



**WORLD ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION**

# **HOT NEWS**

Issue 11, 2016



---

## WASWAC HOT NEWS No. 11, November, 2016

### Contents

WASWAC President's New Year Message of 2017	1-7
The Contribution of the Soil Science Societies to Scientific Knowledge, Education and Sustainability	8
1st World Conference on Soil and Water Conservation under Global Change (CONSOWA)	9
Conservation Agriculture activities at COP21	10-11
The Belt and Road Initiative	12-13
Comprehensive new coverage on the soils of the USA	14-15
International Years of Soil closing event	16-17
WASWAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM	18

---

Editors: Dr. Du Pengfei, Contributors include Prof. Don Reicosky, Prof. Camelo Dazzi, Prof. Ildefonso Pla Sentis, Dr. Amir Kassam, Dr Panos Panagos, and Prof. Li Rui.

---



IRTCES Building

(Where the Secretariat of WASWAC is located)

The Secretariat of WASWAC

No. 20 Chegongzhuang Road West, Beijing 100048, P. R. China

Tel: +86-10-68786579

Fax: +86-10-68411174

Email: [waswac@vip.163.com](mailto:waswac@vip.163.com)

For ISWCR paper submission:

<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/international-soil-and-water-conservation-research/>

WASWAC Website: [www.waswac.org](http://www.waswac.org)

---

## **WASWAC President's New Year Message of 2017**

The year of 2016 will be passed soon and the new year of 2017 is about around the corner. Take this opportunity of saying goodbye to 2016 and welcoming the prosperous 2017, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all WASWAC councilors, advisors, and all members. Our association is becoming stronger and stronger with the support from all of you. Thanks!

During this year, WASWAC was developed as expected, everything was going smoothly. I am happy to summarize what we have done and what progresses we have achieved here.

1) The 3rd WASWAC World Conference was held in Belgrade, Serbia

The 3rd WASWAC World Conference was held under all member's support, during the period of Aug. 22-26, 2016. The theme of the conference was "New Challenges and Strategies of Soil and Water Conservation in the Changing World, Sustainable Management of Soil and Water Resources".



The three days conference provided an output of deep plenary sessions based on the topics focus on the following issues: new challenges to soil and water resources in condition of climate change, land degradation processes and mechanism, soil and water conservation measures benefits assessment, sustainable watershed management, social and economic aspects, and policies related to soil and water conservation.

During this conference, WASWAC also released the awards to those scientists who have made great contribution to the World in soil and water conservation related domains and those people who have made geat contribution to WASWAC.



Award type	Year	Winner	Country
Norman Hudson Memorial Award (NHMA)	2014	Prof. Lixian Wang	China
	2015	Prof. D.E. Walling	UK
	2016	Prof. Winfried Blum	Austria
Distinguished Research Award (DRA)	2016	Prof. Donald Gabriels	Belgium
Distinguished Extensionist Award (DEA)	2016	Prof. Shri Prafulla Kumar Mandal	India
		Prof. Roberto Peiretti	Argentina
Special Contribution Award (SCA)	2016	Prof. Samran Sombatpanich	Thailand
		Prof. Miodrag Zlatic	Serbia



Take this occasion, the WASWAC Outstanding Youth Paper Award 2016 (DATUM) was also announced. After reviewed by researchers distributed in the world, 10 young scientists from 6 countries shared this great honor, the information could be found in the issue 8 of WASWAC HOT NEWS.

## 2) The WASWAC Council Meeting was Held



The WASWAC council meeting was held on Aug. 23. President Li Rui introduced the work of council and main progresses. Prof. Ning Duihu, the secretary-general of WASWAC, gave a summary report on structure building, member management, conference, communication, publicity, publication and financial status. This reports showed clearly that what have been done by the secretariat in the last three years and what will be done in the following three years.

In this conference, India was chosen to be the organizer of the Fourth WASWAC World Conference, which will be held in India in 2019.

