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20 September 2021

**Subject: Note from the IUGS and the IGC on the 36th International Geological Congress (IGC)**

Dear Members & Colleagues,

The IUGS has supported the IGC in its commitment to refund the registration fees for the event. These are fees paid towards registration received by 36th IGC and not the third party payments for hotels and travel.

As of the 3rd September 2021, out of 3282 total registration, 2726 refunds have been processed.

Out of the remaining 540, details of 374 delegates are not available. Individual emails are being sent where possible to follow up on these cases.

We note the following:

- a. 36 IGC received the registration fees through several channels - banking and non-banking routes, e-transfers, online deposits, cheques and etc.
- b. A considered decision was taken by LOC of 36 IGC to refund the registration fees through the banking channel only and more so through the Nationalised Bank - the State Bank of India, where all the received amounts have been deposited and maintained in a distinct account.
- c. A multi-tier process entailing reconciliation of account details is being undertaken by 36 IGC Secretariat before the same is submitted to the Forex Division of State Bank of India for remittance.
- d. As part of the process, SBI also does the diligence and in some cases they return the submissions owing to mismatch of the data.
- e. All this process has been built to safeguard the interest of the individuals and 36 IGC Secretariat.

We hope that registrants appreciate the due diligence process and bear with us for the delay, which has been primarily due to the ongoing pandemic and associated constraints of shutdowns & lockdowns.

Please note that the IGC and IUGS will make a last push to receive details from the remaining registrants, but that as of **31st October, 2021 will consider that the processes is over**; the IGC will continue to reimburse based on information in hand if not already completed.

Your sincerely

Professor John Ludden CBE

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