



UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
UNESCO Global Geoparks Council
3rd Session, 8-9 September 2018, Madonna di Campiglio, Italy

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.

1. The 3rd session of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council (hereafter referred to as UGGpC) of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP) was held in Madonna di Campiglio, Adamello Brenta UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy, from 8 to 9 September 2018.
2. A total of 25 participants including 16 members of the UGGpC and 9 observers attended this UGGpC session. Council members present (voting): Enas ABD ELHADY AHMED (Egypt), Asfawossen ASRAT (Ethiopia), Melanie BORDER (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Helga CHULEPIN (Uruguay), Soo Jae LEE (Korea), Kirstin LEMON (Ireland), Guy MARTINI (France), Martina PÁSKOVÁ (Czechia), Kristin RANGNES (Norway), Ana RUÍZ CONDE (Spain), Mahito WATANABE (Japan), and Jianping ZHANG (China). Other members present (non-voting) were Roland OBERHÄNSLI (International Union of Geological Sciences - IUGS), Nickolas ZOUROS (Global Geoparks Network - GGN President), Patrick MCKEEVER (UNESCO), Tim BADMAN (International Union for Conservation of Nature - IUCN).
3. The following observers were present:
UNESCO: Denise GORFINKIEL (UNESCO Montevideo Office), Margarete PATZAK (UNESCO HQ), Elsa SATTOUT (UNESCO Cairo Office), Ai SUGIURA (UNESCO Jakarta Office), Soichiro YASUKAWA (UNESCO HQ);
Italy: Aniello ALOIA, (Chair of the Italian Geopark Committee, Cilento, Vallo di Diano and Alburni UGGp, Alessia AMORFINI, (Apuan Alps UGGp);
Portugal: Elizabeth SILVA (National Commission of Portugal to UNESCO, Responsible for the Science Sector, Coordinator of the Portuguese UGGp, UNESCO Expert for the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme)
Spain: Lucía TEJERO (Cabo de Gata-Níjar UGGp), Mónica RUIZ BUSTOS (National Commission for UNESCO for Spain)

I. Opening by the outgoing Chairperson of the UGGpC

4. Guy Martini, outgoing Chairperson of the UGGpC officially opened the meeting. He welcomed the observers from Italy, Portugal, Spain and from UNESCO offices all around the world. He invited the UGGpC members to introduce themselves. He summarized all the work that has been done over the past two years, during the Council sessions and throughout the year. A lot has been achieved including the renewal of documents, such as the templates for evaluators, and the progress reports. He pointed out the need to renew the self-evaluation documents A&B. He expressed thanks to the outgoing UGGpC members as well as to the new and ongoing members.

II. Election of new UGGp Bureau members (chairperson, vice-chairperson and rapporteur)

5. The following proposals were elected:
 - a) Chairperson – **Guy Martini** (11 votes in favour, one abstention)
 - b) Vice-Chairperson – **Jianping Zhang** (accepted by 11 votes) and **Ana Ruiz** (1 vote)
 - c) Rapporteur - **Kirstin Lemon** (11 votes in favour, one abstention)

Thus the elected **UNESCO Global Geoparks Bureau** is composed as follows, including the two ex-officio members from the GGN and UNESCO:

- a) Chairperson – **Guy Martini (France)**
 - b) Vice-Chairperson – **Jianping Zhang (China)**
 - c) Rapporteur - **Kirstin Lemon (Ireland)**
6. The representative from the Spanish UNESCO National Commission thanked the outgoing members, congratulated the UGGpC and asked the new members to respect the rules. She further asked for more transparency concerning the communication with Member States, and especially related to electronic voting procedures done by the Council, as well as the distribution of the report of the Bureau sessions. She made the remark that the last UGGpC Report was not sent to Member States in a timely manner. UNESCO outlined the process and explained the reason for the length of time this takes.

III. Opening remarks of the incoming Chair of the UGGpC, and the representatives of UNESCO, GGN, IUGS and IUCN

7. **IUCN:** The representative expressed IUCN's delight at being able to attend the UGGpC Session for the first time. He highlighted the role of the IUCN including its focus on science but also on science policy interface. IUCN is able to offer the following specific assistance:
 - a) IUCN is extremely experienced in intergovernmental meetings and working with inter-governmental processes and can offer help on both technical and procedural matters, to ensure that they are simple, precise and as well-documented as possible.
 - b) IUCN mentioned that it is important to maintain the quality of UGGps as they continue the transition as new UNESCO programme. UGGps are unique as an international programme as they expect quality on the ground results.
8. **IUGS:** The representative from IUGS reiterated the fact that in a MoU between UNESCO, IUGS and IUCN, it was identified that IUGS should provide the geological assessment for World Heritage sites and UGGps. IUGS is trying to set standards,

whether it would be rock names, geological time, geochemistry and is working to get a homogeneous way to evaluate the geological sites and improve the process.

9. **GGN:** The representative of the GGN thanked IUCN and IUGS and explained that the GGN is a main supporter of the UNESCO Global Geoparks providing resources which are necessary for the operation of the programme. The GGN acts as the mechanism to collect the annual contribution to UNESCO of the 140 UGGPs (120.000 USD in 2016, 127.000 USD in 2017, and 140.000 USD in 2018). The GGN is also helping UGGPs through the organization of capacity building activities (Geopark Courses in Lesvos and Beijing), conferences, workshops, events, and other promotional activities (participation in International Tourism Fairs, publications, etc.). The GGN has established a contract with a professional company to work on the further development of the communication and promotion of the UGGPs.
10. **UNESCO:** The representative of UNESCO stated that the cooperation between IUGS and UNESCO goes back over 40 years and the relationship is stronger now than it has been for some time. There is also great support from Member States including in regard to funding. These funds together with that from the GGN have provided the ability to fund a workshop in Jordan just over a year ago that has kick-started projects all over the region, it helped colleagues from the Asia-Pacific region to support colleagues from Cambodia and Timor-Leste and was also used to fund a meeting in Latin America resulting in a great rise in applications from there.

IV. Adoption of the agenda and timetable

11. Clarification was sought on an agenda item on the revalidation of UGGPs in Spain that had been circulated prior to the meeting that is now removed. This agenda item had been added to Any Other Business (AOB). Members were reminded that the agenda remains 'provisional' until it is adopted by the UGGpC.
12. Clarification was sought on completion of the agenda within the time allocated. Members were informed that if all of the agenda items were not covered then a convenient time would be allocated during the remainder of the week as long as a suitable quorum was met.
13. Clarification was sought on the rules and procedures for all Observers present and it was stated that all rules and procedures that apply to the UGGpC members also apply to the Observers.
14. The UGGpC was reminded of the need for fairness in all discussions and that if a conflict of interest arises, then the relevant person should leave the room and not participate in the voting process when this candidature/revalidation will be analysed by the UGGpC.
15. The UGGpC adopted the agenda and timetable of its third session without modification.
16. The Chairperson clarified for new members the UGGpC code of ethics voted in the previous meeting and reminded that UGGpC voting members involved in an evaluation or revalidation mission are in conflict of interest and should leave the room and not participate in the debate and vote when this candidature/revalidation will be analysed by the UGGpC.

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

17. 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 case of deferral, there is no need to repeat the field evaluation mission during this time.
18. 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.
19. 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: Funiushan (China), Sanqingshan (China) and Taishan (China).
20. The members of the UGGpC examined at its 3rd meeting 23 candidatures for new UNESCO Global Geoparks of which 3 were extensions of existing UNESCO Global Geoparks.
21. **Aspromonte** (Italy): The applicant territory coincides with the Aspromonte National Park and covers an area of 656 km² in the province of Reggio Calabria, southern Italy. The highest peak of the Aspromonte Massif is Montalto (1956m above sea level), which enjoys an extraordinary 360° view of unique panoramas and scenery embracing the Straits of Messina, Mount Etna, and the Aeolian Islands, among others. The geology is limited by an important tectonic line, which separates the Massif of Aspromonte from the Massif of the Serre, two crustal blocks with very different geological histories. The main geological interest lies in the southern peninsular fragment of the Orogene (Arco) Calabrian-Peloritano (OCP). The OCP represents an alien element along the Apennine mountain chain, and is the result of a rare orogenic process. It corresponds to a fragment of the alpine chain detached from Spain, North-West Italy, Sardinia and Corsica area by the opening of the Ligurian-Piedmontese Basin and the Tyrrhenian Sea, now located east-southeast and overwhelmed entirely in the lower Miocene by the nascent Apennine Chain. A unique geological system, yet still in formation, whose main geological heritage components consist of crystalline-metamorphic Palaeozoic rocks.
22. No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the UGGpC.
23. Three fairly positive and one negative review of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
24. Summary and discussion: Visibility is good, there is good integration of the natural, cultural and intangible heritage, and the education programmes are well-established.

Management is looked after by the National Park and there is no overlapping with other UNESCO designations. The aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark, hereafter referred to as an aUGGp, is a Member of the European Sustainable Tourism Charter and involved in geotourism policy. They have good partnerships with local stakeholders and roster of local guides and are already involved in networking activities of the EGN and GGN. However, the main item of discussion was the presence of geological heritage of international importance, criterion (i) of the Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks. The IUGS reviews were not particularly positive about it and some important sites are located outside the applicant area. IUGS explained also that the application dossier was not written to a high standard which made their job difficult.

25. A number of recommendations were provided for Aspromonte:
 - a) Provide a new chapter E 1.1 (Geological Heritage and Conservation) that presents an improved outline of the internationally important geological heritage. This new/revised geological description should be then submitted to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat which will ask for a new review from the IUGS.
 - b) Be encouraged to integrate a permanent position for a geologist in the aUGGp staff.
 - c) Integration of the cultural heritage with the geological heritage
 - d) Development of permanent exhibits
 - e) Development of a marketing strategy and program
 - f) Improve the cooperation and knowledge transfer with other UGGps.
 - g) Improve the website, especially the contents update.
 - h) Development of an Action Plan for educational activities on a regular basis.
 - i) The village Natile Vecchio di Careri is a good example that shows how the people's resilience helps to face natural disasters and their consequences. In cooperation with the local community. An Info-point about floods and people in this village or another kind of facility can improve the promotion of the links between Geological Hazards and human beings, and how it affects the culture, land-planning, etc.
 - j) Implement a visitor monitoring methodology to improve decisions and planning regarding tourism offers.
 - k) Clearly differentiate the aUGGp activities from the National Park and ensure Aspromonte aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark visibility.
26. Following the review of the **Aspromonte** (Italy) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that it does not yet fulfil the UGGp criteria (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) criterion (i), to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **defer this candidature** for a maximum of two years to allow the above recommendations to be implemented.
27. **Chirripó** (Costa Rica): The Chirripó National Park covers 501 km², and is located between the provinces of San José, Cartago and Limón, in the central section of the Cordillera de Talamanca. This is a mountainous system, where the highest elevations of the country are located that divide the Caribbean plains of the lowlands of the Pacific slope. The altitudes oscillate between 1,180 and 3,820 m elevation. Chirripó offers a unique opportunity to study the processes that lead to the generation of the continental crust of the Earth, from primitive basalts to granitic intrusives that resemble continental crust composition. Understanding the formation of silicic magmas with juvenile continental crust characteristics remains a central frontier for deciphering the mechanism of continental lithosphere generation. Understanding chemical characteristics is paramount, for understanding the generation of the new continental crust. This tropical area further holds evidence of a glaciated past, showing glacial striations and glacial lakes, arêtes, u-shaped valleys and horns. One of the most famous expressions of this landform in the world is the Matterhorn in Switzerland. However, the iconic Crestones peaks located inside the Chirripó National Park are also a striking expression of this landform and attest to a very active glacial past. These glacial

landforms are unique in Central America and are rarely observed in the tropical environments of historically low-latitude regions like Costa Rica.

A conflict of interest was declared by Mahito Watanabe so he left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

28. Two positive and one negative review of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS. Two reviewers highlighted that the geological description of the area was incomplete. Some important information on tectonic processes acting at the Central American land bridge, in particular affecting the Sierra de Talamanca, is missing.
29. Summary and discussion: Although the area has internationally important geological heritage there is no resident population criterion (v), the majority of Geosites are outside of the boundary criterion (i), and the aUGGp has no visibility criterion (i). The area has also not carried out any networking activities criterion (vi), and the knowledge of what makes a UGGp is very low. For these reasons, the area is not yet operating as a *de facto* UGGp, which is a condition *per se* to be fulfilled before submitting any application to UNESCO. The Council stressed the importance of encouraging the area to keep on progressing and the need to keep on working with them. However, it was also pointed out that this mission should not have taken place as the application was actually premature. The Council noted that the applicant has attended a UNESCO workshop in Uruguay at the end of November.
30. The UGGpC Chair gave the floor to the observer from the Spanish National Commission who found it difficult to follow the discussions without the related documents. The observer made reference to Section 5.3 of the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks indicating that the documents related to a UGGp application, including the reports of the desk-top assessments and the evaluations, should be publicly available on the UNESCO website. This will be analyzed and clarified, in the future, by UGGpC Bureau, in consultation with IUGS and the UGGp Secretariat.
31. A number of recommendations were provided for **Chirripó** (Costa Rica):
 - a) Staff should participate the training courses, symposia, and conferences held by the GGN and regional geopark networks.
 - b) The territory of the aUGGp must be enlarged to include population, villages and accessible geosites at the foot of mountain area.
 - c) The aUGGp's visibility in the region has to be developed. Clearly differentiate the aUGGp activities from the National Park and ensure Chirripó aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark visibility.
 - d) The aUGGp should create information points, Visitor Centres, interpretative panels and other tools to provide comprehensive information about the geological, biological and cultural heritage of the whole aUGGp, and also provide adequate translation in foreign languages (especially English).
 - e) In addition to the glacier topography sites in the higher area of the mountain, more sites of geological interest should be selected as geosites of the aUGGp.
 - f) A detailed Action Plan has to be developed and implemented.
 - g) The information and communication activities of the aUGGp must be put in place.
 - h) Educational programs must be developed and implemented. The program should refer to climate change and geohazards, such as landslides and earthquakes, which are likely to occur in the area.
 - i) The applicant should consider conducting a special survey on cultural and intangible heritages and develop a plan to conserve and promote them.

- j) A stronger collaboration has to be built with the Direction of Geology and Mining (DGM), with local and foreign Universities and Research Institutes to guarantee an efficient support from a scientific point of view and provide best geological knowledge of the area which is indispensable to use the complete potential of the area.
 - k) Include completed information on the missing aspects on the description of the geological heritage, e.g., on tectonic processes acting at the Central American land bridge, in particular affecting the Sierra de Talamanca.
 - l) Advice should be sought to enable the establishment of improved interpretation activities and interpretive panels to ensure their accessibility for the general public. There are many examples of good practice within the network that can be referred to as examples.
 - m) Improve the nature tourism and geotourism offer by collaborating with local tourism agencies and accommodation facilities.
 - n) Organize educational and other training courses on regular basis for local guides to increase the understanding of the UGGp concept, and to value of geoheritage in the area.
 - o) Develop an official website for the aUGGp's territory not only in the local national language, but at least also in English.
32. Following the review of the **Chirripó** (Costa Rica) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate does not fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (v) and (vi) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3), to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **reject this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark**.
33. **Quaternary Geopark Northern Granada Valleys** (Spain): The area is located in the south-west of Spain, in the north of the province of Granada and has a total area of 1,410 km², which is surrounded by some of the highest mountains of the Iberian Peninsula. Between about 5 million and 0.5 million years ago, this territory was without any drainage exit to the sea, which generated an extraordinary record of Quaternary continental sediments. The following exoreic period has generated the area's current impressively eroded landscape. The arid nature of the region with scarce vegetation facilitates the observation of one of Continental Europe's best Quaternary records exposing 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 applicant area also tells us about the history thanks to the messages left in rocks from the Mesozoic and Neogene/Paleogene Period. More recent geological deformations can be observed such as active faults responsible for ancient earthquakes which generated singular structures called seismite.
34. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
35. Three positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
36. Summary and discussion: Sustainable regional development is extremely important and the applicant is really involved in the development of the area. Management is clearly structured and financial structure is secure. This candidate presented very positive aspects in terms of management and operation as it provides a structure of the aUGGp that is not the same as the other Andalucian UGGps (which are Natural Parks), and provides a model of territorial management based on community participation. However, there are three specific issues which are in conflict with the UNESCO Global

Geoparks Operational Guidelines. The following three aspects need to be solved prior to its acceptance.

- a) The name includes the word Quaternary, which is a geological term. UGGps are not geological parks. A geological definition for a territory is a strong limitation for its next sustainable development. (Criterion (i)).
- b) The boundary of the aUGGp has been defined in a scientific way following the boundary of the Quaternary deposits and features. As a consequence all of the main cities are outside the area. A UGGp boundary should be drawn to include local communities in order that the activities of the Geopark and its partners are able to provide sustainable development. As such the boundary of the aUGGp must be revised. (Criteria (i) and (viii)).
- c) Due to this geological territory delimitation, sites are located outside the main aUGGp area and the aUGGp is not a single unified area. (Criterion (i)).

37. A number of recommendations were provided for **Quaternary Geopark Northern Granada Valleys** (Spain):

- a) According to the Statutes and Operational Guidelines UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas. The current candidature map proves that the aUGGp does not fulfil this criterion. It is recommended that the boundary of the aUGGp should follow pre-existing administrative boundaries and should integrate the neighbouring cities which will provide coherence for the proposed UGGp territory and the ability to create true sustainable development and include people.
- b) The name of the aUGGp should not be defined by a “geological time” term as there are already many other recognized UGGps with Quaternary geological formations. This will create huge confusion for the public who may interpret its name as if it is the result of an assessment between the territories hosting Quaternary formations and as such could be incorrectly interpreted as the most representative territory of the Quaternary period. The name of the aUGGp must be as attractive as possible for visitors. Granada is, by itself and its renown, a very attractive destination. The proposed name therefore should be reconsidered.

38. Following the review of the **Quaternary Geopark Northern Granada Valleys** (Spain) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGp Council decided that the candidate does not represent a unified territory and thus does not fulfil the UGGp criteria (i) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **reject this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark**.

