

Annual Summer Symposium, Geological
Society of Zimbabwe, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe,
1-2 November 2024



The International Commission for the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO) and its activities

A call for volunteers to form a Local Organizing Committee for the
51st INHIGEO Annual Meeting at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, in 2026



UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG

Sharad Master

School of Geosciences

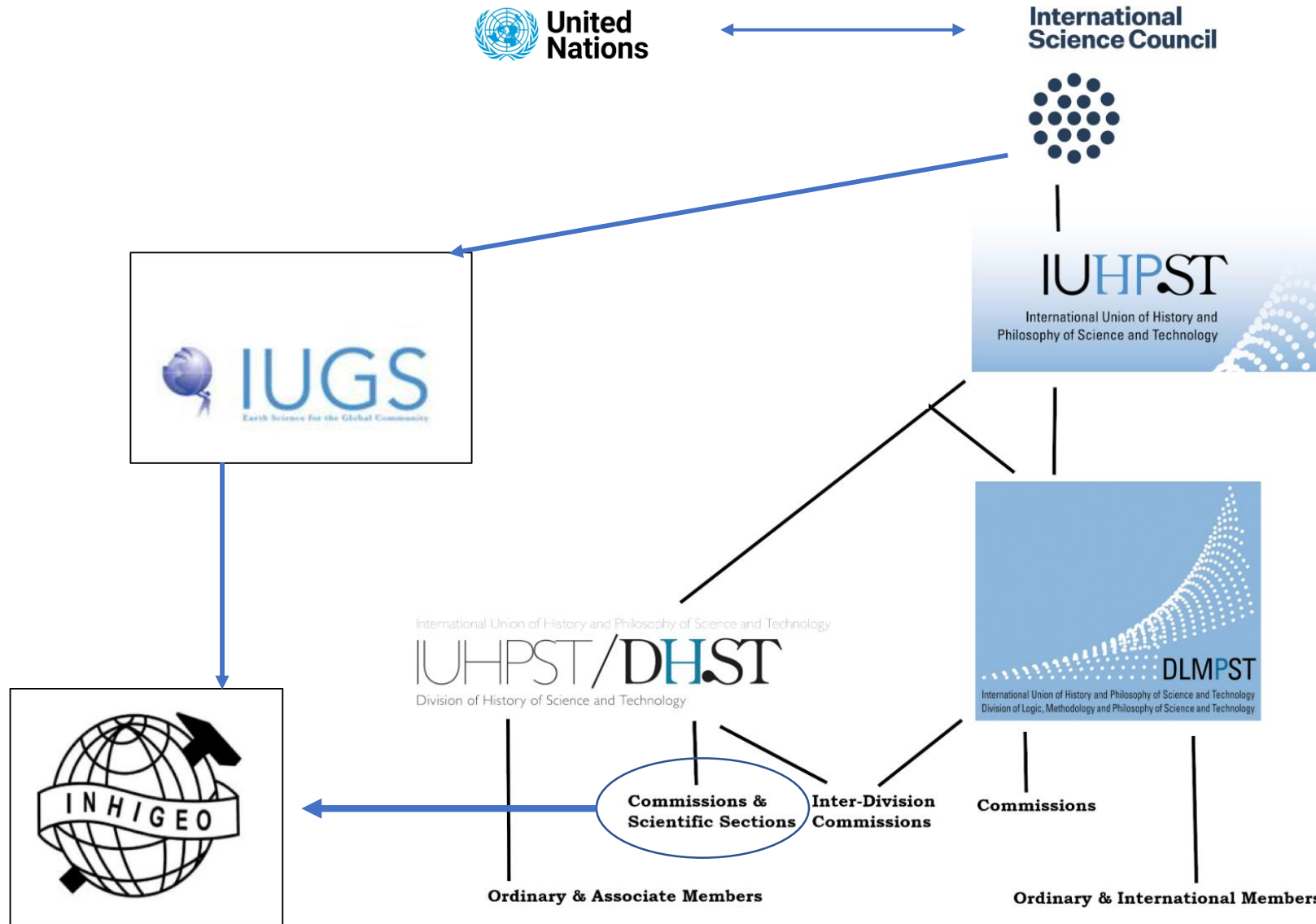
University of the Witwatersrand,
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(sharadmaster@yahoo.co.uk)

Vice-President (Africa) of INHIGEO (2024-2028)

What is INHIGEO?