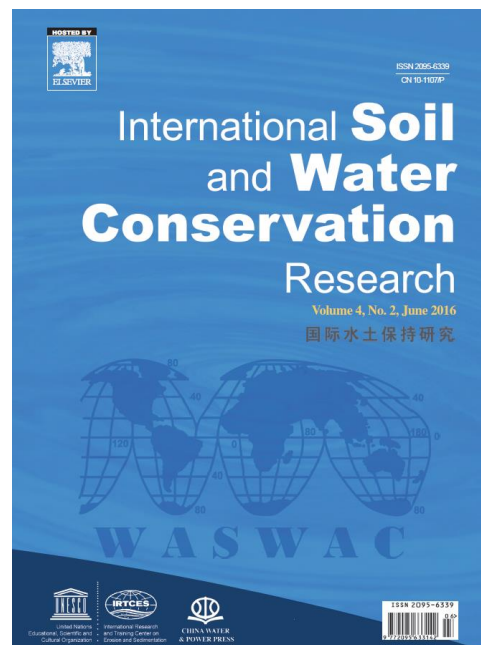
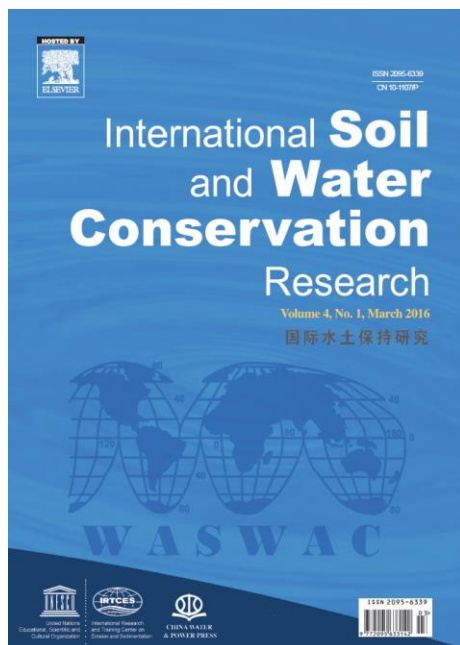
All related arrangement made by this council meeting, will be released in the last

issue of HOT NEWS in 2016, which will be released soon.

### 3) ISWCR started its new journey

As one of the most important flag of WASWAC, ISWCR has made great progress in 2016. After online in Elsevier, more authors have paid attention to our journal. The amount of manuscripts submission, hence increased to a great extent. The situation of shortage of manuscripts is gone. However, manuscripts with high level are still not enough, we hereby ask all of members to contribute your fresh and important achievements to our journal. We believe that our journal must be accessed a new height with the support from all members.

The editors-in-chief have been replaced by Prof. Mark Nearing and Prof. Lei Tingwu, the review board was also changed. Many thanks for the effort made by the members in editorial board of last session. A new and better future of our journal is awaiting us in the near future!



(ISWCR are available at our website, please feel free to download with **waswac** as both username and password)

### 4) International training workshop was held sucessfully

The International Training Workshop on River Basin Management Strategies and Techniques for Soil and Water Conservation was held successfully in Beijing from October 9 to 15, 2016. As one of the sponsors, WASWAC played very important role for its holding. Prof. Li Rui, the president of WASWAC and Prof. Ning Duihu, the secretary-general of WASWAC were both invited to give lectures.

Twenty-six international participants from 11 countries, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Iran, Laos, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-leste, and Vietnam, and six domestic students from the three IRTCES Research Base participated in the one-week training.



The successful organization of this training workshop has broadened the scientific horizons of the participating scholars, enriched their knowledge base on water conservation, and established a basis for international collaborations in the relevant fields.

5) WASWAC HOT NEWS played the role of bridge between the secretariat and members

WASWAC Hot News, as the important platform, kept publishing each month to report WASWAC news, global environmental events, abstracts for relevant books and papers, job vacancies, meetings announcement, etc. It was sent to all members every month regularly. All issues can be downloaded in our website, where you need to input the username and password, please remember, they are both “**waswac**”.