39. **Estrela** (Portugal): Located in Central Portugal, the applicant has an area of 2,216 km² 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 200 m to 1,993 m. 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 2,000 m. 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.

40. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

41. Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
42. Summary and discussion: The applicant area has a strong natural and cultural heritage component and has a good tourism product that is set up to reverse rural depopulation. The management is effective and comprehensive with a healthy budget that is augmented by in-kind contributions through a number of strategic partnerships.
43. During the evaluation mission, contact was made by representatives from Naturtejo UGGp who claimed that the applicant has very similar geology with Naturtejo UGGp. Within the Application Dossier a paragraph has already been included referring to the geological heritage (i.e. Section E 1.1 “Geological Heritage and Conservation”) and the aUGGp application is supported by many letters of support. However, there is no independent comparative study between these two territories. Due to the precedent set in the past with Conca de Tremp Montsec – Sobrarbe-Pirineos, and Rinjani-Lombok – Batur (discussed during the first and second UGGpC session in 2016 and 2017) the UGGpC agreed that this application should be deferred until an independent comparative study will be made between Estrela and Naturtejo.
44. A number of recommendations were provided for **Estrela** (Portugal):
 - a) Provide an independent geological study presenting the geological differences between the Estrela aUGGp and the Naturtejo UGGp.
 - b) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a coherent methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the aUGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products. (Criterion (v))
 - c) Panel text related to geological interpretation needs to be simplified to be understood by general public. (Criterion (ii))
 - d) Continue to be actively involved 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.
45. Following the review of the **Estrela** (Portugal) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided, due to precedents set in the past by UGGps with similar geology in close proximity and that it does not yet fulfil the criteria (i) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Article 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark. As such the UGGpC agreed to **defer this candidature** for a maximum of two years to allow the presentation of the independent geological comparative report, and to attend to the recommendations. According to rule 9.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the UGGpC and Bureau, the UGGpC indicates herewith that one member voted against this decision considering that Estrela aUGGp fulfills all UGGp criteria.
46. **Funiushan – extension > 10%** (China): The applicant has an area of 5,858.5 km² and is located in the east section of the Qinling Orogenic Belt and collision zone between the North China plate and Yangtze plate, a unique geological structure and complex geology that has created rich geo-heritage. These include typical stratigraphic sections and structural features, paleontological sites, as well as granite landforms. The Cretaceous dinosaur-egg fossil group present in the area are unique in terms of range of distribution, amount and variety and are of international significance for the study of paleobiology and the evolution and extinction of Cretaceous dinosaurs. The Funiushan granite landform series consists of peak cluster/forest/wall and there are structural karst

caves with various speleothems and rock paintings. Fluvial erosion landforms exhibit pools and waterfalls formed during the rapid uplift process of Funiushan, and have high scientific and aesthetic value.

47. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
48. Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
49. Summary and discussion: The territory is already operating as a UGGp however this application relates to their wish to extend the territory by more than 10%. The report is very positive.
50. A number of recommendations were provided for **Funiushan** (China):
 - a) Interpretation panels should have a standardised UGGp design, easily recognised both for geological, cultural and natural panels.
 - b) Xixia Dinosaur museum should have the same standard of interpretation in the whole museum. The newer parts of the museum are in a big contrast to other parts of the museum with older interpretation.
 - c) Geoscience expedition routes need more simplified and informative information that is understandable by the general public.
 - d) Parking lots need to be built and the location should take into consideration their connection with the panels and the safety of the tourists.
 - e) Jiguan Cave needs more geological interpretation panels explaining the creation of the cave formations.
 - f) In Laojunshan Scenic Area, there are various kinds of signboards with different designs and shapes. The signboards should have a unified design in the future. They should also include historical elements such as temples.
 - g) Baiyunshan Scenic Area: Waterfalls, particularly popular in the Baiyunshan Scenic Area, require maintenance of their sign posts so that their names, legends, and geological formations can appear on a single sign.
 - h) It would be good to develop outdoor activities like climbing, canoeing, biking, etc.
 - i) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
 - j) Develop educational material regarding topics like geohazard (the landscape of Funiushan is strongly influenced by geohazards like landslides), sustainable mining and climate change with more possibilities.
 - k) There are some concerns such as rock slides at some geosites, so it is necessary to regularly survey sites and prepare and implement appropriate preventive measures for the safety of visitors.
 - l) Develop more involvement of local population inside the UGGp action and projects.
51. Following the review of the **Funiushan** (China) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to extend the territory of the UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorses this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark** for four years.
52. **Grevena-Kozani** (Greece): This 2,486 km² area has an altitude from 380 to 2,300 m and traverses the high rugged mountains and foothills of the Pindos Range, a broad Cenozoic peneplain, the Vourinos-Vounassa Mountain Range and Kamvounian Hills of the Pierian Range. Human history including Neolithic sites with small copper deposits,

Hellenistic sites and hilltop fortresses, trade routes and battle fields of Byzantine to modern times are closely connected to the applicant's geological and geographic features. The plate tectonic history of the Tethyan Ocean, from its rift-zone birth to collision and destruction, is documented. The oldest rocks in Greece (~1 billion years old) are found here; the rifting of "Pangaea" and European plate tectonics is recorded within the rocky exposures of Mount Vounassa; the site of the Vourinos Ophiolite representing Tethyan lithosphere of 12 km thick has hosted pioneering research, recognized as critical to the original development of plate tectonic theory. Other features exhibit the ancient African-European collision zone. All these ancient plate motions have shaped today's astonishing landscape. The Plio-Pleistocene history of the area is marked by remnants of some of the world's most important proboscidean fossils, including those with the world record longest tusks (at over 5 m).

53. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
54. Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
55. Summary and discussion: This application was rejected in 2015 and is now back with a new boundary and new management structure. The evaluators recognised the significant progress made in the last 3 years to improve following the recommendations. The applicant area touches boundary with the Vikos-Aoos UGGp and a precedent is set, as mentioned in the case of Estrella aUGGp, in that an independent comparative study of the geological heritage is needed.
56. A number of recommendations were provided for **Grevena-Kozani** (Greece):
 - a) Present an independent geological study presenting the geological differences between the Grevena-Kozani aUGGp and the Vikos-Aoos UNESCO Global Geopark.
 - b) For building up a strong UGGp identity, special care should be given on the proper use of the Grevena-Kozani Geopark name and logo. When installing new interpretive panels and updating existing ones and in future editions of the printed materials they should replace the former names and logos.
 - c) The aUGGp should publish its aUGGp logo in promotion and communication materials i.e. supplementary signs to the large size welcome/interpretive panels along the Ignatia highway and other public roads, stickers on existing interpretive panels, etc.
 - d) Stronger visibility of the aUGGp is needed in tourist offices, museums, visitor centres run by municipalities and other partner organisations. UGGp corners or posters and aspiring Geopark logos should be placed in these sites. The missing signs with QR code at the geosites should be replaced, regularly checked and maintained.
 - e) The aUGGp should have a regularly updated, official website, also in English. Related with its historical and cultural importance of the Grevena-Kozani aUGGp, an inventory of cultural heritage should be created to ensure that they are recorded and put to future use.
 - f) Create an inventory of intangible heritage including local music, dance, tales and way of living, display them at the visitor centres and promote them. That will encourage local community and enhance the local identity.
 - g) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the aUGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.

57. Following the review of the **Grevena-Kozani** (Greece) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate does not fulfil the UGGp criteria (ii) and (v) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark. Also based on precedents set in the past an independent study is required between the applicant UGGp and the existing Viko-Aos UGGp to determine if there is a clear difference in geological heritage. The UGGpC decides to **defer this candidature** for a maximum of two years to allow the presentation of the independent geological comparative report and to attend to the recommendations. According to rule 9.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the UGGpC and Bureau, the UGGpC indicates herewith that one member voted against this decision considering that Grevena-Kozani aUGGp fulfills all UGGp criteria.
58. **Geoland of the Holy Cross Mountains** (Poland): The applicant is located in the western part of Świętokrzyskie (Holy Cross) Mountains in the central highlands of Poland covering the area of 526 km² and five communities. The highest point is Telegraf Hill at 406 m above sea level and the lowest is Nida valley at 205 m above sea level. Lithospheric features caused the incomparable landscape of the area where geomorphological structures show denudation ridges and hummocks contrasting with the usually modest elevation. The complicated geology and geomorphology is covered by dry-ground forests and xerothermic communities with numerous protected plants. The area is situated within the great disruption zone of the crust called the Trans-European Suture Zone, which is a boundary between three large geological units of the European crust: Variscan West-European Platform, Precambrian East-European Platform and orogenic belt of Alpine structures. The region of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains is the only segment of this zone where the sedimentary rock record represents outcrops of all geological periods from Cambrian to the Quaternary. The diversity of the sedimentary rocks and related mineral deposits, soils and vegetation are used by humans for nearly 60,000 years.
59. A conflict of interest was declared by Mahito Watanabe so he left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
60. One positive review of the internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS.
61. Summary and discussion: This is a good application but there are some issues. There is disparity between quality of interpretation in the field and of the geo-education centre. The management structure is good, local support is strong and the finance is robust. However, there are two issues that do not permit the acceptance of this candidature:
- a) The name of the area is problematic. The term 'Geoland' implies some kind of 'theme park' and should be avoided. It is recommended to reconsider the aUGGp name in a way that the UGGp Council can endorse.
 - b) The area is also selling geological material, something that contravenes one of the essential criteria of being a UGGp (criterion (vii)).
62. A number of recommendations were provided for **Geoland of the Holy Cross Mountains**:
- a) Much confusion is created by the 'Geopark Kielce' branding for the management team for the aUGGp and its use at a range of sites and places. It is recommended that the areas is rebranded to focus on the entire area of the Geoland of the Holy Cross Mountains. In practice this means changing the team/organisational name to reflect an organisation that covers the whole aUGGp and removing references to Geopark Kielce in literature, on geosites, in/on museums and other related buildings and on corporate clothing etc. and replacing it with the new identity.
 - b) Avoid the use of the word 'Geoland' in the aUGGp name to avoid misrepresentation

of what a UGGp is.

- c) Interpretation: Review and replace much of the on-site interpretation, including at (but not limited to) all sites visited during the mission. The development and use of brand guidelines might also be useful for partners developing their material within the aUGGp.
 - d) Site Management and Maintenance: Several prominent geosites should be cleaned more regularly and better maintained.
 - e) Sale of Geological Material: Small amounts of original geological material are sold at a small number of locations promoted by the aUGGp management body. This sale should be stopped and the aUGGp should provide a letter from each relevant partner, confirming that they have permanently ceased selling original geological material.
 - f) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the aUGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
 - g) Active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
63. Following the review of the **Geoland of the Holy Cross Mountains** (Poland) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that it does not yet fulfil the UGGp criterion (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **defer this candidature** for a maximum of two years to allow the above recommendations to be implemented.
64. **Imbabura** (Ecuador): The aUGGp has a surface of 4,619 km² and is organized into 6 cantons and 36 rural parishes. The highest peak is in the Cotacachi Volcano at 4,939m above sea level and the lowest level around 600m above sea level in the basin of the Guayllabamba River. Imbabura's rich geological diversity comprises volcanic complexes, lakes, waterfalls, mines, faults, archaeological remains. There are lakes of volcanic origin, and other interesting geomorphological features. The volcanic complexes date from the Quaternary period of continental Ecuador. Chachimbiro and Cuicocha volcanoes are potentially active; whereas, the volcanoes Pilavo, Parulo, Yanahurcu de Piñan, Pulumbura, Cotacachi, Cubilche, Cushnirumi, Cusin, Fuya-Fuya and Mojanda are considered as dormant or extinct. All of them are constantly monitored for their international scientific interest. There are thermal springs used for tourist activities with a potential for geothermal exploitation. There are copper and gold mines.
65. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
66. Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
67. Summary and discussion: The development of a UGGp is a priority for the government of the province and tourism development is already well-established. However there should be a better understanding of the geological heritage and its protection (criterion (vii) and educational activities are not formalised but they have appropriate partners to develop this, criterion (ii)). There is a good management structure with a solid budget with both the acceptance and involvement of local communities. There is an issue with the map of the boundary. (Criterion (i)).
68. A number of recommendations were provided for **Imbabura** (Ecuador):

- a) Develop a formal inventory of UGGp sites (both geological, natural and cultural heritage) with internationally-recognised assessment method, in accordance with scientific, educational and/or tourist relevances, priorities for conservation, potential threats and measures for protection, accessibility, etc..
- b) The cooperation between the UGGp and the scientific institutional partners must be strengthened in order to allow the UGGp to benefit from the knowledge of many research projects which are being developed. Establish and undertake mitigation procedures against geological risk and, on a continuous basis, inform and educate the community about the risks and risk reduction procedures.
- c) It has been noted that the geological information in some panels is incorrect (Yahuarcocha geosite, El Arcangel) and in some important UGGp sites the provided information is just insufficient (Chachimbiro thermal complex, Cotacachi-Cayapas Ecological Reserve, many panels...). Complete a review of the geological interpretation and make corrections where necessary ensuring that all interpretation is understandable by the general public.
- d) It is strongly recommended that a local geo-scientist is included in the technical staff of the UGGp (even if provided by a local partner). Across all aspects of the development and delivery of communication, education, training and interpretation this post will provide the daily connection between the scientific partners and the territories local communities.
- e) This is a territory with a high potential risk of natural hazards. Therefore, education for risk mitigation must be a top priority, especially in the urban areas. The improvement of education programmes for local and national schools about regional hazards, risk conditions and risk reduction, integrating the fresh clear examples around Ibarra and Pimampiro are considered essential.
- f) To improve the understanding of the Imbabura UGGp geohistory, Ibarra Cultural Centre should be developed as the official interpretative or visitor center/museum of the UGGp. In order for important museums and interpretative centers such as the Imbabura Factory Museum and the Interpretative Center of the Cotacachi-Cayapas Ecological Reserve to be integrated, a clear partnership agreement should be developed.
- g) . To assist the preservation of the rich cultural heritage and increase participation of the local indigenous people the UGGp should continue to work to translate communication materials into the Guichua-Caranqui language and use their indigenous knowledge. The indigenous Guicha-Caranqui community should be closely integrated in the management and actions of the UGGp.
- h) Train stations along the route of the tourist "Train of Liberty" could be improved to serve as UGGp info points; the guides must be trained to include interpretation of the geological landscape and the interaction of local communities with geodiversity in their well organised and appealing speeches (e.g. active faulting in the landscape, the origin of the salt that gave name to Salinas).
- i) Improve the present UGGp Management structure with the necessary and adapted yearly funding.
- j) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a coherent methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- k) Strengthen the active involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

69. Following the review of the **Imbabura** (Ecuador) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational

Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorses this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark** for four years. A new map clarifying the Imababura UGGp boundaries has to be sent to the UGGp Secretariat.

70. **Jiuhuashan** (China): The applicant is located in the southern part of Anhui Province, and covers the small area of 139.7 km² with the highest elevation of 1,344.4 m above sea level. The Jiuhuashan aUGGp has been designated as a National Natural and Cultural Heritage Site, National Geopark and one of the Four Sacred Buddhist Mountains. The area is made of a spectacular and beautiful granite complex, large granite fault-block landform and unique fluid-rich granite crystalline structure, which are of international significance because of their magmatic characteristics of both the magma and magma layers melting during the collision between the Eurasian and Pacific Plates, as well as subsequent tectonic activities. The area is a typical representative of a fault-block mountain, a prototype of the large granitic fault-block landform.
71. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
72. Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
73. Summary and discussion: This application fulfils the required criteria and includes all of the cultural and intangible heritage. There is already a significant number of well developed geotourism and leisure facilities and infrastructure and there is significant involvement from local communities and stakeholders.
74. A number of recommendations were provided to further improve **Jiuhuashan** (China):
 - a) Continue developing the southern part of the UGGp.
 - b) The UGGp must promote the small shops in the area, for example by using leaflets and website to promote the local refreshment establishments and encourage the visitors to support them as an alternative to bringing their own provisions.
 - c) Simplify some of the geological descriptions on interpretative panels.
 - d) Local aUGGp partners must be made more visible on the web site.
 - e) Promotion of cultural heritage and linked touristic offers could be better promoted along the geosites and geotrail as well as the linkage and promotion between the different aspects of geological, natural, cultural and intangible heritage of the UGGp.
 - f) Climate change could affect this mountain territory during the coming years and it could be interesting to include this topic in the master plan and education programme.
 - g) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
 - h) Strengthen communication with and 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
75. Following the review of the **Jiuhuashan** (China) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global

Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorses this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark** for four years.

76. **Kütralkura** (Chile): The applicant is situated 700km south of Santiago, has a surface of 8,053km² and covers the municipalities of Curacautín, Vilcún, Lonquimay, and Melipeuco. The area has four main urban centers: Melipeuco, Lonquimay, Curacautín, and Vilcún, and several Mapuche-Pewenche indigenous communities. The area is located within the Southern Volcanic Zone, where we can find four active volcanoes: Llaima (3,179 m), Lonquimay (2,865 m), Tolhuaca (2,806 m) and Nevados de Sollipulli (2,282 m). Llaima volcano, in particular, is one of the most active in the country, concentrating, together with the Villarrica volcano, more than 50% of the historical eruptions recorded in Chile since the 16th century. The geomorphology of the area shows the action of large ice masses that once covered an important part of the territory. There is a geological history of more than 200 million years inscribed in the rocks of this territory associated mostly to the subduction of the Nazca plate under the South American plate. This process generates intense volcanic and tectonic activity, and is the main responsible of the rise of the Andes mountain range.
77. No conflicts of interest was declared by members of the UGGpC
78. Four positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
79. Summary and discussion: The area has been operating as a Geopark and developing the Geopark concept for 10 years. As a result it has plenty of "Geopark essentials" in place and should be commended for the work with local communities.
80. A number of recommendations were provided for **Kütralkura**:
- a) Geoheritage and Conservation: In the forthcoming period, it is recommended to implement the plan for use and maintenance of the Geosites, with special focus on those Geosites located outside the National Protected Areas.
 - b) The management structure of the aUGGp although promising, is still to be tested. The aUGGp must follow its own master plan in order to fully demonstrate the effectiveness of its functioning. This is a major recommendation for the UGGp.
 - c) Interpretation: The UGGp should unify the interpretive panel designs in the territory and include the basic information of the UGGp (boundaries and nearby geosites) along with information in Spanish and English in all, as they have done in the newest batch of panels.
 - d) Visibility: The UGGp can greatly benefit from improved communication and visibility in order to reinforce what is in place. For example it should implement signage at the gates and within the territory. Also this strategy must ensure that the four municipalities show a similar level of visibility.
 - e) Education: In order to fall in line with actions stated in the aUGGp management plan a formal and stable program of educational activities should be developed and delivered that are aimed for the general public, local community and for different education levels.
 - f) Intangible Heritage: The UGGp should further emphasise its unique features through highlighting the links between nature, geodiversity and Mapuche-Pehuenche culture as well as their indigenous knowledge. This should be the characteristic theme of this UGGp.
 - g) Climate Change and Natural Hazards: Further improve the partnership and activities with the Southern Andes Volcano Observatory (OVDAS). It is recommended to, not only bring visitors to the OVDAS facility, but also to bring the expert and knowledge of the Observatory to the field in events and educational

programs. This will increase the awareness of volcanic hazards and the prevention measures through education.

