



## 2003 Meeting Report Form

### Re: UNESCO-IUGS Contract and IUGS Supplementary Contribution

*Project Number and Title: IGCP 467. Triassic time and trans-Panthalassan correlations.*

#### **MEETING:**

Date: 11th-16th September, 2003.

Place: St. Christina, Val Gardena, Italy.

Itinerary: Sept. 11: Registration; Sept. 12: Oral and poster presentations, discussions (08:30 - 18.30); 19.00: public lecture; Sept. 13: Oral and poster presentations, discussions (08:30 - 17.30); IGCP467 business meeting (17.30-19:00); conodont workshop (20.00-23.00). Sept. 14: Field trip to the Seceda (drilling location and outcrops); Sept. 15/16: Field trip to the Latemar, a Triassic carbonate platform.

#### **SCOPE AND RESULTS OF MEETING:**

##### Scope of Meeting (program or outline of geological study)

The Seceda Working Group in conjunction with the International Commission on Triassic Stratigraphy (STS) and IGCP 467 (Triassic Time and trans-Panthalassan Correlations) co-sponsored this open symposium on geochronology, stratigraphy and sedimentology of the Triassic. Special emphasis was given to age dating, depositional rhythms and the question of orbital cycles of the Triassic. The symposium was a concluding meeting for the Seceda Working Group, an informal assembly of earth scientists from 15 institutions in five countries that studied the Seceda boring, a research bore hole in mid-Triassic basin sediments contributed to the Earth Science Community by the Province of Bolzano/Bozen, Italy.

A small conodont workshop on the subject of basal Anisian indices for correlation was held, as was a business meeting for the IGCP project.

##### Achievements of Meeting

58 scientists from 14 countries attended the symposium. The technical sessions comprised 21 oral and 18 poster presentations and a final meeting and discussion of STS. 43 participants were on the excursion to Seceda (one day) and 22 on that to Latemar (two days).

Highlights of the first symposium day included the presentation of largely reproducible U-Pb-ages of zircons from volcanoclastic layers at similar stratigraphic levels in Upper Anisian - Ladinian sedimentary successions of the Southern Alps and Hungary and obtained by three independent research groups. New age results confirm previous ones but are not compatible with the interpretation based on spectral analysis of basic cycles in the platform interior succession at Latemar as controlled by earths precession. The experts of cycle analysis promised to thoroughly test alternatives such as a basic cycle of as yet unclear significance being modulated by orbital parameters.

The second symposium day saw another session on platform carbonate cycles, i.e. of Upper Triassic age, whose interpretation as orbitally controlled was frequently assumed but is more difficult to evaluate. Despite the absence of independent and tight age constraints, orbital control seems to be largely accepted for the long record of lacustrine cycles of the Newark cores whereas other cycles in terrestrial sediments of the UK seem not to show evidence for Milankovitch-type control. Other topics of this day included themes such as the stratal architecture of the Middle Triassic in British

Columbia, the history of carbonate platforms after their growth stage in the Dolomites and Daonella biostratigraphy.

The conodont workshop involved most of the Triassic biostratigraphers and taxonomic experts for the Lower-Middle Triassic boundary interval. There was final consensus on the definition and stratigraphic utility of the proposed conodont index for base Anisian.

The business meeting addressed the issue of a GSSP for the Anisian-Ladinian boundary. Final discussions on this topic took place.

#### Outcome of Meeting

Improved knowledge of the Triassic time scale and further research into the possibility of sub-Milankovich cycles.

Agreement on the definition of the Lower-Middle Triassic boundary.

A vote within the STS task group on the GSSP for an Anisian-Ladinian boundary.

*Signature of Project Leader and Date*