

Seventh General Assembly of ISME

The Seventh General Assembly (GA) of ISME was held in T.K. Palace, Bangkok, Thailand on 22 August 2008. It was attended by over 100 participants from eight countries. The assembly was jointly organised by ISME, ITTO, Thailand Environment Institute (TEI) and Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) of Thailand.

ISME was truly honoured that H.E. Banyin Tangpakorn, Honourable Deputy Minister of Commerce and the Acting Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand, was able to find time to grace the occasion and to deliver his keynote address. ISME was equally honoured by the presence of H.E. Bannasopis Mekwichai, Honourable Vice-Governor of Bangkok Metropolitan and Dr. Nisakorn Kositrat, Director-General of DMCR of Thailand.

During the Business Session of the Assembly, election results of the Executive Committee of ISME were announced. Endorsed by members of ISME, honorary members of the Executive Committee for the coming term (2008-2011) will remain the same as the previous term (2005-2008).

President: Prof. Dr. E. Salif Diop (Senegal), Chief, Water Unit, Div. of Early Warning and Assessment, United Nations Environment Programme;

Vice-Presidents: H.E. Noboru Nakahira (Japan), Former Ambassador to United Arab Emirates, Malaysia and Canada;
Prof. François Blasco (France) Former Director, Laboratoire d'Ecologie Terrestre, France
Dr. Chan Hung Tuck (Malaysia), Former Director, Research Management Division, Forest Research Institute of Malaysia;

Treasurer: Prof. Sanit Aksornkoe (Thailand), President of Thailand Environment Institute; Professor Emeritus of Kasetsart University

Executive Secretary: Prof. Shigeyuki Baba (Japan), Professor of University of the Ryukyus

The GA reported and reviewed activities of the Society for the past three years (2005-2008) and discussed programmes and the budget for the coming three years (2008-2011). The next GA of ISME will be held in August 2011.



Executive members during the Assembly. From left to right: Dr. Chan Hung Tuck, Prof. François Blasco, Ambassador Noboru Nakahira (Vice Presidents), Prof. Salif Diop (President), Prof. Sanit Aksornkoe (Treasurer), and Prof. Shigeyuki Baba (Executive Secretary).

Workshop

In conjunction with the ISME General Assembly, a Workshop on *Restoration of mangroves and other coastal forests damaged by tsunamis and other natural hazards in the Asia-Pacific region: Review of lessons learnt* was held on 23 August 2008, in collaboration with ITTO, Thai Environment Institute (TEI) and Department of Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) of Thailand. About 150 overseas and local participants attended the workshop including representatives of UN and other international organizations.

The technical session of the Workshop started with a discussion on the progress of the ISME/ITTO Pre-Project on *Guidelines for Restoration of Mangroves and other Coastal Forests damaged by Tsunamis and other Natural Hazards in the Asia-Pacific Region*. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Chan (Coordinator of the Pre-project), Prof. Gong Wooi-Khoon (Malaysia) and Dr. Barry Clough (Vietnam/Australia). Visit <http://www.mangrove.or.jp> or <http://www.gloemis.com> for news on the Proceedings of the Workshop.

Prof. Hong won the 2008 International Cosmos Prize

Prof. Phan Nguyen Hong, professor emeritus at the Hanoi University of Education and council member of ISME, was awarded the 2008 International Cosmos Prize. A total of 131 nominees from 25 countries contested for the award. ISME salutes you for winning this award of international prestige.



An award presentation ceremony was held in the Izumi Hall in Shiromi, Osaka on 4 November 2008. Prof. Hong gave a commemorative lecture entitled, "Some results of mangrove ecosystem study in Vietnam" in Kyoto University on 2 November 2008 and in Tokyo University of Agriculture on 7 November 2008. In Tokyo, there was a panel discussion on "The World of Prof. Phan Nguyen Hong" coordinated by Prof. S. Baba (Executive Secretary of ISME). Panel members were Dr. T. Nakanishi, Dr. T. Nakamura, Dr K. Iwatsuki and Mr. M. Kogo.