- INHIGEO is the **International Commission for the History of Geological Sciences**.
- It was established in 1967 at a meeting in Yerevan, Armenia, USSR, as an affiliate of IUGS, the **International Union of Geological Sciences**.
- It is currently affiliated to both the IUGS, as well as the IUHPST, the **International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology**. Both IUGS and IUHPST are part of the International Science Council (ICSU), the largest scientific umbrella body in the world, with its status in Science having the equivalence of the United Nations in Politics.



The IUHPST is the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology. It represents the research fields of history of science and technology and philosophy of science and technology, as well as research studying the foundations and methodology of science and technology in general, including the study of logic. These fields are linked to the natural sciences, the humanities, and the social sciences, and are interdisciplinary in nature. The Union represents both national and international institutions related to these fields.



What are the aims of INHIGEO?

- The aim of INHIGEO is not only the **historical study of geological sciences in all their forms**, but also its promotion and dissemination, as well as the creation of effective links between this historical knowledge and the broader contemporary context of the Earth sciences and humanities.
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Our Mission















The primary objective of **INHIGEO** involves promoting studies in the history of geological disciplines . In so doing, the Commission endeavours to stimulate and coordinate the activities of regional, national, and international organizations having shared purposes. The Commission also works to foster the publication of individual and collective works that illuminate the history of the geological sciences .

INHIGEO is an ongoing Commission, which acts within an international context and with an interdisciplinary approach, addressing the varied topics of history of Earth sciences within congresses, symposia, articles, books, collections of documents and digitalisation projects.



Board of Management

The current INHIGEO Board of Management elected for the period 2020-2024 consists of:

<p>President</p> <p>Professor Ezio Vaccari (Italy) ezio.vaccari@uninsubria.it</p>		<p>Past-President</p> <p>Professor Barry J. Cooper (Australia) barry.cooper@unisa.edu.au</p>	
<p>Secretary-General</p> <p>Dr. Martina Kölbl-Ebert (Germany) koelbl-ebert@snsb.de</p>		<p>Vice-President Africa</p> <p>Dr. Sharad Master (South Africa) sharad.master@wits.ac.za</p>	
<p>Vice-President Asia</p> <p>Dr. Toshihiro Yamada (Japan) yamada@muf.biglobe.ne.jp</p>		<p>Vice-President Australasia/Oceania</p> <p>Carol Bacon (Australia) gclota@trump.net.au</p>	
<p>Vice-President Europe</p> <p>Professor Marianne Klemun (Austria) marianne.klemun@univie.ac.at</p>		<p>Vice-President Latin America</p> <p>Dr. Maria Margaret Lopes (Brazil) mariamargaretlopes@gmail.com</p>	
<p>Vice-President North America</p> <p>Professor Stephen Rowland (USA) steve.rowland@unlv.edu</p>		<p>Editor</p> <p>Professor John Diemer (USA) jadiemer@uncc.edu</p>	
<p>Ex officio (Publications and Outreach Coordinator)</p> <p>Dr. Kathleen Histon (Ireland) hiscat@interfree.it</p>		<p>Webmaster</p> <p>Dr. Johannes Mattes (Austria) johannes.mattes@oeaw.ac.at</p>	

INHIGEO Board (2020-2024)

A new board was elected in August 2024 at the 49th INHIGEO Annual Meeting in Busan, Korea.

There are three new Vice-Presidents (for North America, Latin America, and Asia)

There is a new Editor, and a new Webmaster.

INHIGEO Website:
<https://www.inhigeo.com>

Our Partners



INHIGEO encourages scholars to join HESS and publish their papers in the journal "Earth Sciences History":

Our Mission



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Image References

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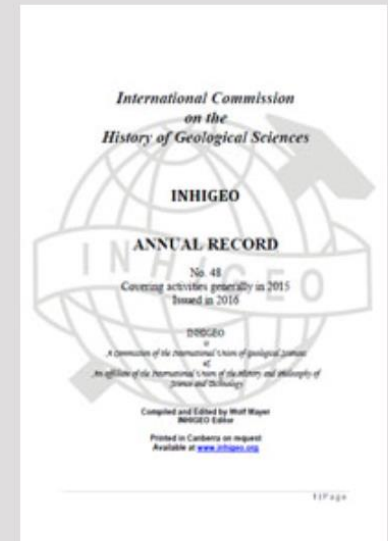
Annual Record

INHIGEO produces an **annual publication** that includes information on the **commission's activities, national reports, book reviews, interviews and occasional historical articles.**



