



The Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) - the first IUGS-recognized big science program officially launched at the 73rd IUGS EC Meeting and DDE Forum Held in Beijing

● The Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) Accord Signed

The Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) - the first IUGS-recognized big science programme was officially launched during the meeting and the DDE Accord was signed collectively by the DDE Founding Members, namely China Geological Survey (CGS), British Geological Survey (BGS), Russian Geological Research Institute (VSEGEI), International Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS), Commission on the Management & Application of Geoscience Information (CGI), American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), International Association of Mathematical Geosciences (IAMG), International Association on the Genesis of Ore Deposits (IAGOD), Commission of Geological Map of the World (CGMW), International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG), International Palaeontological Association (IPA), and International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS).

● Academic Presentations Delivered and Roundtable Meetings Held

Altogether 11 invited academic presentations were delivered on the DDE Forum on Feb. 26th centering on stratigraphy, paleontology, sedimentary, paleogeography, paleomagnetic, tectonics, rock and geochemistry, climate simulation and big data management and application etc. In-depth discussions were conducted at the Roundtable Meetings themed on Geological Surveys, GeoUnions, International Associations, Energy and Mining Associations. The governing structure, scientific objectives and missions of the DDE programme were extensively discussed and valuable suggestions were put forward from various stakeholders and perspectives to ensure the long-term success of the DDE Programme. The DDE Programme will be officially kicked-off at the 36th International Geological Congress in New Delhi, India in 2020.

- **Officials of the DDE Programme Appointed**

Dr. Michael Stephenson from the British Geological Survey was appointed as the President of the Governing Council of the DDE Forum. Prof. Roland Oberhaensli, IUGS Past President, was appointed as the Chair of the Executive Committee and Prof. Wang Chengshan from the China University of Geosciences (Beijing) as the Co-Chair of the Executive Committee of the DDE Programme.

- **IUGS Scientific Activities Extensively Discussed**

At the Open Session of the 73rd IUGS EC Meeting, the IUGS Committees, Commissions, Task Groups, Initiatives, Programmes, IGC Local Organizing Committees, Affiliated Organizations reported in detail their major work in 2018, and in-depth exchanges were conducted on the on-going IUGS scientific activities. At the Closed Session of the 73rd IUGS EC Meeting, the EC Members discussed on a wide range of issues, including call for bidding for the 38th IGC, IUGS activities at the 36th IGC, IUGS awards, applications of new Task Groups, ARC review, future of “Resourcing Future Generations” Initiative, copyright of IUGS scientific products, 2019 financial allocations etc.

The 73rd IUGS Executive Committee Meeting and the Forum of the Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) Program were co-sponsored by China Geological Survey and National Natural Science Foundation of China, and co-organized by Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences and China University of Geosciences (Beijing).



Group Photo of the DDE Forum.



President Qiuming Cheng announcing the DDE program at the opening of the DDE Forum.



DDE Accord being signed.



Opening Ceremony of the DDE Forum.



Prof. Li Jinghai (R3), Vice President of International Science Council (ISC) and President of National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and Prof. Alik Ismail-Zadeh (R2), ISC Secretary, meeting with the IUGS EC Members.