



UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
UNESCO Global Geoparks Council
4th Session, 31st August – 2nd September 2019, Gili Trawangan Island, Rinjani-Lombok
UNESCO Global Geopark, Indonesia.

REPORT

In accordance with the Statutes of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (Article 2, paragraph 2.7 and 2.10), the present document represents the report prepared by the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council to the Bureau on its decisions to be circulated to Member States and Associate Member States of UNESCO.

- i- The 4th session of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council (hereafter referred to as UGGpC) of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP) was held in Lombok, Vila Ombak Hotel, Gili Trawangan, Indonesia, from 31st August to 2nd September 2019.
- ii- A total of 54 participants including 12 members of the UGGpC and 39 observers attended this UGGpC session. Council members present (voting): Enas ABD ELHADY AHMED, Asfawossen ASRAT, Melanie BORDER, Helga CHULEPIN, Soo Jae LEE, Kirstin LEMON, Guy MARTINI, Ana RUIZ, Martina PASKOVA, Kristin RANGNES, Mahito WATANABE, Jianping ZHANG.

Other members present (non-voting) were, Kristof VANDENBERGHE (representative of UNESCO), Benjamin van Wyk de Vries (representative of IUGS - International Union of Geological Sciences), Nickolas ZOUROS (representative of GGN - Global Geoparks Network).

iii- Apologies for Absence: Tim BADMAN (IUCN).

iv- The following observers were present:

UNESCO: Ozlem ADIYAMAN (UNESCO HQ), Janice SEQUEIRA (UNESCO HQ), Hans Thulstrup (UNESCO Jakarta Office), Ai SUGIURA (UNESCO Jakarta Office), Lan Huong Tran (UNESCO Jakarta Office).

Asia Pacific Geoparks Network (APGN:) Dita Pabrianti.

Canada: Amanda McCallum (Discovery Aspiring UGGp), John Norman (Discovery Aspiring UGGp).

Germany: Maxine Syren (German Commission for UNESCO).

Indonesia: Yunus Kusumabrata (Ministry of Tourism); Endah Ruswanti (Kemenpar); Iryanti (KNUI); Sulastri (KNIU); Sukarna (KNIU); Rante Sapna (KNIU); Chairul Mahsul (Rinjani-Lombok UNESCO Global Geopark); Firmansyah (Rinjani-Lombok UNESCO Global Geopark); Meliawati (Rinjani-Lombok UNESCO Global Geopark); Aznir Malwon; Muya Resana; Indira Ni Tua; Yusuf Anha.

Japan: Marekazu Ohno (National Commission for UNESCO, Japan Geopark Committee), Kana Furusawa (Secretariat of the Japan Geopark Committee).

Portugal: Emanuel de Castro (Coordinator Estrela Aspiring Geopark), Gisela Firmino (Estrela Aspiring Geopark Association)

Republic of Korea: WooWeon Lee (Director, Nature Park Division – Ministry of Environment), Eungcheol Kim (Deputy Director, MOE), Wansang Ryu (Principal Researcher - NGS), Kyeongdon Ju (Manager - KNPS), Jongseok Yeom (Manger, KNPS), Sungnam Park, Deputy Mayor, Hantangang River Aspiring Geopark (HRAG), Kyesam Lee (Deputy Mayor, Pocheon City), Misook Yoon (Academic Team Leader HRAG), Woosang Lim (Administrative Team Leader, HRAG).

Russian Federation: Larisa Belan (Yangan Tau Aspiring Geopark), Alfred Akbashev (Yangan Tau Aspiring Geopark).

Spain: Mónica Ruiz Bustos (UNESCO National Commission).

I. Opening by Chairperson of the UGGpC

1. Guy Martini, Chairperson of the UGGpC officially opened the meeting welcoming the observers from Canada, Germany, Japan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Federation of Russia and Spain and UNESCO offices all around the world. He went on to thank the UNESCO/UGGp Secretariat team and the Council members for their huge contribution and extensive work over the last year. The Chairperson invited the UGGpC members to introduce themselves and then summarized the work that had been undertaken during the past year, including the preparation of the Council session. It was noted that a lot had been achieved including the formulation of new documents, such as the working procedures for Evaluation Missions and UGGp Checklist.

II. Opening remarks from representatives of UNESCO, GGN, IUGS and IUCN

- a. UNESCO:
- b. GGN:
- c. IUGS:
- d. Rinjani-Lombok UGGp:

III. Adoption of the agenda and timetable

The agenda and timetable were unanimously agreed by the Council.

IV. Agreement for future working documents and procedures of the Council

i. New proposed UGGp Checklist

Having extensively reviewed the items within the UGGp ‘checklist’ the UGGpC decided that the following questions would need further discussion and refinement: Q7, Q8, Q31, Q33, Q35, Q62, Q94 & Q97.

Proposed Q7: *Is there comparable geology at another UGGp located within your country? Or close by?*

- The issue of comparable geology being located close by to an aUGGp was discussed, with the UGGpC agreeing that Q7 needed further clarification to ensure better understanding. After further discussion, it was decided that Q7 should be revised to read ‘Is there comparable geology at another UGGp located within your country? **Or those countries you share a border with?**’ The notion of comparable geology needed to be considered by aspiring UGGp and application dossiers should include a comparative geological analysis if related geology was located within close proximity of the aUGGp. The revision to Q7 was accepted unanimously.

Proposed Q8: *If yes, have you carried out an independent geological study demonstrating the geological difference (and complementarity) between your aUGGp and the(se) other territory(ies)?*

- It was agreed unanimously by the UGGpC that additional guidance should be provided to aUGGps within the explanatory notes to further define the requirements of a comparative geological study.

Proposed Q31: *Is the presentation text displayed in your Information Centre or Museum etc. available in English?*

Proposed Q33: *Is your website available in English?*

Proposed Q35: *Do you have leaflets, publications, etc. presenting your aUGGp in English?*

- Q31, Q33 & Q35 were discussed together since they are all related to the need for English translation within a UGGp. After an extensive discussion, it was concluded that the working language of the UGGps was English with a requirement that all new applications, evaluations and revalidations are submitted in English. It was decided English translation was therefore a minimum requirement as well as other relevant international languages. It was agreed that additional guidance should be provided to aUGGps within the explanatory notes to clarify this requirement. This proposal was agreed unanimously.

Proposed Q62: *Are the local decision-makers (mayor, regional/provincial governments) represented within the management body?*

- The colour criteria relating to Q62 was extensively discussed. Based on the operational guideline Section 3 (v), Ms Ruiz felt that ‘local decision-making involvement’ was a recommendation rather than a directive, and as such, the colour criteria should be revised to Green/Yellow. After extensive discussion it was agreed that ‘decision making’ was a key feature of the ‘bottom-up approach’ and that the Green/Red attributes should be retained; however, it was decided that Q62 should be revised to read **‘Are local decision-makers represented within the decision-making process of your Geopark’**.
- The revised wording for Q62 and the Green/Red criteria were agreed with a divided result: 11 in agreement and 1 vote against.

Proposed Q94: *Has a member of your aUGGp Team undertaken an UGGp intensive course or training supported by UNESCO/GGN.*

- After discussion it was agreed that the colour criteria for Q94 should be changed to Green/Yellow as some countries were less able to access international training courses. This colour changes was agreed unanimously.

Proposed Q97: *Is geological material on sale close by or inside the aUGGp sites?*

- It was agreed that the designation ‘geological materials’ should be clarified. It was decided that Q97 be revised and the wording changed to align with operational guidelines Section 3 (vii) to read **‘Are fossils, minerals, polished rocks and ornamental rocks of the type normally found in so-called “rockshops” on sale close by or inside the aUGGp sites?’** This revision was agreed unanimously by the Council.

Next Steps:

After lengthy discussion regarding the number of red/yellow boxes within the 'checklist' that were used to estimate aUGGp preparation levels, the debate was concluded by the Chairperson proposing that all changes to the 'checklist' should be adopted with the caveat that the number of red boxes denoting potential rejection should be increased to **two** and the number of yellow boxes indicating weakness be increased to **fifteen**.

The Council voted on whether to incorporate all revisions into the 'checklist' document. The vote was: 11 members in agreement and 1 vote against. Ms Ruiz requested her comments were minuted explaining that she felt the 'checklist' to be a useful tool, but felt that the document needed more reflection and consideration. In her view, several red boxes should be yellow, as to align it better with the strict interpretation of the statutes and operational guidelines. She also felt that the boxes triggering potential rejection was too strict.

It was agreed that the explanatory note for the 'checklist' would be drafted and agreed by the UGGpC within 2 months of the Council Meeting. Decision of final document will be taken by a UGGpC electronic vote.

The Chairperson explained that the 'checklist' would also be adapted for Revalidation assessments and further developed over the coming year, with a draft being reviewed and present for approval at the 2020 Council Meeting.

The German Delegation asked how the 'checklist' would be used. The Chairperson and other Council Members explained that the 'checklist' in its current form would be used as a self-assessment tool by aUGGps to review and gauge their progress against the UGGp core criteria. The Chairperson made it clear that the document would not be incorporated into the UGGp application dossier.

The delegate from Spain congratulated the Council on the development of the 'checklist' and suggested that the document should be seen as 'work in progress' as it needed to evolve to ensure consistency with the operational guidelines. This was confirmed by the Chairperson.

ii. Rules and Procedures for Observers to the UGGp Council

Having considered the “Rules of Procedure” document at length, the UGGpC decided that the following 8 articles should be discussed and reviewed:

Rule 1 Proposal: - *To avoid any possible conflict of interest, members of the UGGpC should not be directly involved in evaluation or revalidation missions during their term of office.*

- Most of the UGGpC members felt that their declaration of ‘conflict of interest’ and non-participation in Council decision-making assured impartiality. The majority of the Council voted to ‘reject’ this procedural modification. The vote was: 11 members in agreement and 1 vote against. Mr. Vandenberghe explained that UNESCO did not share the same vision as the Council. He further explained that as the current pool of Evaluators was very small, Council expertise was needed to be called upon. However, as more evaluators were recruited, he hoped that this practice could be phased-out. It was proposed to amend Article 10.1 to reflect this circumstance and to evaluate the situation after 1 year.

Rule 2 Proposal: - *Observers may be admitted to attend the sessions of the Council and its Bureau, upon written request to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat via the appropriate country representations, i.e., National Commissions and/or Permanent Delegations.*

- After extensive discussion, it was agreed that the statement should be amended to read ‘Observers **will be** admitted to attend the sessions of the Council and its Bureau’. The revision to Rule 2 was accepted unanimously.

Rule 8.4: Proposal: - *Observers can speak in the Council meeting only when explicitly invited by the Chairperson, within the allowed time for their input, and in response to specific questions posed.*

Rule 8.5 Proposal: - *Observers may be invited by the Chairperson to present their views after the Council has presented its decision concerning areas regarding evaluation/revalidation. The presentation shall be limited to clarification or an update on the areas. After this permitted time, the observer may be allowed to take the floor again, but only in order to answer questions, that have been asked, within a limited time.*

- The Council discussed Rule 8.4 and 8.5 together since they both related to observers input and participation. Concerns were raised by the German and Spanish delegations regarding the limitation on observers speaking rights. Rule 8.4 was adopted and agreed unanimously without change. Rule 8.5 was amended to read, 'Observers **will be** invited by the Chairperson to present their views after the Council has presented its decision...' The UGGpC agreed to adopt the revision to Rule 8.5 unanimously.

Rule 10.1 Proposal: - *As indicated in Rule 1, UGGpC members are high profile experts strongly involved in UGGp's. Through their professional activities, they may have interaction with UGGp candidates or those about to be under revalidation. If, despite the arrangement foreseen in Rule 1, there is a conflict of interest, the UGGpC member who has any personal or professional relation with a UGGp candidate or any UGGp that just underwent revalidation must inform the Council of this relation and will have to leave the UGGpC deliberation room at the opening of the session related to the discussion of the relevant candidate or UNESCO Global Geopark. The member will not participate in the analysis or discussion of the UGGpC and will not be able to vote on the subject.*

- It was felt the understanding within Rule 10.1 was reflected in Rule 1 relating to 'conflict of interest' and this proposal was met by Council members when declaring their interest and withdrawing from Council sessions. Going forward it was agreed that Council members would look to separate themselves from Evaluation duties once the pool of evaluators had grown sufficiently in capacity. It was agreed to amend Rule 10.1 following the suggestion of the IUCN to '**.....will not be able to vote on the subject. To ensure due process, the UGGpC will seek, as far as possible, to avoid that the Council Members undertaking evaluation missions during their term of office.**' The Council agreed to evaluate the situation after 1 year.

