Report on Activities of ISRM Asian National Groups (Sept 2013- Sept 2014)
Yingxin Zhou, Vice President for Asia

Highlights
Membership in Asia grew another 10%, from 1943 to 2014 based on membership reports from the Asian National Groups. China NG became the first NG to have more than ISRM 1,000 members. Asia has a total of 55 Corporate Members, mainly from Japan and China, representing about 40% of the total corporate membership in the ISRM. New Vietnam NG organised the first ISRM Training Course with more than 200 participants. Nepal set up a new Nepal Society for Rock Mechanics to replace the non-active Nepalese Geotechnical Society. ARMS 8 is set to be the largest in the ARMS series of symposia. India NG submitted a proposal to host the ISRM 2019 Congress. Indonesia NG submitted a proposal to host the ISRM 2016 international symposium. Singapore NG organised the first seminar on Eurocode 7 outside EU.

The 9th Asian Rock Mechanics Symposium (ARMS9) will be held on 16-20 October 2016, at the Sheraton Bali Kuta Resort, in Bali, Indonesia.

Membership in Asia
Membership increased by 195, or 10% over 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Corporate Members</th>
<th>Individual Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Middle East Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>355</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
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<td>152</td>
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<td>Iran</td>
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<td>335</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

China

India

Indonesia
Main activities include: preparation for the 9th Asian Rock Mechanics Symposium (ARMS9) to be held 16-20 October 2014, in Bali; and preparation for the 3rd National Seminar and Workshop on Geomechanics to be held in February 2015 in Jakarta, which will be co-hosted by Indonesia NG and a number of universities in Indonesia.

Iran
Main activities include: The 5th Iranian Rock Mechanics Conference (IRMC5) held in May 2014 at Tarbiat Modares University in Tehran, with about 300 participants. Iran NG also established Kerman city Branch of IRSRM in conjunction with Kerman University.

Israel
The Israel NG facilitated the development of a new academic programme for a double-track degree in structural engineering and geology. This programme was developed in support of the increasing need for engineers in infrastructure development, with a special emphasis in tunnelling.
Japan
Main activities include: preparation of the 8th Asian Rock Mechanics Symposium; The 6th International Symposium on In-Situ Rock Stress, which is ISRM Specialized Conference, was held in Sendai International Center, Sendai; The 50th anniversary ceremony, forum and party of JCRM in June 2014; News letters (Nos. 108 - 110) have been published and distributed to the Japanese members. Rock Net mail (Nos. 417 - 467) have been distributed to Japanese members and other recipients. "Rock Mechanics '12 (CD-ROM)”, which includes all publications on Rock Mechanics in Japan in 2012, was published and distributed to the Japanese members. The International Journal of JCRM Vol.9 No.1 and Vol.10 No.1 have been published in the website [https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/ijjcrm](https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/ijjcrm).

Korea
Main activities include: the International Workshop on Fracturing Geomechanics in June 2014 in Seoul; Two national symposia, the Fall meeting 2013 held in Inha University, Incheon in October 2013, and the Spring meeting 2014 in Seoul National University, Seoul in March 2014; Publication of the bi-monthly 'Journal of Korean Society for Rock Mechanics (Tunnel and Underground Space)' and bi-monthly electronic newsletter, ‘U-Space’.

Middle East
No report of other activities.

Nepal
A new society for Nepal Society for Rock Mechanics was set up to replace the existing Nepalese Geotechnical Society which has been inactive for several years.

Singapore

Southeast Asia
No report was submitted from Southeast Asia

Vietnam
Main activities include: ISRM training course “Fundamentals of Rock Mechanics and Design of Rock Engineering”, held in Feb 2014, in Hanoi, with more than 200 attendees; and planning for International Workshop on Rock Mechanics for Sustainable Development in March 2015 in Hanoi.