- h) Networking: It is of extreme importance to participate in common activities with other UNESCO Global Geoparks in the Latin America and Caribbean Region and other regions; this participation should include the attendance at conferences, knowledge and personnel exchange and also participation in common projects.
- i) Sustainable development: The UGGp has a great dependence on its budget and policy on the declaration of tourist interest area (Zones of Tourist Interest - ZOIT). It is recommended to look for alternative funding options and not to rely solely on the ZOIT for the development of the UGGp territory.
- j) Overlapping and visibility: The UGGp should establish its own brand identity for signage in the UGGp territory so it can be clearly distinguished from National Protected Areas or the Biosphere reserve. The UGGp should clearly differentiate its activities from the activities of the National Protected Areas or the Biosphere reserve to enhance aspiring Kütralkura UNESCO Global Geopark visibility.
- k) Indigenous community: the Mapuche community needs to be closely integrated in the management and actions of the aUGGp. All UGGp information, leaflets, etc., should integrate the local language (Mapudungun).
- l) Strengthen the active involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

81. Following the review of the **Kütralkura** (Chile): application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorses this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark** for four years.

82. **Mangistau** (Kazakhstan): The applicant is situated in the west of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the shores of the Caspian Sea covering an area of 8,900 km². The maximum elevation is 532 m, and minimum is below zero. The dry desert climate with pronounced erosional processes have generated a highly varied relief of mountains, plains and depressions. The area covers three geomorphological areas: mountainous Mangistau, dissected plateaus and low-land plains. Palaeozoic and Mesozoic-Cenozoic era sedimentary formations, particularly from the Permian, Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous, Paleogene, Neogene and Quaternary are exposed in the territory. All of the geological eras are represented by sedimentary formations. Fossils such as ammonites, oysters, shark teeth are found in all stratigraphic layers. Oil and gas bearing Jurassic deposits are of great interest with 13 productive layers. The erosional processes also produced unusually shaped rock features and landscapes, such as the Torysh spheroidal concretions. Mangistau is one of a few places around the world where the iridium anomaly was discovered first, which marks the meteorite impact 66 million years ago known as the Cretaceous-Palaeogene boundary. Huge cave mosques from the 10th to 15th century are carved in the Cretaceous deposits which can be found nowhere else in the world.

83. A conflict of interest was declared by Kristin Rangnes so she left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

84. Two positive and one negative review of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.

85. Summary and discussion: This is a very large area and not yet working as a *de facto* running UGGp. The aUGGp was not well prepared for the mission and, the initially agreed itinerary completely changed when the evaluators went in the field as a result the evaluators did not meet the aUGGp manager, etc. Although the area has outstanding geological heritage and ingredients of a good future UGGp, the application was considered to be premature and should work for at least 3 more years.
86. A number of recommendations were provided for **Mangistau** (Kazakhstan):
- a) The aUGGp management and area need to start acting as a 'defacto' (up-and-running) UGGp. At present there is no indication for the visitor that they are in an aUGGp area. Some prominent signage is needed, stating that you are now entering aUGGp Mangistau, for example, as you enter Shetpe town on the main highway from Aktau (and on other main asphalted roads at entry points into the aUGGp area). (Criterion (ii) of Section 3 Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks).
 - b) The management has not yet developed a logo, which will be one of the most effective ways to imprint the area's identity on the minds of both locals and tourists.
 - c) A dedicated aUGGp website needs to be developed.
 - d) Placing of some discrete information panels at key sites is essential, with good geological interpretation and translation. This also applies to leaflets, made available to visitors at all aUGGp facilities, such as museums, restaurants and other service providers.
 - e) An improved detailed tourist map is required.
 - f) There needs to be a clear management structure, showing the functions of each person and the body's relationships with other bodies or partners. There also needs to be a Master Plan with a clear strategy for the future. (Criteria (iii) and (v)).
 - g) There needs to be a clear statement of funding sources and a 5-year sustainable finance plan.
 - h) Infrastructure and access is a challenge for the aUGGp area as it is mostly semi-arid natural, rough terrain. There are only limited stretches of asphalted roads. Some visitors may be happy to have the off-road experience, but there needs to be an improvement in the access to key sites in order to encourage most family tourists. This includes provision of toilet facilities, for example bio-toilets, which would reduce maintenance costs.
 - i) The size of the aUGGp Mangistau was confirmed as 8,900 km² (given as 8,9000 km² on the application). However, it was generally agreed after discussion that the area is too big with too many unpopulated areas and large, unsustainable distances between them. It is recommended that the size and boundary is re-assessed with a view to omitting, as suggested, part of the Tukaragan peninsula (Fort Shevchenko area), and may be part of the north-eastern corner that appears to be without any geosites. (Criterion (i)).
 - j) Initially, aUGGp development should concentrate on the two main areas of key geosites, around Shetpe in the southeast (Sherkala and Torysh) and on Tupkaragan peninsula in the northwest (Zhygylgan Cape and Shakpak-Ata Mosque). By developing one or two geosites in these two geographical areas, with information panels and leaflets, these two local communities could start to see and evaluate the impact of this on visitor numbers.
 - k) There is a need to put conservation policies and measures in place to protect the aUGGp's geological and cultural heritage. In particular, there needs to be signs and leaflets advising against fossil-collecting and also advising against climbing over the spheroidal concretions in Valley of the Balls, as these are already suffering from natural erosion. (Criterion (vii)).

- l) There are very important cultural and religious sites within the aUGGp area, which will need to be protected. Relatively recent graffiti was seen on mosque walls in some of the mosques visited.
 - m) The partnership between the aUGGp and Tourist LLP should be developed, especially as the company is the main provider of geotourism tours and has plans for increasing tourist numbers to the area through the construction of another ethnic village, and a hotel in Aktau.
 - n) There are some very good examples of traditional crafts and intangible heritage in the aUGGp area, and existing (and new) partnerships need to be strengthened through signed agreements. In this way, the aUGGp and these important ethnic handcraft partners, such as the family yurt-makers and the camel's milk family producers can help to promote each other.
 - o) More engagement with the local communities is needed, through regular flyers, workshops, etc.
 - p) There are no educational activities or schools' programmes developed to date. Schools within and outside the aUGGp area should be contacted and a programme of UGGp-related activities and geoscience education developed and made available to them.
 - q) This aUGGp needs to understand the UGGp concept. Participation in GGN intensive course, workshop, and meeting is highly recommended.
87. Following the review of the **Mangistau** (Kazakhstan): application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate does not fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (v), (vi), (vii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3), to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **reject this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark**.
88. **Möllerdaal** (Luxembourg): The applicant is situated in Eastern Luxembourg near the border with Germany and includes 12 municipalities. It covers an area of 256 km² about 1/10 of the country's total surface. Plateaus with elevations of about 400 m deeply incised by rivers alternate with gently undulating hillsides exhibiting picturesque sandstone landscapes. The area is situated in the centre of a Triassic and Lower Jurassic syncline structure where the Luxembourg Sandstone Formation forms one of the most spectacular sandstone landscapes in Western Europe of up to 100 m thickness. In the area, escarpments and cliffs developed epigenetically by the incision of the rivers and creeks and the valley slopes were formed by gravitational mass movements like rockfalls. On the edges of the plateaus, where marly units are exposed below the hard sandstone and dolomite layers, processes of gliding or tilting opened up joints and created small passageways and caves. These and other landforms tell the geomorphological history of the region and illustrate the vividness of geological processes that were active especially during the Cenozoic.
89. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
90. One positive review of the internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS.
91. Summary and discussion: This area has strong potential for becoming a UGGp. There are a lot of things already in place but many key elements are missing including a full understanding of what a UGGp actually is. This aspiring UGGp has developed in isolation and without any networking with other UGGps nearby. There has been practically no participation in any networking activities so the knowledge of how a UGGp functions is not there. The local people have not been informed on what the UGGp is and there has been low degree of engagement.

92. A number of recommendations were provided for **Möllerddall** (Luxembourg):
- a) The aUGGp needs to have a stronger presence and visibility. An aUGGp exhibition explaining the overall story of the area needs to be designed and built as planned by the aUGGp. The information panels by the trails should have a more unified look and the information on geology and related topics should be updated.
 - b) The visitor information centres need to have information about the aUGGp as well as on UNESCO Global Geoparks and the EGN/GGN available for the visitors. The information personnel and guides must be trained to know and understand the philosophy and operating of the UGGps, and the EGN/GGN.
 - c) The local people need to be informed on the regions intention to become a UGGp. The people need to be made aware of what is a UGGp and what are the goals of the program and its actions. (Criterion (v), section 3 of the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks).
 - d) The aUGGp needs to start communicating with local people on its meaning and goals. This could be done by using more the different channels of social media. Now there is only a Facebook page: Natur- & Geopark Möllerddall, and it does not have much Geopark information/activity.
 - e) The Nature and Geopark personnel must start networking and participating actively to the activities in the Global Geoparks Network as well as the European Geoparks Network. This includes active participation in the annual Geopark conferences as well as working more with other UGGps regions. Participating in Geoparks intensive course would be necessary to better understand UGGp concept thus to be in position to develop and adapted UGGp project in the future.
93. Following the review of the **Möllerddall** (Luxembourg) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate does not fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (ii), (v), (vi) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3), to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **reject this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark**.
94. **Courel Mountains** (Spain): The applicant has an area of 577.85 km² and is located in the NW of Spain within the Autonomous Community of Galicia in the southern end of the province of Lugo. The north of the territory is characterized by the Courel Mountains, with deep valleys and canyons carved by erosion. Its maximum height is 1,639 m at Formigueiros. The territory is the perfect showcase to observe the Lower and Middle Palaeozoic and, to a lesser extent, also the Neogene and the Quaternary. Located on the Iberian Massif, it is made up of rocks that date from the Neoproterozoic to the Carboniferous. The area also highlights numerous paleontological, mineralogical, metamorphic, glacial, features, as well as karstic cavities, and mining heritage. The guiding thread of this area follows the footsteps of human beings and their intimate relationship with their geological environment.
95. A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping Zhang so he left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
96. Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
97. Summary and discussion: This is a good aspiring UGGp. There are diverse, natural and cultural heritages that are sensitively promoted. It has been driven as a Geopark by inhabitants of the territory for 15 years. It has been developed to meet an acute territorial need. The team works together and it is well supported by institutions locally, regionally and nationally.

98. A number of recommendations were provided for **Courel Mountains** (Spain):
- a) In order to enable the full potential of the UGGp, its staff needs to be reinforced. At least one new senior team member needs to be recruited with responsibility for education and training; The UGGp team should strengthen the positions of their English-speaking staff. The UGGp museum and other facilities are mainly have Spanish content, some geosite interpretation panels are only with Spanish/Galician explanation and this situation should be improved.
 - b) Although the UGGp has a four-year action plan, the UGGp master-plan should be formulated in the future, which should include the short-, medium- and long-term plan for the UGGp. The tourism cooperation between Ribas de Sil, Quiroga and Folgoso do Courel can be strengthened. The three municipalities need to integrate their operations by sharing a common tourism organisation and strategy.
 - c) Improve the cooperation projects and the visibility of UNESCO Global Geoparks and the GGN. Better communication should be developed of the network and its activities in museums and public areas, and formal international cooperation projects should be established.
 - d) Reinforce the road signage of the UGGp sites and entrance to the territory using the UGGp logo and also English translation, to enhance the UGGp visibility in the area.
 - e) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
 - f) Extend the inventory and knowledge of the UGGp geological heritage.
99. Following the review of the **Courel Mountains** (Spain) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorses this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark** for four years.
100. **Ries** (Germany): The applicant covers an area of 1,749 km², and it encompasses the Nördlinger Ries, an impact crater that is a flat, round, ca. 150-m deep depression of about 25 km in diameter. This well-preserved crater basin and rim has areas of the ejecta blanket in adjacent regions of the Swabian and Franconian Alb. It comprises parts of 5 districts with 53 cities and municipalities. The 14.6 million year old meteorite crater is considered the most intensively studied impact structure among the nearly 200 known craters worldwide. Since the 1960s much meteorite impact-indicative features have been unravelled here. The development of a post-impact soda lake in the crater depression left behind bituminous shales and lacustrine carbonates with unique fossil associations (e.g., one of the best preserved green algae reefs). With its continuing interdisciplinary scientific potential, the Ries Crater can be rated as an indicative reference and challenge for further analyses of terrestrial and extra-terrestrial impact structures.
101. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
102. Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
103. Summary and discussion: As geological heritage of the area is outstanding it offers a great experience for science education and there is a huge public interest because of the high profile geological heritage. Ries could be a good candidate but some issues concerning visibility and the boundary of the aUGGp need to be clarified first. During

the evaluation mission a significant boundary issue was revealed, which was an overlap with the Swabian Alb UGGp to the west. This issue was considered resolved in 2017 on a national level by the reduction of the Swabian Alb UGGp of the overlapping area but without consultation with the UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat and without a decision of the UGGp Council. Also, on the ground, some maps, panels and leaflets still show the old map with the overlapping boundary.

104. A number of recommendations were provided for **Ries** (Germany):

- a) To mark clearly the boundaries on the entrance of the territory and work on a clear policy of cooperation and distinction with the neighbour Swabian Alb UGGp.
- b) To create touristic maps with the clearly defined new borders of the aUGGp and the main attractions of the territory, and replace the old maps (panels, website, leaflet promotional and educational material...).
- c) Work intensively to ensure all interpretation panels are easily understood by the general public. Visitors will expect to experience and understand the most important impact crater in Europe and they will find several quarries and landforms with the scientifically international significance.
- d) The main challenge of this aUGGp is to use good story-telling to convert all those abandoned quarries into unforgettable experiences that impact on the memory.
- e) To adapt the existing geological map to the map of the aUGGp (simplified and easy to understand), adding the logo and the main geosites of the territory.
- f) Panels are only written in German. They should be also translated into, at least, English for international visitors.
- g) To create a UGGp information area, at least, in the info-Centre of Noerdlingen.
- h) To increase the visibility of the aUGGp by putting the logo of the aUGGp in the main museums (especially in the Ries Crater Museum), the tourism offices of the municipalities and by including the aUGGp logo in all the leaflets, brochures and materials created by the municipalities of the territory to promote their heritage.
- i) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- j) There is a need having independent comparative study presenting geological difference/complementarity between Swabian Alb UGGp and the Ries aUGGp. Due to the precedent set in the past with Conca de Tremp Montsec / Sobrarbe-Pirineos, and Rinjani-Lombok / Batur (discussed during the first and second UGGpC session in 2016 and 2017).
- k) Before the application can be reconsidered, the aUGGp (together with the Swabian Alb UGGp) must get clearance from the UGGp Council regarding the reduction of the area of the Swabian Alb UGGp. (Criterion (i) Section 3, Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks).

105. Following the review of the **Ries** (Germany) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate does not fulfil the UGGp criteria (ii), (v) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **reject this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark**.

106. **Rio Coco** (Nicaragua): The UN Department of Safety and Security advised that it was unsafe to carry out a mission due to civil unrest, therefore no mission took place.

