



FÉDÉRATION EUROPÉENNE DES GÉOLOGUES
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS
FEDERACIÓN EUROPEA DE GEÓLOGOS

GEONEWS JULY 2010

Info and news from EFG, European Legislation Process, events and funding related to the Panel of Experts and EFG members:

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1. EFG NEWS

OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY

(sent via Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV))

The EFG president wrote an open letter to the President of the Republic of Italy to express grave concern over the indictment of scientists and public officials for an alleged failure to provide warning of the devastating L'Aquila earthquake.

More information: <http://www.eurogeologists.de/images/content/News/Aquila%20scientists.pdf>

Events:

➤ **Invitation to Euro-Ages Final Conference 2010, Budapest, 22 October 2010.**

Over the past two years, the partners in the EURO-AGES project **European Accredited Geological Study Programmes** have worked towards developing a European qualification framework for geology, in the first and second cycles defined by the Bologna process, based on learning outcomes rather than input factors (course curricula). The objectives of the work are to increase transparency of Earth Sciences qualifications across Europe and therefore to facilitate improved academic and professional mobility across Europe. To this purpose it was supported by the European Commission.

The final conference is to be held on the occasion of the conclusion of the Euro-Ages Project. Representatives of HEIs from EU member countries interested in a European Quality Label for their study programmes; international (geology) experts from EU member countries participating as future Euro-Ages auditors (on invitation); representatives from industry and professional societies from EU member countries having an interest in raising the quality of geology in higher education.



No fee is charged for conference participation. Costs for travel and accommodation are borne by the participants. Participants may submit a claim for reimbursement of their travel cost up to 300 € and under the conditions set out in the Information for Euro-Ages 2010 Conference Participants (to be provided to the registered participants via email). The number of participants is limited to 50.

Deadline for registration: 31.07.2010

Please register by fax (+49 211 900977-99) or by sending a scanned version of the form by email (info@euro-ages.eu). Please send one registration form per participant.

Registration form: <http://www.euro-ages.eu/pages/documents.php>

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to directly contact the Euro-Ages Project Coordinator or EFG Office. More information: www.euro-ages.eu/

2. GENERAL NEWS

BELGIUM EU PRESIDENCY TO PUSH "SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS" INITIATIVE

The Belgian EU Presidency wants to clean up industrial processes in Europe by promoting a "cradle-to-cradle" approach to resource management in the manufacturing sector, EurActiv has learned. Meeting in Ghent on 12-13 July, EU environment ministers will debate a study by the Belgian EU Presidency on "sustainable materials management" (SMM)

The objective is to move from waste policies to "materials policies," which cover the full life-cycle of products and manufactured goods, from the extraction of raw materials to product design, manufacture, consumption and disposal.

More information: http://www.euractiv.com/en/sustainability/belgium-to-push-sustainable-material-initiative-news496037?utm_source=EurActiv+Newsletter&utm_campaign=f678d6b170-my_google_analytics_key&utm_medium=email

Call for proposals:

➤ **International Geoscience Programme (IGCP), IUGS E-Bulletin (NO. 52, JUNE 2010)**

The International Geoscience Programme is a joint endeavour between the IUGS (International Union of Geological Sciences) and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

IGCP welcomes proposals on the following topics:

- Geoscience of the water cycle
- Geohazards: mitigating the risks
- Earth resources: sustaining our society
- Global change and evolution of life: evidence from the geological record
- The deep earth: how it controls our environment
- Other relevant topics in fundamental and applied geosciences will also be considered.

The deadline for submission and receipt of new project proposals is 15 October 2010.

More Information: <http://iugs.org/uploads/IUGS%20Bulletin%2052.pdf>



3. NATURAL HAZARDS

DISASTER REDUCING RISK IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Development Directorate-General of the European Commission recently closed its public consultation for the preparation of a Commission Communication on an EU Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries. It aimed at gathering views and opinions on disaster risk reduction in the context of development cooperation, with the view of informing the development of an EU Strategy for DRR in Developing Countries.

The EFG attended the DRR meeting held in June 2010. During the meeting the report on "Study for the Implementation Plan of the EU Strategy for supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries" was presented. EFG is working on the revision of this document with comments and new proposals.

Reference Documents:

1. The final DRR report: *Support Study for the Implementation Plan of the EU Strategy for Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries*, June 2010
http://www.eurogeologists.de/images/content/panels_of_experts/natural_hazard_climate_change/Final%20Report%20Main%20June%202010.pdf
2. *Council Conclusions on an EU Strategy for Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries*, May 2009
http://www.eurogeologists.de/images/content/panels_of_experts/natural_hazard_climate_change/council%20conclusions-1.pdf
3. *EU strategy for disaster risk reduction in developing countries*, February 2009 <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0084:FIN:EN:PDF>
4. *EU strategy for disaster risk reduction in developing countries annexes*, February 2009
http://www.eurogeologists.de/images/content/panels_of_experts/natural_hazard_climate_change/DRR_COM09_84_annexes_en-3.pdf

More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/environment_en.cfm

<http://www.eurogeologists.de/index.php?page=221>

A COMMUNITY APPROACH ON THE PREVENTION OF NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS

In 2009 the European Commission published a Communication on an integrated approach to disaster prevention. In 2010 The Environment Committee of the European Parliament stresses the need for adequate financial resources, arguing that disaster prevention should be included in the EU's next long-term budget plans, the 2014-2020 Financial Perspective. In this report the MEPs mention the need for "**A holistic approach**" to disaster prevention and ask for special attention to be paid to regions that are isolated, remote, mountainous or thinly populated. The resolution also lists prevention measures that should receive priority support from the EU.

