International geothermal Association (IGA)

Activities' Report - Year 2017

Delegate/Adele Manzella

1. Introduction

CNR has participated to IGA since its foundation, and played an active role for decades. IGA is a unique international association in the field of geothermal energy, and an ideal place for networking, being IGA in contact with all the main geothermal realities around the globe. The IGA Secretariat is based in Germany, and CNR collaborate with it in the frame of a European H2020 project.

Although CNR did not participate directly to the Board for various years, being mostly busy with international activities based in Europe, the link to IGA is still very strong, and collaboration mainly takes form of scientific collaboration in themes launched and organized by IGA

2. Main activities carried on by IGA during 2017 relevant for Italy and for CNR

Global informative activities regarding geothermal energy, including definition of protocols for classification and definition of geothermal potential, also taking into account what have been proposed in technical papers from CNR.

3. Activities carried on by Adele Manzella within IGA during 2017 and impact on the Italian scientific community

Collaboration for promotion and information of both technical and non-technical aspects of geothermal energy. Software update (in collaboration with a colleague) of the global geothermal production database, which has been organized and is managed by CNR-IGG and linked to the IGA website.

4. Evaluation of the participation in terms of benefits and membership cost

The participation is strategic in the networking activity, which, in turn, provides important channels for information, promotion and lobbying of geothermal energy, in Europe and in the World.

5. Evaluation of Italians' attendance and how to improve interest and involvement

The collaboration, at the moment, is active but scarce.

In the last years no funds were available for the active participation to the IGA Board, covering travel expenses. Considering that Adele Manzella is now President of the Italian Geothermal Union, which is a (very active) associate to IGA, the opportunities for collaboration will be surely strengthened. It would help to have the opportunity for funding travel expenses for international activities associated to IGA initiatives. This would pave the road to a renewed direct participation of CNR to the IGA Board and its Committees. Financial, organizational and information support on this regard would be helpful.

What hinders a stricter collaboration with IGA, however, is the lack of time: the geothermal team of CNR works essentially thanks to European funds, which leave little time for information and promotion activities. Moreover, these latter activities would require a more specific expertise, actually lacking in the team. A support on this aspect, not only financial but also in training and networking, would be very useful and welcome.

6. Italian experts with important roles within IGA or within related Commissions and Programs (if known)

Prof. Bruno della Vedova (University of Trieste) is members of the IGA Board and IGA Secretary

Prof. Massimo Verdoya (University of Genova) is members of the IGA Board

7. If IGA with CNR Commission, short summary about the 2017 CNR Commission activities

NA

8. Notes (if any)

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9. Conclusions

The participation of CNR to IGA underlines the important role played by CNR in the geothermal international scenario. A strengthening of collaboration, to guarantee again the direct participation of CNR in the daily activity of IGA, would further empower the capacity of the CNR geothermal team to take an active role in research coordination at international level.

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