107. One positive review of the internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS.

108. The Council proposed to put this application 'on hold' for a period of two years. An evaluation can take place at any time during this period, as soon as the opportunity arises for the mission to take place safely. The UNESCO Secretariat will be monitoring the situation with help and based on the advice of the UN Department of Safety and Security and will organize a mission as soon as the situation allows.
109. The **Rio Coco** (Nicaragua) aUGGp will be informed by the UNESCO Secretariat accordingly.
110. **Saimaa** (Finland): The applicant is an extensively fragmented archipelago of thousands of islands covering 6,063 km² (2,031 km² water and 4,032 km² island area). The area is located in the provinces of South Karelia and South Savo and there are nine municipalities. In the deeply fractured bedrock areas in the northern part, Saimaa splinters into a network of watercourses. In the southern part, where the Salpausselkä and related feeder eskers occur, the lake and scenery is characterised by low sandy shores, and chains of esker islands which break the wide-open waters. The highest point is Neitvuori hill at 184 m above sea level. The geological development of Lake Saimaa can be seen at the ancient shorelines at various altitudes, there are also rock paintings, prehistoric dwelling sites, and particularly the Vuoksi and Imatrankoski rapid potholes. The area's deeply fractured bedrock is of Paleoproterozoic age. Two-mica gneiss is the most common type of rock. The internationally known bedrock is the rapakivi granite, considered to be the type area for this type of rock. Visible remnants of the last glaciation deposited around 12,300-11,600 years ago can be seen on the margin of the melting ice sheet include ice-marginal deltas and end moraine ridges with feeder esker systems and drumlins.
111. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
112. One positive review of the internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS.
113. Summary and discussion: Although many of the components required to make a UGGp are there, the aUGGp has some critical weaknesses. The area is very large, there is only one small visitor centre and there is insufficient on-site information. There is also no management plan. Breach of criterion (ii) (use of geological heritage...) and criterion (v) (management plan and involvement of local people) of Section 3), Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks.
114. A number of recommendations were provided for **Saimaa** (Finland):
- a) The aUGGp has to consider the development of more visitor centers to better cover the large area of the aUGGp. Geological information (especially on shoreline development) should be further simplified for wider audience using animations, videos and other interactive displays.
 - b) The aUGGp has to work further on the development of geological trails and to better demonstrate on the ground the important geological structures, probably in the same way that nature trails work in the area.
 - c) Although the ringed seal and landlocked salmon have been emphasized, in general the biodiversity of the lake and the forest systems (e.g. the endemic fish species) is not adequately addressed neither in the application dossier nor in the information system. The aUGGp Association and its staff have to promote further the natural environment of the aUGGp and especially its links with the geological environment (through publications, displays, the info- and visitors centers etc.).
 - d) The intangible and cultural heritage is very rich (rock paintings, ancient settlements at the retreating coasts, the mixed Swedish and Russian cultures, the Imatra

- vuoksi, etc.) and should be used to develop interesting stories and thematic routes to connect all with the landscape and geology.
- e) Although the area does not currently face serious natural risks, the issue of climate change and its impact on Lake Saimaa should be further considered under the activities of the aUGGp.
 - f) The cooperation of the aUGGp with local enterprises under the creation of a common marketing and branding strategy should be further enriched and developed, including more enterprises and companies and should present robust results (i.e. branding, labeling, etc.).
 - g) The aUGGp has to concentrate, coordinate, endorse and promote all local events and activities that are organized by the municipalities and the stakeholders all over the area.
 - h) More actions should be undertaken by the Association to promote local food, goods and products.
 - i) The aUGGp has a secured budget and staff number, but for such a big area provisions should be made to increase the budget and the active staff of the Association in future, to deal with such subjects as biodiversity, history, archaeology (intangible heritage values).
 - j) Active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
115. Following the review of the **Saimaa** (Finland) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that it does not yet fulfil the UGGp criteria (ii), (iii) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **defer this candidature** for a maximum of two years to allow the above recommendations to be implemented.
116. **Sanqingshan – extension > 10%** (China): The applicant, a typical example of granite mountain landform, is located in Shangrao City, Jiangxi Province. It has an altitude between 158 and 1,819.9 m and covers an area of 433 km². Sanqingshan has a history of more than 1,000 years and is one of the birth places of Taoism. It lies in the centre of the anticline of Huaiyu Tertiary and junction of the Yangzi Plate and Cathaysian Plate, and is made up of granites from the Mesozoic surrounded by layers of the Palaeozoic Era. The current geological landscape is the result of the tectonic movements which have generated lots of fissures and faults in the granite bodies. The area is composed of Mesozoic granites and Neoproterozoic and Paleozoic strata. It records a history of over 800 million years and has granite geosites, one Neoproterozoic-Paleozoic strata section, one Mesozoic granite geological and geomorphological section, folds, faults, joints, bedding structure of sedimentary rocks, as well as granite intrusion tectonics. The granite peak forest in the area is an outstanding global example of granite mountain peak forest landform.
117. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
118. This is an extension of an existing area. The internationally significant geological heritage has already been evaluated when this UGGp first applied and was awarded the Global Geoparks label in 2012. Again, a positive review of the internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS.
119. Summary and discussion: The UGGp joined the GGN in 2012 then had its first revalidation in 2016 that resulted in a yellow card and 11 recommendations. The area has the full capacity to be a UGGp and the management and organisation structure are of good standard. The budget is large enough to maintain all of the infrastructure and they have implemented new technology to educate and entertain visitors. All of the

recommendations from 2016 have been addressed and the UGGp has improved its international participation and partnerships have been established.

120. A number of recommendations were provided for **Sanqingshan** (China):

- a) Improve the educational program for (elementary) schools in the region and let more schools participate. Develop educational materials about the geology, natural and cultural heritage (animations, films, teaching packages, etc.).
- b) Develop a uniform corporate identity not only for brochures, but also for panels, presentations and the website.
- c) Improve the map of the area to make it more attractive to the visitors.
- d) Develop, if applicable, some thematic hiking or biking routes.
- e) Make a list of mobile phone masts, assess which ones have an impact on the landscape and decide which ones can be camouflaged to make them less obtrusive on the natural landscape.
- f) Develop the region of Huaiyushan as a role model project for climate change and adaptation. Several actions have been taken here already. If the use of geothermal energy is another reliable alternative resource it should be checked. The existing official partnership and cooperation agreement with the Sanqingshan Power Supply Company should help to establish a climate change strategy.
- g) An environmental assessment should be made prior to all developments to achieve sustainable tourism.
- h) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- i) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

121. Following the review of the **Sanqingshan** (China) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorses this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark** for four years.

122. **Taishan – extension > 10%** (China): The applicant is located in Tai'an Municipal City, Shandong Province and has a total area of 418.36 km². Tectonically, it is situated in the Central Shandong Block Uplift area of the Luxi plot of the North China Platform. The komatiite of the Taishan Group-Complex has one of the most unusual strata in Northern China as it is the only recognized Archean ultrabasic extrusive rock with spinifex texture in China. Mount Taishan is of great significance in understanding the formation and evolution of the granite-greenstone belt, clarifying the dynamic processes of Archean-Proterozoic continental splitting, matching and welding mechanisms. The presence of a Cambrian type-section in the area makes it an important place in the geological research history, and is useful for national and international correlations.

123. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

124. One positive review of the internationally significant geological heritage was received from the IUGS.

125. Summary and discussion: This is an extension of an existing area. This UGGp first applied and was awarded the UGGp label in 2006. There is a strong and effective management structure with a good team and financial stability. There is a strong tourist

brand that attracts a number of visitors that can lead to high tourist pressures. There seems to have been a lack of recent engagement with local population in the extension area. However, the area of extension includes more communities that will help meet this need, something that is required to ensure that there is adequate sustainable development. There is a difference between the maps that were supplied at submission and the ones that were provided during the evaluation mission. This is problematic.

126. A number of recommendations were provided for **Taishan** (China):

- a) Realise an independent sustainability study that includes the impact of tourism.
- b) The new boundaries of the extended Taishan UGGp should be up-dated to all information, exhibitions and maps regarding the UGGp, including at UNESCO's office/secretariat and webpage.
- c) Information and exhibition in the UGGp Museum (at Dai Temple area) should be up-dated and expanded to cover the whole area.
- d) Continue and reinforce the implementation of the "Intelligent Taishan" approach, using less intrusive informative instruments (like web supported applications, QR codes, etc.) instead of high number of physical devices (e.g. panels) and making it easier to up-date and adapt (e.g. translations that sometimes are missing in places).
- e) Continue and increase the regional/local economy in the new areas of the UGGp, using the positive impact of UNESCO Global Geoparks status and improving engagement with the local population.
- f) Increase sustainable tourism development in the new areas of the UGGp, using the high national and international credits of Mt. Taishan tourism brand, by challenging Mt. Taishan visitors to new products, services and experiences in those less developed area (e.g. bike roads, eco-routes, walking trails, etc.).
- g) Find more/new sites of interest for visitors and "stories to tell" along existing and new geological routes in the new area of the Geopark (e.g. the 5 km eco-route at Chestnuts Forest): sometimes the best "infrastructure in-place" is a special guide with a special story.
- h) Strengthen the active involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Asian Pacific Geoparks Network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

127. Following the review of the **Taishan** (China) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorses this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark** for four years.

128. **Toba Caldera** (Indonesia): The applicant is located on Sumatera 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 904 m above sea level, consists of about 240 km³ of fresh-water and is 505 m deep. The surface elevation is about 2,000 m 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 process in volcanology.

129. A conflict of interest was declared by Kirstin Lemon and Guy Martini, both left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote. Subsequently the Vice Chair took over the role of the Chairperson during this discussion.
130. Two positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
131. Summary and discussion: The area applied to the GGN in 2014 and this application was rejected. Since then, most of the former recommendations from 2014 have been fulfilled and this should be highly commended. There were a number of shortcomings such as some of the proposed UGGp sites were unconnected, there was no master plan, and many of the sites had geoconservation issues that need to be improved.
132. A number of recommendations were provided for **Toba** (Indonesia):
- At present the aUGGp is only visible at the Geosites and is not visible throughout the territory. The UGGpC wishes to stress that a UGGp is not just a collection of sites, but a unified territory. This needs to be addressed by a holistic aUGGp promotional strategy including the installation of gateways and signs at the aUGGp boundary, better visibility outside the Geosites and throughout the entire territory, and overall improved linkages between sites.
 - A UGGp cannot function without a Master Plan and this should be completed as a matter of urgency. (Criterion (v) Section 3), Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks)
 - Increase conservation measures at sites that are currently damaged or are under threat. (Criterion (vii))
 - Improve the aUGGp website to include more information for visitors before they arrive.
 - Improve the information on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Parapat Information Centre.
 - The interpretation panels at individual sites need to link with other sites in order for the visitors to understand the role of each in the story of the supervolcano, for which the area is so famous.
 - Include more geological heritage in the primary school education programmes.
 - Analyze the possibility to connect the aUGGp boundaries with existing administrative boundaries corresponding, if possible, to the Batak people cultural area.
 - Strengthen the active involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Asian Pacific Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
133. Following the review of the **Toba Caldera** (Indonesia) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that it does not yet fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (ii), (v), (vi) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **defer this candidature** for a maximum of two years to allow the above recommendations to be implemented.
134. **Vis Archipelago** (Croatia): The applicant has a total surface of 6,661 km² (101 km² land, 6,560 km² sea) with an elevation between 0 and 587 m above sea level, the Island of Vis being the largest with a surface of 90.3 km². The islands of the archipelago have the most heterogeneous rock formations in the region. They are composed of volcanic, salt and sedimentary rocks formed along deep-rooted faults in the Earth's crust during the Triassic, during the breakup of the supercontinent Pangaea and the opening of the Tethys Ocean. These rocks were deeply buried beneath a few thousands meters thick cover of layered sedimentary rocks of the Adriatic. These include sediments from a carbonate platform, deposited in the area during the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods.

During the Miocene, the lighter Triassic salt and associated volcanic and sedimentary rocks were uplifted and intruded into the cover of carbonate rocks, forming salt diapirs. The carbonates were deformed and partly eroded during the Quaternary, featuring spectacular cliffs built of successions of layered carbonate rocks. During the Ice Ages the sea level was 120 m lower than today, and sand from the Adriatic steppe was blown by strong winds up to the hills, forming sand dunes and plains. After the last Ice Age the sea flooded the steppe, turning the hills into islands, while submerged caves became the most beautiful natural phenomena in the Adriatic.

135. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
136. Three positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
137. Summary and discussion: This area appears to meet all of the criteria to become a UGGp.
138. A number of recommendations were provided for **Vis Archipelago** (Croatia):
 - a) Realise an independent study of sustainability of impact of tourism on the Blue Cave.
 - b) Develop actions for climate change and natural hazards.
 - c) A large part of the aUGGp is in the marine environment so the aUGGp must ensure that this is promoted within leaflets, museums, info centres, etc...).
 - d) Increase the aUGGp visibility on the ferry boat that leads to the UGGp.
 - e) Realise greater use of the beautiful geological map of the UGGp.
 - f) Make full use of the social media, such as Twitter and Instagram.
 - g) Produce more information material of the UGGp, such as: leaflets, brochures, especially some materials for children.
 - h) More tour guides will need to be trained.
 - i) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
 - j) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
139. Following the review of the **Vis Archipelago** (Croatia) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **endorses this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark** for four years.
140. **Región Volcán Tacaná** (Mexico): The aUGGp is located in the Soconusco region, in the State of Chiapas, and covers an area of 354 km². The highest elevation is the Tacaná volcano 4,090 m high. The mountainous terrain has sharp slopes with beautiful landscapes of deep canyons that characterize the upper part of the Volcano. The physiographic province is the Central American Volcanic belt, a complex system of volcanoes parallel to the coast of the Pacific, which is related to the regional Subduction events due to the interaction of the Cocos and North America Plate. The geological evolution of the Tacaná Volcanic development is grouped into chronostratigraphic sequences ranging from the Mesozoic to recent, housed in the pre-existing San Rafael caldera with four volcanic centres. The basement rocks are schists and Mesozoic gneisses with low-grade metamorphism. Miocene granites, granodiorites and tonalities,

whose ages range from 12 to 39 million years, separated by a period of 9 million years, intruded the metamorphic rocks. The rocks of the sequence Chanjale-San Rafael and of the Tacana Volcanic development have a firm alkaline tracing showing characteristics of subduction areas. Another important feature is the presence of the Polochic-Motagua fault system which is the boundary between the Maya and Chortís Terrain.

141. A conflict of interest was declared by Helga Chulepin so she left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.
142. One positive and one negative review of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
143. Summary and discussion: The area has amazing natural, cultural and intangible heritage but there is real need for geoconservation policies and work on geological hazards. This is an area of great potential but does not fulfil the basic criteria to be a UGGp.
144. A number of recommendations were provided for **Región Volcán Tacaná** (Mexico):
 - a) The application has not provided proof of the international value of its geological heritage. This can be solved with a modification of the boundary of the aUGGp, to include in its territory important geological sites of international value. (Criterion (I) Section 3), Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks)
 - b) Networking with other UGGps and following UNESCO and GGN courses may help to better understand the UGGp concept and procedures.
 - c) Considering the importance of the Volcán Tacaná crater and the geological formation of the Volcán Tacaná Complex, among others, it would be very important that the aUGGp could maximize efforts to include the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve inside its polygon. This action will improve its natural, cultural and intangible heritage.
 - d) The aUGGp has a great potential to become a transnational UGGp, based on the natural and cultural features, and the intentions of its people. This is an objective that could be considered.
 - e) At Geosite Number 2, Columnar Andesite which is located on the road to the Alpujarras Community it is recommended to develop a parking area. as the site should also be protected against vandalism and regular maintenance and cleaning should take place.
 - f) It is important to consult with community representatives when developing geosite panel contents in order to have a wide participation not just in the scientific aspects, but in the name of geosites, communities, in cultural and intangible heritage.
 - g) To ensure geoconservation and maintenance of Geosites, criterion (vii), implement a formal Geosite Inventory with methodology and rules for their conservation, protection and management.
 - h) Visibility is one of the main aspects of a UGGp, so it's necessary to design an integral visibility strategy, covering media, leaflets, touristic routes information, signs, geosites information devices, etc.
 - i) At Pico de Loro Geosite, it is recommended to give more information about geological and geomorphological aspects, as well as to include cultural, and natural heritage features.
 - j) To develop infrastructure and facilities to ensure the operation of the aUGGp, to be functional as a local development tool by promoting Geotourism (accessibility, information points, operational offices, etc.). (Criterion (ii))
 - k) From the touristic and prevention of geohazards point of view, it is recommended to improve the access route to El Carmen Community.
 - l) To promote education, research and design strategies for better development of the the aUGGp. (Criterion (ii))

- m) To sign agreements of collaboration with educational institutions at all levels in the aUGGp area.
- n) Inform the communities about possible financing for their projects and give training in sustainable project management, through partnerships with UNACH, UNICH and Tourism Regional Delegation.
- o) To implement a waste disposal strategy in every geosite area and to promote the waste recycling cooperatives like the ones already under operation at the Biosphere Reserve.
- p) To have a specific Action Plan for the Sustainable Tourism Development, for the entire area. (Criterion (v))
- q) There is a real potential for development, by promoting the Coffee and Chocolate productions of the communities and under the aUGGp umbrella.
- r) To promote a special label and quality criteria with the aUGGp, which has a great potential for geotourism, based on the natural, cultural and intangible heritage, products.
- s) To strengthen and formalise partnerships with the Communities' representative organizations as Casa Maya, Fincas de Café, etc. and Tourism Secretary. The indigenous Mexican Mams community should be closely integrated in the management and actions of the aUGGp.
- t) To network with other UGGps and to take part in Geopark courses, in order to benchmarking and learn how other territories manage all the above mentioned aspects.
- u) Establish contacts with the LAC UGG network and be present in the next International Geoparks Conference. Participating in the GGN intensive course would be useful for better understand UGGp concept and to develop an adapted UGGp project and strategy.

145. Following the review of the **Región Volcán Tacaná** (Mexico) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate does not fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (v), (vi), (vii) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **reject this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark**.

146. **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 1,774 km². 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 450 m and with rugged topography; to the west and north lowering to about 190-300 m. 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 90 m) and no magmatic activity. It is both an object of geological and medical significance and steam and gases being used for balneological treatment.

147. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

148. Three positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
149. Summary and discussion: The territory has great potential but there is still a lack of knowledge about some geosites. They have only very weak promotional material which at present does not have a holistic approach integrating sites of natural and cultural interest. At this time the territory is not yet functioning as a defacto UGGp.
150. A number of recommendations were provided for **Yangan Tau** (Russian Federation):
- a) Develop a comprehensive inventory of the geological, natural, cultural heritage throughout the territory, which must include the indication of its scientific, educational and tourist values and relevance as well as their need for conservation. (Criterion (i))
 - b) The maps currently in use are almost exclusively in Russian. To be properly prepared for the reception of non-Russian speaking tourists, the aUGGp must produce bilingual maps, info, panels, etc. (Russian/English) or even trilingual (Bashkir/Russian/English).
 - c) Integrate the local folklore and the typical constructions of the rural houses that are attractive for touristic visits. To create some souvenirs/products by locals resampling the cultural heritage icons and promote them. (Criterion (ii))
 - d) Visibility: Provision of information should be also in English, both in printed material and in social networks; create a "Geopark information area" in all the partner entities in the territory; the website should be renewed; Some of the information panels are without aUGGp logo, it means they were installed before geopark project and belong to another type of activity/ manner. They must apply a sticker with the logo of the aUGGp in this pannels. (Criterion (i))
 - e) It is necessary to increase and diversify the number of brochures on the aUUGp territory (Biology, Culture, Tourism, etc.); diversify and multiply the multi-thematic educational programs by extending them to all schools in the territory; promote the aUUGp as a science territory to increase the development of research in all areas of knowledge. An annual educational activities calendar can be proposed.
 - f) Develop educational programs related to the future prospects of the territory related to climate change challenges. Assiduously monitor the geosites with Pleistocene megafauna to ensure that all remains left by river erosion are recovered. (Criterion (ii))
 - g) Despite the "Yangan-Tau Resort" being responsible for the management structure, it is important to differentiate and promote the "Yangan-Tau aspiring Geopark" as wider territorial brand, in order to support the aUGGp among inhabitants and tourists; make a clear difference between the "Yangan-Tau Resort" and the "Yangan-Tau aspiring UGGp" in the developed activities, in order to affirm the latter among inhabitants and tourists.
 - h) The Management Structure must not only assume a strategic commitment to engage new partnerships, but also to train the staff of the partners, training them on the reality of aUGGp, as a holistic territorial development strategy. It should also focus on cooperation with local schools, in order to provide basic English courses for the staff of the partners, allowing a significant improvement in the communication of territorial agents with potential non-Russian speaking visitors.
 - i) The involvement of the community promoted by the Management Structure is still quite passive. In this sense, it is clear that there is some work and challenges for the Territorial Management Structure in this aspect, since exists a natural predisposition of the locals to collaborate actively, sharing their culture and their way of life. It is important that this work towards local empowerment becomes a continuous process and is extended to the whole territory. In this respect it is important that the communication material of the aUGGp is also produced in the local Bashkir language. (Criterion (v))

- j) In order to be prepared for the demand of new touristic markets, it is necessary to develop and implement training initiatives for partners and relevant entities in the territory. This implies the diversification of partnerships with local stakeholders, extending them to as many partners as possible and a significantly increase of the visibility of the aUGGp among partners.
 - k) In the short term, it is important to develop and implement a system that makes the formal partnerships between the aUGGp and the partners inside the territory visible. A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
 - l) Due to the size of the applicant territory, in the middle term, it will be important to establish one or two more centers in the other areas of the aUGGp.
 - m) It is necessary to diversify and multiply the multi-thematic educational programs by extending them to all schools of the territory. This must be focused on spreading information and knowledge about the “UGGp Concept” and should integrate the natural and cultural heritage of the territory.
 - n) Active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
151. Following the review of the **Yangan Tau** (Russian Federation) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that it does not yet fulfil the UGGp criteria (i), (ii), (v) and (viii) (Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and decides to **defer this candidature** for a maximum of two years to allow the above recommendations to be implemented
152. **Yimengshan** (China): The territory is located in the east of China and covers an area of 1,804.76 km². The maximum and minimum elevations are 1,156 m and 120 m, respectively. The area lies in the uplift belt of western Shandong Province. It mainly consists of north-west trending basement folds and ductile shear belts. During its long geological evolution, various significant geological landscapes were formed and retained in this area, which includes geosites of global, regional, and local significance. The geoheritage of international significance are the oldest strata in north China which are represented by China's only komatiite with spinifex texture; one of the few greenstone belts in the world; tonalite–trondhjemite–granodiorite (TTG) and potash granite from different times that reflect the stages of early crust formation; the biggest kimberlite-type diamond mine in Asia with the biggest ore reserve and its old mining site.
153. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.
154. Three positive reviews of the internationally significant geological heritage were received from the IUGS.
155. Summary and discussion: The report was very positive. There is good networking among the National Geoparks and the UGGps in China. There are initiatives towards sustainable development and in most of the sites they use green technology. Local communities participate in numerous activities and efforts to promote geological heritage have been taken seriously. There was a discussion on the boundary as it should not be a collection of 5 geotourism sites but a coherent territory for the identity of the population.
156. A number of recommendations were provided for **Yimengshan** (China):

- a) Add more interpretation panels along paths/ trails related to natural heritage, preferably creating a link between geodiversity, biodiversity and cultural heritage.
- b) Currently the aUGGp Expert Committee consists mainly of geologists. It is advisable to include experts from other relevant fields, for example biology, social sciences, culture, anthropology, education, tourism, managements.
- c) Participation of local communities for aUGGp activities is good, however, community empowerment is still limited. Most of the UGGp projects are organised by the aUGGp authority. It is important to enhance capacity building through training programs and gradually empower local people to manage some of the UGGp projects.
- d) The main agricultural product of the territory is peaches and as such most UGGp communities are involved in peach agriculture. This peach culture can be used as tools for the aUGGp community development and improve the sense of belonging.
- e) International cooperation and network should be further enhanced, particularly with UNESCO Global geoparks with a similar thematic in the Asia-Pacific region. The UGGp should also strengthen its active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
- f) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- g) Manage the UGGp as a coherent territory not as 5 individual geotourism sites for the identity of the population.

157. Following the review of the **Yimengshan** (China) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (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.

VI. Discussion of the revalidation of existing UNESCO Global Geoparks

158. 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.

159. 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").

160. 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").

161. 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").

162. **North Pennines AONB** (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

163. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

164. Following the review of the **North Pennines AONB** (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Despite the good work to equalise visibility between the AONB (area of outstanding natural beauty) and the UGGp, we recommend the staff continue to work on this task to ensure the UGGp visibility on a daily basis, e.g. by an enhanced highlighting and incorporating of the UGGp logo. The AONB and UGGp partnership still seems to be well incorporated among people in the area and also among some partners. To make the people know and value the UGGp as much as the AONB it is important to highlight the UGGp in all information, panels and printed material as well as websites and in social media.
- b) Currently, there is no official UGGp guides programme, although the UGGp is planning a guide development programme. For the guide programme, highly-skilled independent guides who work locally will be trusted partners in guide development, contributing to interpretation skills and field risk management. This partnership will also encourage all the stakeholders to share information, and augment existing scientific programmes led by experts.
- c) Currently, many tourists visit the area by bicycle, motorcycle, etc. The UGGp should make all UGGp-related tour/programme information accessible to such tourists, through the cooperation with partners as well as Debt Management Offices (DMO). For this purpose, the UGGp must increase the number of partners, and provide them with information.
- d) The UGGp and its partners should enhance the information on UGGp activities currently available, and UGGp guide tours conducted in the future, in the villages where the tourists visit for eating and staying overnight, such as Allendale, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Stanhope and Alston.
- e) The UGGp is recommended to participate with their two representatives in the EGN meetings. Since its last revalidation there has been only one delegate participating. If one of the delegates is not able to meet, the official substitute should attend. The UGGp is also recommended to bring staff who work on a daily basis on UGGp development to the conferences to enhance the understanding on UGGp.
- f) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

165. **Hațeg Country** (Romania)

166. A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping ZHANG so he left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

167. Following the review of the **Hațeg Country** (Romania) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The visibility of the UGGp within its territory has to be improved continuously. The road guide panels to different sites and facilities should be added for self-driving visitors or other visitors. The establishment of further “DinoStops” is an effective instrument for this. All the UGGp maps should clearly indicate its boundary.
- b) With the participation of local stakeholders, a management plan, especially for the UGGp has to be established.
- c) The infrastructure (stairs, platforms) at the “Dinosite” La Scoabă has to be reconstructed.
- d) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- e) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.
- f) The UGGp should update and adapt its existing Management plan for the next coming years.

168. **Adamello Brenta** (Italy)

169. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

170. Following the review of the **Adamello Brenta** (Italy) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The UGGp should ensure that the temporary contract of the UGGp geologist continues to be renewed annually until the Provincial Government of Trentino is able to give permission for the post to be made permanent.
- b) The UGGp visibility is still extremely low. The UGGp should continue strongly to improve its visibility, especially the UNESCO Global Geopark logo as well as the logos of GGN and EGN should be better represented on panels, print matters and electronic presentations.
- c) The UGGp should continue to improve the interpretation of geological and geomorphological aspects of the geosites and other Geopark visitor areas, especially the excellent high mountain outcrop panoramas.
- d) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

171. **Magma** (Norway)

172. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

173. Following the review of the **Magma** (Norway) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The UGGp has produced many tools for education that are available for the local Educative Centres. The UGGp has professional educative staff and, furthermore, the Educative Centres depends on the municipalities that are UGGp owners. Taken that into account, the UGGp should find a way to be more active at the classroom level, to ensure that teachers and pupils use the tools. The Primary and Secondary Schools should become active partners in order to promote heritage awareness and conservation by means of the education.
- b) Cultural aspects have been considered by the UGGp in leaflets, sites, panels, movies and active partnership with locals and different museums. The UGGp should help partners improve the interpretation including a more modern way to

present their collections, selecting the important items and telling their story in a more attractive for the visitors, using it in panels, leaflets and oral explanations. The story telling must include the relationship between culture and the geological landscape.

- c) The UGGp must improve the interpretation of its natural heritage in panels, leaflets and maps. Most of their impressive geological locations and landscapes are, in fact, ecological treasures that show a very well preserved diversity in flora.
- d) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks

174. **Novohrad – Nógrád** (Hungary & Slovakia)

175. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

176. Following the review of the **Novohrad – Nógrád** (Hungary & Slovakia) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The infocenter for the UGGp (improvement of existing center) is an important window to promote UGGp in Holloko Old Village (WHS). Future work should highlight the characteristics of the UGGp and show close links between landscape, geology and tradition.
- b) Somosko Castle is the best geosite to represent the geological history, biological diversity and human history in an integrated manner. The history of quarrying and its important contribution for regional (European) development can be used as one of the 'stories'. This important site showcases the cross-border cooperation based on UGGp activities, especially related to geotourism.
- c) Filakovo Castle is a fantastic place to study both geology and archaeology. Currently, these two subjects are studied and developed separately. There is an opportunity to look at geology and archaeology in an integrated manner (geoarchaeology). Knowledge gained from this work can be used to enhance the visitor interest and improve tourism activities. The exhibition can be further enhanced, including info in English.
- d) The Underground Mining Museum is a good initiative which should be supported. The concept of the exhibition can be therefore more holistic (complete cycle of coal industry) with for example mining geology, exploration, mining activities, coal for civilisation etc.
- e) Networking among UGGp can be further enhanced, particular areas related to common issues, i.e. cross-border UGGp, young volcanism. The UGGp is in the position to share their experiences and best practices with other UNESCO Global Geoparks, particularly in Asia-Pacific and Africa.
- f) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

177. **Basque Coast** (Spain)

178. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

179. Following the review of the **Basque Coast** (Spain) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The possibility to move and upgrade the Educational Centre at Zumaia to the old railway station building and combine it with the Tourist office seems an excellent way to increase the use of this excellent facility, boost visitor interaction and allow greater use of this excellent educational facility. As such it is encouraged.

- b) The UGGp has already captured audio testimonials from a number of elderly people recording various aspects of the region's culture and this is commended. Given the richness of the region's cultural heritage it would be good to see the range of this initiative extended and perhaps make a few comments available at key sites for example a 'speaking pole' describing fishing experiences at Mutriku harbor.
- c) The Giant Ammonite collection based at Mutriku is of international importance. Ideally, the collection should be presented as a whole to increase scientific value, facilitate research and enhance public awareness.
- d) The projects that already started inland (Lastur and Olatz vallies) connecting geology/geomorphology with prehistory etc. should be continued to enrich the UGGp experience and extend visitor residence time. Here are significant opportunities, e.g. the use of a disused quarry, ethnographic heritage and the mystery of the 'disappearing rivers', which are amongst the possibilities being considered.
- e) Good work has already been done on making use of geology and the uniqueness of the UGGp in explaining climate change and its possible consequences. The rapidly growing awareness and appetite of the issues amongst the general public gives the opportunity of further enhancing the importance of a number of geosites by providing fuller explanations on signage and perhaps a new brochure.
- f) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

180. **Cilento e Valle di Diano** (Italy)

181. A conflict of interest was declared by Martina Paskova so she left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote. The observer from Cilento also left the room.

182. A formal complaint was made by the UGGp about the behaviour of one of the evaluators during the mission. UNESCO will examine this.

183. Following the review of the **Cilento e Valle di Diano** (Italy) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The application of the holistic management model designed by the UGGp for an integral and harmonized operation of UNESCO multi-designations and the national park is highly recommended. The implementation of this model will facilitate the adaptation of the National Park Master Plan and Landscape Plan to the separated management approach not only to the UGGp, but also to the Biosphere reserve and World Heritage site.
- b) The UGGp should have a proper team within the national park authority, with at least partial autonomy.
- c) The UGGp website should be improved. It is also recommended to start with the use of social media (like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Weibo, Wechat). On all panels, durable logos should be used instead of temporary stickers. The UGGp logo should be used correctly and in a more dominant way.
- d) The construction of more urban geotrails inside of the UGGp communities (focusing, e.g. local construction material and local geomorphology) is recommended.
- e) The English translation mistakes on the panels, mainly at the geosites of Castelvita Cave and the Cala Cave, the Geo-biodiversity Museum and at the geosite Stone Stream, should be corrected.
- f) The possible negative impact of light use in the Castelvita Cave should be studied and controlled.
- g) Geotourism packages should be developed for various visitors segments (seniors, families, students etc.).

- h) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- i) Participation of both EGN CC members on the EGN CC meetings should be always assured (or by an officially appointed permanent substitute).
- j) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

184. **Rokua** (Finland)

185. A conflict of interest was declared by Soo Jae Lee, so he left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

186. Following the review of the **Rokua** (Finland) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Try to place in the first page of the UGGp website a map or a link to it, showing the unified territory with clear boundary and other designations within the area. Although the UGGp provides a useful mobile phone app, there are still many people who prefer to look at the UGGp map on the screen of their computers.
- b) There remain some old explanation panels on several trails, on which the new (combined) logo of Rokua UGGp is absent. It is necessary to add the new Rokua UGGp logo on these panels.
- c) Enrich the content of display in the Suppa Information Centre; more samples can be collected and displayed there. When possible, set up new display centres in municipalities, where more people gather.
- d) It is important for such a big UGGp to have a website and/or other local tourism provider's websites that are linked to web-based timetables and transport information.
- e) The UGGp is located in the middle of Finland with rather low density of population, which is now in a balance with the ecological environment of this region. On one hand, the natural environment of the territory is vulnerable, on the other hand, an increase of tourist numbers is good for the local economy. It would be considered beneficial if an independent study on the environmental impact of increasing tourist numbers is carried out. This will help the decision makers to work out a practical and environment friendly promotion plan.
- f) Strengthen the active involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network.

187. **Tuscan Mining Park** (Italy)

188. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

189. Following the review of the **Tuscan Mining Park** (Italy) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The UGGp may include more explicit and visible information and advice about the prohibition of destroying and removing geological sites and parts of the geological heritage, and the general announcement of regulations, to prevent misuse and damage in the catalogued sites. It would be beneficial to improve the security in those sites, especially ancient mines like the one in the Poggio Mutti trail or other dangerous places that are indicated and promoted by the UGGp, to advice visitors not to go inside alone.

- b) The vegetation cleaning of the critical sites may have to take place more often than currently scheduled to prevent damage by plant roots and normal growth of plants as well as to have a clear view of the outcrop, as it is the case of the quarry of the Poggio Mutti trail.
- c) It could be recommended to develop in the Gateways of the UGGp to organize exhibition of the products and services linked to the LEC, the DRAGO project, DESTIMED geotouristic product, etc...
- d) It is very important that not only the website of the UGGp but also the ones of the cooperatives that manage the Gateways and the guiding tours must be at least in Italian and English. They also have to show clearly that they are the managers of the Gateways and the official guides of the UGGp. The UGGp is mentioned almost nowhere.
- e) The great involvement of the municipalities of the UGGp is one of the key elements that maintain its success. This commitment should continue to ensure the continuity of the different measures, projects and actions planned.
- f) The pilot experience in the direct management of a natural protected area within the UGGp is an excellent initiative. Implementing these projects in other protected areas would be interesting.
- g) The finalisation of the construction of the Museum can be an excellent place to put all the entire heritage of the miner's life and history and its value to a higher level and to let it know to the inhabitants and visitors.
- h) The UGGp should include natural hazards, especially floods, and climate change issues in the educational programs and activities addressed to local people and scholars.
- i) The UGGp should establish practical cooperation with other UGGps among attending different conferences about Geoparks.
- j) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

190. **Molino Alto Tajo** (Spain)

191. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

192. Following the review of the **Molino Alto Tajo** (Spain) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The Molina UGGp's Museum is rich in fossils and specimens, but the display is old fashioned. It needs to be modernized and thematic areas on the most important elements of the UGGp (like the aragonite) should be created. English explanation should be provided in all exhibits. The same model should be followed also in the other Museums operated or supported by the UGGp such as the Maranchón museum.
- b) There should be a more systematic exchange of information between the information centers and the museums, in order to improve the visitor analysis.
- c) Safety should be improved. Some sites like in Checa are not safe for the visitors, as the infrastructure is worn out and the viewpoints are not easy accessible. Warning signs should be set up at the edge of the cliffs and on the trails where there is a risk of falling rocks.
- d) Strengthen the international profile of the UGGp. Most of the promotional material and panels are in Spanish, and only a few are in English. The UGGp should have its web page also available in English.
- e) Efforts should be made in conserving, studying and making accessible to visitors the recently discovered Permian Fossil Forest in Rillo de Gallo and the Rillo Triassic Reptile Foot Prints.

- f) The UGGp should strengthen systematic research on geodiversity, biodiversity and cultural diversity, and translate the results into popular science to tell the story of the territory.
- g) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- h) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

193. **Carnic Alps** (Austria)

194. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

195. Following the review of **Carnic Alps** (Austria) revalidation report and considering this UGGp received a “yellow” card in 2016, the UGGpC decided to award a **RED** card. The Carnic Alps UGGp did not manage to implement the recommendations received in 2016 after a “yellow” card revalidation and no longer meets criteria (ii), (iii), and (vi) of the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3.

