

Candidate for IUGS Executive Committee

Position: President

Name: Hassina Mouri

Affiliation: University of Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa

Nominating Organization:

National Research Foundation, Republic of South Africa



Biography:

I hold a full Professor position at the Geology Department, University of Johannesburg, South Africa, and a UNESCO Chair in Medical Geology.

After completing my undergraduate degree in Geology (University of Science and Technology, Algeria) with distinction in 1990, and my postgraduate studies in Metamorphic Geology (University Paris 7 and Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, France) with distinction in 1995, I joined the University of Helsinki, the Geological Survey of Finland, and University of Minnesota (USA) to conduct research on high-grade metamorphic rocks. Driven by a strong desire to contribute to research and development in Africa, I returned in 2000 to take up a senior lecturer position in Metamorphic Geology at the University of Pretoria, then at the University of Johannesburg in 2008 as the first female PhD academic in Geology in both Departments. My forward-thinking approach led me in 2013 to develop Medical Geology in Africa, aiming at training a younger generation of African students to understand the intricate relationships between geo-environment and health, thus enhancing community well-being and aligning with the UN SDGs. The University of Johannesburg quickly became Africa's foremost destination for postgraduate training in this field, hosting students from across the continent and collaborating with several international experts.

My relentless efforts to bridge the gap between geoscience and public health gained international recognition through invitations as keynote speaker at several prestigious conferences.

My leadership and contribution to the field of geoscience have earned prestigious appointments, including Secretary General of the Geological Society of Africa, Chair of the 23rd Colloquium of African Geology Organizing Committee (first African

female in both roles), Councillor in the International Medical Geology Association and IUGS, Chair of the South African IUGS/IGCP Committee, IGCP Council member, and IUGS Vice President. My research excellence has been recognised through numerous awards, including the African-European Union Regional Women in Science Award, the University of Johannesburg's Dux Award for Executive Leadership, the prestigious B-rating from the National Research Foundation, the UNESCO Chair in Medical Geology in Africa, and the international Hypatia Award.

My multilingual skills (Berber, Arabic, French, and English) have been instrumental in fostering collaboration and understanding among diverse communities.

Statement:

My deep understanding of global geological challenges, gained from studying and working across three continents for more than 30 years, coupled with extensive international collaboration networks providing innovative and up-to-date approaches, make me well-suited for leading IUGS effectively. Furthermore, serving the Union in various unofficial and official roles since 2008, and my strong commitment to its mission and awareness of its challenges, are an asset to the role of President. As a candidate for this position, I vow to prioritise ethics and integrity in serving the global geoscience community. Collaborating closely with the Executive Committee members, I will strive to achieve the objectives of both the IUGS and the International Science Council. Building upon the accomplishments of past executives, I am determined to inspire future generations of geoscientists, fostering a strong and thriving geoscience community to serve the needs of society on all continents.