The International Cosmos Prize is awarded each year by the Expo 90 Commemorative Foundation for research work that has achieved excellence and contributed to significant understanding of the relationships among living organisms, the inter-dependence of life and the global environment and the common nature integrating these relationships.

The prize, which is awarded to an individual or team, consists of a commendation, a medallion and a monetary reward worth 40 million yen. It is awarded during a ceremony held each autumn. Cosmos comes from the ancient Greek word meaning "universe in harmony." The prize commends outstanding research and other activities from a global perspective under the theme of "Harmonious Coexistence of Nature and Mankind." It was established in 1993 and this year marks its 16th year.

JICA Training Course on Environmental Education for Sustainable Development 2008

The training course conducted in Okinawa, Japan by JICA and ISME was from 23 September to 8 November 2008. Eleven participants, namely, Mr. Mlynarz, R.B. (Brazil), Ms. Sierra Diaz, C.L. (Colombia), Dr. Bhatta, K. (India), Mr. Al Asadi,

A.H.S. (Iraq), Ms. Mbogo, D.W. (Kenya), Ms. Mehrani, S. & Ambuas, E. (Malaysia), Ms. Torres Moguel, R. (Mexico), Mr. Zaw, W.H. (Myanmar), Ms. Medina Mendez, R.D. (Venezuela) and Ms. Le, T.T. (Vietnam) attended the course. Objectives of the course were:

1. To understand functions, roles and importance of integrated coastal ecosystems and how to use these resources wisely in harmony with local residents and communities
2. To learn what is environmental education and how to promote it in comparison with other education models
3. To familiarise with simple methods of monitoring coastal ecosystems and their utilisation including eco-tourism development
4. To formulate a practical action plan for implementation by participants after returning to their countries

Participants had an opportunity to go on a study tour to mainland Japan. Sites visited included Tokyo, Iriomote, Minamata, Chiba and Yaku.

On 7 November, participants presented their respective action plans before a panel and received their course certificates from ISME. On the final day, JICA issued course completion certificates to the participants.



Participants and resource persons during the closing ceremony of the JICA Training Course on Environmental Education for Sustainable Development 2008

Another group training course on Sustainable Management of Mangrove Ecosystems was conducted from 27 May to 16 August 2008, and participated by five participants: Mr. I Komang Tri Wijaya Kusuma (Indonesia), Mr. Atan Basiende Punta (FSM), Mr. Win Maung Aye (Myanmar), Mr. Siksei Sheldon (Palau) and Ms. Kerstin Elizabeth (Samoa). The training course of Sustainable Management of Mangrove Ecosystems has been organized by JICA and implemented by ISME annually since 1995.

New Members

- **ALGERIA** -

Bouharrou, Samira
Annaba, Algeria

- **BANGLADESH** -

Moniruzzaman Sarker, MD
University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa, Japan
Sirajul Islam, MD
Maghbazar, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- **BRAZIL** -