6) The members of WASWAC increased significantly

The size of WASWC members is becoming stronger with the registration of new members. In 2016, 94 persons were registered as individual members or life members. We welcome all people who want to make contribution to soil and water conservation, to join our association. The secretariat will provide all members's service more quickly and more efficiently.

In the year of 2017, we will continue to make efforts to WASWAC development. We are involved in important conference holding, such as the session in EGU2017, the 1<sup>st</sup> World Conference on Soil and Water Conservation under Global Change (CONSOWA), which will be held in April 23-28, 2017 in Vienna, Austria and in June 12-16, Lleida, Spain. Welcome all our members attend the conferences, we hope to see you there soon.

Finally, with the arrival of 2017, hope our all members all the joys of happiness throughout the prosperous New Year.



Best wishes for you for 2017,

*L. R.*

Prof. Li Rui  
President of WASWAC  
Institute of Soil and Water Conservation MWR-CAS  
26 Xinong Rd., Yangling, Shaanxi, China  
[lirui@ms.iswc.ac.cn](mailto:lirui@ms.iswc.ac.cn)



WASWAC Secretariat:  
c/o International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES), 20  
Chegongzhuang Road West, Beijing 100048, P. R. China.



## The Contribution of the Soil Science Societies to Scientific Knowledge, Education and Sustainability



SESSION during the EGU 2017 General Assembly, April 23-28 2017, Vienna, Austria

SSS1 – History, Education and Society of Soil Science, Taxonomy

Division SSS – Soil System Sciences.

Contributions that show new educational approaches, cooperation with other disciplines and efforts to improve sustainability are of interest.



SSS1.8

The contribution of the Soil Science Societies to scientific knowledge, education and sustainability

See here: <http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2017/session/23790>

### ABOUT EGU GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2017

#### Deadlines

**Abstract submission (deadline: 11 Jan 2017)**

Support application (deadline: 01 Dec 2016)

Short course request (deadline: 20 Jan 2017)

Townhall meeting request (deadline: 20 Jan 2017)

Sponsorship opportunities (for exhibitors only, deadline: 1 March 2017)

Details at: <http://egu2017.eu/home.html>

## **1st World Conference on Soil and Water Conservation under Global Change (CONSOWA)**

**Sustainable life on earth through soil and water conservation**



### **NEW DEADLINES:**

For short abstract submission:

**15 January 2017**

For early registration:

30 January 2017

### **NEW SPONSORS:**

European Geosciences Union

International Union of Soil Science

### **NEW DISCUSSION SESSIONS:**

Discussion session 1:

Analysis and recommendations to change present limitations for the study and research of soil and water degradation processes and in the application of prevention and remediation practices.

Discussion session 2:

Analysis and setting the challenges and required achievements in the next decade, to prevent and counteract the previewed effects of global changes on soil and water degradation processes and effects on food and water supply for the increasing world population and the environmental degradation and natural disasters.



## **Conservation Agriculture activities at COP21**

By Don Reicosky, Amir Kassam, Sophie Gardette, Gérard Rass,

Beniot Lavier, Ricardo Ralisch, María Beatriz Giraudo and Tom Goddard

### **Introduction**

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has annual meetings of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the convention with the ongoing objective of stabilising greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere to reduce the anthropogenic impact on climate. The 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP21) was held near Paris from 30 November to 11 December, 2015. The COP21 negotiations led to broad discussions on mitigation, transparent accounting and stock taking of country actions (every five years), strengthening countries' abilities to adapt to climate change, strengthen abilities to recover from impacts and funding needs to build and become resilient. The Agreement considered mechanisms to contribute to emission reductions and encourage sustainable development. It encouraged countries to conserve and enhance sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases and to practice sustainable forest and soil management. Despite the limited explicit action with respect to agriculture, the fact that 195 countries could come to any sort of an agreement was truly a feat of diplomacy.