Rule 12.2 Proposal: - *The Secretariat will send all the Information and Evaluation and Revalidation Reports to the Council Members at least 4 weeks before the Council Meeting for their adequate analysis for the voting discussions.*

- It was agreed to amend Rule 12.2 to read 'The Secretariat will **endeavour to** send all the Information and Evaluation and Revalidation Reports to Council Members at least 4 weeks

before the Council Meeting'; with the UGGp agreeing to adopt the revision to rule 8.5 unanimously.

Rule 13.1 Proposal: - *After each session, the UGGpC shall present a report drafted by the UNESCO Secretariat on its work and its decisions to the Bureau and the UNESCO Global Geoparks.*

- It was agreed to amend Rule 13.1 to read '**After the session the UNESCO Secretariat in collaboration with the UGGpC Bureau will present and draft the report for the UGGp Council**'. The UGGpC agreed unanimously to adopt the revision to Rule 13.1.

Rule 13.2 Proposal: *The report of the sessions of the Bureau will be circulated to the Council and to Member States and Associate Member States of UNESCO not later than 8 weeks after the Council session.*

- The eight-week report completion deadline was discussed and the UGGpC agreed to adopt the Rule 13.2 proposal unanimously.

New Rules for Inclusion in the Rules of Procedures

Two new rule proposals were discussed by the Council for inclusion in the 'Rules of Procedures' document.

New Rule 1 Proposal: - *Observer of a country will have to leave the room when the UGGpC will have to debate about a dossier from their country.*

- It was agreed after extensive discussion that it was unacceptable to ask Observers of a country to leave the room when their countries dossier was being discussed. It was agreed unanimously to reject this rule proposal for sake of transparency, and not include it within the Rules of Procedure. For the same reason, the proposal to have Observers sign a 'declaration of confidentiality' was also rejected.

New Rule 2 Proposal: - *The UNESCO Secretariat to publish the 'outcomes' of the Council decisions on the UNESCO website one week following the completion of the Council meeting.*

- To aid transparency the UGGpC agreed unanimously to include Rule 13.3 within the Rules of Procedure. The UNESCO Secretariat agrees to seek legal advice to ensure that the appropriate wording accompanying Council 'outcomes' was communicated to Geoparks and the public. Recognising that Council decision and 'outcomes' were subject to UNESCO Executive Board ratification and endorsement by the Executive Board session in April.

V. Discussion of the evaluation of new UNESCO Global Geopark applications

- i- As per Section 5.5 of the UNESCO Global Geopark Operational Guidelines, the UGGpC will recommend to accept an application, reject an application or defer it for a maximum of two years to allow for improvements to be made to the quality of the application. In the case of deferral, there is no need to repeat the field evaluation mission during this time.
- ii- In accordance with the Statutes of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme, Part B article 2.7, all extensions will follow the same procedure for endorsement as a new nomination, therefore, the extensions are dealt with under this chapter.
- iii- According to criteria (x) and (xi) of Section 5.6 of the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, should an existing UNESCO Global Geopark wish to change its size, provided that any change amounts to less than 10% of the existing area, then the Council may be informed about the change by a letter through the official channel as defined by the National Commission for UNESCO or the government body in charge of relations with UNESCO to the UNESCO Secretariat involving, if applicable, the National Geoparks Committee outlining the reasons for the change and outlining how the new area still fulfils the criteria for a UNESCO Global Geopark. The UGGpC can approve or reject the change. Should an existing UNESCO Global Geopark wish to change its size, but the proposed change amounts to more than 10% of the existing area, a new application must be made following the procedure described above. The following UNESCO Global Geoparks proposed to extend their existing area with more than 10% and consequently had to submit a new application - Kula-Salihli (Turkey). Applications of less than 10% (including one application requesting a reduction in size) - Stonehammer (Canada), Dunhuang

(China), Zhijindong Cave (China), Swabian Alb (Germany), Haute Provence (France) and Hațeg (Romania).

iv- Two UGGps have requested a name change.

v- The members of the UGGpC examined at its 4th meeting 14 candidatures for new UNESCO Global Geoparks and 6 extensions of existing UNESCO Global Geoparks.

1. Cliffs of Fundy (Canada): The international significance of the Cliffs of Fundy aspiring UGGp has long been established, and involves many areas of geological and indigenous heritage including: i) one of the world's foremost exposures of the Central Atlantic Magmatic Province, the largest outpouring of lava in Earth history attending the breakup of the supercontinent Pangea and implicated in the end-Triassic mass extinction event; ii) a textbook example of an ancient rift valley system; iii) a tectonic and structural nexus of Pangean assembly, expressed by the Cobequid-Chedabucto Fault and Minas Fault system, which constitutes the terrane boundary between Avalonia and Gondwana; iv) site of early dinosaurs mirrored in contemporaneous sites in Africa, China and South America; v) site of the earliest documented exploration for minerals by European explorers in the earliest Seventeenth century; vi) cultural centre of oral traditions and trade source, and oldest and best documented region of the indigenous peoples of northeastern North America; and vii) site of the highest tides on Earth, the Minas Basin of the Bay of Fundy. The landscape is diverse, with hills, mountains, valleys, heavily forested areas, and coastal marshlands. There are dense areas of biodiversity, with rare birds, fungi, and plants as well as wilderness areas and reserves. The extremes of the Nova Scotian Continental climate are moderated by the Bay of Fundy sea winds, resulting in cooler summers and warmer winters.

i- A conflict of interest was declared by Nickolas Zouros who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

ii- Positive reviews of geological heritage of international significance were received from the IUGS. But it was noted during the discussion that the phrase "the largest outpouring of lava in Earth history" is not correct and misleading and should be rephrased to "one of the largest outpouring of lava in Earth history".

iii- Following the review of the **Cliffs of Fundy (Canada)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii),

and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:

1. Further involvement and analysis in Climate Change are needed in the territory; findings should be incorporated into educational activities.
2. Strengthen partnerships and the involvement of the local indigenous community engaging them in decision making and using their indigenous knowledge in interpretation and other geoparks activities.
3. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.
4. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European, or GEO-LAC Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
5. Creation of a geological conservation committee: The Geological Conservation Committee should work in collaboration with the Geopark Management Body and should include all public entities responsible for nature protection within the Geopark territory. The Geological Conservation Committee should discuss, decide and implement all the necessary measures for the enhancement and protection of geological heritage.
6. Encourage new commercial activities within the Geopark territory (i.e., helicopter flights, boat trips, etc.) and consider the development of specific guided tours during low tide period.
7. Implement training programmes for guides, tour operators and partners, etc.
8. Consider the potential of opening new public sites related to the observation of high tides and update tourist maps for visitors detailing all sites, facilities and partnerships.
9. Develop a marketing plan that defines the global concept for the territory, ensuring inclusion of added value concepts such as “The highest tides on Earth”.
10. Coordinate educational activities offered by partners and promote these activities under the Geopark brand. Consider including topics related to the rise of sea-level into educational programmes at the Geopark.
11. After possible endorsement of the UNESCO Executive Board, the Management Body should make all necessary efforts to check the Geopark limits. Several questions and possibilities should be considered and analysed:

- Possible future integration of sites related to the highest tides on Earth;
- Possible integration of the most vulnerable coastal area in the world (according to UN report) facing threat from climate change and related sea-level rise hazard (Fort Lawrence area);
- Possible integration of the Carboniferous forest (Joggins Cliffs UNESCO World Heritage Site);
- Consider the possible integration of Truro City in order to establish a new visitor centre and main entrance for the Geopark.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

2. Discovery (Canada): Discovery Aspiring UGGp is located in Newfoundland Labrador, eastern Canada, on the upper half of the Bonavista Peninsula. The aspiring UGGp covers over 280 km of rugged coastline and spans a surface area of 1150 km². The Geopark lies within the Avalon Terrane of the Appalachian Orogen. The geology is dominated by a complex assemblage of Neoproterozoic sedimentary, volcanic and plutonic rocks; overlain by Cambrian sedimentary rocks of a shallow-water setting. The Geopark preserves a dramatic transition in Earth history, from Ediacaran to early Cambrian periods. The area contains internationally significant, exceptionally preserved examples of Ediacaran biota. With over 20 taxa present, these enigmatic fossils record the oldest architecturally-complex multicellular lifeforms, providing a window to study the preface to the Cambrian Explosion. Individual specimens, such as that of *Haootia quadriformis*, show key biotic developments – in this case the earliest animal possessing fossilized evidence for muscles. The Geopark showcases the enduring impact of glaciation and climate change on the landscape—the sculpting of rocks in the last ice age; from signs of rising sea level more than 500 Ma to raised beaches formed just 10,000 years ago as glaciers retreated.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Nickolas Zouros who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Mostly positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
- iii- Following the review of the **Discovery (Canada)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (v) and (vii)(Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO

Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:

1. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Consider the installation of directional road panels to facilitate site access to the main entrance, for various trails, geological sites, etc.
 - Consider the possibility of creating a new Geopark visitor centre to provide extensive Geopark information and establish clear partner networks to support visitor programmes.
2. Strengthen educational activities within the Geopark.
3. Develop and strengthen strategies for sustainable tourism.
4. Collect the records of flooding natural hazards and share them locally and globally to facilitate action towards mitigation, promoting awareness through Geopark activities.
5. Enhance the vision toward delivering the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
6. Retain and manage professionally in collaboration with other research institutions or museums an inventory of all fossils and casts developed from areas within the aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark. An inventory of all other heritage (i.e. natural biotic, cultural and intangible) should be developed and managed by the Geopark. Interpretation including the links between geology and the other heritages should be developed and provided to visitors.
 - International cooperation should be strengthened by sharing the experience of sustainable development with other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
 - The management plan should be implemented fully as a priority. Further steps should be taken to ensure financial security.
 - Inventory of intangible heritage should be developed and managed by the aUGGp.
 - Interpreters and guides should be trained in geosciences.
7. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European, or GEO-LAC Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks (with a special focus on sustainable development techniques and strategies).

Acceptance voted unanimously.

3. **Xiangxi (China):** Xiangxi Aspiring UGGp, lies in the south-eastern fringe areas of Yangtze Platform in China and just next to South China Landmass, records the evolutionary history of the 820 million-year-old Yangtze Platform. It is a foreland basin that has been developed on

the basis of the Middle and Upper Yangtze Craton, and has undergone multiple stages of tectonic evolution. Its tectonic evolution and pattern were subject to the control of the extensional cracking of the Pan-South China Paleo-continent, as well as the intra-continental collision and compression of the North China Plate, and the Cathaysian Plate. The strata in the Late Jurassic, Mesozoic era were also affected by the subduction of the Pacific Plate, forming a series of curved and deep, large faults (e.g., the Fault Zone of Hubei-Hunan-Guizhou Lithosphere, Mayang-Lixian Deep Fault Zone), as well as strongly uplifted, folded mountain ranges (i.e., Sangzhi composite syncline, Wanyan-Siduping composite anticline). The geological relics with international significance in the geopark mainly include: Guzhangian Stage and Paibian Stage of GSSPs in the Cambrian system, the world's largest red stone forests of carbonate rocks, and the spectacular, plateau incision-type karst platform-canyon landscapes.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping Zhang and Mahito Watanabe who both left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- A positive report of the internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS.
- iii- Following the review of the **Xiangji (China)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:
 - 1. Incorporate simplified and easily understandable geological maps and illustrations showing the tectonic history of the area to enhance the visitors' understanding of the international significance of geological heritage.
 - 2. Develop an education strategy by working in partnership with other UGGps. Geopark teaching should occur in schools within the Geopark territory and the management should try to develop learning programmes and interactive tools for pupils.
 - 3. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people, etc. on vital links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
 - 4. Promote a more balanced overview of sites for tourists, by avoiding the overuse of karstic geological sites, increasing the attractiveness of other cultural, Global Standard Stratotype Section and Points (GSSP) and Cambrian geo-history related sites.

5. Improve geological site Conservation Committee management in collaboration with relevant ministries and volunteer organizations.
6. Consider making partnership certificates and signage available in several international languages.
7. Provide regular training of partners to ensure effective quality control of services.
8. Promote local products exploiting the geological and cultural heritage of the aUGGp.
9. Develop communication material to promote geology, human history, geography, and the evolution of indigenous culture using relevant research and expertise, ensuring the involvement of Geopark partners, local guides and people.
10. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

4. Zhangye (China): Zhangye Geopark is adjacent to the Alxa block to the north and to the south to the Middle Qilian block, belonging to the transitional zone of the Qilian Caledonian fold belt and the Alxa block. The unique geographical location and complex geological process have created rich and typical Geo-heritage in the Geopark, making Zhangye Geopark a collection of Nine-Spring ophiolite suite, Colorful hills, typical Danxia landforms in arid areas, middle and small structures, water erosion geomorphology etc. Among the Geo-heritage, the Nine-Springs ophiolite suite has always been a hot spot for Chinese and foreign geologists to investigate and study. It is the Early Paleozoic collision zone between North China plate and the Qaidam plate. Because the ophiolite suite is of international geological significance, it became one of the fieldtrip sites of the 30th International Geological Conference in 1996 and an important station of the "Australian-China Tectonics and Earth Resources Joint Center" field investigation route in 2018. Zhangye Colorful hills are characterized by monocline and monocline peaks due to tectonic movements, which are full of rhythm and layering and are of international geological significance. Binggou Danxia has developed windows-lattice and palace-style Danxia landforms in the arid area of northern China, often developing mud-emulsion, laminated and other micro-landforms.

- i. A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping Zhang who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

- ii. Some positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS; however, concerns were raised about the protection of geological sites.
- iii. Summary and Discussion: The IUGS report expressed concerns on the protection of geological sites, however the evaluation report showed that necessary measures were in place to ensure protection, as evidenced by the management plan.
- iv. Following the review of the **Zhangye (China)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii), (vi) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:
 1. Ensure the adapted conservation of the geological heritage sites of International value.
 2. Develop creative, simplified and less scientific narrative for geological sites opened to the public. The Geopark should check that an adapted English translation is also made available.
 3. Develop an education strategy by working in partnership with other UGGps. Geopark teaching should occur in schools within the Geopark territory and management should develop and deliver programmes and interactive tools for pupils.
 4. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, disaster risk reduction and tours.
 5. Develop and implement training programmes for guides, tour operators and partners, etc.
 6. Consider developing the existing 'Investigation Station at Jiugequan' into an international research centre in areas of ophiolite geology, high-mountain ecology and/or mountain tourism, to establish a niche in "scientific tourism".
 7. Improve the professional management of the Zhangye Geopark Museum, including collections, public education, temporary exhibits, etc.
 8. Improve the information provided on the tourism map, i.e., Green Corridor, Silk Road, site location, facilities, etc.
 9. Monitor visitor satisfaction through visitor's surveys and questionnaires, to ensure continual improvement.
 10. Integrate indigenous knowledge and intangible cultural heritage in respectful manner with the UGGp Management.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

5. Lauhanvuori-Haameenkangas (Finland): The area is located in Western Finland, in the southern part of the Suomenselkä watershed area and near the coast of the Bothnian Bay. The elevation level spans from 26 to 230 metres above sea level. Lauhanvuori is the highest hill in the area. Geology of the area consists of four distinct elements: the Palaeoproterozoic granitic bedrock, the Ediacaran sandstone remnant of Lauhanvuori, the Palaeozoic to Quaternary multi-layered sediment cover and the Holocene peatlands. These elements tell the story of development of the landscape from an Alpine type mountain range 1900 million years ago to the flat, mirecovered- peneplain of today. During the landscape development, the area has experienced climatic conditions from alpine to tropical, seafloor to desert, alternating glacial cover, iceless permafrost plain and glacial meltwater cover before reaching the current southern boreal conditions. The international significance of the area revolves around the Lauhanvuori inselberg. This sandstone formation originates from the last remnants of the Svecofennian mountain range, which was eroded, transported and deposited in a Precambrian sea and buried to form a hard quartz sandstone. The surrounding sedimentary cover has vanished, leaving Lauhanvuori as a rare remnant of a formerly extensive Ediacaran sandstone cover.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Kristin Rangnes who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Mostly positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
- iii- Following the review of the **Lauhanvuori-Haameenkangas (Finland)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria ((i), (iii), (vi) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:
 - 1. Consider improving the Geopark limits following the pre-existing boundary (for example Susiluola site).

2. Consider the possibility of creating a new Geopark visitor centre to provide extensive Geopark information; establishing clear partnership networks to support visitor programmes.
3. Improve research capability by strengthening partnership with local and foreign universities and research institutions.
4. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

6. Belitong (Indonesia): Belitong Geopark is a part of Bangka Belitung Province, located approximately 400 km to the North of Jakarta, the capital city of Indonesia and surrounded by Karimata Strait to the north, Java Sea to the east and south, and Gaspar Strait to the west. The world-class geological heritage in the Belitong Geopark is TOR granite landscape. The granite TOR formation is characterized by the remained massive granite which has the low joints portions appearing on the surface. The morphology parameter of the TOR granite associates with the sea environment. This environment can reflect the intrusion occurrence when the Belitung Island lies under the sea level. This formation can be found in the northwest Belitung Island throughout the coastal plains. Those TOR granite rock group formed the small islands which can be visited using boat. Those rocks can show the excellent rock shapes to attract the visitors to capture the picture. The significance geological feature of the Nam Salu primary tin deposit in Kelapa Kampit can be identified from the mineral and structure parameters. This site offers the underground adventure, education, history, and cultures to attract the tourists. The open pit ramp can be used for the education purpose whereby the visitors can trace the exposed rocks that capture the oldest rock on Belitung Island. The tekstites are very rare element which can necessary be recognized as the international geological significant heritage.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Guy Martini who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote., and the vice-chairperson Jianping Zhang took the chair for discussion

- ii- The findings for internationally significant geological heritage were weak as detailed in the IUGS report. It was noted that mining deposits information was missing, and deposits were not referenced.
- iii- Summary of discussion: The Council identified that the boundary map provided by Belitong aUGGp within their original application dossier did not comply with the Operational Guidelines, Section 3 (i), as the aUGGp territory did not represent a single unified area. This was the case for the map that was submitted within the application form, which had undergone the Intergovernmental check, as per article 5.4 of the Operational Guidelines, as well as for the map in the assessors' report. Consequently, the UGGpC voted and agreed to 'defer' application.

The next day in a statement to the UGGpC, the ministerial representative from Indonesia requested that the UGGpC reconsider the deferral of Belitong, providing Council members with a new map with revised boundaries. The Chairperson asked for everyone to respect operational guidelines and cited previous instances in which Geoparks had been deferred or rejected for similar boundary issues. As a result of the Council's deliberations, it was decided that the map issued in the form of a hardcopy to the UGGpC during the meeting could not be taken into consideration as it had not undergone an Intergovernmental check. The Council concluded unanimously to respect the Statutes and the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, agreeing that the Belitong aUGGp dossier remained 'Deferred'.

- i- Following the review of the **Belitong (Indonesia)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does not** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **defer** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for a maximum duration of two years.

The Belitong aUGGp should provide a progress report to be reconsidered for UGGp status. The report should include:

A clear map of the aUGGp including maritime parts. This map needs to be officially adopted by Indonesian administration and transmitted to UNESCO/UGGp Secretariat via official channels with the clearly specified evaluation of the terrestrial and marine parts.

The Council vote was divided: 10 deferred, and 1 reject.

7. Majella (Italy): The proposed Geopark corresponds to Majella National Park, which covers 740 km² in the central Apennines (Italy) comprises between other 2 national parks. It is made up predominantly of carbonate reliefs separated by valleys and karst plateaus and presents a wide altitudinal range (130–2793m a. s. l.). The aspiring UGGp is made mostly by fossil-bearing limestones, recording a long-lasting period of sedimentation in warm, shallow-marine environments: from 140 to 7 Ma ago the Majella Massif looked like the present-day Bahamas archipelago. The orogeny involved the platform during the Pliocene, taking Majella to be one of the youngest relief of the Apennines. Hence, a still active Quaternary normal fault system is responsible for the recent and historical seismicity of the area. The presence of other lithology's as gypsum and clays, representing a changing in the depositional system, and landforms resultant from the combination of karst, glacial and fluvial processes increase the geological diversity. The Majella hydrogeological system is one of the most prominent in Italy. The Geosites currently identified in the area are 95 (No. 22 are international), about a half are geomorphosites while around twenty have stratigraphic or structural-tectonic interest. The greater part of them have educational and/or geotouristic value, as the site of Capo di Fiume opened to the public in 2001. The first human presence, dating back to the Lower Paleolithic (600,000 years ago), makes Valle Giumentina one of the oldest archeo-geosite in Europe.

i- No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the UGGpC.

ii- A Generally positive report regarding internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS, although it was noted that the use of the wording the 'oldest human geological site' was incorrect and misleading.

iii- Following the review of the **Majella (Italy)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does not** fulfil the UGGp criteria (v) and (vi) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **defer** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for a maximum duration of two years with following recommendations:

1. An action plan, which covers geological heritage and participation within the aUGGp needs to be completed as soon as possible, Section 3 (v).

2. The management body must prioritise UNESCO Global Geopark Operational Guidelines whilst complying with the regulations and statutes for Italian National Parks.
3. Differentiate aUGGp activities from the National Park and ensure Majella aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark has visibility, a coherent Geopark brand identity including Geopark logo, designs and layout of all communication materials.
4. Strengthen partnerships and involvement with the local population and stakeholders involving them in decision making, Section 3 (v).
5. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.
6. Consider developing an inventory to safeguard Geopark endangered intangible heritage including local dialects, cultural uniqueness etc.
7. Develop links between geological heritage and the other territorial heritages (natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tour visits, etc.
8. Develop and implement training programmes for guides, tour operators and partners, etc.
9. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.
10. Strengthen involvement with Global Geoparks Network and European Geoparks Network, promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3 (vi).
11. Improve infrastructure and offer appropriate equipment and visitor access to sites.

The Council voted unanimously to 'defer' this application.

8. Hantangang River (Republic of Korea): The Geopark consists of Precambrian and Paleozoic metamorphic rocks, Jurassic and Cretaceous granites, Cretaceous volcanic rocks, Quaternary basalt, and various types of soil including soil layers during glacial periods. This region includes one of the major tectonic provinces, named the "Imjingang Belt", which resulted from the collision of the Sino-Korean and Yangtze cratons in the Paleozoic, and is regarded as the lateral extension of the Qinling-Dabie-Sulu Belt in eastern China, which is one of the major tectonic features in East Asia. The Late Quaternary Hantangang River Volcanic Field was formed when the intraplate volcanism activities were led by fissure-type eruptions. The basaltic lava ran through the paleo-channel for over 110 km, forming volcanic rocks. Later channels

began to develop on flat-topped volcanic landform by rejuvenation of the Hantangang River. The river displays a unique volcanic topography, created by the continuous fluvial erosion dissecting deep gorges in the flat plateau. Such geological evidence can be clearly found along the many geological sites. Columnar joints made up of basalt form steep cliffs, whereas areas formed by granites and metamorphic rocks show a typical V-shaped valley. A clear lithologically controlled fluvial erosion process between granite and basalt is also an additional distinctive feature. A comparison with other volcanic World Heritage Sites and Global Geoparks indicate that the volcanic landforms in this Geopark are outstanding worldwide in terms of being 'a volcanic landform with fluvial system', thus having high representativeness and rarity values.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Martina Paskova, Soojae Lee and Jianping Zhang who left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote.

- ii- One positive review and one negative of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.

- iii- Following the review of the **Hantangang River (Republic of Korea)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (v) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:
 - 1. Incorporate scientific research into the future Geopark action plan to clarify the geological heritage of international significance proposed for the Geopark.
 - 2. Explore the potential to integrate Quaternary volcanic activities and future territory extension to ensure geological coherence of the area.
 - 3. Integrate the current Geopark management structure to form a unified management body (the present Geopark management body which is composed of separate departments belonging to different government bodies); ensuring that it has an independent financial budget.
 - 4. Develop links between geological heritage and the other territorial heritages (natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tour visits, etc.
 - 5. Develop and implement training programmes for guides, tour operators and partners, etc.

6. Establish formal cooperation with the recently designated Yeoncheon Imjin River and Gangwon Eco-Peace UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve and work together to promote the territory.
7. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Consider the installation of directional road panels to facilitate site access to the main entrance and for various trails, geological sites, etc.
 - Develop a coherent Geopark brand identity including Geopark logo, designs and layout for all communication material.
 - Update tourist maps for visitors ensuring all sites, facilities, partners etc. are included.
 - Improve the use of English translation in all materials, guided tours, exhibitions etc.
8. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

The Council vote was divided: 4 'Accept', 3 'Defer', 2 'Abstained'. Hantangang River aUGGp was 'Accepted' by majority vote.