Copies of this publication, renamed the Annual Record in 2014, can be accessed below in PDF form. These files commence with Newsletter 1, published in 1967:

- [Nr. 52-2020](#) [Nr. 53-2021](#) [Nr. 54-2022](#) [Nr. 55-2023](#) [Nr. 56-2024](#)
- [Nr. 42-2010](#) [Nr. 43-2011](#) [Nr. 44-2012](#) [Nr. 45-2013](#) [Nr. 46-2014](#) [Nr. 47-2015](#) [Nr. 48-2016](#) [Nr. 49-2017](#) [Nr. 50-2018](#) [Nr. 51-2019](#)
- [Nr. 32-2000](#) [Nr. 33-2001](#) [Nr. 34-2002](#) [Nr. 35-2003](#) [Nr. 36-2004](#) [Nr. 37-2005](#) [Nr. 38-2006](#) [Nr. 39-2007](#) [Nr. 40-2008](#) [Nr. 41-2009](#)
- [Nr. 22-1990](#) [Nr. 23-1991](#) [Nr. 24-1992](#) [Nr. 25-1993](#) [Nr. 26-1994](#) [Nr. 27-1995](#) [Nr. 28-1996](#) [Nr. 29-1997](#) [Nr. 30-1998](#) [Nr. 31-1999](#)
- [Nr. 12-1978](#) [Nr. 13-1979](#) [Nr. 14-1980](#) [Nr. 15-1981](#) [Nr. 16-1982](#) [Nr. 17-1983](#) [Nr. 18-1984](#) [Nr. 19-1985](#) [Nr. 20-1987](#) [Nr. 21-1988](#)
- [Nr. 2-1968](#) [Nr. 3-1969](#) [Nr. 4-1970](#) [Nr. 5-1971](#) [Nr. 6-1972](#) [Nr. 7-1973](#) [Nr. 8-1974](#) [Nr. 9-1975](#) [Nr. 10-1976](#) [Nr. 11-1977](#)
- [Nr. 1-1967](#)





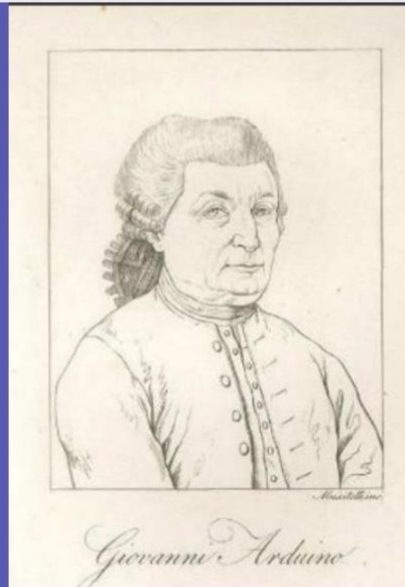
International Union of Geological Sciences

[Home](#) [What is IUGS?](#) [Flagship activities](#) [Organization](#) [Activities](#) [Documents](#) [Publications](#) [Calendar](#) [More](#)

NEWS

INHIGEO Anniversaries

A new lithostratigraphic theory 250 years ago:
Giovanni Arduino and his
Saggio Fisico-
Mineralogico (1774)



[INHIGEO Anniversary list](#)

Posted 21.10.2024

IUGS E-Bulletin

n. 208-209

[August-September 2024 News Update](#)

Posted 14.10.2024

International Union of Geological Sciences
IUGS E-Bulletin n. 208-209, August-September 2024

[News at a Glance](#)

1. IUGS Executive Committee member Hiroshi Kitazato and his team sets Guinness world record
2. News from the International Commission on Cretaceous Stratigraphy
3. The new IUGS Commission on Geotectonics
4. March issue of IUGS Episodes
5. News from the 29th International Geological Congress in Buzan
6. News from the TecTask
7. News from IFG
8. News from INHIGEO
9. News from ResTARE
10. News from new team of IUGS social media

1. IUGS Executive Committee member Hiroshi Kitazato and his team sets Guinness world record
IUGS Executive Member and Treasurer Hiroshi Kitazato (University of Marine Science and Technology) goes where few have gone and sets Guinness world record for reporting the deepest saffish from the Izu-Ogasawara Trench, Japan. During a two-month expedition carried out on the research vessel DSSV Pressure Drop with the support by Chikuma Oceanic and Ishifish, a team of marine biologists from the University of Western Australia (UWA) and the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology (TUMSAT) have discovered the saffish at great depths (<https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/news/2023/4/saffish-sink-to-new-low-to-extend-fish-record-at-the-worlds-deepest-fish-743278>)

Anniversaries in Geo-History

The **INHIGEO Anniversary series** of concise and popular papers on diverse aspects of the History of the Geological Sciences is published online in the [IUGS E-Bulletin](#).

