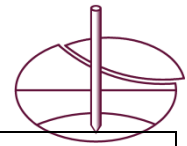


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: Thomas Adjei Adjetey	Your Organization: Civil Engineering Dept., College of Engineering, KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana	Date of report: 20 th October 2024
Conference Title: 18 th African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering	Location of Conference: Marriott 5-star Hotel in Algiers, Algeria	Dates of Conference: 06 th – 09 th October 2024
What you learned: <p>The 18th African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering aimed at Geotechnical Engineering for Africa's Sustainable Development in Algiers, 06 – 09 October 2024 wasn't just for learning and networking to me. This conference was part of a solution to the African challenges in infrastructural economic development. The conference served its purpose well with recent research covering topics ranging from soil characterisation, behaviour of soil analysis and modelling, environmental geotechnics, foundation engineering, geotechnical case studies, ground stabilization & improvement, slope embankment & retaining structures and seismic studies. The attendees, sponsors and organisers of the conference was very well represented and successful not only in Africa but across the world. All the proceedings were very important, yet an unforgettable one to me is "Appropriate methods of design for use in geotechnical practice" by P.W. Day, a geotechnical consultant of Jones & Wagener, Johannesburg, South Africa and an extraordinary professor, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa. Another great take for me on the conference is "How the second generation of Eurocode7 is progressing" by Sebastien Burlon and Mourad Yahia-Aissa from Terrasol-Setec, Paris France.</p>		
People you met: <p>In fact, I met all the sponsors and organisers of the conference 18th ARCSMGE. The keynote speakers and other speakers, PhD candidates like me from various universities. I interacted on few occasions with some and snapped photographs together. Some sponsors with exhibits I visited are TREVI ALGERIE, Groupe GEICA, Groupe COSIDER, AMEDIC Technologie, AFITEX Industrie, Groupe GICA, C.T.C, L.N.H.C, CiviSoft, ECOFIBRE, Bekaert, TRAVOMED, Sols Mesures, Marriott Bab Ezzouar.</p>		



The below lists are just to mention some few outstanding participants.

Dr Marc Ballouz President of the ISSMGE.

Prof. Marawan Shahien (Advisory Committee Chair) Vice-President of the ISSMGE for Africa.

Mr Ramdane Bahar, Chairman of the conference 18th ARCSMGE.

Professor P. W. Day a geotechnical consultant of Jones & Wagener, Johannesburg, South Africa and an extraordinary professor, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Professor Mounir Bouassida, Université de Tunis El Manar, Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Tunis. LR14ES03 Laboratoire d'Ingénierie. Géotechnique. BP 37 Le Belvédère 1002 Tunis, Tunisia.

SIMPRO Consulting 4, Passage Tejckestene Riadh Ennasr 1, 2037 Ariana, Tunisia.

Sébastien BURLON and Mourad YAHIA-AISSA, Terrasol-Setec, Paris, France.

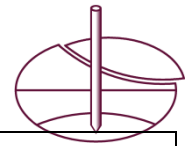
D. Cazzuffi CESI SpA, Milan, Italy and D. Gioffrè from University of Pavia, Italy.

Main features of conference:

The main features of the conference are the morning sessions and afternoon parallel sessions. In all there were about 12 keynote lectures presented in the morning sessions alongside other invited lectures. The main sessions were grouped in parallel sessions covering soil characterisation, behaviour of soil analysis and modelling, environmental geotechnics, foundation engineering, geotechnical case studies, ground stabilization & improvement, slope embankment & retaining structures and seismic studies. There was enough space for viewing the posters that changed every day

Your comments on the conference:

The overall organisation of the conference was strategically planned well in advanced. The selected topics for the conference are broad and detailed covering all aspects in advancement and I may not be privy on the general financial output of the conference, but I tell targets set were met with generally few lapses. For instance, poor registrations for technical visits and dinner meals not in variety to balance the different cultures. The coffee breaks and lunch breaks, however, are surprisingly very satisfying. The morning sessions were well timed with the keynotes, invited lectures, and invited plenary papers. The timings of presentations are generally fair considering the large number of speakers. Adequate timings were given to questions and discussions. The parallel sessions were crucial to pave way for adjoining events around same time. The keynote speakers are as usual very insightful and well prepared with innovative ideas in research directions. Although some student speaker's presentations slides were too wordy to follow up on contents.



Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:

The 18th African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering was held from 06th – 09th October 2024 at the Marriott 5-star Hotel in Algiers, Algeria. This conference was hosted by the Algerian Geotechnical Society (ALGEOS) in collaboration with the Laboratory of Environment, Water, Geomechanics, and Buildings (LEEGO - USTHB). It was possible in association with the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE). It brings together researchers, academics, students, and professionals from around the globe to facilitate the exchange and dissemination of recent research and studies in the field of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering. The aim of this conference is Geotechnical Engineering for Africa's Sustainable Development. This theme was so chosen rightly as the continent is challenged with economic emancipation and the immediate solution is infrastructural development which cannot be mentioned without geotechnical engineering.

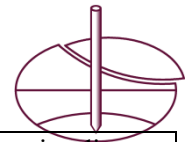
The conference proceedings include a total number of twelve keynote lecturers delivered by distinguished experts on the field of geotechnical sustainable development and 116 papers that underwent review and accepted by the scientific committee. The conference proceedings feature a comprehensive array of articles presented by authors from 28 countries, including: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, Italy, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, RD Congo, Russia, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, USA, Vietnam.

The opening ceremony of the conference on 06th October 2024 comprised an opening declaration by conference chair, ALGEOS President, Pr. Ramdane Bahar; an opening address by COC Chair, ALGEOS Secretary, Pr. Smail Haddadi; a welcome address by ISSMGE Vice President – Africa, Pr. Marawan Shahien, ISSMGE President – Dr. Marc Ballouz and finally Rector of USTHB, Pr. Djamal Eddine Akretche.

The morning sessions of the conference are mainly presentations from the keynote lectures, then after the lunch breaks are followed with the afternoon sessions, which are the parallel sessions for the main conference research themes. The parallel sessions for the main conference themes covers soil characterisation, behaviour of soil analysis and modelling, environmental geotechnics, foundation engineering, geotechnical case studies, ground stabilization & improvement, slope embankment & retaining structures and seismic studies.

The keynote lectures started from methods in design, through applications of geosynthetics, rehabilitation of large dams, determination of shear strength of soils using cylindrical shear tool and progressing in the second generation of Eurocode 7. In addition to above keynote lectures was a notable one on the use of lateritic gravel in its abundance for construction and road maintenance, however, its use requires certain levels of expertise that was elaborated.

The conference showcased its sponsors at the Exhibition Hall which was very much appreciated



considering their explanations of their equipment holdings and professional services in diverse projects across the African continent. The sponsors of the conference are as follows TREVI ALGERIE, Groupe GEICA, Groupe COSIDER, AMEDIC Technologie, AFITEX Industrie, Groupe GICA, C.T.C, L.N.H.C, CiviSoft, ECOFIBRE, Bekaert, TRAVOMED, Sols Mesures, Marriott Bab Ezzouar.

One outstanding presentation, that carried all the audience was the ISSMGE Heritage Time Capsule Project – Future Focus authored by S. Pathmanandavel ISSMGE HTC Lead, Sydney, Australia; E. Bilotta from the University of Napoli Federico II, Naples, Italy; A. Bouazza Monash University, Melbourne, Australia; M. Shahien from Tanta University, Tanta, Egypt and H. Poulos of Tetra Tech Coffey, Sydney, Australia. In fact, the ISSMGE HTC is something many technical people ignore to visit online most often. However, the mandate of HTC cannot be overlooked as it plays the embodiment of the ISSMGE not for the present but for the future. The HTC project has the following three objectives: (1) Learning about each other; (2) Telling the world about us and finally (3) Building a future focus. The implications of current and emerging challenges and emerging new technologies is playing critical role in the evolution of geotechnical engineering years coming and for decades more. This tells me the ISSMGE is well poised to take a collective and considered view of the future of geotechnical engineering as a main stay profession since its inception in 1936.

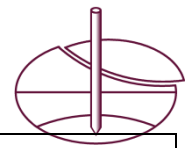
I wish to express my sincerest gratitude to the 18th ARCSMGE Conference Organising and Scientific Committees, as well as the Algerian Geotechnical Society, the ISSMGE, the Ghana Geotechnical Society and to all authors and attendees for their invaluable contributions and efforts, which were instrumental in the success of the conference.

This conference has proven its relevance and importance to me as a student as much as a practitioner. I know its significance has impacted to all other professionals, scholars, students, researchers, and practitioners in the fields of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering.

Finally, I would like to gracefully thank the ISSMGE Foundation for the financial support they offered me, which without it might not be possible for me attending.

Reported by Ing. Thomas Adjei Adjetey

A PhD Candidate of the KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana. A senior professional engineer of the Ghana Institution of Engineering (SPE-GhIE), a member of the local section of ISSMGE, Ghana Geotechnical Society and IGS.



Photographs from Conference:



