Two Day International Conference

Global Infracambrian Hydrocarbon Systems and the Emerging Potential in North Africa

29 – 30 November, 2006

The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

The Infracambrian sedimentary basins are a major source of hydrocarbons in many parts of the world. The equivalent succession in North Africa is now widely accessible for research and exploration and is already emerging as a hydrocarbon exploration target with considerable reserve potential and with proven petroleum systems in several different areas. Large basins with excellent surface outcrops and thick sedimentary fills of Infracambrian and Paleozoic age are widespread throughout North Africa. Given the current petroleum industry interest in the region, and the re-emergence of Libya as a focus area, there is a widespread and growing perception that the Infracambrian succession will form an important target for future frontier exploration in the North Africa region.

The conference will offer an opportunity to examine the broader issues relevant to petroleum exploration and development.

Keynote speakers include:
- Chairman (NGC Libya) - TBC or Faraj Said Earth Science Society of Libya, Opening address
- R. Creaser (Alberta) Geochronology; C. Scates (Texas) Plane Tectonics; A. Smith (Cambridge) Timescale; R. Summons (MIT) Oil-Source Correlation; TBS Snowball Earth.
- J. Amthor (Shell) Oman; S. Bessewetherick (Eni) North Africa; J. Gorter (Eni) Australia; M. Khan (PPL) Pakistan; A. Postnikov (Gubkin State) Siberia; V.K. Sibal (DGHI) India

The conference will conclude with a 6-day field trip (1-6/12) to examine the classic outcrops of the Infracambrian succession in the Amatlas of Morocco (Leader G. Geyer, Univ. Wurzburg)

Maghreb Petroleum Research Group (MPRG) based at the Department of Earth Science University College London (UCL) will aim to publish the conference proceedings as a Geological Society Special Publication.

A special conference dinner will be held at the Le Meridien Piccadilly Hotel on the 29 November 2006 - There will be a special dinner lecture by S. Coeley-Morris (Cambridge) on Intra-Cambrian and Life - NOT TO BE MISSED!!

Abstracts to be submitted to Bindra Thusu (b.thusu@ucl.ac.uk)

For further information or registration details for the conference and field trip please contact Lucy Kimber, Conference Office, The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 9BP.
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