196. The UGGp Council also has a number of recommendations following the revalidation mission that will assist the Carnic Alps UGGp should it wish to reapply for UGGp status:

- a) The UGGp’s visibility needs to be dramatically improved. The newest interpretation boards feature a very small UGGp and it tends to be partly obscured by old frames. Furthermore, the logo does not feature on any publicity. While this is, to an extent, as a result of a misunderstanding about rules of use with a particular publication it should by now be easily understood.
- b) There is no roadside indication anywhere that visitors are entering or within a UGGp. The management and communities should collaborate with each other and relevant authorities to highlight Carnic Alps status as a UGGp in the interest of a) attracting and holding visitors, b) attracting increased financial and other support for the area, and c) boosting local community pride in the territory. UGGp status is an accolade for all the communities and associations and territory of Carnic Alps and should not be hidden.
- c) The UGGp needs to engage more in, at least, the basic activities and duties of the EGN & GGN, submitting reports etc. as requested. Their contribution to the EGN Week should consist of more than one event, becoming an opportunity to engage the energies and interest of the communities and partners. (Criterion (vi))
- d) It is time to revisit the future of the UGGp by developing a refreshed vision and realistic Masterplan. The UGGp has a core small team running a large UGGp so a long term and practicable path needs to be worked out. The process should include all partners and stakeholders and involve those whose future could be built into the UGGp. It is important that a succession of personnel is sought out and encouraged, to respect the effort and passion that has built the UGGp and ensure its sustainability as well as its credibility with supporters, sponsors and stakeholders. (Criterion (iii))
- e) Better connexion between different aspects of the UGGp’s heritage (geology, nature, culture intangible) needs to be established and promoted. Develop knowledge and promotion of the rich local intangible heritage (tales, songs, music...) should be undertaken by the UGGp. (Criterion (ii))
- f) The UGGp should pay greater attention to its financial stability.

- g) The UGGp, if it wishes to re-apply in future should follow the agreed rules of a UNESCO Global Geopark, among others, sending of reports, networking, membership obligations, etc.

197. **El Hierro** (Spain)

198. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

199. Following the review of the **El Hierro** (Spain) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Near Las Puntas there is a 2.5 km long path along the coastline with lookout points, "Sendero Litoral De Las Puntas". The path runs through one of the most beautiful geological features and formations, but the interpretation of the geological heritage is missing. It is certainly necessary to take advantage of that path and set up a few interpretative panels next to it to explain the geological phenomena that can be seen there. This is one of the most attractive places of the El Golfo bay and should be included in UGGp offerings.
- b) The UGGp should clearly differentiate its activities from the activities of the Biosphere reserve to enhance El Hierro UGGp visibility. E.g., in some older printed materials (brochures, tourist maps, leaflets, and pannels) boundaries of the UGGp and biosphere reserve are not clearly distinguished. As the boundaries of these two UNESCO designation are well defined they should be visible in all maps. Materials that will be printed or reprinted in the future should have a map on which both boundaries are visible.
- c) In the El Hierro UGGp there are several submarine geosites. The most famous is La Restinga submarine volcano (underwater eruption occurred in 2011) and lots of explanations can be found in the Volcanological Interpretation Centre. It would be good if the UGGp team could choose one or two such geosites which have educational character and install an interpretation panel overlooking the sea surface where the geosite is. In this way visitors can see what is hidden beneath sea surface.
- d) There is cooperation between the UGGp and local producers (wine, cheese, fruit), as well as with accommodation or tourist providers but collaboration should be reinforced by formalising partnership agreements. The UGGp team should develop partners system, where the partners not only benefit from a close relationship with the UGGp but also are considered as an example in the community.
- e) There are numerous geological research papers (PhDs, diploma thesis) or other investigation projects related to El Hierro UGGp. It would be good if a database of all these papers exist. It is also recommended to collect all these papers and have them in the UGGp library in order to be easily accessible to the UGGp team or future researchers/students.
- f) Visibility can be improved through the presence of the UGGp on the main El Hierro tourist web pages.
- g) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

200. **Monts d'Ardèche** (France)

201. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

202. Following the review of the **Monts d'Ardèche** (France) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Strengthen the UGGp visibility by developing one corporate identity for the Monts d'Ardèche UGGp, recognising both the PNR (Regional Natural Park) and the UGGp

label. This should be the broad approach of the area, thus solving the problems of doubling or omissions of labels, websites and communication and strengthening the holistic approach of the regional heritage. In practical terms this also means that the entrance panels to municipalities get the specific UGGp logos.

- b) Improve the English and German versions of the website (s).
- c) Make the available educational material accessible on the website.
- d) Strengthen the geotourism offer by developing packages together with tourist boards, travelling agencies and accommodations.
- e) Strengthen networking and common activities by actively joining EGN/GGN-working groups and joining or initiating common projects.
- f) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- g) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

203. **Ore of the Alps** (Austria)

204. A conflict of interest was declared by Melanie Border so she left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

205. Following the review of the **Ore of the Alps** (Austria) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Avoid the use of the combined UNESCO temple/UGGp logo for items which are sold and use the own Geopark logo for commercial purposes.
- b) When information is provided in English, all of the information needs to be translated and not only as an overview/summary.
- c) Use the UGGp motto/theme "Feel the History" to tell the cultural stories of the UGGp and integrate the Quaternary earth history and processes into future interpretation.
- d) Use social media channels to promote the UGGp more (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or whichever ones are most used in the regions you are promoting).
- e) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- f) Strengthen the involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the European Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory both through active participation in common Geoparks promotional activities as well as through the partnership with other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

206. **Odsherred** (Denmark)

207. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

208. Following the review of the **Odsherred** (Denmark) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Main roads in and around the UGGp should be provided with more road signage directing visitors to Geosites and other important sites of interest of the UGGp.
- b) Add more interpretation panels and viewing platforms along the Ridge Path to facilitate self-guided tours.

- c) Educational programs should be more exciting and provide more hands-on activities with school engagement.
- d) As glaciers are the architect of this landscape, more interpretation about them should be introduced into the tourism experience.
- e) Suggest communication between Odsherred UGGp and other UGGps with similar geology be strengthened and twinning be considered with such UGGps.
- f) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- g) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

209. **Terras de Cavaleiros** (Portugal)

210. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

211. Following the review of the **Terras de Cavaleiros** (Portugal) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The UGGp needs to be more active in terms of geotourism and should structure an action plan on this topic. To further develop tourism in the UGGp (proper to the size of the UGGp), the UGGp needs to train more tourism guides.
- b) Even though there is only one school within the UGGp, it should engage with schools and education in general also outside of the UGGp and with all ages.
- c) The relationship and formal partnership needs to be developed between the UGGp and the new Biosphere reserve.
- d) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- e) Strengthen the 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 UGGp under the umbrella of GGN

212. **Lushan** (China)

213. Due to delay of one evaluator in sending the report the Council arranged for an electronic vote. The delay and the inconvenience created is the responsibility of one evaluator only, in spite of numerous reminders. Measures will be taken to ensure that this does not happen again in the future.

214. Following the review of the Lushan UGGp revalidation report which was done remotely after the UGGpC meeting, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) UGGp website: update the information concerning the Lushan UGGp extension and the change of the UGGp area (500 to 548 km²) and thus in all UGGp information documents. Present clearly the new Lushan UGGp limits in all Lushan UGGp publication (leaflets, panels, etc.).
- b) Continue improving the security measures at the Jin Xiu Gu Glacial U-Valley trail.
- c) Update and unify key information available on all websites related to the UGGp (Lushan UGGp, UNESCO website, GGN, Chinese national Geoparks website etc.).

- d) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- e) Define the UGGp's research plan for the coming years, including priorities and specific budget for the plan. This may include activities undertaken with partners as well.
- f) Develop further educational materials for schools with support of educational designer and specialist. This may be for children or for teachers following a specific methodology according to educational curriculum for each course. This methodology should contain an evaluation process to measure the adequacy of the taught subjects.
- g) Develop a financial statement which shows clearly the separate budget for the UGGp.
- h) Considering the high and still increasing visitor numbers, Lushan UGGp should undergo an independent environmental impact study, and, based on the results continue to work to monitor and control detrimental environmental impacts whilst concurrently taking actions to ensure safe, sustainable, quality experience for the public.
- i) Strengthen the active 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 other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

215. **Wudalianchi** (China)

216. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

217. Following the review of the **Wudalianchi** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The volcano morphologies and geology as well as the mineral spring water origin and characteristics are very well presented and interpreted for the general public. The UGGp area is also a hot spot of biodiversity and has a very unique cultural heritage mainly related to the geological heritage. On the connection between geodiversity, biodiversity, culture and community, there is for sure a huge potential to be further developed, maybe strengthening the relation with the Biosphere reserve activities. The volcanoes really have shaped the landscape, the lakes, life, resources and culture, the UGGp has to make this very strong relationship more evident.
- b) Climate change related topics as well as other natural hazards have been only partially investigated, but they are worthy of further development and integration in the UGGp activities. A community born from a dramatic eruption and the consequent flood could tell the world how to live, adapt and grow after disaster.
- c) There should be references to agenda 2030, the adoption of the agenda as operative common framework could improve the communication of the sustainable development actions to a wider international community, and enhance the local awareness of their contribution in global goals.
- d) The geological and geomorphological features of the area are very well presented and interpreted for the wide public both in the field and in the UGGp museum. Also, leaflets, books and maps are well designed for the wide public. However, it might be useful to develop more detailed publications or exhibition for the more inquiring or expert tourists. Moreover, this could help to substantiate the beautiful geological stories developed in the interpretation centre/panels.

- e) Continue the active involvement in the activities of the GGN, the APGN and national Geoparks network promoting the International value of the territory through the partnership with UGGp under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks. Continue to actively contribute to international conferences and meetings on UNESCO Global Geoparks and explore the chance of hosting an international meeting considering the long experience in the network and the convenient logistics after the opening of WLC airport.

218. **Zhangjiajie** (China)

219. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

220. Following the review of the **Zhangjiajie** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) There are many places on the trails where *Sinoceras* fossils are common. A location might be identified for presenting the fossils in-situ and further description through the use of illustrations and reconstructions of the animal in life and in its habitat.
- b) A Good partnerships have been developed with other UGGps that also have cave systems and a conference was held to discuss issues surrounding protection of caves. The development of similar relationships should be encouraged to create co-operative research projects concerning geoscience research, heritage conservation, tourism and education that provide tangible and specific benefits to the partnership.
- c) Many places are attempting to move to more 'green' environmental practices. We encourage the UGGp to set an example through its own practice by reducing plastic waste in particular through the elimination of plastic straws, utensils and water bottles. Guides can be 'front-line' ambassadors of best practices.
- d) The report listed many technical papers published since the last revalidation. This is an indication of an active program of research in the UGGp. Most of the papers dealt with topics concerning tourism and culture. The UGGp, if possible, should encourage research in all areas: geoscience, biological science, culture, intangible heritage. While it is difficult to control the research direction of scientists outside the UGGp, the administration of the UGGp should do is best to attract research that might be published in academic journals to enhance the knowledge of the UGGp.
- e) It should be recommended to implement an independent study on tourism sustainability and impact in the UGGp.
- f) Continue the active involvement in the activities of the GGN, the APGN and national geoparks network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with UGGp under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

221. **Fangshan** (China)

222. A conflict of interest was declared by Jianping Zhang and Nikoloas Zouros so they left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote.

223. Following the review of the **Fangshan** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Improve the experience of visitors in the open air space through well-educated Guides.
- b) Improve the experience of visitors in UGGp Museums promoting the local geological heritage mainly through local specimens.
- c) Improve the experience of students in educational activities through the development of educational programmes connecting UGGp's Geological heritage with the interests of the students.

- d) Increase the number of the UGGp partners following the successful example of the Folk-custom guest house in Jingshankou Folk Village.
- e) Promote the model of the Bailixia Art Town which helped to increase the quality of life of the local people.
- f) Participate in International Tourism fairs promoting Fangshan and the UGGp and exchange exhibitions with other UGGp Members.
- g) Organize special meetings or workshops inviting UGGp Experts to promote Fangshan achievements i.e. on Geoheritage protection and learn from the experience of other territories.
- h) Propose the creation of a Working Group on UGGps hosting WHS and share as best practice the experience of the Geoheritage protection and management at the Peking Man WHS (i.e. approval of Geoconservation protection plans by WH Center).
- i) Strengthen the 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 UGGp under the umbrella of GGN.

224. **Jingpohu** (China)

225. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

226. Following the review of the **Jingpohu** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Edit a map with bicycle routes and some other information such a track length, altitude difference and average duration of the bicycle route.
- b) The security and safety of visitors should be improved in the visit to the lava tunnels. It could be recommended to provide to visitors a protective helmet, even if the tunnel is safe.
- c) At the North Gate a future UGGp Museum is in construction. This project needs to be achieved to present and illustrate the UGGp as a whole: the aspects of volcanism, the whole geology stratigraphy present, the cultural aspects and the intangible heritage.
- d) Implement geological interpretation tools also for the geological site of the granite basement and sedimentary rocks. The highlights of Jingpohu UGGp are volcanic features but other types of rocks can present interesting geological stories as well. In the future, it is necessary to include non-volcanic sites in the geological interpretation in situ and on other support.
- e) Increase proposals for educational tools for children using the two mascots (fish and red squirrel).
- f) Continue the active involvement in the activities of the GGN, the APGN and national network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UNESCO Global Geoparks.

227. **Longhushan** (China)

228. A conflict of interest was declared by Kirstin Lemon so she left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

229. Following the review of the **Longhushan** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Verify the translation of Chinese material into English, Japanese and Korean before publication as in many occasions this is of poor quality.
- b) Continue to integrate the cultural heritage into the UGGp especially at the Dream of Tao experience and at the cultural museum.

- c) Ensure that all geological interpretation is at a suitable level to be understood by the general public and in the correct location for the feature described.
- d) Develop a brand for local products and UGGp souvenirs that allows people to know that they are from the UGGp area.
- e) Seek out more networking opportunities, especially at an international level and ensure that these have tangible outcomes not just attendance at meetings.
- f) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products
- g) Strengthen the 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 UGGp under the umbrella of GGN.

230. **Stonehammer** (Canada)

231. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

232. Following the review of the **Stonehammer** (Canada) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) A UGGp is not a geological park. Beside its geological heritage the UGGp needs to promote and link the other heritage of its area (natural, cultural, intangible heritage).
- b) Stonehammer UGGp needs to communicate and act to promote, to explain and demonstrate correctly what a UGGp is and not limit itself to geological site information and promotion.
- c) The conservation work of the Stonehammer UGGp should be strengthened, not only in order to protect the geosites but also creating conditions for visiting a more important part of the 60 geosites.
- d) A close collaboration between different territorial designations or even written agreements to establish a cooperation between Stonehammer UGGp and the Fundy Biosphere reserve is not yet existing. In this sense, it is important to formalize these partnerships in order to give the needed visibility to the Stonehammer UGGp as a territorial development strategy, and to improve an effective and synergic territorial networking among partners, as requested by the UGGp Guidelines.
- e) Promote an effective and lasting visibility of Stonehammer UGGp among the partners, in order to strengthen the image, public recognition and awareness of Stonehammer UGGp. This visibility should also be analyzed at the level of the interpretation center and the New Brunswick Museum. Although, some exists in a minor amount, it is easily missed by visitors.
- f) With regard to the visibility of road signs, the direction arrows associated with the UGGp should be rethought so that visitors and the local population understand that they are inside a territory classified as UGGp and not following a dispersed set of geological outcrops, as if they were only in a "geological park".
- g) To develop educational programs for all levels of Education and develop educational activities (workshops, seminars, field trips) for the general public, especially for the staff of the partner entities. Beyond the geological information, these activities must include local culture, history, biology, ecology, etc.
- h) It is necessary to develop active partnerships and signs that allow the visitor of the cultural tangible heritage to understand that they are in a territory classified as UGGp and that the monuments in question are a valuable part of this territorial development strategy.
- i) Stonehammer UGGp management structure must increase their actions in order to preserve the territorial intangible heritage. In this sense, books, documentaries,

cultural initiatives, festivals or other actions should be produced and developed in order to achieve this aim.

- j) It is important to develop or sponsor educational and outreach initiatives that allow locals to understand the natural processes inherent to the floods in the Hamptons and Saint John, in order to enable them to develop resilient attitudes towards this reality.
- k) Stonehammer UGGp should strengthen its management structure, in order to have an effective territorial action and affirm itself as a strong brand of territorial development, recognized by the inhabitants.
- l) It is important to redefine the strategy of involving local stakeholders enlarging the number of partnerships and defining rules to create and assign a guarantee stamp to products, activities and establishments that guarantees quality for visitors / and gives visibility to Stonehammer UGGp. It is necessary to give greater visibility to locally-based products, which are highly appreciated and can function as vehicles for promoting and differentiating the territory.
- m) It is important to promote workshops for partners in order to give them the needed tools to generate the dynamics for the territory.
- n) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- o) Strengthen the involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UGGps.

233. **Ningde** (China)

234. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

235. Following the review of the **Ningde** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) A geological map of the UGGp should be made available as a leaflet and as a downloadable resource on the website.
- b) A UGGp sites data base could be established concerning all UGGp heritage (geology, natural, cultural) collating information about each site in an easily accessible and manageable format.
- c) Enhance the UGGp tourist road map with main cities and indicate the names of the towns or villages that are on the entry points into the UGGp so that it is clear when visitors are entering the UGGp.
- d) Encourage the tour operators and guides to move away from using amplified sound system and invest in wireless headsets.
- e) There is no formal UGGp training offered as part of the creative art courses at Shuangxi Antai Art City. UGGp staff should work with the Art City director to develop relevant UGGp training sessions and build these into the course content.
- f) It should be recommended that the UGGp follows official procedure and makes an application to apply for a "less than 10%" extension to the UGGp area to incorporate the cultural heritage area of Carp Brook in the suburbs of Zhouning City. This area has a lot to offer the UGGp in terms of cultural heritage and intangible heritage. This would also mean that the new Exhibition Hall right on the edge of the UGGp boundary is incorporated into the UGGp territory.
- g) The UGGp management team should develop a program to support, endorse and market traditional food products and geo-products, using a clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is

applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.

- h) Continue the active involvement in the activities of the GGN, the APGN and national geoparks network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UGGps.