9. Bohol (Philippines): Bohol Island Geopark belongs to Region VII located at the central portion of the Philippines. Bohol's scenic landscape is testament to its geologic history as evidenced from its varied landforms and structural features. Examples are the famous Chocolate Hills, Loon-Maribojoc Geological Monument, Inabanga Rupture Site, Hinagdanan Cave in Dauis, Alicia Schist, Alicia Panoramic Park and Cagongcagong Cave System in Alicia, Baclayon Ancient Uplifted Marine Terraces, Can-umantad Falls and Canawa Cold Spring in Candijay, Trinidad Cave System, Lamanok Island and Cave Pools in Anda, and Danajon Bank, one of the 6 double barrier reefs in the world and the only barrier reef in Southeast Asia. Bohol also boasts of highly diverse flora and fauna due to its dynamic geologic and tectonic history. Presently, the local government prioritizes conserving its endemic species through protected areas such as Rajah Sikatuna Protected Landscape for the rainforest trees of the family Dipterocarpacea and animal sanctuaries such as the Philippine Tarsier and Wildlife Sanctuary. Just as the island has its rich biodiversity and highly diverse geologic features, its traditions and culture are proof of how its people adapted to its natural environment as seen from its only living intangible heritage, the Eskaya Tribe of Bohol in Taytay, Duero. The Boholanos' respect and pride in their heritage treasures are main driving force in its bid for recognition as a Global Geopark as it pursue learning and sharing experiences through its network.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Kristin Rangnes who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- A good report of internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS. It was suggested that the aUGGp should look to maximise its potential for ecotourism.
- iii- Summary and Discussion: On reviewing the dossier, the UGGpC identified that Bohol aUGGp did not comply with a number of operational guidelines
 - The Geopark territory did not represent a single unified territory, Section 3 (i).
 - The aUGGp appeared to lack local representation on its Management Body, Section 3 (v).
- iv- Following the review of the Bohol (Philippines) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does not** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i) and (v) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **defer** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for a maximum duration of two years with the following recommendations:

The Bohol aUGGp should provide a progress report to be reconsidered for UGGp status. The report should include:

1. A clear map of the aUGGp including maritime parts. This map needs to be officially adopted by the Philippine Administration and transmitted to UNESCO/UGGp Secretariat via official channels with a clearly specified evaluation of the terrestrial and marine aUGGp, Section 3 (i).
2. Evidence of Geopark visibility implementation:
 - Create and extend Geopark identity developing the logo, Geopark website, producing more information along with materials such as leaflets, tourist maps and information panels.
 - Working with Geopark partners, utilise existing facilities as Geopark Information Centre
 - Consider establishing a visitor centre in Tagbilaran (the main city) to provide extensive Geopark information whilst establishing clear partnership networks to support visitor programmes.

3. Develop the management structure and process to include local representatives and consider the establishment of a geoscientist post within the staffing structure. Representatives from the indigenous people (Eskaya) should participate in the management of the Geopark.
4. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
5. Coordinate educational activities offered by partners and promote these activities under the Geopark brand.

The Council voted unanimously to 'defer' for two years this application.

10. Granada (Spain): The proposed Geopark correspond with the valleys created by river erosion during the last half million years, as well as a large part of the Guadix-Baza basin and part of the mountains that enclose it. This all coincides with the administrative limits of the districts of Guadix, Baza and Huéscar (with the exception of their natural and national parks). The valleys in the north of Granada, the main protagonists of our Geopark, and which currently drain the territory towards the Atlantic Ocean, have been created by the fluvial erosion of the last half a million years. Between approximately 5 million years ago and 0.5 million years ago, this territory was without any drainage exit to the sea, which generated an extraordinary record of continental Quaternary continental sediments. The following Exorheic period has configured its current geomorphology, characterized by an impressively eroded landscape. The arid nature of the region's weather, with scarce vegetation on the valley slopes, favors observation of one of Continental Europe's best Quaternary records. These valleys with their spectacular Badlands expose the most wide-ranging and longest lasting group of paleontological deposits of Continental European quaternary vertebrates. In particular, large vertebrate deposits have been discovered in Early Pleistocene sediments, with more than 150 sites identified. The Granada Geopark also tell us about the history thanks to the messages left in rocks from the Mesozoic and Tertiary stages.

i- No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the UGGpC.

ii- There were many positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage that were received from the IUGS.

iii- Following the review of the **Granada (Spain)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii), (v), (vi) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:

1. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Consider the installation of directional road panels to facilitate site access to the main entrance and for various trails, geological sites etc.
 - Consider the possibility of creating a new Geopark visitor centre to provide extensive Geopark information whilst establishing clear partnership centered networks to support visitor programmes.
 - Improve bi-lingual information provided to visitors within the Geopark; focusing on English and Spanish translations.
2. Develop links between geological heritage and the other territorial heritages (natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tour visits, etc.
3. Improve visitor access to the Geopark site ensuring visitors safety.
4. Develop a Geopark branding in accordance with the two pre-existing territorial product brands (Sabor Granada and Altiplano de Granada) and consider the possibility of brand unification.
5. Improve educational activities and strategies to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

11. Maestrazgo (Spain): The aspiring UGGp is located in the eastern central region of the province of Teruel (Aragón, Spain) in the catchment of the Guadalupe River. With around 14,000 inhabitants, it has an extension of 2,622km². The area belongs to the Iberian Range, a dry mountain land characterized by hot summers and cold winters and with deeply incised valleys. Located within the Aragonese western branch of the Iberian Mountain Range (formed during the Alpine Orogeny), on the border with the Ebro depression and in the confluence zone with the Coastal-Catalan Chain. The aUGGp is characterized by a wide and varied number of Mesozoic and Cenozoic stratigraphic formations, both deposited in marine platform as well as in transitional and continental environments. The Maestrazgo presents a geological heritage of exception, which is patent through four Natural Monuments (Government of Aragon Natural Network) and 38 (of the 67 Geological sites that includes the current inventory

of the Maestrazgo Geopark) are in the Aragón Geological sites Inventory. Among a long list of paleontological sites -only in relation to dinosaurs there are 76 cataloged paleontological sites, 7 are declared Assets of Cultural Interest (Paleontological Zone). It also has 2 Global Geological sites of international relevance: Jurassic-Cretaceous dinosaur sites in Galve (Geological site FC006) and the Mesozoic series in the Maestrazgo area (Geological site MZ004). Special mention deserves the presence of 16 new genera and 108 new species of fossils discovered and described within the aspirant Geopark citing the first new dinosaur described in Spain: *Aragosaurus ischiaticus*.

i- No conflicts of interests were declared by any member of the UGGpC.

ii- Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.

iii- Following the review of the **Maestrazgo (Spain)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii), (v), (vi) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:

1. Update all old information panels follow the new style developed within 'Geoland'; consider improving the quality of English translation provided.
2. Develop and promote links between geological heritage and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours.
3. Improve educational activities and strategies to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.
4. Geological sites that have been excluded from the territory description should be incorporated and promoted to visitors.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

12. Kula-Salihli (Turkey) [Extension>10%]: The Kula-Salihli Geopark covers the northern shoulder and also middle part of the active Gediz graben in the eastern part of the Aegean extensional province. Kula Volcanic Province, which comprises of the eastern part of Geopark, is situated in the southern half of the Neogene Selendi Basin, which is filled with

thick Miocene Basin fill sediments. Much of the sediment in this basin is unlithified, and erodes readily, forming a deeply incised badland landscape. A sequence of Quaternary basalt flows from almost a hundred small volcanic necks has locally flowed on this incised topography, capping and thus preserving, or 'fossilising', the underlying Miocene age fluvial deposits. The Salihli part of the Geopark, on the other hand, sits on The Gediz Graben, which is an E–W-trending structure and forms one of the most prominent structural elements of western Turkey. This graben is an actively growing asymmetric graben, with the active normal faults mainly located on the southern margin. The Kula-Salihli Geopark presents an outstanding opportunity to engage a wide variety of stakeholder in Earth Sciences. The Geopark is located in one of the most seismically active and rapidly extending regions in the world. The area, therefore, would be an ideal place for the earth scientists to investigate global and regional tectonics. The geology of this area also contains the best and complete archive examples of environmental changes that are related to global climate changes as well as regional tectonism.

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the UGGpC.

- ii- Positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.

- iii- Following the review of the **Kula-Salihli (Turkey) [Extension>10%]** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii), (v) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:
 - 1. In building a strong UGGp identity, special care should be given to the use of the Kula–Salihli Geopark name and logo. This logo and name should be used in all Geopark communications and all reference to the previous Geopark name and brand removed.
 - 2. Improve Geopark visibility
 - For example, install directional road panels to facilitate site access to the main entrance and for various trails, geological sites, etc.

- Consider the possibility of creating a new Geopark visitor centre to provide extensive Geopark information; whilst establishing clear partnership centered networks to support visitor programmes.
 - Improve the use of bilingual information (English/Turkish) across the Geopark.
3. Update exhibition and information centre presentations managed by the Geopark and partners; whilst considering the use of interactive tools. Where possible, provide information on UNESCO Global Geoparks and Global Geoparks Network.
 4. Develop links between geological heritage and the other territorial heritages (natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tour visits, etc.
 5. Develop and implement training programmes for guides, tour operators and partners, etc.
 6. Explore the possibility of providing specific training on the Geopark for the staff focussing on cultural sites such as the Ancient City of Sardis and Temple of Artemis.
 7. Strengthen relations with the operators of the archaeological site at Sardis; ensuring the joint promotion and integration of the cultural offering.
 8. Improve educational activities and strategies to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.
 9. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

13. Dak Nong (Vietnam): Located on the M'Nong plateau at average elevation of 600-700m asl, with the highest point being Ta Dung at 1,982m asl, Dak Nong Geopark - the Land of Sounds covers an area of c.4,760km² of the northern districts of Dak Nong Province in Vietnam's Central Highlands. Dak Nong Geopark is distinctive in terms of geological features and Geological heritage value. Being a piece of the Gondwana ancient supercontinent, from about 200-165 Ma ago it was deeply submerged into a passive continent marginal sea, very rich in ammonite and bivalve fossils. This continental margin later, during 145-66 Ma ago became active due to plate collision, with red-bed sediments, eruptive andesite-dacite-rhyolite and intrusive gabbro-diorite-granodiorite-granite rocks. During the last 16.5 Ma, the territory became active again with wide-spread, multi-phase volcanic activities, forming a basalt cover over more than 50% of the Geopark area. These have been the source of some of the world's

largest and top-quality bauxite deposits and a number of other minerals (sapphire, semi-precious stones etc.), and especially the fertile soils that have fed generations of local people with many industrial and fruit tree crops. In particular, young volcanic activities about tens of thousands of years ago (Late Pleistocene-Holocene) have resulted in spectacular craters, majestic waterfalls and Southeast Asia's most extensive system of hundreds of magnificent volcanic caves, many of which have been used by prehistoric people as shelter since at least 6,000-10,000 years ago.

i- A conflict of interest was declared by Guy Martini who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote, and vice-chairperson Jianping Zhang took the chair for the discussion.

ii- Positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.

iii- Following the review of the **Dak Nong (Vietnam)** application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:

1. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Develop and update the Geopark website on a regular basis.
 - Consider the possibility of establishing a new Geopark information centre solely dedicated to Earth Science, utilising learning, both professional and technical from the Explorasound or Lithophone House initiative.
 - Improve pedagogical path i.e. Nam Nung Forest.
 - Implement the different Geopark routes to facilitate one-day visits.
2. Develop links between geological heritage and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours.
3. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people, etc. about the link between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
4. Geopark teaching should occur in schools within the Geopark territory and the management should consider developing teaching programmes and interactive tools for pupils.

5. Strengthen the collaboration with National Parks and Nature Reserves' Management Boards.
6. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Asia Pacific Geopark Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

VI. Discussion of the evaluation of UNESCO Global Geopark applications from 2018

1. **Rico Coco (Nicaragua):** The area pertains to the western part of the Eastern Chortis Terrane, the rifted continental margin of the North American Plate which developed during the Jurassic separation of the North and South American Plates. The area's basement mainly consists of sub-greenschist- to greenschist-facies metamorphosed siliciclastic sediments of Paleozoic age. Intensive volcanic activity started in the Neogene and acidic ignimbrites of late Miocene age up to 500m thick are typical for this area. Below the sequence of ignimbrites lies a sequence of dominant basaltic andesite that reach a thickness of 1000m. It is a denudation area with a distinctive relief. The majority of sediments are represented by dejection (alluvial) cones and the fluvial deposits of the streams. As well as 21 other areas identified as Geological sites, the area includes an area of international geological significance. With a total length of about 7km, the Monumento Nacional al Cañón de Somoto, formed in very solid welded ignimbrites during the Pleistocene from tectonic and exogenous processes, is between 150 and 250m deep and in some parts only a few meters wide. Tectonic processes are still active in this part of the world, and the Somoto Canyon represents an area where the direct effects of such process can be observed. It is a unique scenario where, in a relatively small and very accessible area, you can see a wide spectrum of geological and geomorphological phenomena of volcanic, tectonic and exogenous origin.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Martinia Paskova who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS. It was noted, however, that there were only a few academic references.

iii- Summary and discussion: In 2018, the UN Department of Safety and Security advised that it was unsafe to carry out a mission to this territory due to civil unrest. The Council in September 2018 proposed to put this application 'on hold' for a period of two years and carry out the evaluation at any time during this period, as soon as the opportunity arises for the mission to take place safely. Thanks to the dedication of the two evaluators who were available on short notice, the mission was carried out in early 2019.

iv- Following the review of the Rico Coco (Nicaragua) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate does fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), iii, and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board endorse this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark for four years with the following recommendations:

1. The Geopark Management should seek to secure the future stability of the Geopark by ensuring continuity of funding, working closely with national institutions and local municipalities.
2. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Consider the installation of directional road panels to facilitate site access to the main entrance and for various trails, geological sites, etc.
 - Develop a coherent Geopark brand identity including Geopark logo, designs and layout of all communication material.
 - Update tourist maps for visitors ensuring all sites, facilities, partners etc. are included
 - Improve the use of English translation in all materials, guided tours, exhibitions, etc.
3. Adapt and extend the Icalupe educational approach to other pilot schools in the Geopark territory, including teacher training and common educational projects.
4. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.
5. Develop links between geological heritage and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours.
6. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the link between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.

