



36th International Geological Congress
An Autonomous Body under Government of India

New Delhi
26 September 2020

Dear Prof. Cheng,
President IUGS

And the entire Geoscientific Fraternity of 36th IGC

Warm Greetings from 36th IGC!

At the outset, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to the EC of IUGS for its valuable support to the 36th IGC at this critical juncture when the Covid-19 pandemic has cast numerous uncertainties across the economies and also over the fate of several international conferences including the 36th IGC.

2. As you would appreciate, the notified refund policy was hosted in the 36th IGC website and requests were sought from the registered delegates. However, owing to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic functioning of the 36th IGC secretariat was seriously constrained. The continuation of the lockdown, the severity of restrictions on the manpower engagement and the complexities of the process have majorly affected our endeavor. We deeply regret the inconvenience caused to the delegates due to the delay in refund.

3. We assure to our esteemed delegates that their remittances are completely safe and we are committed to honor the refund. Though the refund process initiated in August 2020; we paused to rectify the notified refund policy.

4. The extant notified refund policy does not include the registration fees collected during submission of the abstracts. Further, the notified refund policy also entails that all the charges (foreign currency conversion charges during remittance and refund, bank transaction charges during refund, applicable taxes etc.) are to be borne by the delegates.

5. Therefore, having reviewed the extant policy we are glad to inform that appropriate authority has now taken the decision that all the applicable charges will be borne by 36th IGC and the delegates will be refunded the exact amount that they have remitted during submission of abstract, if any and during the individual registration process.

6. Having resolved this issue, we are going to resume the refund process from the week starting from 28 September, 2020. Since we have received a significant no. of requests seeking refund and we need to comply the statutory guidelines to remit the refund through the nationalized bank i.e. State Bank of India payment gateway we foresee that the process will possibly be completed by 7th Oct'2020. We earnestly request all the delegates to kindly bear with us during these trying times.



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7. Having taken note of the concerns raised by the esteemed EC members of IUGS regarding feasibility of holding the 36th IGC during August 2021, we propose to study the modalities adopted by several other scientific conferences which have also been seriously impacted and revisit the extant structure of 36th IGC. Accordingly, a detailed presentation would be made to the EC of IUGS regarding the restructured program along with technical sessions and associated events. We strongly believe that the emergent scenario in the times to come will offer more clarity with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic, and we will be able to host the 36th IGC during the rescheduled dates i.e. August 2021.

8. While we are assiduously working towards honoring all our commitments, we would once again place on record our sincere thanks to all the delegates as well as the esteemed members of EC of the IUGS for their unstinted support to us in our long and eventful journey.

We reiterate that we stand firmly resolute in our determination to organize the 36th IGC in the most befitting form under the new normal circumstances of COVID 19 pandemic.

With best wishes for every members of this geoscientific fraternity of 36th IGC to stay safe & stay healthy;

Dr. V.P. Dimri
President, 36th IGC

Dr. Ranjit Rath
Secretary general, 36th IGC