236. **Leye Fengshan** (China)

237. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

238. Following the review of the Leye Fengshan (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) UGGp development seems to be focused on the two extreme ends of Leye-Fengshan UGGp. One might get an impression that the UGGp is operated as two sub-geoparks which is not in harmony with the UGGp concept. With the completion of the new highway, Leye-Fengshan UGGp should capture the new opportunity to develop the previously under-developed areas in the central part of the UGGp.
- b) Leye-Fengshan UGGp had recently discovered 3 new geosites of national and international significance, two of which are located just outside of the present UGGp boundary. In order to include these new very significant geosites into the UGGp, Leye-Fengshan UGGp should realign and draw a new UGGp boundary and submit this new UGGp boundary during the next revalidation exercise, following the UGGp Operational Guidelines for extensions.
- c) Leye-Fengshan UGGp should pay more attention to the promotion of geosites from other categories of geodiversity, especially on fossils sites, Permian-Triassic Boundary and Quaternary geology in order to provide a better understanding on the local and regional geological evolution, which in turn will boost public awareness on the importance of geology in the UGGp.
- d) More research on archaeology, anthropology and history is needed. In addition a detailed study on Quaternary geology is crucial in order to enhance understanding on linkages between geology and non-geological resources such as biodiversity, archaeology, anthropology and history as well as the agricultural products.
- e) Leye-Fengshan UGGp should make geotourism packages more attractive with varieties of nature, culture and recreation activities and should market these product internationally and nationally (focusing on tourist from major cities in China) rather than focussing on local tourists and those from the neighbouring areas. More English-speaking tour guides are therefore needed for developing this industry.
- f) The UGGp should plan and execute common projects together with its foreign sister UGGps.
- g) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products
- h) Continue the active involvement in the activities of the GGN, the APGN and national network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with UGGp under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

239. **San'in Kaigan** (Japan)

240. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

241. Following the review of the **San'in Kaigan** (Japan) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) San'in Kaigan UGGp is actively engaged in GGN activities, but it should further connect with other UGGps in projects and common activities with an impact on the UGGp communities. For example with sisterhood agreements, or with others UGGp.
- b) Amarube railroad bridge new viewpoint can benefit from enhanced interpretation facilities (panels, leaflets). It is suggested to promote the local history about the train and the efforts of its community, and the relationship with the landscape (rough ría coast line).
- c) The UGGp should work together with the local actors to search for the links between products and geology, local history, culture or nature and not restrict itself on only putting the logo certificate on the products.
- d) Genbudo cave can benefit from having more visitor-friendly information about the role of the magnetic fields and also become a place to inform about what science really knows about the consequences of the inversion of the magnetic polarity, contributing to avoid misbeliefs and pseudo-scientific theories.
- e) More English and Chinese interpretation in forms of pamphlets and brochure. Perhaps the Chinese in the official web site will be useful for Chinese tourists.
- f) More research should be carried out on sand dunes in association with the interpretation of past climate and climate change.
- g) Linkage between different scenic areas and spots can be improved through preparation of pamphlets showing locations of these areas and sites, and the transportation of connecting and how to access these sites.
- h) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- i) Strengthen the 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 other UGGps.

242. **Jeju** (Republic of Korea)

243. A conflict of interest was declared by Soojae Lee and Ana Ruiz so they left the room and were not present for the discussion and vote.

244. Following the review of the **Jeju** (Republic of Korea) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Up to now, there are two websites of the UGGp, one focuses more on the general information about the UGGp, and the other is about the Geo Brand project. All the information of the two current websites should be integrated into a single one, in order to better promote the UGGp in a coherent manner.
- b) Carry out an independent study on the impact of tourism on the UGGp.
- c) The Jeju Island UGGp could find a way for the UGGp management to connect and work more in synergy among the teams involved in the UGGp, World Heritage and Biosphere reserve. The UGGp should always clearly differentiate its activities from the activities of the World Heritage site and Biosphere reserve to keep and enhance Jeju UNESCO Global geopark visibility.
- d) Continue the active involvement in the activities of the GGN, the APGN and national Geopark network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UGGps.

245. **Dong Van** (Vietnam)

246. A conflict of interest was declared by Guy Martini so he left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

247. Following the review of the **Dong Van** (Vietnam) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Sustainability of the area is of the utmost importance. The capacity estimation for water supply of the different districts should be studied in combination with a maximum visitor supply estimation as well as follow-up effects coming from waste and sewage volumes by additional visitors, as basis for further tourism planning.
- b) The UGGp should continue to improve the information panels that are fading and some panels need repairs because of damage. The result of the scientific investigations on the hydrogeology of the Hydropower Station Project should be integrated into the interpretation panels as well as in the education programs of schools, guide training courses and tourism collaboration partners.
- c) The significance of karst hydrogeological themes for the life of the people in the UGGp should be more obvious in panels and in programs for schools and visitors.
- d) The visitor centres should improve their exhibits and their presentation according to the location they are in (relief map, etc.).
- e) Lung Khu Cave: The trail to the Cave needs to be equipped with explications on landscape and local population. The cave protection should be improved by expert monitoring of the cave development, in order to reduce a negative impact of visitors. A visitor access limitation per day should support the reduction of negative impact on the cave.
- f) The UGGp needs to develop a concept for interior content, design, themes and activities of the ethnographic museum. The UGGp should integrate all ethnic groups to discuss and develop the aim and content of this museum. It would be helpful to contact also e.g. National Ethnographic Museum, and other relevant scientists and partners to develop a concept that fulfils the defined aims.
- g) The cultural villages should be investigated regarding their traditional architecture and materials used as well as on the material properties, in order to support conservation repairs.
- h) Scientific research in different fields should be developed e.g. creating maps from the different territories and find out where e.g. the different ethnic groups have settled etc.
- i) The UGGp shall actively participate in UGGp projects with other UGGps (e.g. tourism), within the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.
- j) The UGGp shall improve its financing trying to find complementary funding.

248. **Aso** (Japan)

249. A conflict of interest was declared by Mahito Watanabe so he left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

250. Following the review of the **Aso** (Japan) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Continue to develop and build new infrastructure, educational programs, and educational signs at the 2016 earthquake and landslide sites which give new opportunities to educate about the power of nature, geohazards, and to record the history and impact of the disaster event. Rebuilding and restoration work should be a priority activity within the UGGp area and to build new opportunities for educational programs, tours, research and geo-sites based on the disaster event.
- b) It is noted that the financial support from the Kumamoto Prefectural Government has decreased since 2017. It is recommended that the Prefectural Government aims to raise the level of its financial support to the same level of the National

Government support (2018 financial support level). Increased financial support of the UGGp will help to: the tourism opportunities within the Kumamoto Prefecture, the municipalities within the UGGp, the rebuilding and restoration efforts, and to the UGGp partners.

- c) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products
- d) Keep a stable management team and permanent staff members to avoid weakening the strong management of this UGGp. A permanent geoscientist and a staff with English-speaking ability for international relations should be available on a daily basis.
- e) Continue and enhance the excellent work of local Geo-guides and ensure that they are being appropriately trained and covering multiple educational themes for tours.
- f) The UGGp-branded products should be labelled in a unified way and should be developed with partners to make sure everyone follows the same quality branding criteria corresponding to the high quality of a UNESCO Global Geopark. Develop a system for the Aso UGGp Products branding certification. Explore the development of new UGGp products that are not only related to food, in order to have new tangible UGGp products for tourist and souvenir shops.
- g) The strong ties and living with the elements of nature, culture, history and people's lives is one of the rare special features of the Aso UGGp. Tell survival stories, tell community rebuilding stories, tell history stories, and share experiences at a national and global level that can be an example for other UGGps from across the world.
- h) Strengthen the 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 other UGGps.

251. It was agreed that a statement should be sent to Aso UGGp to express the UGGpC's deep solidarity and high recognition of the work that the UGGp has achieved despite the 2016 earthquake.

252. **Dali Cangshan** (China)

253. A conflict of interest was declared by Kristin Rangnes so she left the room and was not present for the discussion and vote.

254. Following the review of the **Dali Cangshan** (China) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) The Cangshan Marble is very famous and has been quarried for a long time, Dali means marble in Chinese. The marble itself and the historical quarrying should be used as a geosite. Both local people and visitors should be able to admire the rock and learn about the history.
- b) Much work has been done in the field of education but the UGGp should explore additional possibilities for education, focusing on, for example, the huge and exciting story of the tectonic setting of the area, and to use more storytelling and connecting the legends of the area with the natural history.
- c) The panels along the Yudai road need renewal and the text needs to be less technical. Look also for good pictures and make sure that the panels are placed reasonably close to the rocks or processes they are related to.

- d) The visibility of the cooperation between Dali Cangshan UGGp and Dali Erhai Lake Science Education Centre should be improved and the UGGp can assist in making the geological exhibition in the Centre more understandable to visitors and more connected to the stories told in this impressive centre.
- e) The Erhai Lake Science Education Centre is quite new and is concentrating on the nature and culture in and around Lake Erhai. To be a real geotouristic asset the information needs to be in at least one other language than Chinese. The design of the centre is nice and it is possible to add, for example, English text.
- f) Continue with the good process of partnerships with local enterprises especially local producers of typical geotourism products like food and handicraft.
- g) Continue to be active in the land planning and protection of the agricultural areas and in the restoration of Lake Erhai.
- h) Continue to study and promote the intangible heritage connected with the Bai people and other ethnic groups living in the territory. It is recommended to integrate them in the management and actions of the UGGp.
- i) Strengthen the 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 other UGGp.

255. **M'Goun (Morocco)**

256. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

257. Following the review of the **M'Goun (Morocco)** revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Reinforce the visibility as a member of the GGN and UGGp.
- b) Analyse the possibility to include a UGGp interpretation area in the museum of Azilal with information of the GGN Network / UGGps of the world. The internet website needs to be available in more languages and specifically in English. The communication on activities, in the highlights of regional and national media and social networks must be stimulated.
- c) The UGGp must have a well-identified official headquarters. The one established at the Azilal Museum should be reinforced and must bring together the permanent staff and form the foundation of their operational platform.
- d) Explore the possibility of creating a tourism office inside the museum or in the proximity of it in order to promote all the touristic offers of the UGGp area.
- e) As Africa's first UGGp, M'Goun UGGp has a particular responsibility in relation with the network. It would be necessary to actively work, with Ngorongoro-Lengai UGGp, the second UGGp in Africa, on the development of other African UGGp projects.
- f) The M'Goun UGGp has signed conventions with several UGGps in the world: 1 French UNESCO Global Geopark and 2 Chinese. The participation in the Fair of the Lavender of Digne (France) in 2015 is a beautiful operation but it is the only one observed. It would be useful to engage more exchanges with other continents, for example; between school classes, students or socio professionals of their sister UGGps.
- g) A specific effort should be realized to protect, to increase the knowledge and to promote the UGGp rich cultural and intangible heritage.
- h) Public authorities need to follow strongly, support and develop the UGGp and its management team.
- i) A UGGp Action plan needs to be developed for the next 4 years.
- j) Strengthen the involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UGGps.

258. **Mount Kunlun (China)**

259. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

260. Following the review of the **Mount Kunlun (China)** revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) Improve, as much as possible, the road infrastructure inside the UGGp.
- b) The infrastructure for geotourism needs some improvements at several UGGp sites: access from the roads to the explanation panels, parking places, trash bins, solid pavement to avoid floods, and the creation of new paths to reach sites that are far away from the panels. These measures are especially important for the road that crosses the Yaochi Scenic Area.
- c) It should be interesting to install thematic exhibitions at the visitor centers that exist inside the UGGp under the three main aspects that conform Mount Kunlun UGGp: Mountain-building and Geological History, Water Cycle, and Glaciers and Fluvial-alluvial Dynamics.
- d) The UGGp should support more multidisciplinary research of its territory, especially in respect to geotectonics and geohistory, geochronology of river terraces, glaciology and climate change and the study and conservation in situ for tourism of the precious rock art heritage in the Wild Yak Valley, taking advantage of international partnerships.
- e) It is necessary to have a user-friendly geological map of the UGGp and improve the geological contents in some geosite panels.
- f) The improvement of a large UGGp as Mount Kunlun, with a great number of infrastructure and sites, will require the increase of UGGp's personnel (directly or by contract), who accompany the development of the new and planned infrastructure projects.
- g) Strengthen the 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 other UGGp.

261. **Tumbler Ridge** (Canada)

262. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

263. Following the review of the **Tumbler Ridge** (Canada) revalidation report, the UGGpC decided to award a **GREEN** card with the following recommendations:

- a) It is strongly advised to collaborate closely with the Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation which operates the Peace Region Palaeontology Research Centre, in order to find solutions towards the modernisation of the museum following the new trends on how an up to date UGGp museum should look like and work with the public. The museum's collections along with its catalogues containing the fossil record should remain in the Tumbler Ridge UGGp as they are an essential part of the uniqueness of the territory. Besides the existing display of palaeontological content, more content on the basic knowledge of geology, geoheritage, UGGps, geological history, introduction of distinctive geosites, and local cultural history and relics should be added.
- b) The in situ fossil sites should be part of the UGGp's activities. Such sites can be protected and at the same time be accessible to the public. Considering the importance of these sites the UGGp should develop access to the in-situ fossil sites and organises activities and programmes for tourists and schools.
- c) A UGGp interpretation area should be placed in the visitor centre, presenting the UGGps/GGN/Regional Networks.
- d) Closer collaboration with the partners in order to make some UGGp sites safer. Safety warning panels should be placed in some sites such as the cascades.

- e) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- f) Strengthen the involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UGGps.

VII. Deferred UNESCO Global Geopark applications from UGGpC 2016

264. **Trollfjell** (Norway)

265. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

266. Summary and discussion: Trollfjell aspiring UGGp has done very well in addressing its recommendations. It is quite a big area and the aUGGp has managed to develop good activities inland which was a concern in the evaluation.

267. Following the review of the **Trollfjell** (Norway) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational guidelines of the 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.

268. A number of recommendations were provided for **Trollfjell** (Norway):

- a) Further work on integrating the inland area of the UGGp.
- b) The UGGp should develop adapted partnership and provide support for the conservation area present in its territory.
- c) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- d) Develop the active involvement in the activities of the GGN, the EGN and national network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UGGps.

269. **Tungurahua** (Ecuador)

270. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

271. Summary and discussion: The candidate has made an effort to answer the recommendations and improve its situation but would still need more time in order to put in place a number of things in order to fulfil the criteria to become a UNESCO Global Geopark. A good number of the recommendations were not attended clearly enough with detailed information. From the information that has been received it appears that this territory is just not ready to become a UGGp. The candidate has made substantial improvement but it is not enough. Unfortunately, the application cannot be deferred any further. As was mentioned in the evaluation report in 2015, there were several mistakes and weaknesses, showing a lack of basic knowledge of the territory, particularly regarding geology and geological heritage, thus one of the main recommendations was: "The Geopark geological map should be specifically improved for the territory (scale higher than 1:400,000)". This recommendation was not attended adequately

in the report from Tungurahua in 2017. It is also recommended to use appropriate methodologies to proceed with a detailed geological heritage inventory.

272. Following the review of the **Tungurahua** (Ecuador) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate does not fulfil the UGGp (i) to (viii) criteria (Operational guidelines of the UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 3) to become a UNESCO Global Geopark and proposes that the Executive Board **reject this candidate as a UNESCO Global Geopark**.

273. UGGpC suggest that UNESCO assumes a special advisory expert mission to support and advice **Tungurahua** (Ecuador) to develop a future new UGGp candidature.

VIII. Deferred UNESCO Global Geopark applications from UGGpC 2017

274. **Colca y Volcanes de Andagua** (Peru)

275. No conflicts of interest were declared by members of the UGGpC.

276. Summary and discussion: A huge dossier was submitted to the UGGpC. The aUGGp has been very active to fulfil all of the recommendations. This is a very good proposal and the aUGGp has met all of the recommendations and has provided photographic evidence.

277. Following the review of the **Colca y Volcanes de Andagua** (Peru) application dossier and evaluation report, the UGGpC decided that the candidate fulfils the UGGp criteria (Operational guidelines of the 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.

278. A number of recommendations were provided for **Colca y Volcanes de Andagua** (Peru):

- a) A clear partnership strategy should be developed with partners to include a methodology on the criteria required to become a partner with a formal agreement with the UGGp. This is applicable to but not restricted to accommodation and catering providers, transport providers, activity providers and producers of local products.
- b) Develop the active involvement in the activities of the GGN, the GEOLAC and national network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with UGGp under the umbrella of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.
- c) Develop a UGGp website, panels, leaflets, etc. in Spanish and English.
- d) A specific effort should be realized to protect, to increase the knowledge and to promote the UGGp rich cultural and intangible heritage.
- e) Strengthen the involvement in the activities of the Global Geoparks Network and the Latin American and the Caribbean Geoparks Network promoting the international value of the territory through the partnership with other UGGps.

IX. Discussion of UNESCO Global Geopark boundary modification requests

279. **Kula** (Turkey)

280. The modified boundary that was submitted better reflects the situation on the ground, however this is not an extension of less than 10%, as proposed by Kula, but a change in boundary which exceeds 10%. Some areas that were previously included are not within the proposed new boundary and some new areas are now within the new

proposed limits. This request must contain more information on the exact area of modification and should also include more details on the views of the communities that are now excluded from the amended UGGp area/as well as the new ones joining as well as related geosites impacted. The submission of shapefiles would be helpful to assess the change in boundaries easily and promptly. It is clear that this request would need a new application.

281. This request came during 2018 to UNESCO, however it was not clear that this was more than just a minor extension. All modifications of boundaries beyond 10 % have to go through an intergovernmental check and are requesting a new application. It was a mistake of the UNESCO Secretariat that the point was included in the agenda of the UGGpC at this stage. The UGGp will receive the information that a new application is requested.

282. Following the above and the review of **Kula** (Turkey) extension request report, the UGGpC decided to **REJECT** the request.

283. **Psiloritis** (Greece)

284. Following the review of **Psiloritis (Greece)** extension request report, the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the request.

285. **Swabian Alb** (Germany)

286. Swabian Alb UGGp requested an area reduction following the evaluation mission to the Ries aUGGp which observed an overlap of the two areas which would not conform to criterion (i). This reduction request was received mid August 2018 by the UNESCO Secretariat where the Swabian Alb UGGp provided explanation that the geological sites and phenomena in the reduction area clearly belong to the impact event of the Ries aUGGp and have already been managed by the Ries aUGGp, showing the good collaboration between both sites. For the German national responsible bodies this overlap was considered on national level as minor and unproblematic. However, a more detailed explanation from the Swabian Alb UGGp regarding the significance loss of geological sites of international value due to the proposed reduction of their area would have been desired by the UGGpC. Another point which made the evaluation of this request difficult was that the maps submitted by Swabian Alps UGGp for the area reduction are still showing areas belonging to the area proposed by the Ries aUGGp in its application. In order to properly assess an area reduction of a UGGp, maps need to show the correct area. For this reason this request should come again with more detailed explanation and revised maps, to be discussed by Council. The application of the Ries aUGGp is depending on this decision and can be reconsidered only once the border issue has been clarified and endorsed by the Council.