Reference Documents:

1. EP draft report: *A Community approach on the prevention of natural and man-made disasters*, February 2010
http://www.eurogeologists.de/images/content/panels_of_experts/natural_hazard_climate_change/Ferreira%20EN.pdf

2. EC Communication: *A community approach on the prevention of natural and man-made disasters*, February 2009

<http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0082:FIN:EN:PDF>

More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/civil_protection/civil/prevention_overview.htm

<http://www.eurogeologists.de/index.php?page=221>

4. MINERALS

RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY GROUP

EFG attended the last Raw Material Supply Group meeting held at the European Commission on 25 June 2010. During the meeting the following reports were presented:

Reference Documents:

- Report critical raw materials: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/critical/index_en.htm
- Report exchange best practices: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/sustainable-supply/index_en.htm

More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/index_en.htm

In the coming months an important Public Consultation on the Raw Materials Initiative will be established and the EFG will support it as a member.



Period of the consultation: From 12.07.2010 to 19.09.2010

Objective of the consultation: In 2008 the Commission launched the EU Raw Materials Initiative. The Commission is now preparing a new Communication which will not only report on progress made with the implementation of this initiative, but also indicate the way forward. The goal of this consultation is to gain an understanding of stakeholders' views on both the implementation of the Initiative as well as to gather opinions and suggestions on the potential avenues the Commission should explore in order to further progress and strengthen the Initiative.

More information: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/public-consultation/index_en.htm

EU-US TO COLLABORATE ON "RARE EARTH"

The US Congress and the European Parliament could hold parallel hearings and produce a joint communiqué on crucial raw materials as part of efforts to cooperate on areas of strategic interest, according to a senior Washington policymaker. Congressman Bart Gordon, chairman of the Committee on Science & Technology of the House of Representatives, wants parliamentarians on both sides of the Atlantic to identify common ground on rare earth minerals, which are vital for green technologies. American and European researchers could also collaborate more closely to find substitute minerals, improve recycling and ensure natural resources are used efficiently.

More information: http://www.euractiv.com/en/sustainability/eu-us-to-collaborate-on-rare-earth-News-496286?utm_source=EurActiv+Newsletter&utm_campaign=ccaacdb5c4-my_google_analytics_key&utm_medium=email

COPPER - ESSENTIAL FOR EVERYONE



The European Copper Institute held an exhibition in the European Parliament on 29 June 2010. The event opened with a debate hosted by MEPs Piotr Borys and Jacek Protasiewicz on how to ensure that the copper industry can continue to contribute to Europe's sustainability and resource efficiency goals while remaining competitive on the world stage. The copper industry is continuing to invest in innovative technologies to improve the environmental and economic performance as well as the resource efficiency of its products. Copper is characterized by its 100% recyclability without any loss in performance and this is an important sustainable benefit for Europe. Visit the web site and discover that copper is an essential element for healthy living.

More information: www.eurocopper.org

Events:

➤ **Zinc 2010, Cork, Ireland, 17-19 September 2010.** This three-day conference will include a series of keynote lectures which will cover the formation of all the major classes of zinc deposits, e.g., VMS, carbonate-hosted, shale-hosted, skarn and oxides. Talks on zinc economics, zinc geochemistry and zinc metallogeny with time will also be presented by internationally recognized experts. A student short course on carbonate-hosted Zn-Pb mineralization, and pre- and post-conference fieldtrips to the Irish Orefield will take place.

More Information: <http://www.zinc2010.com/>

5. CO₂ GEOLOGICAL STORAGE

EFG PANEL OF EXPERTS INVITATION

The **Panel of Experts on CO₂ Geological Storage** is a group that was set up by the European Federation of Geologists for uniting professional geologists on the geological aspects of CO₂ Capture and Storage (CCS). We act independently from industry and maintain a clear focus on the geological aspects of CCS. As a group, we wish to expand our network and activities, and are therefore **actively looking for new members**.

Our Panel is a member of the Zero Emissions Platform (ZEP) and we have since 2008 very actively contributed to their reports. This is a deliberate strategy that allows us to communicate our technical opinion in a very efficient and successful way to the European Commission using the excellent relations between ZEP and the EC. Independently, our Panel has successfully come forward with e.g. a position paper on CCS (www.eurogeologists.eu/index.php?page=461). This grants us the opportunity to emphasize our objectiveness and specific goals. We also use every opportunity to gain visibility through presentations on the ZEP reports.

