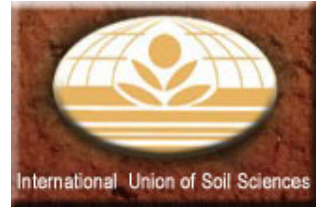




National Council for  
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SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

# 10<sup>th</sup> International Meeting on Soils With Mediterranean Type of Climate

<http://www.cnrs.edu.lb/10IMSMTC.pdf>

Soil Conservation and Protection is the Basis for Sustainable Land  
Management

Beirut, Lebanon

22-26 June, 2009



## Introduction

At the 9<sup>th</sup> International Meeting on Soils with Mediterranean Type of Climate, 22-25 October 2007 Aix-en-Provence, France, it was decided to hold the next conference in Beirut, Lebanon in June 2009. The Aix-en-Provence participants approved the invitation made on behalf of the Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS) to organize in Beirut the 10<sup>th</sup> International Meeting on Soils with Mediterranean Type of Climate (10<sup>th</sup> IMSMTC).



The history of these international events started in 1947 in Marseilles, France when the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting on Red Mediterranean Soils was held. It was followed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting held in Madrid, Spain in 1967. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting held in Adana, Turkey in 1993, organized by Çukurova University in cooperation with the International Union of Soil Sciences, represented a new era in the studies of Red Mediterranean Soils. At the 3<sup>rd</sup> conference in Adana, a Task Force on Red Mediterranean Soils was formed. The working group continues to be active since then. Because not only the Mediterranean climatic conditions that favour the formation of Red Soils, it was decided to change the name into International Meeting on Soils with Mediterranean Type of Climate during the 4<sup>th</sup> International Meeting on Red Mediterranean Soils, held in Chalkidiki, Greece in 1995. The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting was held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria in 1997 by the University of Plovdiv in cooperation with Puchkariov Soil Institute. Barcelona University organized the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting in 1999 in Spain, while the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting was organized by IAM-Bari, Italy, in 2001 and the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting was organized by the Agronomic and Veterinary Institute Hassan II in Cooperation with the National School of Agriculture of Meknes in 2004 in Morocco.

Soil is one of the most important natural systems of the earth, representing an essential component of land resources. It is the place where people live, grow food and get fiber. Soil provides the substrate for forest to flourish and grant oxygen and biodiversity. The use of soils in road building, construction, ceramics and the cement are areas where a basic knowledge of soil and landscapes is important. Research institutes promote these studies. Carbon dynamics is the central link between the physical climate and biogeochemical

systems. Soils are, therefore, a major route to understanding and predicting the effects of human actions on our planet. Human interference usually has a negative impact mainly leading to the disturbance of ecosystems provoking land degradation. It could however, have a positive effect through land rehabilitation and soil protection.

Worldwide, soils are threatened by erosion, chaotic urban sprawl, contamination and salinisation. Soil however, helps and improves the recharge of groundwater thus contributing to cope with water shortage and water scarcity and reducing the impact of climate change. However, the soils of dry regions are extremely fragile and prone to deterioration because of the climatic pattern and long history of human civilisations and pressure. Therefore, the 10<sup>th</sup> IMSMTC will highlight the problems of soil management and conservation. These issues concern scientists and stakeholders living not only in areas with soils of Mediterranean Type of Climate.

Papers are solicited that illustrate the benefits of using geospatial data and information technology to build models providing soil information problems and management and the use of modern techniques to support decision making and rapid information systems serving poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Successful environmental research studies and papers on applications, management and sustainable development, including policies and participatory bottom-up response actions to mitigate climate change and drought, combat desertification and provide income generating activities are especially welcomed.

### **Main topics of the 10<sup>th</sup> IMSMTC**

- Soil classification and mapping
- Impact of climate change on soil behaviour and productivity. Soil resilience to drought and desertification
- Land degradation and quality in the framework of soil contamination and decontamination
- Secondary soil salinity and soil salinity management
- Effective irrigation and fertilization of Mediterranean soils within the context of integrated production
- Calcretes: The indicators of the reshaping processes of the Mediterranean landscape. The indigenous Mediterranean ecosystems- the Mediterranean anthroscapes
- Soil as component of organic farming in the Mediterranean context
- Organic amendment to enhance carbon sequestration using composted materials and domestic solid and liquid wastes
- Natural and man made hazards associated to soil hydrological, physical and physico-chemical properties: Mass movement, soil erosion and sedimentation
- Soil forest ecosystems and forest fires
- Use of Remote Sensing and GIS for the studies of soil characteristics, soil erosion and mass movement
- Management of soil information

### **Oral and poster presentations**

Interested participants should send their Extended Abstracts to the Scientific Committee of the conference. Only those relevant to the topics of the conference will be allowed for presentation. Extended abstracts should be sent in time respecting the deadline given in this Announcement.

