

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOIL MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING



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General report/Discussion session 6: Engineering properties and design assessment of tropical soils

Rapport de spécialistes/Séance de discussion 6: Evaluation des structures et des propriétés des sols tropicaux

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INTRODUCTION

The Discussion Session on Engineering Properties and Design Assessment of Tropical Soils was organized and run by the ISSMFE Technical Committee on Tropical Soils. This Technical Committee was sponsored for the period 1985-1989 by the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society, with Dr E.W. Brand as Chairman and Mr J.B. Massey as Secretary.

The half-day Discussion Session was organized on the basis of the two main topics "Volcanic Debris" and "Laterites and Saprolites". Although these materials are not confined exclusively to tropical countries, many tropical countries experience problems associated with them, and little useful information can be found in the published literature on volcanic debris in particular.

The programme for the Discussion Session was as follows :

Chairman : Dr E.W. Brand

General Reporter : Mr J.B. Massey

1. Volcanic debris :

Invited Lecturer : Prof. G.F. Sowers(USA)

Panel Members : Dr L. Belloni (Italy)
Dr V.K. Garga (Canada)
Dr L.D. Wesley
(New Zealand)

2. Laterites and saprolities :

(a) Fabric and engineering properties

Invited Lecturer : Dr L. Costa Filho
(Brazil)

(b) Design assessment

Invited Lecturer : Prof. G.E. Blight
(South Africa)

Panel Members : Dr J.B. Queiroz
de Carvalho (Brazil)
Prof. A. Sridharan
(India)
Dr S.S. Sandroni
(Brazil)

The Session was attended by over 200 of the delegates to the Conference. The pages that follow contain the Invited Lectures presented at the Session and the written contributions from Panel Members and discussors. They should prove a useful source of reference on tropical soils.