Dear National Member of the International Cartographic Association,

We invite you to the 29th International Cartographic Conference (ICC) and to the 18th General Assembly of the International Cartographic Association. The conference will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from 15 to 20 July 2019, and all those active in cartography and geographic information sciences in your country are warmly invited to participate. In addition, the 18th General Assembly of the ICA will take place at the same venue.

We are looking forward to celebrating this unique event of Mapping Everything for Everyone, something which is most relevant, attractive, and modern to our societies and economies. We encourage as many cartographers and GI scientists as possible from your country to be present in Tokyo to participate in this wonderful occasion.

Information about the 2019 ICC

You are asked to note and publicise these important dates for this conference:

1. The call for submission of papers is available on the ICC 2019 conference website (http://www.icc2019.org/). Details about the type and content of expected submissions is provided on the Papers web page (http://www.icc2019.org/papers). All active in cartography and GI sciences in your country are strongly encouraged to submit papers describing their research and their work. Deadlines for papers and presentations are 5 December or 19 December 2018, depending on the type of paper submitted.

2. The International Cartographic Exhibition (ICE) will be held in a wonderful setting in the impressive National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation in the bay area of Tokyo. We expect all ICA National Members to take this opportunity to contribute to the exhibition. At this time, please send the name of the individual who will be responsible for collecting maps for Tokyo to the Professor Atsushi SUZUKI (Rissho University) e-mail atsushi@ris.ac.jp. You will be contacted later this year with more details about submitting your maps, atlases, globes, and other cartographic products to the ICE.

3. The biennial and inspiring Barbara Bartz Petchenik Children’s World Map Competition will also be held in Tokyo next July. The expectation is that ICA National Members will arrange a national competition within their country, and the winning maps from each nation’s contest will be sent to the international Children’s Map Competition coordinator, per the competition guidelines. Details can be found on the ICA website (https://icaci.org/petchenik), the commission website (http://lazarus.elte.hu/ccc/ccc.htm), and the commission Facebook profile

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At this time, please send the name and contact information (affiliation, work address, phone number, and e-mail address) of the person responsible for organization of the national competition. This information will be made public on the ICA website. This information should be sent to the commission vice-chair-person (José Jesús Reyes Nunez, jesusreyes@caesar.elte.hu) or the chair (Carla Cristina R. G. de Sena, cacrisusp@gmail.com).

4. ICA Scholarships are offered:
   o to foster academic research in the domain of Cartography and GIScience;
   o to establish contact between young scientists and ICA Commissions;
   o to support young scientists to be able to actively contribute to ICA activities and events, especially such as International Cartographic Conferences;
   o to establish opportunities for young scientists within ICA publications and conferences.

Please share this call for applications with the cartography and GIScience community in your country and encourage applicants. The ICA Scholarship is available to support those young scientists in your country who would like to actively contribute to and participate in the upcoming 2019 ICC. The deadline for the submission of applications to attend ICC 2019 is **1 February 2019**. The deadline for the submission of applications to attend Commission workshops held in conjunction with ICC 2019 is **1 June 2019**. See the ICA website (https://icaci.org/scholarship/) for further details.

5. The ICC 2019 organisers will provide information on additional assistance to young scientists through an ICC-related scholarship or assistantship programme. Details on these opportunities will be provided on the ICC 2019 website (http://www.icc2019.org/) as they become available.

6. Other information concerning the conference will be published on the conference website as it becomes available. This information will include the outline of the conference, social events, tours, technical visits, workshops, exhibitions, and accommodation. Please watch the ICC 2019 website (http://www.icc2019.org/) for updates.

Information about the 2019 General Assembly

1. Each ICA National Member is expected to officially **nominate a principal delegate**, along with a **deputy delegate**, who will attend the General Assembly in person and will express the decisions of the respective country by vote when appropriate. The names of delegates must be submitted to the ICA Secretary-General before **31 May 2019**.

2. Each ICA National Member is entitled to **make proposals to the General Assembly**. These proposals must be submitted before **15 February 2019**. Proposals can include:
   - **motions for changes** in ICA Statutes and any other motions for inclusion on the Agenda;
   - nominations for positions on the **ICA Executive Committee** for 2019-2023;
   - nominations for **honorary auditors** for 2019-2023;
   - nominations for new and continuing **ICA Commissions** (to include proposed Terms of Reference, Chairperson, and CV) for 2019-2023;
   - bids for the organisation of the **ICA 31st International Cartographic Conference and the 19th General Assembly** (held in conjunction with the 31th ICC); the call for bids was released on the ICA website on 31 August 2018: https://icaci.org/icc2023/.

3. At the General Assembly, the delegates will be able to vote on all the submitted proposals, along with any other proposals submitted by delegates, as well as the ICA budget, acceptance of new National and Affiliate Members, and expulsion of National and Affiliate Members.

4. National Members may nominate cartographers for **ICA Awards**. The deadline for such nominations is set as **31 January 2019**. Nominations for ICA Awards can be sent to the Secretary-General, who will forward them to the ICA Awards Committee. The description of ICA awards is available on the ICA website at http://icaci.org/awards. Nominations will be accepted for the following three awards:
5. Each ICA National Member must produce a National Report for distribution at the 2019 General Assembly. This report will be made available to the public via the ICA website to allow everybody to gain an overview about national and global activities within the cartography and GIScience community. Guidelines for the production of National Reports are available as part of the ICA Directory 2015–2019 at https://icaci.org/files/documents/reference_docs/2015-2019_directory.pdf (page 83). We strongly recommend that plans to produce the publication be made immediately. Your National Report must be submitted to the ICA Secretary-General before 15 June 2019.

Other information

1. The ICA News is no longer published in paper format. The digital version is available on the ICA website at https://icaci.org/ica-news/.

2. The ICA bank, Dutch ABN Amro, no longer accepts cheques for withdrawal, so the ability to pay the ICA subscription by cheque is no longer available. This affects the ICA National and Affiliate Members who usually submit their subscriptions in bank cheques. We regret the inconvenience, but it is a tendency that European banks are no longer handling bank cheques. All transactions must now be made by bank transfer (wire transfer).

László Zentai
Secretary-General and Treasurer of the ICA