## Instructions for preparation of Extended Abstracts:

The extended abstracts of both poster and oral presentations should not exceed 5 A4 size single-spaced and justified pages (including tables, figures, maps, and references), using Times New Roman font. Left margins should be 3 cm while top, bottom and right margins 2,5 cm.

They should include:

Title: size 14, capital letters, bold and centred

Name(s) of author(s): size 12, capital letters, bold and centred

Author's affiliation: department (section, unit), institution, full address, tel/fax, and email. Size 12, small letters, italics, normal and centred

Summary: size 11, italics

Introduction: size 12, bold

Text of introduction: size 12, normal

Materials and Methods: size 12, bold

Text of Materials and Methods: size 12, normal

Results and Discussion: size 12, bold

Text of Results and Discussion: size 12, normal

Conclusions: size 12, bold

Text of Conclusions: size 12, normal

References: size 12, bold

Text of references: size 12, normal

Extended Abstracts should be sent to Dr. Talal Darwish ([tdarwich@cnrs.edu.lb](mailto:tdarwich@cnrs.edu.lb)) or to Dr. Ahmet Mermut ([a.mermut@usask.ca](mailto:a.mermut@usask.ca)).

If funding would be available the organisers will try to publish a special issue of "Selected Papers of the 10<sup>th</sup> IMSMTC" on a peer-referred journal. If this will be the case, selected authors will be notified to submit full papers.

The time allocated for each oral presentation is 15 minutes immediately followed by a period of 5 minutes for questions and comments. At the end of each session, a period of 30 minutes will be devoted to open discussions, comments and final conclusions.

Poster boards will have a space of 135 x 180 cm (width x height). Please use fonts at least 5 mm high, so that they can be easily read at 2 m distance. The title must be written in letters at least 30 mm high. Please use maps, figures, tables, and photos relevant to the objectives of the conference.

## Deadlines

- Submission of extended abstracts: 31 March 2009

## Programme

Sunday 21 and Monday 22 June 2009	Arrival of participants, registration
Tuesday 23 June	Opening ceremony, Keynote paper presentations Oral and poster session
Wednesday 24 June	Oral and poster presentations
Thursday 25 June	Field excursion (details will be provided latter)
Friday 26 June	Oral and poster presentations Conclusions of the workshop and Social dinner
Saturday 27 June	Departure

Sessions will be organised in a way to give sufficient time for questions and discussions. Each session will be chaired and introduced by a person who will give an overview of the major topics to be presented. Participants who will make oral presentations are encouraged to use only Power Point files. The purpose of the presentations is to set the floor for discussions and debate.

## Venue and Accommodation

The 10<sup>th</sup> International Meeting on Soils with Mediterranean Type of Climate will be held inside the CNRS Conference Room. The main conference room of the Institute is equipped with state of the art computer technology to facilitate all kinds of digital presentations. There are also a number of other rooms that could be used for parallel sessions, if such a need would arise.

Accommodation at very reasonable price would be made available at the Marble Tower Hotel or Le Cavalier Hotel located in Hamra, 1 km south west of the city centre of Beirut. Service cars connect the Hotels with the city centre at low prices. Please check the conference web page for detailed information on hotels and their respective prices. Lunch boxes (cost not included in the registration fee) will be available at the cafeteria for the whole duration of the conference.

The new Rafiq Hariri international Airport of Beirut has many daily connections with the rest of the World. Beirut is a port city of the East Mediterranean Sea located in the middle coastal part of Lebanon. It has been for centuries at the cross roads of different cultures of the Mediterranean and still continues to play a bridging role between Western and Eastern civilisations.

Lebanon is famous for many tourist attractions; among them is the national museum and the town of Baalbeck, famous for its Roman Temples. Not far from Beirut is the historical city of Byblos (Jbail) where the first letter was shipped to the rest of the world. The organisers will make any effort to include visits to Baalbeck during the field excursion.

