

PRESS CONFERENCE INVITATION

15 October 2008

29th ICSU General Assembly: Press Conference, Maputo, Mozambique

Thursday 23 October 2008, 13.00–14.15 (GMT+2)

The International Council for Science (ICSU) would like to invite you to the press conference of the 29th ICSU General Assembly (GA), at which the global scientific community will make decisions that will contribute to solving some of the most pressing challenges facing society, including: human health; hazards and disasters; and ecosystem change and human well-being.

Participants at the GA will also address issues that affect scientists, including: freedom, responsibility and conduct in science; and management of data and information.

The press conference panellists will: outline the major decisions and describe how they will be important for addressing the science-based challenges facing society; outline a vision for ICSU over the next three years; and provide a local perspective on the importance of holding this major international event in sub-Saharan Africa and what it means for Mozambique.

Panellists:

Professor Goverdhan Mehta (Chair), President of ICSU and Bhatnagar Fellow and Honorary Professor, Department of Organic Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India.

Professor Catherine Bréchnignac, President-Elect of ICSU, and President of the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), France.

Professor Hernan Chaimovich, ICSU Vice-President for External Relations; Professor of Biochemistry, Institute of Chemistry, Universidade de São Paulo; and Vice-President Brazilian Academy of Science.

Professor Antonio Leao, National Director, Technology for Research, Innovation and Technology Development, Mozambique.

Dr Khotso Mokhele, ICSU Vice-President for Scientific Planning and Review and former CEO of the National Research Foundation of South Africa.

When: Thursday 23 October 2008, 13.00–14.15 (local time)

Where: Centro Internacional de Conferências 'Joaquim Chissano'
Avenue da Marginal 51, Maputo, Mozambique

Notes to journalists:

There will be a Portuguese-English translator at the press conference. Coffee will be served from 12.50; refreshments will be available from 14.00. You are advised to arrive 10 minutes early to allow time to register for the press conference. Journalists are also welcome to observe the sessions at the GA (21–24 October).

If you wish to attend the press conference or the GA, please contact Jacinta (details below).

Media enquiries: Jacinta Legg, Science Communications Officer, ICSU

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The 29th ICSU GA and associated events are being hosted by AICIMO—the ICSU National Scientific Member in Mozambique—under the auspices of the Government of Mozambique and in cooperation with the ICSU Regional Office for Africa. For more information and details of the GA programme:

www.icsu.org/3_mediacentre/GA_29.html

About ICSU

Founded in 1931, ICSU is a non-governmental organization with a global membership of national scientific bodies (114 Members, representing 134 countries) and International Scientific Unions (29 Members). The Council is frequently called upon to speak on behalf of the global scientific community and to act as an advisor in matters ranging from the environment to conduct in science. ICSU's activities focus on three areas: planning and coordinating research; science for policy; and strengthening the Universality of Science.