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Seventy member academies have signed the IAP Statement on Ocean Acidification. The statement, released 1 June 2009, calls on world leaders to recognize the threat posed to oceans by rising levels of atmospheric CO₂ emissions.

There have been extensive media reports on this latest IAP Statement, including the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Guardian* and the *Independent* in the UK, the *Sydney Morning Herald* in Australia. A large number of academy members also posted the statement on their website. We thank them for their efforts and now encourage them to bring the statement to the attention of government delegates attending the Copenhagen climate conference in December 2009.

Delegates in Copenhagen, who will seek to forge a new protocol as a follow-up to the Kyoto Protocol that expires in 2012, must be fully informed about current scientific understanding and the full range of policy options available to mitigate and/or adapt to climate change.

To help achieve these goals, IAP, the InterAcademy Council (IAC) and TWAS, the academy of sciences for the developing world, joined the European Climate Foundation in holding a series of 'briefing-plus-discussion' workshops for delegates, especially those from smaller developing countries. The workshops took place in July in Bangkok for Asia & the Pacific (organized by the Thai Academy of Science and Technology); Nairobi for sub-Saharan Africa (organized by the African Academy of Sciences); and Itaipava (near Rio de Janeiro) for Latin America and the Caribbean (organized by the TWAS Regional Office).

Each workshop aimed to brief delegates on the current state of scientific knowledge on climate change, and on options for mitigating and adapting to its impact. In addition, each workshop provided insights on the current positions held by developing countries. Delegates agreed that the workshops were invaluable for exchanging ideas and viewpoints and for providing information that should help frame discussions at the Copenhagen conference.

A detailed report on the three workshops is available on the IAP website.

Chen Zhu and Howard Alper
IAP Co-Chairs

Calendar 2009/2010

- 10-12 September 2009: IAP Young Scientists Conference, in conjunction with the World Economic Forum, Dalian, China
- 15-16 September 2009: EC Meeting, Tokyo, Japan
- 12-15 January 2010: IAP Conference on Biodiversity and General Assembly, London, UK

IAP Programmes

Capacity Building: IAP's flagship programme provided support for the TWAS conference on "Afghanistan and its geographical context: development of a regional network of cultural and scientific cooperation", organized in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The event was held in Trieste, Italy, 26 June 2009, as a run-up to the G8 Summit in L'Aquila. Representatives from academies of science in Afghanistan, India, Italy, Pakistan and Turkey were present. A detailed summary is available at www.twas.org

Science Education: Report of Working Group on Teacher Professional Development In Pre-

Secondary School Inquiry-Based Education (ISBE).
www.interacademies.net/CMS/Programmes/3123.aspx

National Disaster Mitigation: Report on Global Natural Hazards and Disaster Reduction.
www.interacademies.net/CMS/Programmes/4698.aspx

IAP Joint Ventures

The second IAP Young Scientists Conference will take place 10 September 2009 in conjunction with the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting of the New Champions. Sixty young scientists have been selected to participate in sessions on science education and research priorities for promoting innovation. Seven young scientists who participated in the pilot venture in 2008 will return as "young mentors". For profiles of the young scientists and a detailed programme, see:

www.interacademies.net/CMS/8595.aspx

IAP/IAC Regional Workshops

The Mexican Academy of Sciences hosted the "Women for Science Symposium", 20-21 April 2009, marking the third IAP/IAC collaborative event. IAP, the Mexican National Council on Science and

Technology (CONACYT) and the ICSU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ICSU-LAC), supported the symposium. See www.ianas.org

Notice Board

Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters has awarded the Abel Prize 2009 to Mikhail Leonidovich Gromov, Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques, Bures-sur-Yvette, France, "for his revolutionary contributions to geometry". Gromov received the prize from His Majesty King Harald at a ceremony in Oslo, on 19 May. See www.abelprisen.no/en/

Nigerian Academy of Science organized a forum on "Reducing Maternal and Infant Mortality in Nigeria: Bridging the Gap from Knowledge to Action" in Abuja, 24-25 March 2009. The forum was preceded by the launch of a report, "Reducing Child Mortality in Nigeria: The Way Forward", published under the auspices of the Academy's Forum on Evidence-Based Health Policy Making. Information is available from: nigforumexpert@yahoo.com.

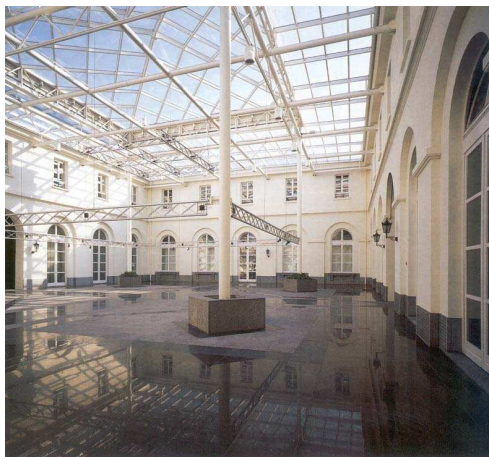
Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) has established a Clean Energy Commercialization Centre (CECC) in Shanghai through a joint venture with British Petroleum Group (BP). For more information, contact hanyz@sxicc.ac.cn.

Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SASA) will organize the Milutin Milankovitch Anniversary Symposium: Climate Change at the Eve of the Second Decade of the Century – Inferences from Paleoclimate, in Belgrade, 22-25 September 2009. See www.sanu.ac.rs/English/Milankovic2009

Romanian Academy, in collaboration with the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, will organize a conference on "Unconventional Energies in the Carpathian and Danubian Area", 27-28 November at Vasile Goldis University in Arad, Romania. Contact relint@uvvg.ro.

Palestine Academy for Science and Technology (PALAST) published the academy newsletter, vol 6, no 1. Copies can be downloaded from the PALAST website: www.palestineacademy.org

Snapshot



*The Royal Academies for Science
and the Arts of Belgium
www.rasab.be*

Networking

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences: new email: office@bas.org.bd; new url: www.bas.org.bd

News from the Secretariat ...

The website for IAP's 2010 Conference on Biodiversity and General Assembly, 12-15 January 2010, London, can be browsed at www.interacademies.net/CMS/Programmes/4017/9159.aspx.

To date, more than 100 representatives from IAP member academies have registered.

IAP has issued a call for nominations for co-chairs and executive committee members for 2010-2012. The deadline for submissions is 30 October 2009.

Appointments

- Jaromír Pastorek has been elected president of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, succeeding Stefan Luby.
- Sangkot Marzuki has been elected president of the Indonesian Academy of Sciences, succeeding Bambang Hidayat.
- Besim Bokshi has been elected president of the Kosovo Academy of Sciences and Arts, succeeding Rexhep Ismajli.
- Batbold Enkhtuvshin has been elected president of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences, succeeding Baatairiin Chadraa.
- Lamberto Maffei has been elected president of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, succeeding Giovanni Conso.
- Valdemaras Razumas has been elected president of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, succeeding Rokus Rudzikas Zenonas.
- Roger Guerra-García Cueva has been elected president of the Academia Nacional de Ciencias del Peru, succeeding Alberto Giesecke Matto.

Contacts

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**Deadline for contributions to the next issue
of the bulletin is 30 October 2009**