## Registration Fee

Registration fee will cover the welcome reception, participation in the scientific sessions, abstracts book, coffee, tea and snacks, and field excursion (including lunch) at the middle of the conference. A social dinner will be offered by CNRS.

Members of IUSS, WASWC, SISS, AFES and ESSC	\$ 200
Students (evidence in support)	\$ 100
Non-members	\$ 250

**Payments received later than 30 April 2009 will be increased by \$50**

Please check the web page for payment details

## Climate

Beirut enjoys a typical Mediterranean climate. In June the weather is pleasant but could be also hot at midday and enjoyable at night. Please take comfortable clothes and sunglasses for the field excursion.

## Visa

Every participant should make his/her own arrangement for receiving the Lebanese visa by contacting the Lebanese Embassies and Consulates in their home countries. If needed, the organisers at the CNRS will send to those interested, official letters confirming their participation at the 10<sup>th</sup> IMSMTC. For assistance please contact Dr. Talal Darwish ([tdarwich@cnrs.edu.lb](mailto:tdarwich@cnrs.edu.lb)). Few special countries have special requirements for issuing visas therefore, applicants should send a scanned copy of their passports well in advance with the probable arrival and departure dates.

## Medical insurance

It is strongly advised that every participant makes his/her own arrangement for medical insurance for the whole duration of the conference.

## Contacts

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## International Committee

Ahmet Mermut (Canada)  
Selim Kapur (Turkey)  
Pandi Zdruli (Italy)  
Members  
Hari Eswaran (USA)  
Mohamad Badraoui (Morocco)  
Jaume Bech (Spain)  
Fabienne Trolard (France)  
Theocharopoulos Sid (Greece)

## Scientific Committee of the 10<sup>th</sup> IMSMTC

Prof. Mouin Hamzé (CNRS Lebanon): Secretary General, National Council for Scientific Research. Beirut, Lebanon

## Members

Dr. Hari Eswaran, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington DC, USA  
Prof. Ahmet R. Mermut, University of Saskatchewan, Canada  
Dr. Pandi Zdruli, MAI-Bari, Italy  
Prof. Selim Kapur, University of Çukurova, Adana, Turkey  
Dr. Luca Montanarella, European Commission, JRC-IES Ispra, Italy  
Dr. Angel Faz Cano Technical University of Cartagena, Spain  
Dr. Roque Ortiz Silla, University of Murcia, Spain  
Dr. Edoardo A.C. Costantini, CRA-ISSDS, Florence, Italy  
Prof. Mohamed Badraoui, Haut Commissariat aux eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte contre la Désertification, Morocco  
Prof. Jaume Bech, University of Barcelona, Spain  
Dr. Fabienne Trolard, INRA, Aix-En-Provence, France  
Dr. Theocharopoulos Sid, Soil Science Institute of Athens, Greece  
Prof. Nikola Kolev, Scientific Secretary General, Agricultural Academy of Bulgaria  
Dr. Talal Darwish, Center for Remote Sensing-CNRS, Lebanon

## **Organising Committee of the 10<sup>th</sup> IMSMT**

Dr. Talal Darwish, Chairman, Director, Center for Remote Sensing, CNRS  
Mr. Souheil Kinan, Administrative and Finance Officer, CNRS  
Dr. Carla Khater, Center for Remote Sensing, CNRS  
Dr. Ghaleb Faour, Center for Remote Sensing, CNRS

## **CNRS Internal secretarial and management support**

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Dr. Ihab Jomaa, Administration  
Eng. Mohamad Abou Daher, Administration  
Ms. Rola Jawharji, Administration  
Ms. Hala Khalil, Administration

**Pre-registration Form and Call for papers**

**10<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON SOILS WITH MEDITERRANEAN TYPE  
OF CLIMATE**

**BEIRUT, LEBANON 22-26 June 2009**

<http://www.cnrs.edu.lb/10IMSMTC.pdf>

Surname .....

Name .....

Mr       Mrs       Dr       Prof

Organization:.....  
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Address:.....  
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Telephone

Fax

E-mail

Possible number of accompanying person(s)

wish to attend the conference

also intend to present a paper

Oral       Poster

Envisaged author(s) and title:  
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.....

**Contact Information:**

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