7. UNESCO Global Geoparks should actively involve local communities and indigenous peoples as key stakeholders. It is recommended that all relevant local and regional actors and authorities be represented in the management of the UGGp.
8. Enhance GeoCIT in Somoto visitor centre and the Geopark office, refine and extend communication activities with improved geology interpretation at a local and regional level.
9. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the GEO-LAC promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

VII. Deferred UNESCO Global Geopark applications from UGGpC 2016

1. **Black Country (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland):** The area is located in the centre of England (UK) with geographical coordinates 52.516857° N; 2.079533° W with a total area of 256km². Its easternmost point is a kilometre from the centre of the city of Birmingham and its boundary is defined by the outer edge of the four urban metropolitan boroughs of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton. This area, currently home to 1.1 million people living in more than 200 communities, is a patchwork of dense urban settlements spread across a series of low hills and river valleys. The most competent hard sedimentary and igneous rocks produce the highest land. Pleistocene and post- Pleistocene drainage structures relate to the melting of ice fronts and the isostatic rebound of the landmass subsequently formed deeply incised river channels. For its size, the Black Country has some of the most diverse geology anywhere in the world. With very few exceptions all of the geological exposures are the remnants of mining and engineering endeavours of the Industrial Revolution and contain some of the most important geological evidence in the world for certain aspects of Earth Science. The geology exposed and the wider geological diversity and industrial heritage features across the Black Country link together to provide an enthralling geological narrative that is testimony to changing environments through some 430 million years of geological time. Evidence of the deeper geology is represented in the historic geological collections of the Black Country, and in every well-appointed natural history collection in the

world. This material was collected during the days of mining or from borehole cores taken to explore the deeper geology.

i- A conflict of interest was declared by Melanie Border and Kirstin Lemon who both left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote.

ii- Following the review of the **Black Country** (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) implementation report and UGGpC recommendations from 2016 (as detailed below), the UGGp Council decided that it **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark **for four years** with the following recommendations:

1. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e., natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
2. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.
3. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
4. Develop an education strategy by working in partnership with other UGGps. Geopark teaching should occur in schools within the Geopark territory and the management should facilitate the development of learning programmes and interactive tools for the pupils.
5. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

VIII. Deferred UNESCO Global Geopark applications from UGGpC 2017

1. **Djerdap (Serbia):** Djerdap is situated in SE Europe, in north-eastern Serbia. In this area, the Danube has incised the longest gorge in Europe, which extends over a length of 100km, and connects the Pannonian Basin in the West and the Dacian Basin in the East. The elevation rises from 40m (the Danube level) up to 810m (Šomrda Mt.). This landscape is dominated by mountains with deeply incised valleys. Djerdap features some of the most diverse geology, spanning from the oldest Proterozoic rocks to the youngest Quaternary sediments. The Danube river incised into the mountains, leaving behind fascinating geological profiles, such as those in Pesača (stratotype of Jurassic and Cretaceous in the Southern Carpathians) and in Boljetinsko Brdo (classic Lower Cretaceous facies with cephalopods). At the beginning of the Palaeozoic, peridotite-gabbro-leucogranites intruded a cratonized basement of metamorphics (600–550 Ma). Intensive igneous activity was in contrast with limited sedimentation. I-type granites reflected to the existence of a subduction zone at the end of Carboniferous. The Permian period is represented by thick deposits of red landformed sandstones and conglomerates, which locally disrupt spilite, porphyrite and pyroclastic rocks. Land remained until the Liassic transgression, when noteworthy marine sedimentation of shallow-water clastites and limestone with hard-ground and Ammonitico rosso took part. The end of the Jurassic / beginning of the Cretaceous marked the deposition of deep-water limestones with radiolarian-rich cherts, including ammonite-rich marlstone and marly limestone. The end of the Albian stage is also the end of sedimentation in the Danubicum. Laramian plutons emplaced at the Cretaceous/Paleogene boundary. The epicontinental seas (Western and Eastern Paratethys), which existed in the Neogene, included several basins.

i- No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the UGGpC.

ii- Following the review of the **Djerdap (Serbia)** implementation report and UGGpC recommendations from 2017 (as detailed below), the UGGp Council decided that it **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse** this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark **for four years** with the following recommendations:

1. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
2. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.
3. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
4. Develop an education strategy by working in partnership with other UGGps. Geopark teaching should occur in schools within the geopark territory and the management should facilitate the development of learning programmes and interactive tools for the pupils.
5. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

IX. Deferred UNESCO Global Geopark applications from UGGpC 2018

- 3. Toba Caldera (Indonesia):** The applicant is located on Sumatra Island and is the result of a super-volcano explosion 74,000 years ago which formed the large caldera. The basin of the caldera is filled with water and is the largest lake of volcanic origin in Indonesia. It is located at 904m above sea level, consists of about 240km³ of freshwater and is 505m deep. The surface elevation is about 2,000m above sea level. The rock formations underlying the area consist of meta-sediments that are part of the Gondwana continent which formed in the South Pole region during the Carboniferous- Permian (300 Ma), which are exposed around the steep-cliff walls of the caldera rim. In the process to reach a post 'super-volcano' eruption equilibrium, the Toba lake bottom has been pushed-up by the residual pressure of the magma chamber and has formed Samosir Island in the middle of the crater. This is the most active caldera resurgent in the world. 'Caldera resurgence' remains one of the least understood processes in volcanology.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Kirstin Lemon and Guy Martini who both left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote, and vice-chairperson Jianping Zhang took the chair for the discussion.

- ii- Following the review of the **Toba Caldera (Indonesia)** implementation report and UGGpC recommendations from 2018 (as detailed below), the UGGp Council decided that it **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (iii), (v) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse**, this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark **for four years** with the following recommendations:
 1. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
 2. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.
 3. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
 4. Develop an education strategy by working in partnership with other UGGps. Geopark teaching should occur in schools within the geopark territory and the management should facilitate the development of learning programmes and interactive tools for the pupils.
 5. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.
 6. Strengthen UGGp involvement in research study, conservation and the promotion of the local indigenous population and their culture and language.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

4. **Estrela (Portugal)**: Located in Central Portugal, the applicant has an area of 2,216km² distributed among nine municipalities. It includes the Estrela mountain range from its SW limits at the border with the Açor Mountain, to the NE contact with the Meseta surface, as well as

the piedmont regions that bound the Estrela to the NW and SE. The altitudes vary from around 200m to 1,993m. Estrela's geological history dates back to the Neoproterozoic, with the Douro-Beiras Super Group, a thick terrigenous sequence dominated by turbidites which were deformed by the Variscan orogeny, and later affected by the intrusion of granitic batholiths. At the end of the Variscan, the relief was planated and in the Miocene, Variscan faults were reactivated, resulting in the uplift of the Serra da Estrela as a pop-up structure, forming a plateau mountain with an altitude close to 2,000m. Glacial landforms and deposits resulted from Pleistocene climate variability which had developed a plateau ice-field, which was extremely sensitive to variations in glacier palaeo-equilibrium line altitude. The extensive glacial erosion landforms and deposits, are very remarkable considering the geographical setting of the Estrela in Central Portugal.

i- No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the UGGpC.

ii- Following the review of the **Estrela (Portugal)** implementation report and UGGpC recommendations from 2018 (as detailed below), the UGGp Council decided that it **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (ii), (iii) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse**, this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark **for four years** with the following recommendations:

1. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
2. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.
3. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
4. Develop an education strategy by working in partnership with other UGGps. Geopark teaching should occur in schools within the Geopark territory and the management should facilitate the development of learning programmes and interactive tools for the pupils.

5. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

5. Yangan Tau (Russian Federation): The applicant is situated in the Salavat District of the Republic of Bashkortostan, which includes 16 rural settlements with 60 villages. The proposed area is 1,774km². There are deposits of bauxite, limestone, sand-gravel mixture, cement clays, and silica sand. The relief of the area is a hilly plain, to the east and south elevated up to about 450m and with rugged topography; to the west and north lowering to about 190-300m. There are three major geological structures: The East European Platform, the Uralian Foredeep and the Ural Mountains (western slope), which defines high geological diversity of the area with various forms of relief and types of landscape. Rocks of Riphean, Vendian (Ediacaran), and Devonian, Carboniferous, Permian and Cenozoic age are exposed at the territory. Well-exposed Devonian, Carboniferous and Permian sections have potential for becoming international stratotypes. The central object of the aUGGp is the Mechetlino section – candidate for the Kungurian stage of the Permian system Global Boundary Stratotype Section and Point. It contains fossils including conodonts, foraminifers, ammonoids, ostracods, brachiopods, fishes, crinoids, trilobites, calamites and calcareous algae. Another outstanding geological object is the Yangantau Mountain (“Burning Mountain”) with its unique thermal anomalies (highest temperature recorded is 380°C at the depth of 90m) and no magmatic activity. It is both an object of geological and medical significance and steam and gases being used for balneological treatment.

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Helga Chulepin who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Following the review of the **Yangan Tau (Russian Federation)** implementation report and UGGpC recommendations from 2018 (as detailed below), the UGGp Council decided that it **does** fulfil the UGGp criteria (ii), (iii), (v) and (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) and proposes that the Executive Board **endorse**, this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark **for four years** with the following recommendations:

1. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
2. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.
3. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
4. Develop an education strategy by working in partnership with other UGGps. Geopark teaching should occur in schools within the Geopark territory and the management should facilitate the development of learning programmes and interactive tools for the pupils.
5. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

Acceptance voted unanimously.

Summary of Decisions on New Applications:

Fifteen new Geoparks have been approved with 3 new countries (Nicaragua, Russian Federation and Serbia) being added to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Community.

X. Discussion of the revalidation of existing UNESCO Global Geoparks

- i- Attention should be drawn to Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 5.6 (vi, vii and viii) that clearly outlines the possible outcomes of the revalidation process. These have been provided below.
- ii- Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 5.6 (vi): If, on the basis of the revalidation report, the Council considers that UNESCO Global Geopark continues to fulfil the criteria set-out in Section 3 of the UNESCO Global Geopark guidelines, in particular that the quality and management of the area have improved or at least continues to be satisfactory since designation or last revalidation, it may decide that the area will continue as a UNESCO Global Geopark for a further four-year period (so-called "green card").

iii- Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 5.6 (vii): If, on the basis of the revalidation report, the Council considers that the UNESCO Global Geopark no longer fulfils the criteria, it may decide to inform the management body of the UNESCO Global Geopark to take appropriate steps within a two-year period to ensure that the criteria will be met and maintained. In such instances, the status of the area as UNESCO Global Geopark will be renewed only for a two-year period after which a new revalidation report and a new field mission will be undertaken with the same conditions referred to in (ii), (iii) and (iv) of Section 5.6 of the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks (so-called "yellow card").

iv- Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 5.6 (viii): Should the UNESCO Global Geopark not fulfil the criteria within two years after receiving a "yellow card", the Council will decide as appropriate that the area concerned should lose its status and all relevant entitlements (so-called "red card").

1. Naturpark Styrian Eisenwurzen (Austria)

i- A conflict of interest was declared by Soojae Lee who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

ii- Following the review of the **Naturpark Styrian Eisenwurzen** (Austria) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. Information, Education and Visibility:

- Check and upgrade the quality of bilingual information included in all UGGp communications; this included infrastructures, partners, museums, etc.
- Publish a tourist UGGp map providing information on all UGGp sites.
- Consider the publication of a simplified UGGp geological map (hard copy or electronically via the website), if requested by visitors.
- Ensure the promotion of the UGGp territory as a whole, avoiding the exclusion of any municipality territory.
- Consider increasing the information provided to visitors by using complementary information systems (i.e. QR code, etc.)

2. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

3. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified.

Green card voted unanimously.