At the invitation of the IUGS INHIGEO established this series in 2018 for short "Anniversary" articles that focus on a particular event, person, theory or pivotal publication in the Geological Sciences related to a certain year, sometimes down to the actual month, hence the overall title "Anniversaries."

A short outline of the topic in question is published in the IUGS E-Bulletin with a permanent link to the complete article archived on the Anniversaries page on the INHIGEO Website. The series has been well received and forms an important component of the INHIGEO commission's outreach activities

If you are interested in submitting contributions for this series, please contact the INHIGEO [Publications and Outreach Coordinator](#).

IUGS E-Bulletin 210, October 2024	Ezio Vaccari	Giovanni Arduino and his <i>Saggio Fisico-Mineralogico</i> (1774)
IUGS E-Bulletin 209, September 2024	Beatriz Aguirre-Urreta	National Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences of Argentina
IUGS E-Bulletin 208, August 2024	Philippe Le Vigouroux	A European Support to Continental Drift: Emile Argand and His "Tectonics of Asia"
IUGS E-Bulletin 207, July 2024	Martina Kölbl-Ebert	Karl Caesar von Leonhard Introduced the Term "Loess"
IUGS E-Bulletin 206, June 2024	Carol Bacon	Charles Gould, the First Government Appointed Geological Surveyor of Tasmania
IUGS E-Bulletin 205, May 2024	Khallaf El Ghalbi	Emerald Mines in Upper Egypt in the Islamic Period (until the 14th Century): A Neglected Era in Modern History of Mining

Anniversaries

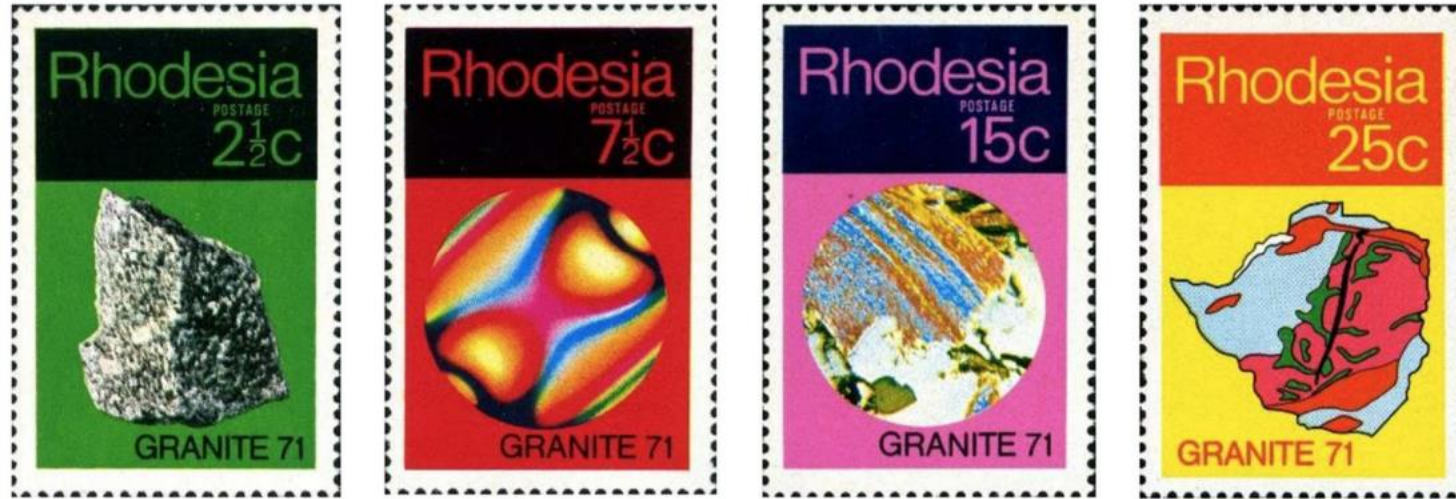
Symposium 50 years ago



“SYMPOSIUM ON GRANITES, GNEISSES AND RELATED ROCKS OF RHODESIA” (SALISBURY, RHODESIA, 1971).