287. Following the review of **Swabian Alps** (Germany) extension request report, the UGGpC decided to **REJECT** the request.

288. **Tumbler Ridge** (Canada)

289. Following the review of **Tumbler Ridge** (Canada) extension request report, the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the request.

290. **Lushan** (China)

291. Following the review of **Lushan** (China) extension request report, the UGGpC decided to **ACCEPT** the request.
292. It was agreed by the UGGpC that a template needs to be prepared for a dossier for UGGp extension so that the information needed is very clear and available for discussion (e.g. request the use of shape files to easily assess the modification of areas). This would include some form of boundary check.
293. A summary of the results of the UGGp evaluations and revalidations was provided:
- a) Evaluations: 9 accepted, 7 deferred and 6 rejected (one mission did not take place)
 - b) Revalidations: 32 green cards, 0 yellow cards and 1 red card
 - c) Deferred from previous meetings: 2 accepted, 1 rejected
 - d) Extension requests (< 10 %): 3 accepted, 2 rejected

New Applications

Aspromonte – ITALY (DEFER)
Chirripó – COSTA RICA (REJECTION)
Quaternary Geopark Northern Granada Valleys – SPAIN (REJECTION)
Estrela – PORTUGAL (DEFER)
Funiushan (Extension) – CHINA (ACCEPTED)
Gevena-Kozani – GREECE (DEFER)
Geoland of the Holy Cross Mountains – POLAND (DEFER)
Imbabura – ECUADOR (ACCEPTED)
Jiuhuashan – CHINA (ACCEPTED)
Kütralkura – CHILE (ACCEPTED)
Mangistau – KAZAHKSTAN (REJECTION)
Möllerdall – LUXEMBOURG (REJECTION)
Courel Mountains – SPAIN (ACCEPTED)
Ries – GERMANY (REJECTION)
Saimaa – FINLAND (DEFER)
Sanqingshan (Extension) – CHINA (ACCEPTED)
Taishan (Extension) – CHINA (ACCEPTED)
Toba Caldera – INDONESIA (DEFER)
Vis Archipelago– CROATIA (ACCEPTED)
Región Volcán Tacaná – MEXICO (REJECTION)
Yangan-Tau – RUSSIAN FEDERATION (DEFER)
Yimengshan – CHINA (ACCEPTED)
Rio Coco – Nicaragua (Mission not yet realized)

Revalidations

North Pennines AONB – UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (GREEN CARD)
Hațeg Country – ROMANIA (GREEN CARD)
Adamello Brenta – ITALY (GREEN CARD)
Magma – NORWAY (GREEN CARD)
Novohrad – Nógrád – HUNGARY & SLOVAKIA (GREEN CARD)
Basque Coast – SPAIN (GREEN CARD)
Cilento e Valle di Diano – ITALY (GREEN CARD)
Rokua – FINLAND (GREEN CARD)
Tuscan Mining Park – ITALY (GREEN CARD)
Molino Alto Tajo – SPAIN (GREEN CARD)
Carnic Alps – AUSTRIA – (RED CARD)

El Hierro – SPAIN (GREEN CARD)
Monts d'Ardèche – FRANCE (GREEN CARD)
Ore of the Alps – AUSTRIA (GREEN CARD)
Odsherred – DENMARK (GREEN CARD)
Terras de Cavaleiros – PORTUGAL (GREEN CARD)
Lushan – CHINA (GREEN CARD, accepted by remote voting)
Wudalianchi – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
Zhangjiajie – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
Fangshan – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
Jingpohu – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
Longhushsan – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
Stonehammer – CANADA (GREEN CARD)
Ningde – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
Leye Fengshan – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
San'in Kaigan – JAPAN (GREEN CARD)
Jeju – REP OF KOREA (GREEN CARD)
Dong Van – VIETNAM (GREEN CARD)
Aso – JAPAN (GREEN CARD)
Dali Cangshan – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
M'Goun – MORROCO (GREEN CARD)
Mount Kunlun – CHINA (GREEN CARD)
Tumbler Ridge – CANADA (GREEN CARD)

Deferred UNESCO Global Geoparks Applications

Trollfjell – NORWAY (ACCEPTED)
Tungurahua – ECUADOR (REJECTED)
Colca y Volcanes de Andagua – PERU (ACCEPTED)

Extension Requests (<10%)

Kula – TURKEY (REJECTED)
Lushan – CHINA (ACCEPTED)
Psiloritis – GREECE (ACCEPTED)
Swabian Alb – GERMANY (REJECTED)
Tumbler Ridge – CANADA (ACCEPTED)

294. The results of the 3rd UGGpC meeting will remain confidential until the Member States of UNESCO will have been informed by distribution of the UGGpC report from the UGGp Bureau as detailed in the Operational Guidelines. Discussions with relevant UGGps and aUGGps present at the International Conference may be envisaged in order to brief the colleagues and guarantee a positive working spirit.
295. Once the UGGp Bureau will have compiled the report it will then be circulated to all UGGpC members for comments. Once this has been agreed it will be translated by UNESCO into French. Then it will be distributed to the External Relations and Public Information Sector in UNESCO for distribution to Member States. This may not happen until end of November. Once the Member States have received the report then all UGGpC members will be informed and all relevant UGGps will be informed that the results are with the permanent delegations. When this is done then letters will go out for revalidated UGGps. Letters for new UGGps will not go out until after the 2019 spring session of the Executive Board of UNESCO.

X. Update of UGGp evaluation and revalidation forms (feedback from the missions)

296. According to the Operational Guidelines UNESCO in conjunction with the GGN shall maintain a roster of evaluators who will undertake field evaluations of new applications for aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks. In 2018 UNESCO did not collect the usual feedback from the UGGps and evaluators subsequent to the field missions, as was done in 2016 and 2017 because these forms are being improved upon the initiative of the GGN. The current forms and evaluator roster will be improved in order to improve the quality of missions and assess properly the performance of the evaluators. The GGN General Assembly will be asked to give their opinion and input. Once these new forms are endorsed by the GGN, the UNESCO Secretariat and the UGGpC, they will be sent out to collect feedback. In addition, it is proposed that the new procedure will include the establishment of training courses for evaluators. Evaluation missions will be realized by a Senior Evaluator (with long experience on UGGp evaluation missions) and a second Evaluator. Once these new procedures will be agreed upon by UNESCO in conjunction with the GGN, the new procedures will be published on the respective websites, available to all stakeholders. The Evaluator's nomination procedure will be made by the UGGp Bureau after a proposal of the UNESCO Secretariat jointly with the GGN. The new forms will improve the quality and functioning of the work of the UGGp.
297. The observer from Spain welcomed this initiative and appreciated the desire to improve the procedure of the evaluation and revalidation process (planned checklist) and the opportunity to provide feedback. The observer further stated that, in her opinion, there are problems with the process itself, which should not be based on opinions rather than on a fact-based checklist and that this would be a good way to improve the process. The observer encouraged the UNESCO Secretariat to provide each UGGp with its evaluation and revalidation report and the (future) checklist document in order for them to verify if the work that they carry out is reflected properly in the reports.
298. The Chairperson responded that existing evaluation and revalidation formats are in use for a long time, and have been fit for purpose for the UGGp evaluation and revalidation and the recommendations in the reports are based on of the evaluator's field observations. He considered that there is a need to guide the evaluators in order to link their observations with a clear reference to the criteria in the UGGp Operation Guidelines. The content of the evaluation reports is sometimes uneven and more consistency would be welcome. At the same time it has to be underlined that the Evaluator's Report is not the only element to be taken into consideration by the members of the UGGpC in order to reach their decision, The UGGpC has access also to the application and revalidation dossier and other information publicly available. The decision of the UGGpC is made after discussion and takes into account all the various information available. The UGGpC decision is based on the quality control of the UGGp Applications for Membership and Progress Reports for Revalidation. It is not feasible to ask the evaluators to change their reports after submission. Each time it is a challenge of the Bureau/Rapporteur, who prepare the UGGpC Report, to document the UGGpC's decisions and to ensure all external readers understand the foundation of the decisions.
299. It would be useful to have procedures for observers to the UGGpC meetings in the same way that they are existing for the members of the UGGpC.
300. The observer from Portugal expressed the opinion that some of the UGGpC members still have a lack of knowledge about the documentation and the criteria. She considered that there is also a lack of criteria regarding the process for deferral. The speaker assured the UGGpC that Member States are there to help the UGGpC to

improve its functioning, and that transparency is fundamental. The observer further expressed concern about the work of some evaluators as not all of the reports contain what is needed to make the decision and also about the criteria for evaluators.

301. The observer from Spain expressed the difficulty to follow the discussions without the related documents indicating that the documents related to the UGGp applications, including the reports of the desk-top assessment and the evaluators, should be publicly available on the UNESCO website and made a request for all files related to the UGGpC agenda and especially UGGp evaluation and revalidation documents to be available to the observers. The UNESCO Secretariat commented that this is according to the statutes, however, due to logistics and staffing reasons this is not available as yet. This request will be analyzed by the UGGpC Bureau, in relation with IUGS and UGGp Secretariat and future procedures will be clarified in accordance to the Operational Guidelines. The UNESCO Secretariat needs to update the forms for this and add in the forms that they will be made public on the UNESCO website so that each evaluator and each Geopark knows. All applications will also be made available online and this information should also be mentioned on the forms.

XI. IUGS Geological Evaluation Process

302. The current Geological heritage evaluation form used for the assessment of the international value of the Geological Heritage present in the applicant territories will be further improved as some points seem to be difficult for the reviewer to understand and are sometimes more geared towards the UGGp than to scientific reviewers.

303. The UGGpC Chairperson thanked the IUGS for all of its work in the progress and this year has seen a better result with higher quality reports and a better template. The UGGpC Bureau will be happy to work with IUGS on a new template for the assessment of the international value of the Geological Heritage present in the applicant territories. This will be discussed and adopted by the UGGpC and improve the assessment process with even more quality and faster.

XII. Capacity building activities: workshops, advisory missions

304. The representative of the Director-General of UNESCO explained that during the last year a number of capacity building activities have taken place using the financial contributions from the GGN:

- a) Workshop for the Arab region in Jordan which has kicked off a hive of activity in the Arab region: Kuwait, Saudi Arabia.
- b) Workshop in Russian Federation; now has 10 aspiring UGGps
- c) Workshop in Armenia with participants from Armenian Government and Armenian research institutions.
- d) Workshop in Mongolia with participants from the Mongolian government and Mongolian research institutions.
- e) Workshop in Mexico with participants from the Latin America and Caribbean region.
- f) Workshop in Iran with participants from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Kirgizstan, Uzbekistan, Turkey etc.
- g) Workshop in Oki Islands, Japan, attended by participants from Timor Leste, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia etc. (under the project "Geoparks for Enhanced Multidimensional Sustainability in the Asia and Pacific Region (GEMS)").
- h) Intensive Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks on Lesbos Island, the main capacity building activity of UGGp/GGN.

305. The UNESCO representative thanked the UGGpC members who contributed to the workshops and those from throughout the GGN who have helped to deliver these courses and workshops. Capacity-building activities are a fundamental part of the GGN and UNESCO to ensure geographical equity.

306. There are also courses and workshops to be realized in Beijing – China (October 2018), Uruguay (sponsored by the Government of Flanders and Uruguay) (November 2018), and Korea (KIGAM, the Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources) (November 2018) and others planned for the coming year.

XIII. Fundraising and Future Activities

307. State of contribution from GGN: The GGN managed to submit the agreed financial contribution to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Special Account without delays and within each financial year. The total amount for 2016 was 120,000 USD, for 2017 was 127,000 USD and for 2018 will be 140,000 USD. In total for the triennium of the UNESCO Global Geoparks 387,000 USD. A big part of the contribution of 2018 has been delivered and the next will be made from the end of the year.

308. A number of other sources have also been identified:

- a) UNESCO was able to receive a 4 year funding stream of 500,000 USD of Jeju Provincial Development Corporation, for the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme.
- b) JFIT funding from Japan.
- c) 42,000 USD from Flanders UNESCO Trust funds.
- d) There are also many contributions in kind such as from places in China, which UNESCO is very grateful for.

XIV. Any other business

309. Request from GeoMon UGGp which has asked for permission to use slate waste as a UGGp product.

310. The GGN Executive Board has already examined in detail this request from GeoMon which asked for permission to use slate waste as a UGGp product and approved it. The GGN Executive Board recommends to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council to endorse the GeoMon request and permit the use of slate waste as a UGGp souvenir (UGGp product). This is a traditional industry and waste material should be recycled. Since it is waste material there is no problem with the question regarding the protection of geological heritage. Recycling and reusing waste material should be encouraged. As the slate is removed from slate waste heaps of industrial heritage, this needs to be done carefully, and these are still regulated extraction sites, and the area supplying the waste slate is also part of an industrial heritage area on the UK tentative list of possible future World Heritage nominations. The UGGpC approved unanimously the GeoMon request with the recommendation that this should be carefully controlled, and evaluated in future reaccreditation.

311. Revalidation of Sobrarbe-Pirineos UGGp and Cabo de Gata-Níjar UGGp in 2017

312. One council member, Ana Ruiz, left the room due to a conflict of interest.

313. A Yellow Card awarded during the last revalidation to these UGGps for the following reasons:

For **Cabo de Gata Nijar**:

- a) Not all of the recommendations from the last revalidation have been sufficiently addressed.
- b) The suggested boundary change to ensure a differentiation with the Biosphere reserve has not been studied.
- c) There is very poor visibility for the UGGp due to the boundary overlap with the National Park.

For **Sobrarbe-Pirineos**:

- a) There is little or no visibility within the National Park, an issue that has been ongoing since 2006 and has still not been addressed.

314. The observer from Spain stated that, in its future deliberations, the UGGpC should be very specific when outlining which criteria the revalidated UGGp does not fulfil. Spain considered there was an inconsistency that other UGGps have the same situation with their UGGps and Biosphere reserves and these are not awarded yellow cards. The observer stated that the UGGp Council needs to be consistent and has been asked to review these decisions.

315. The Chairperson thanked the Spanish observer. Although the decisions of the UGGp Council are not open for appeal (according to the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, Section 5.6 (xiv)), the Council has taken note and:

For **Cabo de Gata** work has been done with the UGGp Bureau to rectify 2 points.

- a) It was recognised that some issues during the mission were not correct.
- b) There was a mistake in the report regarding the UGGp boundary and this has been amended.

The UGGpC has contacted Cabo de Gata UGGp to inform it about these rectifications

316. The Chairperson continued: the UGGpC has to follow the rules and UGGp Operational Guidelines and hopes that the huge work that has been delivered for the elaboration of all the Mission Reports is appreciated. The UGGpC also hopes that the observers appreciate the transparency and the clear dialogue that has taken place during this 3rd session which resulted in good decisions. These decisions are useful and will improve the current stage of UGGp development.

317. A yellow card is not a sanction, it is a tool that says: “take care”, so that you can react and find a solution. This has been the case throughout the history of UGGps.

318. The observer from Spain thanked the Chairperson for the response and thanked all members of the UGGpC for their hard work, realising that there is a lot of work behind all of this. Reflection is needed in future on how to access the documents with enough time to be able to do the work. Work is not going to decrease and it is very demanding and need to make an effort to ensure there is enough time for quality discussions and that the decisions are made on the best information possible.

319. After having identified a mistyping error in the Report of the second UGGpC meeting, **paragraph 159**, the UGGpC Bureau and UNESCO Secretariat propose to add the following corrigendum regarding the recommendations for **Cabo de Gata** UGGp:

b) “Clearly differentiate the UGGp from the Natural Park and the Biosphere Reserve” must be replaced by:

- b) Clearly differentiate the UGGp activities from the Natural Park and the Biosphere Reserve and ensure Cabo de Gata-Nijar UNESCO Global Geopark visibility.

320. The Chairperson proposed, in future meetings, to exchange more closely with the observers.

321. Behaviour of UGGp evaluators

322. The observer from Portugal was very concerned about the behaviour of an evaluator during a mission she had observed, and that there is an obligation of Member States to raise this. Specific criteria regarding the evaluators are needed especially when there is a pressure from other evaluators to change decisions.

323. The Chairperson responded that the GGN is working on new draft procedures to select, train and also sanction evaluators, and exercise sanctions if required if there are, exceptionally, any verified examples of inappropriate behaviour.

324. The representative of UNESCO completely supported what Portugal was saying and he stated that anybody that brings the programme into disrepute, has no place in the programme.

325. Procedures for Observers

326. The UNESCO Secretariat proposed to amend the working procedures of the UGGp Council on this point and present them to the UGGp council for discussion. It was noted that procedural matters had been raised under several different site level discussions, sometimes distracting from the matters of substance in the evaluation. It was suggested that in future UGGpC meetings such matters should have a specific item on the agenda and only be taken up under that item, in order to assist the work of the Council.

327. Deferred Applications

328. The observer from Portugal requested that the reasons for deferral are made very clear in the UGGpC decisions.

329. The UGGpC will work specifically and send detailed recommendations to the deferred aUGGps, which will allow the aUGGps to further improve their quality.

330. Evaluation and Revalidation Documents A & B

331. Evaluation and Revalidation Documents A & B need to be reviewed and new templates need to be produced, including a checklist. The UGGpC Bureau and the UNESCO Secretariat will work together on this. As soon as these are finished the UGGp Council will work electronically on the proposed documents with the objective to reach a decision and publish the new documents as soon as possible. The proposal for the new documents A and B will be uploaded in the website and will be submitted to the UGGpC for discussion and decision during the next months.

332. The Chairperson closed the meeting, thanking all participants and stating that he was particularly proud of this meeting, because around 90% of all the decisions were taken unanimously. Remarks from the Observers were received very positively and by continuing working in this manner the UGGpC will become stronger and more transparent.