### **Why should Agriculture be part of COP21?**

Agriculture is a contributor to greenhouse gas emissions but it is also an important industry impacted by climate change. We need to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and to become a solution for climate change. Agriculture is the largest private land manager in the world involved in the complex business of food and fibre production. Extreme weather events are creating environmental problems, accelerating the rate of soil erosion, and threatening agricultural production potentials. Climate change poses an urgent threat to our environment, our health, our economic infrastructure, food security and our national security.

The COP21 meeting provided an opportunity to create awareness that Conservation Agriculture (CA) can move conventional agriculture toward more sustainable



systems that are environmentally responsible. Global decision makers need to understand CA and adopt sensible action plans for sustainable food production in a changing climate. CA systems provide an appropriate response to build climate resilience with proven technology and farmer support. The CA system is the best global alternative available with today's technology to provide system and resource resilience for both goals of emissions mitigation and building resilience to climate change.

If policy makers and scientists consider options for agriculture in the absence of those who know how to apply complex, integrated systems to working landscapes, the result may be less than appealing or optimal. Farm organisations and CA practitioners need to engage in intelligent, effective discussions contributing their expertise, pragmatism and tacit knowledge.

### Conservation Agriculture

Conservation Agriculture is an operational and integrated approach of agro-ecology to manage agro-ecosystems for improved and sustained productivity, increased profits and food security while preserving and enhancing the resource base and the environment. CA is characterised by three linked principles: (i) minimum mechanical soil disturbance; (ii) permanent mulch soil cover; and (iii) diversification of crop species grown in sequences and/or associations as cover crops.

### The Future

A foundation of enthusiasm, cooperation and knowledge emerged at COP21, on which to build. Farmers who manage working landscapes around the world need to be engaged with COP policy makers at all future COP meetings, as well as national policy makers and researchers. The seventh World Congress of Conservation Agriculture, to be held in Argentina in 2017, will be another opportunity to not only celebrate the successes of CA, but to explore further needs and gaps to effectively and efficiently mainstream CA. The world's climate needs help from all sectors - and quickly.

