

# ESAFS Newsletter



Published by the MSSS, in 1996  
*on behalf of ESAFS*

## EDITORIAL

The International Society of Soil Science (ISSS) has been admitted to the International Council of Scientific Union (ICSU) as a full-fledged member some four years ago. As such, soil science is now accepted as a discipline equal in stature to the others in world's scientific community. We should then play our role to promote soil science education to the world at large so that it is able to face the challenges of the next millennium. To do that, soil science curriculum has to be dynamic and broad-based as well as problem-solving oriented. The public must be made aware of our existence.

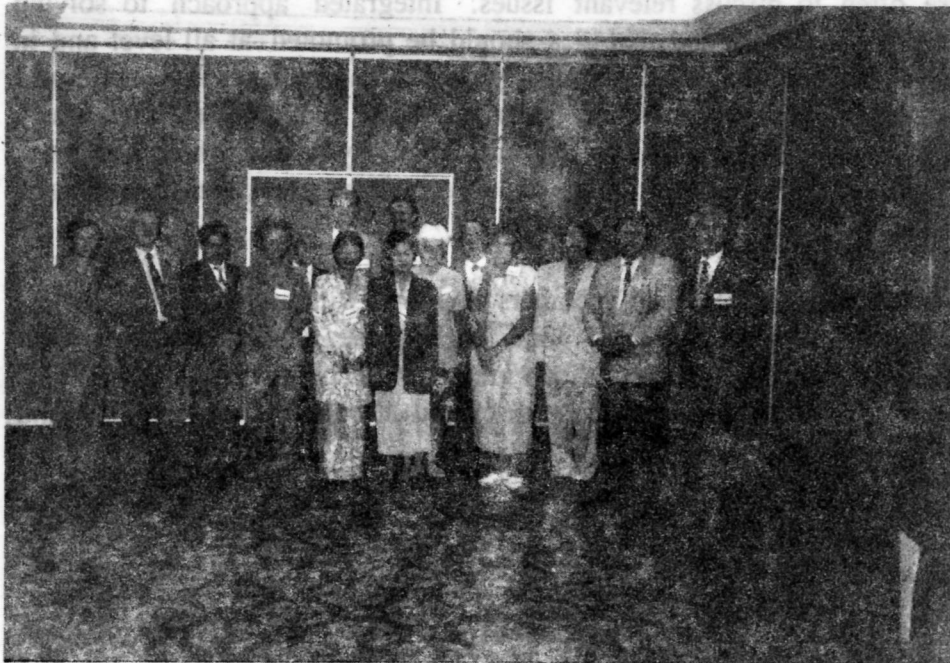
Our job is to help produce enough quality food to feed the world population with increased environmental protection. ESAFS, having a membership of 12 national societies in the East and South-east Asia, should get together more often to discuss relevant issues. Integrated approach to solving problems is the way forward, and this idea should be promoted at all level and in all our meetings and conferences. We must promote and enhance scientific and cultural co-operation between member countries. The old mindset, one which sees researchers, even neighbour as rivals, must give way to one which promotes co-operation and mutual support. In this way, we can all progress and reap benefit from our endeavors.

ESAFS future activities need members support, without which the society cannot function as it should. We need good working ideas which can be shared with our friends from other countries. Such ideas can be published in the *ESAFS Newsletter*. Ideas of scientific merit can be discussed at our biannual meeting and published in the proceedings.

## ESAFS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS(1995-1997)

The following have been elected on September 12, 1995 to the ESAFS Management Committee for a period of two years:

<b>President</b>	:	<i>Prof Dr. J. Shamsuddin (Malaysia)</i>
<b>Vice-President</b>	:	<i>Prof. Dr. Sun-Ho Yoo (Korea)</i>
<b>Secretary General</b>	:	<i>Dr. Aziz Bidin (Malaysia)</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	:	<i>Dr. Anuar Abd. Rahim (Malaysia)</i>
<b>Members</b>	:	<i>President of the national societies of member countries</i>



**Key ESAFS members attending the International Conference on Soil Resources and Sustainable Agriculture at Kuala Lumpur on September 12 - 15, 1995.**

## MSSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE(1996/97)

At the annual AGM held on April 15, 1996 in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, the following have been elected to the Management Committee of the MSSS:

<b>President</b>	:	<i>Dr. Ghulam Mohd Hashim</i>
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	:	<i>Prof. Dr. J. Shamsuddin</i>
<b>Vice-President (Pen. Malaysia)</b>	:	<i>Goh Kah Joo</i>
<b>Vice-President (Sarawak)</b>	:	<i>Teng Chin Siong</i>
<b>Vice-President (Sabah)</b>	:	<i>Teo Chor Boo</i>
<b>Hon. Secretary</b>	:	<i>Dr. Aziz Bidin</i>
<b>Hon. Treasurer</b>	:	<i>Dr. Anuar Abd. Rahim</i>
<b>Hon. Asst. Secretary</b>	:	<i>Dr. Jamal Talib</i>
<b>Hon. Asst. Treasurer</b>	:	<i>Hanifuddin Abdul Rahman</i>
<b>Members</b>	:	<i>Dr. Peter Lim Kim Huan</i>
		<i>Dr. Alias Husin</i>
		<i>Dr. Noordin Wan Daud</i>

The elected committee members will serve the society for a period of 1 year, that is till the next AGM which is going to be held in Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia in April 1997.