Sharad Master (SOUTH AFRICA)

Fifty years ago, the landlocked central African country of Zimbabwe was a very different place, then called Rhodesia, with its capital Salisbury (now Harare). It had been colonized by British settlers since 1890, and had been part of the Central African Federation of Southern and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, in the late 1950s.. During the early 1960s, a wave of decolonization swept through Africa, African Nationalism was on the rise, the Federation broke up, and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland gained independence as Zambia and Malawi, respectively. In 1965 a group of White settlers in what was now named “Rhodesia” passed a Unilateral Declaration of Independence (UDI) from Britain, and continued to rule as a minority, excluding the vast majority of the population from the right to run their own country. Britain, and much of the rest of the world, declared sanctions against the rebel colony of Rhodesia. But the country was bordered by sympathetic countries: on the east by Mozambique, then still under Portuguese colonial rule, and to the south by South Africa, then ruled by a minority White Apartheid regime.



A year after the Granite '71 symposium, a civil war started in Rhodesia, leading eventually to the formation of the new independent state of Zimbabwe, which was welcomed back into the world. Since independence in 1980, Zimbabwe has hosted numerous international geological conferences. It has an active Geological Society which hosts an annual conference and field excursion, and other lectures (<http://www.geologicalsociety.org.zw>).

Membership of INHIGEO



Note lack of membership in Africa and Middle East

- **Countries Represented 56**

- Algeria (1), Argentina (7), Armenia (3), Australia (12), Austria (14), Bangladesh (1), Belgium (1), Brazil (8), Canada (7), Chile (2), China (20), Colombia (1), Costa Rica (2), Czech Republic (4), Ecuador (1), Estonia (1), France (15), Germany (8), Greece (1), Hungary (9), India (2), Ireland (3), Italy (26), Japan (14), Kenya (1), Latvia (1), Lithuania (5), Madagascar (1), Malaysia (1), Mexico (9), Morocco (2), Namibia (1), Netherlands (5), New Zealand (4), Norway (2), Pakistan (1), Papua New Guinea (1), Poland (9), Portugal (5), Romania (1), Russia (13), Serbia (4), Slovenia (1), Slovak Republic (1), South Africa (6), Spain (8), Sweden (1), Switzerland (4), Thailand (3), Turkey (2), United Kingdom (13), USA (33), Uzbekistan (1), Venezuela (3), Yemen (1), **Zimbabwe (2)**.

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- Refer to current INHIGEO [Annual Record](#) for full list of members and their contacts.

Who can be members of INHIGEO?

- INHIGEO has two classes of members:
 - (1) **Ordinary Membership.** For people with a proven record of publications dealing with History of Geological Sciences
 - **Associate Membership.** For people with an interest in History of Geosciences, but without any or with few publications in this field.
- Procedure: Fill in an Application Form, send to Secretary-General of INHIGEO for consideration, with signatures of Ordinary Members supporting your application. Membership (and its category) is decided by the INHIGEO Board at its Annual Meeting.

Past Meetings of INHIGEO

- 2016 35IGC, Cape Town
- 2017 Yerevan, Armenia
- 2018 Mexico City, Mexico
- 2019 Como/Varese, Italy
- 2020 Delhi (cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- 2021 Warsaw, Poland (Online only)
- 2022 Les Eyzies, France
- 2023 Krakow, Poland
- 2024 Busan, Korea, and Kyushu, Japan

Future Meetings of INHIGEO

- 2025 Dunedin, New Zealand
- 2026 Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
- 2027 Vienna, Austria
- 2028 Calgary, Canada
- 2029 ?
- 2030 Fez, Morocco

**INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF
GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES
COMITÉ FRANÇAIS D'HISTOIRE DE LA GÉOLOGIE**



47th INHIGEO SYMPOSIUM

LES EYZIES – FRANCE - 15 – 24 SEPTEMBER 2022

Conference banner for the 47th INHIGEO Symposium in Les Eyzies, France.



Figure 6. View from the upper terrace of the Musée national de la Préhistoire overlooking Les Eyzies and the Vézère valley. Photo courtesy of Violeta Pukelvete.



Figure 13. Depiction of a quadraped (horse?) in the Lascaux IV cave.



Figure 14. Display area for the Lascaux IV visitor center.



