

# The First International Conference on African & Arabian Geoparks

Entitled

*Aspiring Geoparks in Africa and Arab world*

El Jadida, Morocco, 21-28 November, 2011

Organized by



in collaboration with



Supported by



## PREAMBLE

The African Geoparks Network “AGN” was initiated during the pre-congress of the fifth conference of the AAWG held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast in May 2009. The AGN aims to identify, promote, and advise on the importance and preservation of geological sites in Africa and Arab regions in collaboration with other stakeholders. This initiative is supported by UNESCO, IUGS, GSAf. In that Framework, the AAWG and the AGN in collaboration with UNESCO Cairo Office decided to organize the First International Conference on African and Arabs Geoparks in 2011 in Morocco. The conference also aims to launch the Arabian Geopark Network.

All researchers in the fields of geoheritage, geotourism, conservation, environment and sustainable development to policy makers, economists, geopark and local community administrators and leaders, NGOs, business operators and individuals with interest on geoheritage development are invited to participate and contribute to make this event a success.

## CONFERENCE SUB-THEMES

Aspiring Geoparks in Africa and Arab world  
Communicating Geoheritage  
Role of Women and Youths in conservation of natural heritage  
Environmental Changes and Geoparks  
Global and Regional Geoparks Networking  
Geoparks, Geo-education and Geo-Tourism  
Geoparks and Sustainable Development

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

2 days technical sessions  
6 days post-conference field trip

## **SCHEDULE & CALENDAR OF THE EVENT**

**20 November 2011:** Arrivals and registration

**21-22 November 2011:** Technical sessions.

**23-28 November 2011:** Field trip.

## **FIELD TRIP**

The Moroccan Atlasic and Anti-Atlas geological landscapes were shaped by successive orogenies (Eburnean, Pan-African, Variscan and Alpine). Because of the various geological events that affected Morocco, rocks and landscapes are extremely varied. The geoscientific problems posed by these exceptional outcrops are widely discussed and hence much debated during scientific congresses, local and international conferences, and the related field trips. Many sedimentological, petrographical and structural witnesses of this period are of exceptional quality in Morocco and many of these witnesses are unique, very educational and deserves to be preserved and presented to visitors, specialists or not, in a less academic and more widely accessible way. These sites are even more attractive as their geographical, historical, architectural and traditional frames are exceptional.

We hope that our geotraverse through the High Atlas and the Anti-Atlas will give an overview on the different orogenies that have shaped the Moroccan geological landscapes and we hope also that the participants will enjoy the scenic beauty of the wonderful landscapes that we will drove trough during the six days.

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING**

In order to accommodate a maximum number of interesting papers we are compelled to allocate a maximum of 15 minutes to the oral presentation followed by an additional 5 minutes for discussion. Transparency projectors and data show (Power Point format) equipment will be available.

The poster session presentations will run parallel to the oral session.

## **SPONSORSHIP POSSIBILITIES**

AAWG, AGN & UNESCO Cairo Office will sponsor participants from Africa and the Arab region who will present a nomination file for a potential Geopark sites in their countries.

## **REGISTRATION FEES**

- 200 € for non African & private companies.
- 100 € for African and Arab academics.
- 80 € for AAWG members who have already paid their membership fees.
- 50 € for African & Arab students.

The registration fees will include abstract volume, coffee breaks, and conference lunches.

- Gala Dinner 50€

## **FIELD TRIP FEES**

650 €. The last night is not included in the fees.

## **LANGUAGE**

English will be the official language of the conference.

## **ABSTRACTS**

All authors are requested to submit their abstracts in English which will be reproduced in an Abstract Volume to be distributed to the participants. The deadline for abstracts submission is the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011. All abstracts should be prepared according to the guidelines given below.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

### General Guidelines

The abstract should not **exceed 3 pages** (figures, tables and references included), A4 size paper (21.0 x 29.7 cm), printed on one side, written in English. The topic covered should be relevant to the sub-themes of the meeting.

The name, address and e-mail of the communicating author must be clearly specified. All correspondence will be maintained with this author only.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: **31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.**

### Guidelines for preparation of the abstract

The abstracts should be laid out in accordance with the main formatting points listed below. A limited amount of re-formatting will be undertaken by the conference secretariat, but submissions that are grossly aberrant will be returned to authors for correction.

