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Announcements

IUGG–99 XXII General Assembly

Inter-Association Symposium on Geophysical Hazards: Risk Assessment, Mitigation and Warning Systems

The IUGG–99 XXII General Assembly Inter-Association Symposium on Geophysical Hazards: Risk Assessment, Mitigation and Warning Systems will be held July 22–27, 1999, in Birmingham, United Kingdom. The aim of this Inter-Association Symposium is to stimulate synergistic interactions between all geophysicists on common interests in the field of natural hazards, especially across disciplinary boundaries. The scope seeks through contributed presentations to recognize the technical and scientific progress made during the last ten years toward accomplishing the goals set forth for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including risk assessment, the application of known preparedness and mitigation approaches, and the development and use of scientific and engineering knowledge to improve warning systems. A series of invited keynote lectures will be presented on July 22 to evaluate the state-of-the-science in geophysical hazards and risks.

The deadline for submission of abstracts (English or French) is January 15, 1999. Instructions for abstract submission and format can be found at the IUGG website: <http://www.bham.ac.uk/IUGG99/>, or by writing to any of the co-convenors listed below. Please specify the symposium code (JSP23) and the symposium title.

(IAPSO): Mohammed El-Sabh, Centre Océanographique de Rimouski, Département d’océanographie, Université du Québec à Rimouski, 310 Allée des Ursulines, Rimouski (Québec), G5L 3A1, CANADA

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1999 National Disaster Medical System Conference

The National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) will hold its annual conference at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., May 7–12, 1999. The 1999 NDMS Conference will provide practical information on implementing domestic and international strategies for preventing or reducing the health and medical consequences of disasters of any origin. The education will feature counter-terrorism programs, clinical updates, extreme environmental events, disaster team development, information management systems, mass gathering events, critical incident stress management, sheltering and congregate care, health system emergency

planning, mass fatality operations, and new standards in emergency management. The program will offer approximately 20 hours of continuing education credit for a wide range of health practitioners and administrators. For additional information, contact NDMS by calling 1-800-USA-NDMS and pressing the “star” key, by e-mail at ndms@usa.net, or check their website at www.oep-ndms.dhhs.gov.

International Conference on Integrated Drought Management—Lessons for Sub-Saharan Africa

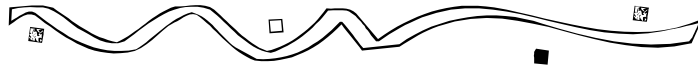
The International Conference on Integrated Drought Management—Lessons for Sub-Saharan Africa will be held September 20–22, 1999, in Pretoria, South Africa. The Conference is a contribution to the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of UNESCO and the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) of the United Nations. The objective of the Conference is to better understand the factors predisposing people and landscapes to heightened drought vulnerability, and to find strategies and actions that can reduce drought vulnerability and move toward sustainable development. Main themes include understanding, measuring, and forecasting drought; comparative drought management policies; strategies to reduce drought vulnerability; integrated drought management toward sustainable development; drought research and information needs; and major lessons for more effective drought management for sub-Saharan Africa. The Conference is aimed at researchers, academics, practitioners, consultants, developers, policy makers, planners, community leaders, and the media. For more information, contact Conference Planners, P.O. Box 82, Irene, 0062, South Africa, or send e-mail to confplan@iafrica.com.

4th International Congress on Energy, Environment and Technological Innovation

The 4th International Congress on Energy, Environment and Technological Innovation will be held in Rome in September 1999. It is the latest in a series of Congresses on the same theme that have been held in Caracas (1989 and 1995) and Rome (1992). This fourth Congress is organized by “La Sapienza” and “Roma Tre” Universities, and Universidad Central de Venezuela.

The brochure and application form for this event are available on the conference website: <http://www.ing.ucv.ve/ceait/eeti.htm>. This information is also available from EETI99—Universidad Central de Venezuela, Facultad de Ingeniería—P.O. Box 50656, Caracas 1050, Venezuela; e-mail: eeti99@camelot.rect.ucv.ve; phone: ++ 58-2-605 3086; fax: ++ 58-2-605 3086; or from EETI99—Università degli Studi de Roma “La Sapienza”, Facoltà di Ingegneria, Vía Eudossiana, 18-00184 Rome, Italy; e-mail: eeti99@minerva.ing.uniroma1.it; Internet: <http://minerva.ing.uniroma1.it>; phone: ++39-6-44585764/44585524; fax: ++ 39-6-4883235.

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Drought Network News encourages readers to submit information on current episodes of drought and its impacts; timely reports of response, mitigation, and planning actions of governments and international organizations (successes *and* failures); recent research results and new technologies that may advance the science of drought planning and management; recent publications; conference reports and news of forthcoming meetings; and editorials. If references accompany articles, please provide *full bibliographic citations*. All artwork *must* be *camera-ready*—please provide clear, sharp copies (in black/gray and white only—we are unable to reproduce color artwork) that can be photocopied/reduced without losing any detail. Correspondence should be addressed to

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