

## **REPORT ON THE 2001 ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE ON MEDITERRANEAN NEOGENE STRATIGRAPHY**

### **Past events**

During 2001, the Committee has centred its activities on the following events:

A) Field workshop "Continental versus Marine Badenian", in the scope of the HR3 interval of the EEDEN Project: The Workshop was organised by the Department of Geology and Paleontology, Fac. of Natural Sci., Comenius University; the Slovak National Museum - Museum of Natural History; the Geological Institute: the Slovak Academy of Sciences, and the Geological Survey of Slovak Republic (Bratislava, Slovakia) and took place on June 5, and on September 3-4, 2001. The main topic of the field workshop was biostratigraphy of the unique Badenian localities rich in vertebrate fauna.

First workshop at June 5, 2001 was focused on marine sediments on the Late Badenian lectotype locality Devínska Nová Ves - Clay pit and Sandberg littoral facies. This workshop attended 18 persons from the 5 European countries (6 Austria, 3 Hungary, 1 Italy, 2 Yugoslavia, and 6 Slovak Republic).

15 persons, mainly vertebrists, attended the September workshop from Austria, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic and Ukraine.

B) First International Pliocene Workshop: This Workshop was organised by the Museum of Paleontology of Estepona (Málaga, Spain) within the activities of its inauguration. The Workshop took place on September 13-15, under the auspices of the RCMNS and was attended by 50 participants. The purpose of the organisers was to establish a state-of-the-art on several aspects of the Mediterranean and neighbouring Pliocene (Portugal and SW Spain), especially those related to the paleontology and biostratigraphy. Seventeen invited speakers from Spain, France, Italy, Portugal gave a vision of their fields of research. The presence of several members of the Executive Board on this event propitiates some informal meetings devoted to forthcoming activities.

C) Furthermore, a working group under the theme "Evolution of the Mediterranean-Atlantic connections during the late Miocene" (chairman: Wout Krijgsman) has been formally constituted. It is participated by both European and Moroccan researchers and a first main goal of the group is to carry out a drilling covering the Tortonian-Messinian limit in Morocco.

### **Forthcoming events**

Some activities are being planned for 2002:

A) A joint Workshop RCMNS-EEDEN under the theme "Paleogeography, Paleoenvironment and Paleoclimatic changes in geologic history" will take place in Bratislava (Slovak Republic) on June 5-7, organised by Mikal Kovacs.

B) An Interim Colloquium on several aspects related to Middle Miocene events will be held in Parma (Italy), organised by Silvia Iaccarino.

C) A second Interim Colloquium under the tentative title "Paleogeographic evolution of the Western Mediterranean during the Mio-Pliocene" is being planned to be held in Estepona (Malaga, Spain) on September 2002, organised by researchers of Granada University.

Sabadell-Barcelona, Spain  
November 2001