ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Your Name: 
Ahmed H. El-Orabi

Your Organization: 
Dar Al-Handasah

Date of report: 
26th Sep. 2017

Conference Title: 
19th International conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (19th ICSMGE)

Location of Conference: 
Coex Convention Centre, Seoul, South Korea

Dates of Conference: 
17 Sep. 22 Sep. 2017

What you learned: 
The 19th international conference on soil mechanics and foundation engineering is the most important event worldwide in the field of the geotechnical engineering. It was a great opportunity to attend such conference and meet researchers from all round the world. I had a great chance to share my research among hundreds of scientists. There were lot of valuable discussions. I learnt a lot through those discussions, as their comments and suggestions would help me to improve/enhance my Ph.D. study. Nevertheless, the topics that were discussed in keynote lectures such as Bishop Lecture by Prof. Davis Muir Wood, Ishihara Lecture by Prof. Jonathan D Bray, R. K. Rowe lecture by Prof. Mario Manassero and all the other plenary sessions; increased my knowledge beyond and motivated my spirit to a higher level of cognizance.

People you met: 
Prof. Joon Kyu Lee, University of Seoul
Prof. Roger frank, The Immediate President Past President of ISSGE
Prof. Charles Ng., The President of ISSMGE
Prof. Izzat M. Idriss, College of Engineering UC Davis
Prof. Ban Ki-moon, Former Secretary-General-The United Nations
Prof. Burt Look, University of Queensland
Prof. Sherif Wissa, Director of Geotechnical and Heavy civil Engineering Department, Dar Group
Prof. Kerry Rowe, University of Queens
Prof. Fatma Baligh, Vice President of Africa ISSMGE

Main features of conference: 
The keynotes lectures rendered by experts on very interesting topics, were very rich and valuable. Also, the technical sessions organized by the different technical committee covering all aspect of geotechnical engineering, were very useful and precious. The quality of the work presented in the discussion sessions was excellent, especially TC 207 on soil-structure interaction.
**Your comments on the conference:**
The conference was well organized. The programme was professionally scheduled. The technical content was more than excellent. Many thanks and most of the credit must be given to the organizing committee of 19th ICSMGE.

**Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:**
19th ICSMGE was jointly organized by the Korean Geotechnical Society and ISSMGE this year. The Theme of the conference was “Unearth the future, Connect beyond [ ]”, it is so powerful and innovated. It is about bridging the gaps between past and future between young and senior engineers, and between developing and developed nations among others. Making these connections is the key to greater innovations. The main conference features was included iYGEC, ISSMGE Honour Lectures, Plenary Session, Parallel Sessions, Technical visits, and exhibitions. The conference started on the 17th until 22th of September, 2017 with an opening ceremony with more than 1500 participants. The program included two days of plenary sessions given by leader professors and professionals in the field of geotechnical engineering. The other days were allocated for workshops and technical sessions organized by the different technical committees covering all aspect of geotechnical engineering, and the fifth day is for field visit in Seoul. The participation in the conference has enabled me learn from the leaders of the profession. I would like to express my sincere thanks to ISSMGE foundation for providing financial support for participating the 19th ICSMGE conference.

**Photographs from Conference:**
PHOTO #1: WHILE PRESENTING MY POSTER

PHOTO #2: AFTER A PRECIOUS DISCUSSION