Domingues, Denis
Curitiba PR, Brazil

Lima, Renata Pires Nogueira
Asa Norte - Brasilia/Df

- **COLOMBIA** -

Villamil, Carlos Augusto
Rodadero, Santa Marta, Colombia

- **COSTA RICA** -

Orrego Vasquez, Carlos Mario
Montelimar, San Jose, Costa Rica

- **ETHIOPIA** -

Tulu, Solomon Tekla
Bahir Dar, Ethiopia

- **GUATEMALA** -

Rivas Chacon, Ana Beatriz
Cd. San Cristobal, Zona 8 Mixco, Guatemala

- **INDONESIA** -

Prihatini, Putu Mekar
Denpasar-Ali, Indonesia

- **JAPAN** -

Akiyama, Tatsu
Kusatsu, Shiga, Japan
Asato, Saeko
Nakagusuku, Okinawa, Japan

Bacosa, Hernando Pactao
Sendai, Miyagi, Japan

Deguchi, Tomoko
Toyonaka, Osaka, Japan

Masuya, Haruko
Atsugi, Kanagawa, Japan

Mochizuki, Hiroshi
Naha, Okinawa, Japan

Oku, Kinuko
Naha, Okinawa, Japan

Suzuki, Takuma
Izunokuni, Shizuoka, Japan

Tachikawa, Kenichi
Itabashi, Tokyo, Japan

Tanaka, Kunihiko
Shinagawa, Tokyo, Japan

Yamamoto, Toshihiro
Tsukuba, Ibaragi, Japan

- **KENYA** -

Kariuki, Grace Wangari
Timau, Kenya

- **MALAYSIA** -

Ibrahim, Kasawani
Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia

Kassim, Kassmiza
Lanchang, Pahang, Malaysia

Tay, Carolyn
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

- **MICRONESIA** -

Nelson, Henry Jr
Governors Office, Pohnpei, Micronesia

- **MOROCCO** -

Kahouadji, Mohammed Said
Belahsen Temara, Morocco

- **OMAN** -

Al-Hashmi, Fahad Saif Ahmed
Adam, Oman

AL-Hooti, Yahya Ali
Muscat, Oman

- **SAMOA** -

Time, Isamaeli Asotasi
Apia, Samoa

- **SENEGAL** -

Sane, Abibou
Dakar, Hann, Senegal

- **SRI LANKA** -

Welhenage, Malkanthi
Thibirigama, Kiridiwela, Sri Lanka

Arandara, Asanga Iresha
Meddegawa, Kirindiwela, Sri Lanka

- **THAILAND** -

Ladpala, Phnumard
Bangkok, Thailand

- **UK** -

Hornibrook, Edward Robert Calvin
University of Bristol, UK

- **USA** -

Fatoyinbo, Tenilola Elisabeth
Charlottesville, Virginia USA

Stuart, Greene Farrell
San Diego, California, USA

- **VIETNAM** -

Hung, Ngo Chi
Camau City, Camau, Vietnam

Annual Academic Meeting of JAM 2008

Organized by the Japan Association on Mangroves (JAM), the meeting was held in Tokyo University of Agriculture, Tokyo, Japan from 8-9 November 2008.



Some members of ISME presented papers at the Annual Academic Meeting of JAM 2008. Photo shows Prof. Ong Jin Eong (left) and Prof. Toyohiko Miyagi (right) attending the Panel discussion.

Of the papers presented, Prof. S. Baba (Japan) updated participants on the current projects conducted by ISME. Prof. J.E. Ong (Malaysia) spoke on the *UNEP/GEF Project on Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the*

South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand: Mangrove Component. Dr. H.T. Chan (Malaysia) highlighted the progress of *ISME/ITTO Pre-Project on Restoration of Mangroves and other Coastal Forests damaged by Tsunamis and other Natural Hazards in the Asia-Pacific Region*. Mr. T.T. Aung (Myanmar) reported on the *Sprouting Capability of Dominant Mangrove Species damaged by the Cyclone Nargis in the Ayeyarwady Delta*.

Some prominent mangroves scientists from Japan who attended the meeting included Prof. M. Higaki (President of JAM), Prof. Y. Mazda (Vice-President of JAM) and Prof. T. Nakamura (Professor Emeritus, Tokyo University of Agriculture).

Membership of ISME

Individual membership: JPY2,000, or equivalent in US\$ (approx. US\$20), annually;

Life membership: JPY20,000 or equivalent in US\$ (approx. US\$200);

Institutional membership: JPY25,000, or equivalent in US\$ (approx. US\$250), annually.

UNESCO coupons and international postal money-order are acceptable. We also accept Visa, Master-Card, and American Express. Please avoid cheques. For further information, contact ISME Secretariat. Your contribution is appreciated. Your donation for the Society is also welcomed.

News from your country

If you have any news from your country or your work concerning mangrove ecosystems that you wish to see published in the ISME newsletter, please forward it to ISME Secretariat.

Send articles/publications of mangrove to ISME Secretariat

ISME is organizing GLOMIS. Please send articles/publications concerning mangroves and mangrove ecosystems to ISME Secretariat.

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