical Activity of ISSMGE (75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration inaugural session), 23rd May, 2011, 14<sup>th</sup> ARC, Hong Kong.

## Message to ISSMGE Members (continued)

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The Local Organizing Committee of 14ARC invited Prof. Motoki Kazama from Tohoku University to present a technical report about March 11 Japan disaster (Photos 17 and 18). Dr. Wen Dazhi (Land Transport Authority, Singapore) gave Keynote Lecture 1 about Underground Construction and Tunneling in Urban Environment; Ir. Raymond Chan (Geotechnical Engineering Office, The Government of the HKSAR gave Keynote Lecture 2 : Challenge of Extreme Rainfall to Landslide Risk Management in Hong Kong. The Keynote Lecture 3: Effect of clay-chemical interactions for geoenvironmental containment was presented by Prof. Takeshi Katsumi (Kyoto University, Japan); Prof. Abbas Soroush (Amirkabir University of Technology, Iran) gave Keynote Lecture 4 : Seepage and Deformations of Dams and their Monitoring; Keynote Lecture 5: Predictions and Performance of Uplift Piles in Soft Ground was delivered by Prof. Maosong Huang (Tongji University, China); Prof. Seung-Rae Lee gave Keynote Lecture 6 : Rainfall Induced Slope Instability Assessment and Monitoring: Review and Perspectives; Keynote Lecture 7: Stability Analysis of Chenab Bridge Abutment was presented by Prof. K.S. Rao (Indian Institute of Technology, India); Prof. Motoki Kazama (Tohoku University, Japan) gave Keynote Lecture 8: Residual Deformation Property of Liquefied Soil and Related Phenomena. On 26<sup>th</sup> May were full-day ATC and TC Sessions: TC 103 : Numerical Methods in Geomechanics (Session Chairmen : Prof. Akira Murakami, Dr. Johnny Cheuk and Dr. S.W. Lee); TC 211 : Ground Improvement (Session Chairmen: Mr. Serge Varaksin and Prof. Jan Maertens); TC 302: Forensic Geotechnical Engineering (Session Chairmen: Dr. V.V.S. Rao and Prof. M.R. Madhav); TC 304: Geotechnical Reliability and Risk Assessment (Session Chairmen: Dr. Liming Zhang and Dr. Yu Wang); TC 305: Geotechnical Infrastructure for Megacities and New Capitals (Session Chairman: Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov, Moderator: Mr. Makoto Namba and Secretary :Dr. Rauan Lukpanov). In this technical session of TC 305, Dr. Daman Lee (ARUP, Hong Kong) gave an excellent lecture about Mega City - Hong Kong Underground Space (Photo 19) and also Prof. Eun Chul Shin (University of Incheon, Korea) gave an interesting lecture about Metro Construction Work in Incheon (Photo 20). Dr. Yoshinori Iwasaki (Prof. of Dep. of World Heritage, Cyber University, presented an impressive lecture: Mega City above Hidden Active Fault. Dr. John Chien Chung Li (CECI Engineering Consultants, Chinese Taipei) delivered an excellent lecture about Damages and Rehabilitation of Morakot Typhoon Disaster in Taiwan Island. Dr. Yoichi Watabe (Port and Airport Research Institute, Japan) gave a very interesting lecture about Development History of the Tokyo International Airport. Also on the day we had technical sessions by Asian Technical Committees: ATC 3 - Geotechnology for Natural Hazards (Chairmen: Prof. Hemanta Hazarika, Kyushu University, Japan) and Prof. Ikuo Towhata (University of Tokyo, Japan); ATC 7 : Thick Deltaic Deposits (Session Chairman: Prof. N.J. Yoo, Kanwon National University, Korea); ATC 10 (Session Chairman : Mr. Hiroki Todo, Kiso-Jiban Co., Ltd, Japan); ATC 18: Mega Foundations: Session Chairman: Ir. James Sze (ARUP, Hong Kong) and ATC 19 : Conservation of Heritage and Historical Site (Session Chairman : Prof. Yoshinori Iwasaki, Geo-Research Institute, Japan).