- It must be submitted electronically in MSWORD
- The preferred font is TIME; title 14pt / affiliations 12pt / text 10pt, with single line spacing.
- The text must be typed leaving a 3 cm on the right and 2.5 cm on the top, bottom, and left margins.
- Headings may be used
- Figures and tables may be included and embedded in the text file
- References may be included at the end of the extended abstract
- For any queries or problems please do not hesitate to contact the conference secretariat on its emails addresses [contact@aawg.org](mailto:contact@aawg.org)

### Submission of the Abstract

The abstracts must be sent as an attachment to [contact@aawg.org](mailto:contact@aawg.org) **before 31 March 2011.** The name of the electronic file must include the name of the first author, e.g. Siby.doc.

### PUBLICATION

More details will be provided in the second circular

### PROVISIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Ezzoura ERRAMI (Co-chair of the conference, AAWG and AGN)  
Mohamed AL-AAWAH (Co-chair of the conference, UNESCO Cairo Office)

Abelkabir TOUFIQ (Morocco)  
Antoneta SEGHEDE (GSR, Romania)  
Marcelle GAULY (Cote d'Ivoire)  
Béatrice KETCHMEN TANDIA (Cameroon))  
Juliette TEA (Cote d'Ivoire)  
Fatima EL BCHARI (Morocco)  
Kmar BEN ISMAEL LATTRACHE (Tunisia)  
Lydia MECK (Zimbabwe)  
El Mostafa ETTACHFINI (Morocco)  
Nasser ENNIH (Morocco)  
Soumia BALOUKI (Morocco)  
Abdelghani JMILI (Morocco)  
Abdelouhab CHOUKRI (Morocco)  
Rania BOUKHAIER (Lebanon)  
Asma Ali ABAHUSSIEN (Bahrain)  
Khalid AL-SELWI (Yemen)  
Abdelouhad LAGNAOUI (CiSaF)

### PROVISIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Margaret PATZAK (UNESCO)  
Ibrahim KOMOO (Malaysia)

Patrick McKEEVER (Ireland)  
Nickolas ZOUROS (Greece)  
Claudia ECKHARDT (Germany)  
Rosaria MODICA (Italy)  
Idriss AL-FASSI (Morocco)  
Aberra MOGESSI (GSAf)  
Sospeter MUHONGO (Tanzania)  
Félix TOTEU (Cameroon)  
Hassan OUANAIMI (Morocco)  
Sylvie HALDORSEN (Norway)  
Asfawossen Asrat KASSAYE (Ethiopia)  
Ochir GEREL (Mongolia)  
Antonio BRAMBATI (Italy)  
Marta MANTOVANI (Brazil)  
Ben MAPANI (Namibia)  
Nezha LAZRAK (Morocco)  
Kamal TAJ-EDDINE (Morocco)

#### SECRETARIAT

Faculty of Sciences, B.O. 20, Geology Department  
24000, El Jadida, Morocco

Tel: +212 668038116, Fax: +212 523342187

Email: [contact@aawg.org](mailto:contact@aawg.org)

For more information please consult regularly our website  
[www.aawg.org](http://www.aawg.org)

#### SPONSORS

Those who are interested in the fields of geoh heritage are kindly invited to support this initiative in order to allow a maximum of participants coming from developing countries to attend this conference and its related field trip. Your contribution will help to develop geoparks in Africa and in the Arab World.

## Registration Form

### 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference of African & Arab Geoparks “ICAAG1”

El Jadida, Morocco, November 21-28, 2011

Name (Ms/M).....

Preferred name in I.D. badge.....

.....

Institution / Company Address

.....

.....

.....

City.....Country.....

Phone.....Fax.....

E-mail.....

I would be interested in attending the  
Conference

I will present a paper

I will present a poster

Title of the paper or the poster:

.....

.....

.....

.....

I would like to participate to the field trip

Yes

No

Please, type or complete this form in print letters and return it accompanied by your abstracts before the 31 March 2011 to [contact@aawg.org](mailto:contact@aawg.org)