We are now ready to significantly expand our activities and claim a more central position in the CCS community. This is necessary because the group of professional geologists, a community that is specifically represented by EFG, is poorly represented in the many networks and lobby groups on CCS. Nevertheless, it will be this group that will play an essential role in guaranteeing

that CO₂ will be safely stored in all of the many CO₂ storage projects that will become active in the near future.

Our Expert Panel has therefore set itself two major goals: give the community of professional geologists a voice, and prepare them for the challenges and opportunities that CO₂ storage will bring. Especially the latter requires dedicated formation and education.

We believe that the Panel of Experts on CO₂ Geological Storage would be significantly strengthened if we could welcome you as a new member. A brief reply is sufficient to register as candidate member. We are currently outlining an action plan for the second half of this year, and will get back quickly with the format and timing of the scheduled events.

We hope that you can accept our invitation. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

More information: Kris.Piessens@naturalsciences.be

6. HYDROGEOLOGY

Events:

➤ **Groundwater Quality Sustainability, Krakow, Poland, 12-19 September 2010.** Any sustainable development programme requires appropriate knowledge of groundwater function. This is implied as a prerequisite to understanding: (i) groundwater resources and their availability, and (ii) the dependence between groundwater and the environment. Such awareness could be achieved through understanding of groundwater flow: from local to regional scale. Understanding of groundwater flow at its relevant temporal and spatial scales is a must in studies involving engineering, geography, agriculture, ecology, and in a broader sense, in environmentally related issues. Deadline for registration: 15 July 2010

More Information: <http://www.iah2010.org/>

Publication:

➤ **Earth Interaction, Storminess and Environmental Changes in the Mediterranean Central Area** written by **Nazzareno Diodato and Gianni Bellocchi, volume 14 (2010), issue 5.** Earth interaction is an electronic journal dealing with the interactions between the lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere in the context of global issues or global change. It exploits the capabilities of electronic communications technology and provides its authors the opportunity to use animations and other visualization techniques that traditional publications cannot accommodate. Here, the authors review long-term precipitation records of the central Mediterranean area and employ a Web geographical information system (GIS)-based analytical approach to compare current rainfall impact with historical data on different spatial and temporal scales.

More Information: <http://journals.ametsoc.org/loi/eint>

7. OIL AND GAS

Events:

➤ **Global Shale Gas Development, Warsaw, Poland, 19-20 July 2010.**

As one of the hottest geographical areas so far identified for exploring the potential for shale gas as a cost-competitive resource, Warsaw is the ideal venue for this major Summit, enabling the global shale gas industry to meet with the key government and industry players in Poland, and potentially facilitating future energy independence from their Russian neighbours.

More Information: <http://www.global-shale-gas-summit-2010.com/>

8. SOIL

Events:

➤ **19th World Congress of Soil Science, Brisbane, Australia, 1-6 August 2010.**

The conference theme Soil Solutions for a Changing World provides a tremendous opportunity for a broad range of presentations – we urge you to share your research, experiences and knowledge with members in Brisbane.

We are very proud to be associated with an outstanding group of professionals who have gathered to form the steering committee for the 19th World Congress of Soil Science, led jointly by Professor Steve Raine and Mr Mike Grundy.

More Information: <http://www.19wcss.org.au/>

9. JOB OPPORTUNITIES

↳ **GEOLOGIST**

Job Title: Geologist,

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Job Description: The Geological Survey of Belgium is a department of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. The Survey is the custodian of earth science data for Belgium, and is the reliable and impartial source for geoscientific information in general. We are active in providing objective advice, the distribution of geoscientific information and the promotion of Earth sciences.

Qualification: The candidate will preferentially hold a Master's degree in Geology. English should be fully mastered as it will be the project language for all three projects. The working environment is bilingual Dutch/French, and basic knowledge of either will be considered as an additional advantage. The projects further require a candidate with the following skills: Basic knowledge for the interpretation of physical well log measurements, understanding of lithostratigraphy, basic knowledge and experience with GIS applications, basic knowledge of programming (VBA).

Duration: Full time position for 6 months

Immediate engagement

More information: Marleen.deceukelaire@natuurwetenschappen.be
www.naturalsciences.be/geology

↳ **HYDROGEOLOGIST**

Job Title: Hydrogeologist

Location: Pewaukee, Wisconsin, United States

Job Description: Natural Resource Technology, Inc. (NRT) delivers solutions for the development, management, restoration, and sustainability of our natural resources. NRT projects include contamination assessment (soil, groundwater, and sediment), remediation

design and construction, site redevelopment, and landfill design. NRT clients range from gas and electric utilities, commercial and industrial corporations, major law firms, financial institutions, insurance companies, developers, city/county/state government agencies, and industry research associations throughout the United States.

Qualification: 2 to 7 years experience ideal, environmental consulting experience preferred, MS preferred, BS considered (Geology, Hydrogeology, Geological Engineering, Water Resources considered with appropriate experience). Groundwater modelling experience and professional Geologist certification are a plus

More information: rcaudill@naturalrt.com

If you want to find more offers for employment, visit the section 'Job and Funding'>>'Job Opportunities' on our webpage (<http://www.eurogeologists.eu/index.php?page=143>) Here you can find several links from our members or another organizations.