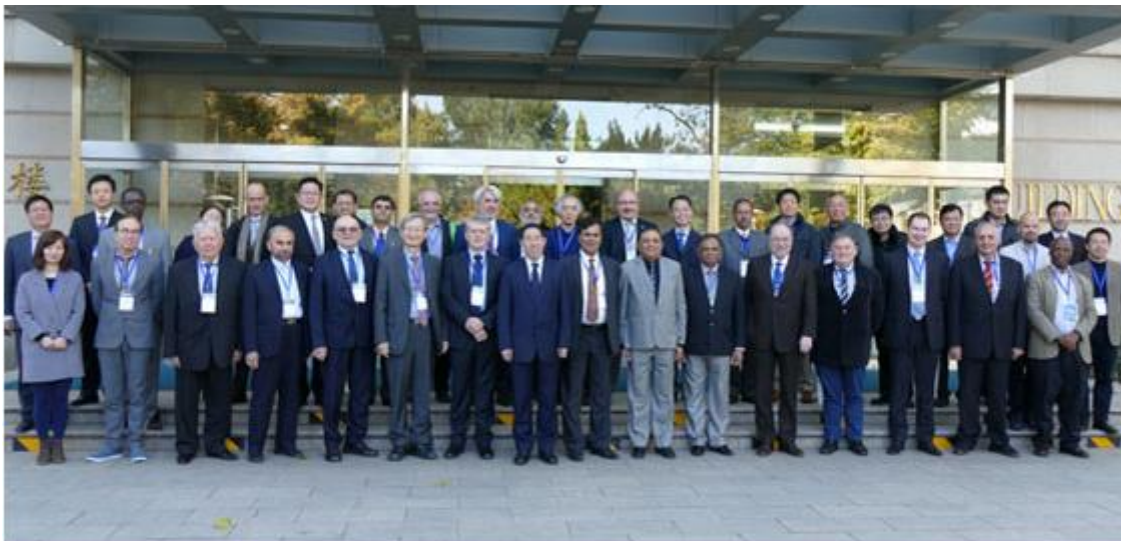
## The Belt and Road Initiative

The First International Science Forum of National Scientific Organizations on the Belt and Road Initiative was held in Beijing, China from 7-8 November 2016. Organised by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in partnership with eleven other national academies and research organizations including ICIMOD, the forum brought together over 350 scientists, academics, and experts from 40 countries.



The Belt and Road Initiative brings an excellent opportunity for regional collaboration among scientists to generate evidence that feed into regional and international policies and agreements, Dr Eklabya Sharma, Director Programme Operations at ICIMOD, told the audience. He stressed that mountains are the lifelines in the Belt and Road Initiative; regional cooperation for understanding the impact of change, especially climate change, would be essential.

The Forum delegates, representing 20 national scientific and research organizations, issued the Beijing Declaration for the establishment of improved bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation mechanisms.



Forum participants at the session on Capacity-building, personnel training and basic research led by the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (Photo: University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences)

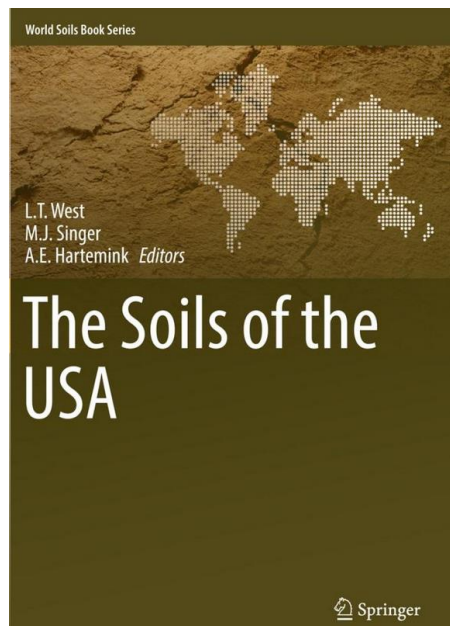
The Belt and Road Initiative – also referred to as the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road – was proposed by President XI Jinping in 2013. The belt refers to the land-based belt from China via Central Asia and Russia to Europe, and a maritime route through the Strait of Malacca to India, the Middle East and East Africa. The Belt and Road Initiative is led by the Chinese government, encouraging win-win cooperation to promote common development and prosperity.



Details please go to:

[http://www.icimod.org/?q=24774&utm\\_source=Mailing+list&utm\\_campaign=e6629cd79f-ICIMOD\\_News\\_Digest\\_October\\_2016&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_7ab5502c34-e6629cd79f-91273153&ct=t\(ICIMOD\\_News\\_Digest\\_October\\_2016\\_Festival10\\_14\\_2016\)](http://www.icimod.org/?q=24774&utm_source=Mailing+list&utm_campaign=e6629cd79f-ICIMOD_News_Digest_October_2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_7ab5502c34-e6629cd79f-91273153&ct=t(ICIMOD_News_Digest_October_2016_Festival10_14_2016))

## Comprehensive new coverage on the soils of the USA



The Soils of the USA is the first comprehensive coverage of the soils in the U.S. since 1936. Written by 46 soil scientists from across the country and richly illustrated, the book provides an overview of the distribution, properties and function of soils in the USA, including Alaska, Hawaii and its Caribbean territories.