2. Araripe (Brazil)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Araripe** (Brazil) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Information and Education:
 - Improve geological site interpretation at several sites including the Batteira, Ponte de Piedra, Pedra Cariri and Pontal de Santa Cruz ensuring that information is presented in an attractive and easily understandable form.
 - Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e., natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
 - Improve partnerships where possible.
 - Strengthen environmental education (i.e., fauna, flora), within natural areas such as Arajara Park.
 - Consider providing further support and promotions to the “Escola de Saberes in Barbalha”.
 - Promote and share within the GGN the model of the Foundation “Casa Grande” UGGp partnership.
 2. Strengthen the inventory and studies on local intangible heritage and indigenous knowledge and practices. Encourage and support the study of the Cariri Communities and if the results

prove positive, consider supporting and recognising officially these indigenous communities.

3. Consider the enhancement of the UGGp geological potential by integrating geomorphological features such as landscape, landslides, formation of gullies, etc.
4. Consider incorporating Geopark sites within one/two days discovery routes, promoting these through names and designations.
5. As the Araripe rifting is extremely attractive, being positioned between South America and Africa, consider the potential to develop knowledge exchange and project working within the West Africa region.
6. As the province boundaries had changed, increasing the size to the Araripe UGGp from 3441km² to 3789km², the UGGpC agreed that a formal extension request should be submitted for consideration at the 2020 Council Meeting.

Green card voted unanimously.

3. Dunhuang (China)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping Zhang who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Following the review of the Dunhuang (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Sustainable Development:
 - Continue and enhance education activities with UGGp partners, such as workshop and training courses.
 - Consider the exchange of experience with other rural and poor communities, utilizing links with GGN to gain greater awareness and involvement of local communities (i.e. with Vietnamese UGGp).
 - Consider improving UGGp accessibility by developing better roads and infrastructure.
 2. Tourism Development:

- Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility exploiting the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.
 - Consider developing new local products connected within the UGGp.
 - Establish a visitor experience monitoring system to ensure customer satisfaction and support continual improvement (i.e. visitor's surveys and questionnaires).
3. Communication, education and interpretation:
- Consider improving the identity of the UGGp territory, through a working group collaboration with the local population.
 - Consider establishing a UGGp 'focal point' which might provide comprehensive information about the Dunhuang UGGp amenities, geological sites and facilities.
4. With increasing visitor numbers, the management of water resources is becoming an important concern for Dunhuang UGGp. Knowledge sharing with other UGGps experiencing similar issues would be beneficial, i.e., hydropower station in Dong Van UGGp, Vietnam.

Green card voted unanimously.

4. Taining (China)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Taining** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Information and visibility:
 - Consider a design upgrade of UGGp panels, leaflets and books (the new panels for Lee Utopia village might be used as a model) and ensure that scientific information and English interpretation are quality checked.

- Publish a well-defined UGGp tourist map providing information on all UGGp sites, partners and facilities. Investigate the possibility of developing interactive maps for visitors making them accessible via the UGGp website, Apps etc.
2. Continue the renovation of the permanent exhibit at the Geological Museum ensuring interactive interpretation of the Geopark's special geological heritage and the evolution of the local Danxia landscape utilising research findings.
 3. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
 4. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility exploiting the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.
 5. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
 6. Ensure that the UNESCO logo is used correctly on all signage and within the UGGp brand identity.

Green card voted unanimously.

5. Tianzhushan (China)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Soojae Lee who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Following the review of the **Tianzhushan** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators

and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.

2. Consider improving the UGGp geological information and explanation inside the education corridors by simplifying interpretations.
3. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility exploiting the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.
4. Consider providing visitors with interesting information related to the protection of old trees (Tianzushan Mountain). Explore the possibility of using new technologies to limit panel size.

Green card voted unanimously.

6. Zhijindong Cave (China)

i- A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping Zhang who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

ii- Following the review of the **Zhijindong Cave** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. Improve Geopark visibility:

- Consider installing UNESCO Geopark signage at the boundaries of the Geopark to welcome visitors and enhance UGGp prominence.
- Publish UGGp tourist maps that provide information about all UGGp sites.
- Consider developing new tools to provide geological information to visitors ensuring that geological maps are simplified

2. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

3. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators

and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.

Green card voted unanimously.

7. Papuk (Croatia)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Papuk** (Croatia) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Improve visibility by updating old UGGp panels with the adapted logo.
 2. Consider promoting the Rupkova Geološka Škola experience through the Geopark Network using the UGGp website, a GGN conference posters and other communication materials, ensuring English language translation.
 3. Consider the enhancement and provision of new information panels with bilingual texts, for example, at the Marko Dobaš Grassland site and Count's Trail sites.

Green card voted unanimously.

8. Troodos (Cyprus)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Troodos** (Cyprus) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Interpretation panels should be easily understandable to all visitors. Geological site information and geological maps should be simplified, and the use of scientific words should be avoided or clearly explained providing English translation. The new interpretative panels in the visitor centre are a good model to follow. The entrance and welcome panels, could be

upgraded by including attractive photographs, text reduction and a more prominent UGGp logo.

2. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
3. Strengthen the links between Troodos UGGp and the World Heritage Site (Byzantine Church) through a formal partnership and develop common training for the guides.
4. Consider strengthening the management body to include all institutional partners. By extending participation in the management of the UGGp will enhance its capacity to address issues and challenges across all geopark activities and programmes.
5. A partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a clear methodology on the criteria required to become a partner and a formal agreement with the Geopark. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.

Green card voted unanimously.

9. Haute - Provence (France)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Guy Martini so he left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote. The vice-chairperson Jianping Zhang took the chair for the discussion.
- ii- Following the review of the **Haute - Provence** (France) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. The Haute Provence UGGp Management body should prepare an action plan, Section 3 (v). Consider increasing team resources to expand its capacity and ability to address issues in all areas across the UNESCO Global Geopark. Additionally, it would be advisable to review financial resources to ensure adequate funding is available for the entire territory management.
 2. The creation of supplementary publications and information including guide books is advised.

3. Strengthen the Haute-Provence UGGp inventory activity ensuring that knowledge and conservation of the local intangible heritage are retained, paying special attention to the promotion and conservation of local languages.

Green card voted unanimously.

10. Massif des Bauges (France)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Melanie Border who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Following the review of the Massif des Bauges (France) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Update the UGGp map ensuring that all references to the old map are removed from communications. For completeness, an updated map should be sent the UNESCO Secretariat. The new map should acknowledge external UGGp partners. The city entrance needs to be clearly identified outside the UGGp boundary.
 2. Update all old information panels, improving the quality of English translation. Ensure better UGGp promotion and publicity by utilising social media and the website.
 3. Enhance research activities in the territory ensuring the implementation of strategies to monitor and report research activity, including the review of research findings and publications.
 4. Enhance public safety information in potential risk sites e.g., Prerouge Cave.
 5. Strengthen the partnership with the World Heritage 'Prehistoric Pile Dwelling' site and enhance the promotion of the existence of its previous inhabitation through the use of creative media (e.g., fixed underwater camera, etc.).
 6. Enhance and build partnerships with different territorial tourism bodies.

Green card voted unanimously.

11. Park Naturel Régional du Luberon (France)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

- ii- Following the review of the **Park Naturel Régional du Luberon** (France) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Interpretation panels should be easily understandable to all visitors. Geological site information and geological maps should be simplified, and the use of scientific words should be avoided or clearly explained providing English translation.
 2. Update all communication tools (i.e. information panels website, exhibitions, leaflets etc.) improving the quality of English provided.
 3. Strengthen the UGGp branding by providing better visibility to own-brand products.
 4. Enhance activities in research, conservation and promotion of the different UGGp heritages (i.e. geological, natural biotic, cultural and intangible).
 5. Strengthen and better promote the existing cooperation between the UGGp and its partners by using the Geopark website and social media.
 6. Strengthen the involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geopark Network, promoting the international value of the territory through partnerships with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Green card voted unanimously.

12. Terra. Vita Naturpark (Germany)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

- ii- Following the review of the **Terra. Vita Naturpark** (Germany) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Strengthen UGGp visibility:
 - Consider creating a UGGp guidebook for visitors and reference purposes.
 - Consider the publication of a simplified UGGp geological map (hard copy or electronically via the website), if requested by visitors.

2. Consider the promotion of the whole UGGp territory by developing and providing comprehensive information on important sites which are not presently publicised, such as the “Ankum Bippener Berge” and glacier erratic blocks.
3. Strengthen inventory activities in the areas of research studies, conservation and promotion of local intangible heritage.
4. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.

Green card voted unanimously.

13.Vulkaneifel (Germany)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the Vulkaneifel (Germany) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Consider the improvement of the UGGp museum and information centre by including contemporary museography and design.
 2. Consider the promotion of the UGGp through social networks using facilities such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, etc.

Green card voted unanimously.

14.Muskau Arch (Germany/Poland)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Muskau Arch** (Germany/Poland) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Consider improving UGGp visibility on the border to clearly present the Geopark as a unified territory, Section 3 (i).

2. Promote and share the success of the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Geopark Project inside the GGN and UGGp.

Green card voted unanimously.

15.Chelmos – Vouraikos (Greece)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Chelmos – Vouraikos** (Greece) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Strengthen the geological interpretation inside the UGGp:
 - Consider developing new tools to provide geological information, if requested by visitors, a simplified geological map (hard copy or/and website)
 - Consider the possible integration of new geological sites being presented to the public
 2. Consider the enhancement of the geological information presented on some interpretation panels. Whilst ensuring all panels are easily understandable to visitors.
 3. Update old information panels to ensure better UGGp promotion and publicity by utilising social media, website and new forms of written material.
 4. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e., natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tours and geopark trails. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
 5. Consider the possibility of extending the number of Geopark trails offered.
 6. Geological site information and geological maps should be simplified, and the use of scientific words should be avoided or clearly explained. Consider the possibility of providing English translation for foreign visitors.
 7. A simplified territory map is needed to better illustrate the number of Geopark sites available within the territory.

Green card voted unanimously.

16. Psiloritis Natural Park (Greece)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Psiloritis Natural Park** (Greece) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Ensure that the UGGp Team and budget are appropriately resourced to ensure that adequate funding is available to sustain territory management
 2. Strengthen partnership and cooperation between the UGGp and leadership team.
 3. Ensure continuous alignment between the UGGp Management Plan and the new project 'UNESCO Areas of Crete'.
 4. Further develop the Anogia Environmental Education Centre working with UGGp partners to promote education for sustainable development.

Green card voted unanimously.

17. Sitia (Greece)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Sitia** (Greece) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Ensure that the UGGp team and budget are appropriately resourced to manage the whole of the UNESCO Global Geopark. Consider the possibility of establishing and Geopark Office for the UGGp team
 2. Review UGGp governance, institutional and governmental partnerships and decision-making mechanism to develop a clear UGGp action plan, including a marketing strategy, in consultation with local stakeholders, municipalities, local institutions. The UGGp action plan should be coherent aligned with municipalities and regional strategies.

3. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to just those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility using the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.
4. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e., natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
5. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.
6. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Green card voted unanimously.

18.Reykjanes (Iceland)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Reykjanes** (Iceland) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Consider the feasibility of promoting the Reykjanes UGGp directly at the Keflavík International Airport located in the UGGp territorial center (i.e., installation of a welcoming panel or an information kiosk.).
 2. Information and visibility:
 - Update and improve the UGGp website.
 - Consider creating a UGGp guidebook for visitors and reference purposes.
 - Consider developing new tools to provide geological information for visitors (hard copy and website), if requested by visitor also provide a simplified geological map.
 - Update old UGGp information panels using the new UGGp logo.

3. Consider improving the UGGp permanent exhibition with contemporary museography and designated area dedicated to Geopark networking (GGN/EGN); whilst providing more visibility to the UGGp information stands using a large UGGp logo.

Green card voted unanimously.

19. Gunung Sewu (Indonesia)

i- A conflict of interest was declared by Guy Martini who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote. The vice-chairperson Jianping Zhang took the chair for the discussion.

ii- Following the review of the **Gunung Sewu** (Indonesia) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. Improve Geopark visibility:

- Consider the installation of directional road panels to facilitate site access on the main entrance and for various trails, geological sites, etc.
- Develop and update the Geopark website on a regular basis. Consider the use of social media to promote the UGGp.
- Improve the use of English translation in all materials, guided tours and exhibitions.

2. Consider improving the UGGp facilities i.e. the Indonesian Karst Museum and Pacitan Information Centre.

3. Consider the implementation of educational activities by establishing a Gunung Sewu UGGp Schools Network to promote learning and knowledge sharing.

4. Consider greater involvement in climate change mitigation activities through the development of a formal partnership with the Indonesian Geological Survey and training provided by “Intensive Course on Climate Change and Natural Risk Reduction”.

5. The UGGp Master Plan 2019-2023 must be formally approved and adopted by the management body and then publicised on the Gunung Sewu UGGp website.

