Warsaw, March 20, 2020

IGCP Polish National Committee

Annual Report for 2019

For various reasons IGCP in Poland remained on a stand-by for several years. In 2018 an initiative was undertaken to revitalize this important scientific program, and as a result in May 2019 Committee for Earth Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences, IGCP governing body in Poland, decided to appoint Prof. Piotr Krzywiec (Institute of Geological Sciences, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland) as a Chairman and Dr Michal Krobicki (Faculty of Geology, Geophysics and Environmental Protection, AGH University of Science & Technology, Krakow, Poland) as a Secretary. They both have their personal experience with IGCP: Prof. Krzywiec has been recently involved in IGCP 648 project “Supercontinent Cycles & Global Geodynamics”, and is currently participating in discussions regarding new IGCP project focused on SE Asia. Dr Krobicki is IGCP veteran as he has been an active participant of IGCP projects since early 1990'. Recently, he organized in Poland very successful meeting of IGCP 589 project “Development of the Asian Tethyan Realm: Genesis, Process and Outcomes”.

Following this appointment a plan of action was devised so benefits of the IGCP could be presented to a wider geological community in Poland. This plan, scheduled mostly for 2020, included presentations at key universities with Earth sciences departments / faculties, and construction of new web page devoted to IGCP.

Key activity scheduled for 2019 was preparation of proposal for new IGCP project entitled “Western Tethys meets Eastern Tethys – geodynamical, paleoceanographical and paleobiogeographical events”, under guidance of Dr Krobicki and participation of numerous scientists from several countries from Europe and Asia. This new project is focused on the comparison between the Western and Eastern parts of the Tethys Ocean during its evolution from Carboniferous to Cretaceous, with primary focus on Permian-Jurassic history.
Three main research areas will be covered:

i. geodynamic reconstruction of the Tethyan Realm

ii. reconstruction of paleoceanographic conditions in the transition zone between Western and Eastern Tethys, including changes of oceanic circulations that took place after main geodynamic events such as Pangea break-up etc.

iii. paleobiogeographic patterns of distribution/migration of fauna and flora.

This proposal, despite several challenges, has been prepared and submitted as planned, and is now awaiting final decision regarding its acceptance.

Prof Piotr Krzywiec
Chairman
IGCP Polish National Committee