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August 3, 2007

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Dear Dr. Cavarretta,

I am writing to express my appreciation for the excellent work done by Italian scientists, coordinated by the Italian Geological Survey, in developing ESI 2007 (**Intensity scale ESI 2007**). This document, authored by A.M. Michetti, E. Esposito, L. Guerrieri, S. Porfido, L. Serva, R. Tatevossian, E. Vittori, F. Audemard, T. Azuma, J. Clague, V. Comerci, A. Gürpınar, J. McCalpin, B. Mohammadioun, N.A. Mörner, Y. Ota, and E. Roghazin, is a major accomplishment of the INQUA Commission on Terrestrial Processes, Deposits and History (TERPRO) during the past four-year INQUA inter-congress period. The research summarized in ESI 2007 helps improve our understanding of regional earthquake histories and estimating future hazards and risk. I should add that ESI 2007 was approved by INQUA during the XVII Congress, which has just concluded in Cairns, Australia.

John J. Clague
President, INQUA

cc. Dr. Ennio Marsella