Speakers at the Soil Science Conference of Malaysia 1996, Kuching, Sarawak.

## REPORTS AND NEWS

### **The 30th International Geological Congress**

ESAFS President, Prof. Shamshuddin, attended the 30th IGC, held in Beijing, China on August 4 - 14, 1996 at China World Trade Centre. The congress was attended by more than 7000 participants, including about 2000 from 120 foreign countries. Soil science, in particular soil mineralogy, was included in the congress area of interest, although only a few soil scientist was in the congress to present papers.

The 30th IGC was sponsored by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). It was co-hosted by the Geological Society of China and the Ministry of Geological and Mineral Resources, with support from Universities and research institutes throughout China. The main aim of the congress was to promote the development of basic and applied research in geosciences. The congress was officially declared opened by the Honorable Li Peng, the Prime Minister of the People Republic of China, at the Great Hall of the People (near the Tiananmen square).

The congress proper began with keynote addresses by renowned geoscientists. These included such familiar topics as Advances in Continental Dynamics by Prof. Kevin Burke of the University of Texas, Houston and Sustaining Our Life Support System by Dr. P.J. Cook of the British Geological Survey.

The scientific program included symposia on special topics, poster session, short courses and workshops on coastal geology, energy and mineral resources, environmental protection and geological hazard reduction and sustainable development. There was also the GeoExpo 96, an affiliated exhibition of the 30th IGC. The exposition drew 79 geological research organizations, universities and companies from around the world. Exhibits covered prospecting equipment, sample ores and specimen on ancient life.

## **Japanese Society of Soil Science & Plant Nutrition**

Dr Toshihiro Tanado, Professor of Plant Nutrition, at Hokaido University, succeeded the presidency of the Japanese Society of Soil Science & Plant Nutrition from Dr Mitso Chino. The election of the presidency was held at Shizuokua University on April 2 - 4, 1996. Prof. Tanado was the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 13th International Plant Nutrition Colloquium. The colloquium was held in Tokyo on September 13 - 17, 1996.

## **Soil Science Society of China**

Prof. Dr Cao Zhihong of the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, has been elected to the presidency of the Soil Science Society of China on November 11, 1995 at a meeting in Hangzhao, China. Prior to being elected as the president of the society, Prof. Cao was appointed as the Director General, Institute of Soil Science, Academia Sinica for the period of 5 years.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA**

### **ESAFS Meeting in Korea, 1997**

The Korean Society of Soil Science and Fertilizer with ESAFS collaboration is organizing a meeting in Korea in 1997. The title of the meeting is International Conference on Soil Quality and Management and Agro-Ecosystem for East and South-east Asia. Prof. Sun-Hoo Yoo, the President of the South Korean Society of Soil Science and Fertilizer and ESAFS Vice-President is the Chairman of the Organizing Committee. Brochures for the conference have been distributed to the member societies and other relevant agencies. Members are invited to participate in this meeting.

## **Conference in China, in 1997**

The Institute of Soil Science, Academia Sinica, China is organizing an International Conference on Soil and the Environment: pollution, degradation and restoration in May - June, 1997, in China. For information, please contact Prof. Zhao Quiguo, Institute of Soil Science, Academia Sinica, P.O. Box 821, Nanjing 21008, P.R. China. Fax: 86-25-712668.

## **Soil Science Conference of Malaysia 1997**

The Malaysian Society of Soil Science will be organizing the Soil Science Conference of Malaysia 1997 on April 14 - 16, 1997 at Ipoh, Perak Malaysia. This conference is held in conjunction with the 24th AGM of the MSSS. The first two days are reserved for presentation of papers, while the third day is scheduled for a post conference tour. The conference is open to members and non-members from both within and outside the country. Interested please contact *The Secretary, Soil Science Conference of Malaysia 1997, Espek Agrotech & Advisory Services, 8, Persiaran Institusi, 43000 Kajang, Selangor, Malaysia. Fax: 03-8256449, Tel: 03-8256449.*

## **The 1998 World Congress of Soil Science.**

The International Societies of Soil Science (ISSS) is organizing the 16th World Congress of Soil Science on August 21 - 26, 1998 at Montpellier, France. ESAFS is an affiliate member of the ISSS and, therefore, it supports ISSS activities. Interested must submit a notice of intent as soon as possible. Information on the congress is on its World Wide Web homepage (<http://www.cirad.fr/iss>). For information on the congress, contact [ISSS@agropolis.fr](mailto:ISSS@agropolis.fr).