6. Strengthen the inventory to safeguard Geopark endangered intangible heritage and develop formal partnerships and cooperation with the managing authority for Intangible Heritage (Batik traditional fabrics and the “Wayang Beber” shadow puppet show).

7. Strengthen involvement with Global Geoparks Network and Asia Pacific Geoparks Network, promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Green card voted unanimously.

20. Burren & Cliffs of Moher (Ireland)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Burren & Cliffs of Moher** (Ireland) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Consider the installation of directional road panels to facilitate site access to the main entrance and for various trails, geological sites, etc.
 - Develop a coherent Geopark brand identity including Geopark logo, designs and layout for all communication material.
 - Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
 2. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tours and geopark trails. Consider improving natural heritage information, interpretation and narratives provided on panels located within ecological treasure sites.
 3. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility using the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.

Green card voted unanimously.

21. Copper Coast (Ireland)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Copper Coast** (Ireland) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. Check the adapted use of the new UGGp logo in all UGGp information tools (leaflet, information panels, etc.)
2. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to just those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility using the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.
3. Considering creating a UGGp guidebook for visitors and reference purposes.
4. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e., natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tours, geopark trails and particularly Dunhill Castle ensuring appropriate public safety measures and information.

Green card voted unanimously.

22. Apuan Alps (Italy)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Apuan Alps (Italy)** revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. Geopark information and visibility:
 - Strengthen UGGp promotion and presentation by updating and developing Geopark leaflets, interpretation panels, website, etc.

- Consider the installation of directional road panels to facilitate the better UGGp site access particularly for the Rosetti Palace.
 - Check that safety information provided to the public particularly at sights such as Bardiglio Cappella Marble are appropriately risk assessed.
2. Strengthen inventory activities in the areas of research studies, conservation and promotion of local intangible heritage.
 3. Consider establishing a UGGp marketing plan and develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to just those identified. Also, consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility using the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.
 4. Interpretation panels should be easily understandable to all visitors. Geological site information and geological maps should be improved, simplified, and the use of scientific words should be avoided or clearly explained providing English translation.

Green card voted unanimously.

23. Madonie (Italy)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Summary of discussion: The issue of 'visibility' was discussed at length with Ms Ruiz explaining that 'visibility' was not a key criterion within the operational guidelines (section iii) indicating that this Geopark should not be penalised for limited visibility. The Chairperson explained that the new checklist would help clarify this issue; further pointing out that sustainable development required 'visibility' to be successful. It was agreed that the concept of visibility deserved further reflection. The establishment of the 'Checklist' will offer an opportunity for such a discussion.
- iii- Following the review of the **Madonie (Italy)** revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Consider developing a new brand identity to promote the UGGp; differentiating the Madonie UGGp brand identity from that of the National Park. Generally, the UGGp should always

clearly differentiate its activities from the activities of the National Park to keep and enhance the Madonie UNESCO Global Geopark visibility.

2. Ensure the adapted UGGp logo is visible at partnership facilities such as tourist offices, museums, visitor centres run by municipalities as well as other partner organisations.
3. Strengthen the information and promotion of geological heritage inside the UGGp territory by the developing specific interpretation panels for the Piano Battaglia site (coral fossils) and Filippo Arena nature trail.
4. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.
5. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
6. Through the establishment of a revised UGGp action plan, review financial resources to ensure that adequate funding is available to sustain territory management.

Green card voted unanimously.

24. Pollino (Italy)

i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

ii- Following the review of the **Pollino** (Italy) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. Strengthen the partnership and exchange between Pollino UGGp and Pollino National Park team and clearly promote the UGGp brand alongside the National Park. Generally, the UGGp should always clearly differentiate its activities from the activities of the National Park to keep and enhance the Pollino UNESCO Global Geopark visibility.
2. Develop and implement regular UGGp awareness training for guides, schools, local population and UGGp stakeholders.
3. Consider the integration of new sites into the UGGp, expanding the landscape panorama offered to the public.
4. Review the positioning of public interpretation panels particularly those close the roadways to ensure road safety, principally on the trail of the Polino Line.

5. Update interpretation panels and all UGGp information systems with consistent branding i.e. UGGp logo and name. Ensure geological site information and geological maps are simplified, and the use of scientific words should be avoided or clearly explained. Consider the possibility of providing English translation for foreign visitors.
6. Consider the development of Global Geopark Corners in the UGGp's partner facilities to promote the work of the Geopark.

Green card voted unanimously.

25.Sardinia (Italy) (Geological Mining and Environmental Park of Sardinia)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

Suggestions and discussion: This territory is very large and has become unmanageable for the UGGp. Poor management has not helped this situation. Maritime areas have been excluded from the UGGp map, illustrating an ununified territory. Concerns were raised about management, operating budget, and resourcing to guarantee the effective working of the UGGp as set out in the operation guidelines Section 3 criteria (iii). If this territory wishes to submit a new application to become a UGGp in the future the Council suggested that UNESCO offer to undertake a special advisory expert mission to support and advise Sardinia, if so desired.

- ii- Following the review of **Sardinia** (Italy) revalidation report and considering this UGGp received a “yellow” card in 2017, the UGGpC decided to award a **RED** card. The Sardinia UGGp did not manage to implement the recommendations received in 2017 after a “yellow” card revalidation and no longer meets criteria (i), (iii) and (v) of the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3. The following recommendations were made:

1. Establish a unified identity for the extended area of the UGGp, providing a holistic view of the Island of Sardinia integrating its geological heritage, cultural and environmental features and assets.
2. Create a strong and active partnership network which includes the regional government, all municipalities, universities, tourism organizations and other potential partners important for the development and sustained success of the Geopark as detailed within Section 3 (v) of

the operational guidelines.

3. Develop and establish a Geopark management body that has sufficient financial, human and organisational resources to implement and sustain the recommended measures Section 3 (iii).
4. Consideration must be given to the size of the Geopark and the tasks a Geopark need to fulfil as described in the UGGp operational guidelines (Section 3).
5. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Consider the installation of directional road panels to facilitate site access on the main entrance and for the various trails, geological sites, etc.
 - Develop a coherent Geopark brand identity including Geopark logo, designs and layout for all communication material.
 - Update all visitor tourist maps to include all sites, facilities, partnerships etc.
 - Improve the use of English translation in all materials, guided tours and exhibitions.
6. Develop an updated action plan, Section 3 (v).
7. Establish a partnership network with the tourism sector within the territory, maximising publicity potential, promoting the Geopark and its story to boost visibility and economic development.

A 'Red' card was voted on with 11 members supporting the 'Red' card and 1 member abstained.

26. Mount Apos (Japan)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Mahito Watanabe who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Following the review of the **Mount Apos** (Japan) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Consider to strengthen the explanation and promotion of the Global Geoparks Network and the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network across all UGGp facilities particularly the Folk Museum, UGGp website, signage and information panels.
 2. Ensure UGGp geological site database/inventory is regularly updated and consider conservation needs.
 3. Consider to strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through

the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

4. Consider the possibility to develop a marketing plan ensuring its adoption and implementation by the UGGp management body.
5. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility using the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material whilst ensuring that partners respect GGN ethical guidelines.

Green card voted unanimously.

27.Muroto (Japan)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Mahito Watanabe, Helga Chulepin and Martina Paskova who left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Following the review of the **Muroto** (Japan) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Consider developing new communication tools to provide more geological information to visitors (i.e., simplified geological maps, specific information panels, leaflets, etc.)
 2. Ensure regular updates of the UGGp geological site database/inventory and consider conservation needs.
 3. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education and tours. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology; focusing on geological features such as Nishiyama Plateau-Marine terraces geological sites and agricultural activities. Consider the opportunity to create new Geopark routes and sites including the Nakagawauchi District (Fluvial Terraces).
 4. Improve the Muroto Geopark Centre by:
 - Presenting more rocks from Japanese Geoparks.
 - Update and improve English text and translations.

- Ensure all interpretation panels are easily understandable to all visitors. Geological site information and geological maps should be simplified, and the use of scientific words should be avoided or clearly explained.
5. Analyse and consider and the possibility of extending the UGGp territory to include marine parts. If achievable, such an extension could offer added value to the UGGp providing new geological sites, biodiversity and intangible heritage with fisheries.
 6. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility using the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.

Green card voted unanimously.

28. Toya Usu (Japan)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping Zhang, Mahito Watanabe and Kirstin Lemon who left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Following the review of the **Toya Usu** (Japan) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Consider improving UGGp territory visibility by replacing old interpretation panels ensuring the consistent use of the adapted UGGp logo and name.
 2. Strengthen inventory activities in the areas of research studies, conservation and promotion of local intangible heritage, specifically focusing on the Ainu language and culture. Consider the opportunity to support the 'Toya Summer Festival' as a protected part of the regional intangible heritage.
 3. Consider sharing with the GGN network, the volcanic risk mitigation, Volcano Meister System developed by UGGp.
 4. Consider the opportunity to develop new UGGp infrastructures which can be utilised to exhibit and conserve disaster remains.

Green card voted unanimously.

29. Langkawi (Malaysia)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Kirstin Lemon who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

- ii- Following the review of the **Langkawi** (Malaysia) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 - 1. Promote the UGGp as a unified territory by indicating in all maps that the UGGp has a defined and identifiable boundary, Section 3 (i).
 - 2. As a unified territory, the UGGp name needs to be visible and consistently promoted within its territory. Avoiding the use of other names, such as the Kilim Geopark Discovery, to ensure the Langkawi UGGp brand identity is always visible.
 - 3. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e. natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tours and geopark trails. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
 - 4. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network (outside of the APGN) and consider promoting the Global Geoparks Network.

Green card voted unanimously.

30. Naturtejo (Portugal)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

- ii- Following the review of the **Naturtejo** (Portugal) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 - 1. Consider improving UGGp territory visibility by replacing old interpretation panels along the UGGp roadside.

2. Update and upgrade the UGGp website ensuring the quality of English translation.
3. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e., natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tours and geopark trails.
4. Strengthen links and cooperation with the new technological Wool Museum.
5. Consider the creation of a new Geopark visitor centre as a central point for all information sharing, engaging and involving of Geopark partners as appropriate.

Green card voted unanimously.

31.Cabo de Gata – Nijar (Spain)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Cabo de Gata – Nijar** (Spain) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Consider the development using contemporary and attractive museography focusing on 'House of Volcanoes' area. Investigate the possibility of using the area as an UGGp hub for information, events, guided tour, etc. Explore the option of creating a UGGp partnership network with Minas de oro de Rodalquilar and other UGGps.
 2. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
 3. Ensure the UGGp website is updated regularly.

Green card voted unanimously.

32.Lanzarote (Spain)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Kirstin Rangnes who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

ii- Following the review of the **Lanzarote** (Spain) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. Review financial resources and team to ensure that adequate funding is available to sustain territory management.
2. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility using the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.
3. Consider improving UGGp territory visibility by installing i.e. directional road panels to facilitate site access, on the main entrance, and for the various trails, geological sites, etc.
4. Strengthen the UGGp activities relating to inventory, knowledge and conservation of the local intangible heritage.

Green card voted unanimously.

33.Sierras Subbeticas (Spain)

i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

ii- Following the review of the **Sierras Subbeticas** (Spain) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. Review UGGp resources and team to ensure that adequate funding is available to sustain territory management.
2. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Consider installing UGGp directional panels on the motorway.
 - Consider the development a consistent UGGp brand identity that can be used for all communication materials, including in the partner plaques.
3. Consider the opportunity to develop new UGGp trails including the reopening of Tinosa trail and assess the feasibility of providing trails for disabled persons.

4. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e., natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tours and developing better links and interpretation to the Picacho de Cabra area.
5. Improve educational strategies and activities to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.
6. Consider the prospect of creating an official scientific committee for the development of UGGp research.
7. Continue developing the UGGp policy for quarry restoration and consider the possible use of conservation of geological evidences.

Green card voted unanimously.

34.Sobrarbe Pirineos (Spain)

i- A conflict of interest was declared by Ana Ruiz who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

ii- Following the review of the **Sobrarbe Pirineos** (Spain) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

1. The Geopark management body should consider inviting key partners to undertake a comprehensive review of site interpretation and signage information within the UGGp territory to develop a common strategy for territorial signage; reducing signage to provide clear information on the different types of heritages (geology, natural biotic, cultural, intangible). All improvements should look to provide good UGGp visibility and compliment partnership branding.
2. Consider organizing regular UGGp training course for staff working within the National Park Visitor Centres, Information points and UGGp Visitor Information Centres.

Green card voted unanimously.