Co-edited by L.T. West, M.J. Singer and A.E. Hartemink, The Soils of the USA discusses the history of soil surveys and pedological research in the U.S., and offers general descriptions of the country's climate, geology and geomorphology. For each Land Resource Region (LRR) – a geographic/ecological region of the country characterized by its own climate, geology, landscapes, soils, and agricultural practices – there is a chapter with details of the climate, geology, geomorphology, pre-settlement and current vegetation and land use, as well as the distribution and properties of major soils including their genesis, classification and management challenges. The final chapters address topics such as soils and humans, and the future challenges for soil science and soil surveys in the United States. Maps of soil distribution, pedon descriptions, profile images and tables of properties are included throughout the text.

Alfred Hartemink explains, "It is my co-editors' and the authors' desire that readers



of this book will find a useful reference and learning tool and that it will enhance their knowledge of the USA's soil resources. Soil is the thin skin covering our planet that is an essential component of all ecosystems. Soils are relatively resilient, but improper use and management will quickly destroy this valuable non-renewable resource. Only by understanding the properties of and processes occurring in the soil, can management systems be designed and implemented that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the soil, this and all other nations' most valuable natural resource."

The Soils of the USA is part of the Springer World Soils Book Series which publishes books containing details on soils of a particular country, bringing together soil information and soil knowledge in a concise and reader-friendly way. The series editor is A.E. Hartemink. Visit <http://www.springer.com/series/8915>

L.T. West, M.J. Singer, A.E. Hartemink (Eds.)

The Soils of the USA

Springer. 2017, XIV, 394 p. 285 illus., 203 in color. Hardcover

ISBN 978-3-319-41868-1

Also available as an eBook

<http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319418681>

Copy from:

<http://scienmag.com/comprehensive-new-coverage-on-the-soils-of-the-usa/>

### **Land and Soil Management Award 2016/17**

The prize rewards land use and soil management practices mitigating soil threats i.e. soil degradation, erosion, reduction of organic matter content, diffuse contamination, and compaction as well as the reduction of soil biodiversity, salinization, sealing, flooding and landslides. In doing so, the award sheds light on outstanding achievements, encouraging new concepts of land and soil protection and their implementation in land management, as well as enhancing awareness about the importance of land and soil functions.

## **International Years of Soil closing event**

The European Commission organised in collaboration with the authorities of the regions Brussels Capital, Flanders and Wallonia a conference to conclude the International Year of Soils 2015.

The conference was hosted by Brussels Environment and took place in the beautiful auditorium in Tour and Taxi IGBE site.

It was attended by 150 participants from national and regional public administrations from different countries, private companies, NGOs and professional associations, European institutions and International organizations.

This conference concluded the International Year of Soil 2015 'Healthy Soil for healthy life' declared by 68th General Assembly of the United Nations. The International Year of Soil (IYS) was aimed to increase awareness and understanding of the importance of soil for food security and essential ecosystem functions. The IYS closed officially on the 5th December which has been declared the World Soil day by the UN General Assembly.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has been nominated to implement the IYS 2015, within the framework of the Global Soil Partnership and in collaboration with Governments and the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Many events have been organised worldwide at International, regional national and local level during the International Year of Soil.

At European level the European Commission and EU Member States have been very active in organising more than 400 events during the IYS. More details on the events organised at EU level can be found [here](#).

The objective of this conference was to present an overview of initiatives organised in Belgium and in different Member States and to take stock of the current status of soils and awareness efforts to better explain the importance of soils to civil society and policy and decision makers. The event was associated with other IYS closing events organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United

Nations.

The conference was opened by Mrs. Céline Frémault, Minister of Brussels Capital for Environment and Mr Daniel Calleja Director General of DG Environment delivered a keynote speech. Ms Sylvie MEEKERS, Head of "Soil, waste and circular economy" unit in the Office of the Minister of Wallonia for Environment Carlo Di Antonio, and Mr Hugo Geerts, Deputy Head of Office of the Flemish Minister of Environment Joke Schauvliege participated to the panel of this opening session. The panel was moderated by M. Peter Woodward (Quest)

The second session focussed on the presentation of the international context and the European context by Ms Nordheim-Larsen, Programme Coordinator, Land Governance and Policy at United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and by Mr Humberto Delgado Rosa, Director of Natural Capital in Directorate General for Environment of the European Commission. Ms Ana Paya-Perez from the Joint Research Centre (European Commission) presented the new publication "Remediated sites and brownfields Success stories in Europe" from the European Information and Observation Network's National Reference Centre on soils (EIONET) and published by the European environment Agency and the European Commission.