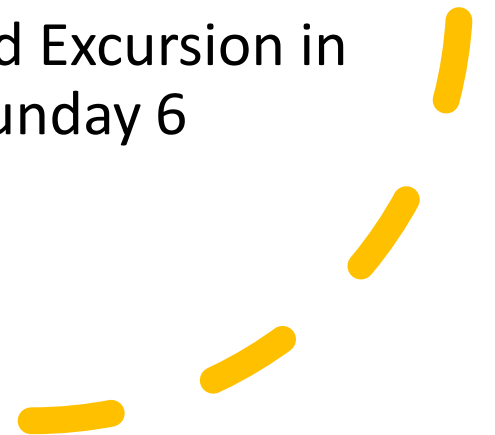
Figure 16. Participants at the La Ferrassie quarry listening to an introduction by Alain Turq and Brunot Moret.



Figure 25. The Burdigallian-Serravallian unconformity, protected under glass.

51st INHIGEO
Annual
Symposium,
Victoria Falls,
Zimbabwe
(December
4-16, 2026)

- This meeting is timed to piggyback on IPC7, the 7th International Palaeontological Congress, Cape Town, 30 November-3 December 2026.
- The INHIGEO Conference will have three themes:
 - History of Palaeoanthropology
 - History of pre- and post-colonial mining in Southern Africa
 - History of geological exploration of Southern and Central Africa
- It will start with a Pre-Conference Field Excursion in and around Johannesburg (Friday 4-Sunday 6 December 2026).



Pre-Conference
Excursion: Gold
Mining History of
Johannesburg, and
Palaeoanthropology
in the Cradle of
Humankind World
Heritage Site

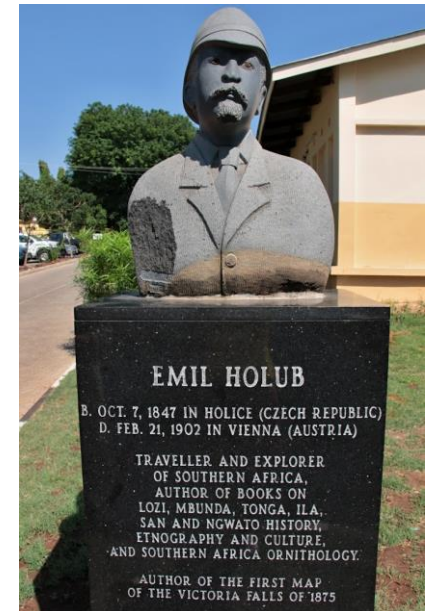
- Friday 4 December 2026
- AM: Delegates arrive in Johannesburg.
- PM: Visit to Ferreira's Gold Mine workings in the Standard Bank Building Basement, Johannesburg
- Visit to Northwards, a Randlords Mansion, Parktown, Johannesburg
- Saturday 5 December 2026
- AM Visit to Geology Museum, Origins Centre, and Institute of Evolutionary Studies, University of the Witwatersrand
- Visit to Maropeng and Sterkfontein, Cradle of Humankind



51st INHIGEO Conference, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

(7-11 December 2026)

- Sunday 6 December
 - Delegates fly from Johannesburg (or elsewhere) to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
- Monday 7 December
 - INHIGEO Conference, Victoria Falls, Day 1
- Tuesday 8 December
 - INHIGEO Conference, Victoria Falls, Day 2
- Wednesday 9 December
 - **Mid-Conference Excursion to Livingstone Museum, Livingstone, Zambia**
- Thursday 10 December
 - INHIGEO Conference, Victoria Falls, Day 3
- Friday 11 December
 - INHIGEO Conference, Victoria Falls, Day 4



Post-Conference Excursion: Bulawayo, Matobo, Great Zimbabwe



- Saturday 12 December 2026
 - Drive from Victoria Falls to Bulawayo (545 km)(6.5 hours).
- Sunday 13 December 2026
 - Visit to Matobo National Park (AM). Bulawayo Natural History Museum (PM)
- Monday 14 December 2026
 - Drive from Bulawayo to Great Zimbabwe (310 km) (4 hours).
 - Visit Great Zimbabwe World Heritage Site
- Tuesday 15 December 2026
 - Drive back to Bulawayo. Departure from Zimbabwe to Johannesburg or other cities.



Call for Volunteers to form a
Local Organizing Committee for the
2026 INHIGEO Annual Meeting,
Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

4-15 December 2026

Contact Dr Sharad Master

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INHIGEO Website:

<https://www.inhigeo.com>