35.Villuercas - Ibores, Jara (Spain)

i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

- ii- Following the review of the **Villuercas - Ibores, Jara** (Spain) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
1. Upgrade the UGGp interpretation panels. Interpretation panels should be easily understandable to all visitors. Geological site information and geological maps should be improved, simplified, and the use of scientific words should be avoided or clearly explained providing English translation.
 2. Consider improving and upgrading the interpretation provided at the Vicente Sos Baynat Geominer Museum and Centre of the Castañar Cave ensuring good quality English translation.
 3. Improve Geopark visibility:
 - Develop the Geopark brand identity and ensure the consistent use of the UGGp logo in all communications i.e. interpretation panels, leaflet, exhibitions, etc.
 - Ensure the UGGp website is updated regularly.
 - Improve the use of English translation within promotional material, i.e., guided tours, exhibitions, etc.
 - Update the current tourist map to including all sites, facilities, partners, etc.
 - Strengthen the conservation of new UGGp geological sites such as La Villuerca.

Green card voted unanimously.

36.English Riviera (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

- i- A conflict of interest was declared by Melanie Border who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii- Following the review of the **English Riviera (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)** revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
1. Review UGGp resources and team to ensure that adequate funding is available to sustain territory management.

2. Strengthen the connections and partnership with the Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust (TCCT).
3. Extend the approach developed at the “Hope Nose” site and use it as a model for other UGGp sites.
4. Develop local partnership involvement within the new Geo-Impact Project by providing data and the exchange of ideas, etc.
5. Consider the creation of a new Geopark visitor centre as a central point for all information sharing, ensuring the full participation of Geopark partners.

Green card voted unanimously.

37. North West Highlands (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **North West Highlands (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)** revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Review UGGp resources and team to ensure that adequate funding is available to sustain territory management.
 2. Consider the opportunity to re-define the UGGp boundaries to include the full administrative boundaries of the 7 communities. This potential extension could provide the UGGp greater visibility across its partners and population.
 3. Develop a partnership strategy which includes clear methodology and criteria on becoming a partner, outlining the associated agreements with the Geopark. This is applicable to accommodation, catering, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products, but is not restricted to those identified. Consider providing these partners and local producers with greater visibility using the geopark logo and brand as well as specific promotional material.
 4. Consider improving the UGGp brand identity and visibility at Smoo Cave, Knockan Crag and upgrading the self-interpreted trails network, Smoo Cave parking area, Information Point and new Geopark Centre in Scourie.

5. Consider strengthening UGGp Geotourism, by creating package offers using the UGGp brand (combining both UGGp and partner activities) to include guided tours, activity tourism (climbing, horse-riding, kayak, boat trips, etc.) and self-guided outdoor activities.
6. Strengthen the UGGp role in coordinating and standardizing strategies for local development agency engagement.

Green card voted unanimously.

38. Shetland (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

- i- No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
- ii- Following the review of the **Shetland (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)** revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:
 1. Ensure that this new UGGp map is used in all UGGp communications (i.e., leaflets, information panels, website etc.) in the future.
 2. Strengthen Geopark team knowledge on the UGGp programme and GGN by participating in UGGp Intensive Courses. Develop and update information regarding the Global Networks across UGGp facilities.
 3. Strengthen involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with Global Geoparks under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
 4. Develop links between geological and the other territorial heritages (i.e., natural biotic, culture, intangible) through interpretation, education, tours and geopark trails. Train local guides, tourism operators and local people etc. about the links between geology and ecology to enable knowledge sharing with visitors.
 5. Consider the potential to create new one or two-day discovery route activities using engaging route names. Think about the inclusion of a new tourist map for the visitors which including all sites, facilities, partners, etc.

6. Review financial and team resources to ensuring that adequate funding is available to sustain territory management. Consider the opportunity to increase, if necessary, the UGGp team by including a permanent geologist.
7. Improve educational strategies and activities and to facilitate the mitigation of natural hazard and climate change in schools and for the local population.
8. UGGp partners must ensure consistent communications with regards to the work of the UGGp reinforcing the global and territorial vision is not just limited to the geological features. Consider the development of regular training to explain the Geopark concept to partners, guides, tour operators, etc.

Green card voted unanimously.

XI. Discussion of Extension Requests (<10%)

1. Stonehammer (Canada)

- i. Summary and discussion regarding the extension: The extension requested involved an increase in size from 2525km² from 2500km² and had been implemented to integrate the Fundy trail pathway. The application requested a 1% overall extension, equating to 18Km². This extension would allow for further geological interpretation. It was noted that no issues had been raised in relation to its new neighbouring territory, Cliffs of Fundy.
- ii. Following the review of Stonehammer (Canada) extension request report, the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the request.

Dunhuang (China) – Extension Request <10%

- i. Summary and discussion: This extension will incorporate 15 new geoheritage sites and two world heritage sites. The boundaries have been adjusted to provide a more natural line. The suggestion to extend this territory arose from a previous evaluation recommendation. The extension increases the Geopark population thus enhancing the UGGps sustainable development capacity. The UGGp was applying for an 8.8% increase in size equating to 182.85km².

- ii. Following the review of Dunhuang (China) extension request report, the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the request.

2. Zhijindong Cave (China) – Extension Request <10%

- i. Summary and discussion: The territory had increased in size incorporating a further 8 towns and an additional population of 3000. The UGGp was applying for an 8.19% increase in size equating to 13.93km².
- ii. Following the review of Zhijindong Cave (China) extension request report, the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the extension request.

3. Haute Provence (France) – Extension Request <10%

- i. Summary and discussion: Extending the territory would allow the UGGp to include more communities. The extension report detailed an overall increase of 9.1% which equates to 19.162km².
- ii. Following the review of Haute Provence (France), extension request report the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the request.

4. Swabian Alb (Germany) – Request to Reduce in Size

- i. Summary and discussion: This UGGp had requested to reduce in size to allow the Ries Nation Park to have a clear boundary avoiding the overlap of territories. The application detailed a 6514km² to 6191km² reduction, equating to 5%. The impact crater would remain within the Reis National Park boundary while the palaeontology, pre-impact geology and volcanism remaining with Swabian Alb, enabling each territory to have distinct geology. This request would also facilitate Ries National Park's capacity to become an aUGGp in the future. A discrepancy was identified on the boundary map due to poor resolution, the UGGpC requested that the UNESCO Secretariat request updated shape files from Swabian Alb UGGp.
- ii. Following the review of Swabian Alb (Germany) request to reduce the overall size of the UGGp the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the request.

5. Hațeg Country Dinosaurs Geopark (Romania) – Extension Request <10%

- i. A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping Zhang who left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
- ii. Summary and discussion on extension request <10%: The extension report detailed an overall 100km² increase in size from 1024km² to 1124km² extending the northern part of the territory, increasing the population and incorporating new geosites.
- iii. Following the review of Hațeg Country Dinosaurs Geopark (Romania) extension request, the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the request.

XII. Re-naming of UNESCO Global Geoparks

1. Hațeg Country Dinosaurs Geopark (Romania) renaming to *Hațeg Country UNESCO Global Geopark*.

- i. Summary and discussion regarding the renaming: The UGGpC felt that this renaming was a great improvement as Geoparks do not need to have any geological references within their name.
- ii. The UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the requested rename of the UNESCO Global Geopark to ***Hațeg Country UNESCO Global Geopark***.

2. Conca de Tremp - Montsec (Spain) renaming to *Origens UNESCO Global Geopark*.

- i. Summary and discussion of renaming: The renaming of this UGGp was proposed following the advice of a consultancy firm as part of a marketing strategy to attract more tourists. The previous name was considered too long and complicated. The new name was agreed via public consultation. The Council felt that more information was needed in future applications in order to explain the rationale for a name change and its meaning so the new brand identity could be clearly understood and articulated.

- ii. The proposed renaming in **Conca de Tremp - Montsec (Spain)** was discussed and the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the requested renaming of the UNESCO Global Geopark to ***Origens UNESCO Global Geopark***.

XIII. Presentation of Future Work Procedures:

It was agreed that the following draft policy documents would be reviewed further outside of the meeting, allowing more time for considerations and adaptation.

i- Draft Guidelines for Field Inspections and Mission Evaluations:

It was decided that evaluators should be informed in advance about the attendance of Observers before mission commencement. 'Lessons learnt' from the Council meeting would be incorporated into the policy document to ensure alignment across policy guidelines.

ii- Draft Evaluator Selection and Management Procedures:

It was agreed that 'lessons learnt' from the Council meeting should be incorporated into the Evaluator Selection Management Procedure. UNESCO Secretariat should ensure that all changes are aligned within related policies and guidelines.

iii- Draft IUGs Guidelines for the Assessment for Geoheritage and International Significance of UNESCO Global Geoparks applications.

As this was a complex and detailed document, the Chairperson requested that the Council be given more time to consider this policy. The Council agreed to analyse and review this document over the coming months with a view to finalising the document through an electronic vote. It was agreed that the document would be finalised and agreed by end of March 2020. If consensus could not be found, the document would be tabled for discussion at the next UGGp Council in 2020. The representative from the German Delegation suggested the geological significance should also be considered by other accredited organisations to provide a more balanced and broader perspective on geological value.

XIV. Communications Activities, Forward Planning and Strategy Discussion:

UNESCO and GGN explained the planned schedule for future training and thematic workshops.

XV. Any Other Business

Application for the Sale of Waste Geological Materials:

The Langkawi UGGp request to sell geological material was considered. It was noted that waste material would be utilised from a closed/disused quarry, allowing the UGGp to recycle material into small sculptures and artefacts, supporting local crafts-people and the local community. As the Langkawi UGGp would only be utilising waste materials that request was **AGREED** unanimously.

XVI. Actions Arising from the Council Meeting:

1. The 'checklist' needs to be updated to reflect the changes agreed during the meeting, additionally, the explanatory notes should be developed and agreed by the UGGpC, through an electronic vote, within two months of the Council meeting.
2. The Chairperson explained that the 'checklist' would also be adapted for Revalidation assessments and further developed over the coming year, with a draft being reviewed and agreed at the 2020 Council Meeting.
3. It was agreed that UNESCO Secretariat should check all boundary information in advance and obtain further clarification, where necessary, before all Council meetings. It was suggested that boundary information for all existing and new Geoparks would be reviewed and checked by the UNESCO Secretariat.
4. The UNESCO Secretariat to check and update the UNESCO Geoparks website information for all existing Geoparks ensuring all changes are detailed correctly.
5. Extension/ Reduction Applications: The Council concluded that more information was needed in future for territory extension/reduction applications. Extension applications should make clear whether new Geopark sites are being incorporated, providing increased population data. Equally, UGGp territory reductions should detail any loss of geological significance and provide revised population figures. It was further decided that UGGps will need to provide evidence of public consultation. The Council agreed that the UGGpC and UNESCO Secretariat would develop a new proforma to capture this information for both extension or reduction of territory. 'Shape' files would need to be provided so clear boundaries changes can be seen. The UNESCO Secretariat were advised to check all future 'Shape' files to ensure that the reduction or increase percentages were accurate before all Council meetings. It was noted that extension

and reduction requests were subject to an intergovernmental check. Additionally, cumulative changes (i.e., size reductions or increases in territory size over time) will need to be considered ensuring that extensions or reductions are no greater than 10%. If cumulative changes exceed 10% the UGGp will need to submit a new application. The new proforma will be adopted by the Council by electronic vote before December 2019.

6. Renaming Applications: It was decided that a new proforma should be developed by the Council and UNESCO Secretariat to ensure that a full explanation is provided regarding the motives and concept behind renaming. It was noted that all renaming requests were subject to an intergovernmental check. The representative from the German Delegation queried how this proforma would be used. The new proforma would be created and the final document would be adopted and agreed by the Council by electronic vote before December 2019.
7. The UNESCO Secretariat and UGGpC should work together to finalise the 'Future Working Procedures' documents as detailed in point XIII. It was agreed that these documents would be finalized by electronic vote by March 2020.
8. It was proposed to publish Council 'decisions' on the UNESCO website detailing outcomes of new applications and revalidations. The information should be published within one week of Council Meeting. The publication should clearly stipulate that the results are **outcomes** of the Council Meeting and are subject to ratification and endorsement by the UNESCO Executive Board in April. The UNESCO Secretariat agreed to seek legal advice to ensure that the associated wording within the publication clarified how Geoparks and the public should treat this information.
9. A new Council protocol was adopted, if Red Card Geopark wish to submit a new application to re-establish UGGp status following a 'Red Card' Council decision; the UGGpC agreed that UNESCO Secretariat should offer to undertake a special advisory expert mission to support and advise the Geopark. It was also noted that special expert advisory missions were also available to 'Yellow Card' Geoparks.
10. Guidance should be developed for all UGGp's on the appropriate use of the adaptive logo. The Council recommended that the UGGp Secretariat establish guidelines for the use of the adapted logo and communicate this information to all UNESCO Global Geoparks.