During the Lunchtime the participants had the opportunity to look at the exhibition in the Atrium and to watch the official Celebration of the Soil Day closing the IYS in duplex with the FAO in Roma.IYS

The third session was dedicated to the presentation of the Belgian context with the achievements during the International Year of Soils, by representatives from the Brussels Capital Region (M. Saïd El Fadili), from the Flemish Region (Mr Jan Verheyen and Ms Brigitte Borgmans), and from the Walloon Region (Ms Esther Goidts and Ms Delphine de Brogniez). The last session brought together a panel of Member States representatives (Germany, the Netherlands, UK and Italy).

The conference ended up with a cocktail prepared by TV-chef Mr Felix Alen.

Details at: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/public\\_events\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/public_events_en.htm)



**WASWAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM (Issued 120501)**

**(For applicants from all countries)**

Name: (Ms./Mrs./Mr./Prof./Dr.) ..... Gender: ☐F ☐M  
Institution: .....  
Postal address: .....  
State/Province: ..... Zip/Postal code: ..... Country: .....  
Phone: ..... Fax: .....  
Emails (Please give at least 2 addresses to ensure uninterrupted contact): (1) .....  
(2) ..... (3) .....  
My specialized field(s): .....  
Please sign me up for the WASWAC membership in category\*: ☐1(IM)☐2(LM)☐3(OM)☐4(SM&GM)  
Membership for the year(s) ..... @US\$ ..... = US\$ .....  
Donation for developing country membership, etc. US\$ .....  
Donation to the Moldenhauer Fund US\$ .....  
Total US\$ .....

**\*Membership categories & rates** from July 18, 2005, amended March 3, 2007 and March 4, 2010.

- 1.** IM (Individual membership): US\$20 for 5 years for developing countries **(In China, members pay 130 yuan RMB)**; US\$40 for 5 years for developed countries and persons working in international organizations worldwide.
- 2.** LM (Life membership): US\$80 for developing countries **(In China, members pay 520 yuan RMB)**; US\$160 for developed countries and persons working in international organizations worldwide. Persons who have passed their 60<sup>th</sup> birthday pay only half of these LM rates.
- 3.** OM (Organization membership): For universities, research and implemental institutions, government agencies, NGOs, societies, associations and international organizations, etc. Persons belonging to an Organization member will receive the same online products and services as the other two above categories: \$100/year for an organization with up to 150 persons; \$150/year for an organization with up to 300 persons; \$200/year for an organization with up to 500 persons; and \$10/year for an additional 100 persons or part thereof.
- 4.** SM&GM (Student membership & Gift membership): US\$5/year worldwide, to be purchased to give to colleagues, friends, students, etc.

For sending money by foreign wires through a bank, please give the following information to your bank:

**Name of Receiver (A/C Holder's Name):** World Association of Soil and Water Conservation

**Bank Name and Address:** China Construction Bank, Shoutinanlu Branch, Beijing, China, No. 9 Shoutinanlu Street, Haidian District, Beijing, P R China

**A/C NO.: 1100 1042 7000 5301 6996**

**Message to write on the Bank Sheet:** WASWAC Membership due for Ms./Mrs./Mr./Prof./Dr. ...., Country .....

**NOTE:** **1.** Do not deduct the bank fee from the amount of money to send. **2.** For sending money by wire/bank transfer or check please add US\$7 per transaction to compensate for the charge at the receiving bank in Beijing. This additional charge does not apply for **WESTERN UNION** or any payment of US\$50 or more.