

THE YEAR OF THE PLANET EARTH

SECOND INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON PREDICTION OF EARTHQUAKES
LISBON, PORTUGAL, 2009, 23-24 APRIL

The First International Seminar on Prediction of Earthquakes* was organized in Lisbon in 1988 under the sponsorship of UN and the EC (ECE at the time) with the following objectives:

- To provide a platform for meetings, discussions and exchange of views between specialists in earthquake forecasting;
- To review the state-of-the-art concerning the existing possibilities of predicting major seismic movements and their intensities;
- To identify the most promising lines of research;
- To examine the improvement of international co-operation in the field of earthquake prediction.

20 years upon the 1988 meeting, the great development introduced with new research lines, the new technologies for earthquake observation and monitoring, recommends the organization of a Second International Seminar dealing with similar objectives.

The inclusion of the Seminar in the framework of the Year of the Planet Earth is certainly matter of interest. Also the evocation of the 100th anniversary of the Benavente, Portugal, occurred in 23 April 1909 is a motivation for organizing this Seminar.

This proposal is supported by the following national entities:

- Sciences Academy of Lisbon (Academia das Ciências de Lisboa)
- Portuguese Academy of Engineering (Academia de Engenharia)
- Portuguese Committee on International Unions of Astronomy and Geodesy and Geophysics (Secção Portuguesa das Uniões Internacional Astronómica, Geodésica e Geofísica)
- Geological Society of Portugal (Sociedade Geológica de Portugal)
- Portuguese Society of Geotechnics (Sociedade Portuguesa de Geotecnia)
- Portuguese Society of Seismic Engineering (Sociedade Portuguesa de Engenharia Sísmica)
- Geographical Society of Lisbon (Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa)

The Organization intends to clarify the different approaches performed by many colleagues, using scientific methodologies developed in specific geological environments and so included in the following future objectives:

- To review the state-the-art concerning the major developments existing possibilities of predicting major seismic events and their magnitudes;
- To assess the most promising lines of research;
- To evaluate the improvement of international co-operation.

* Proceedings 1st Seminar on Prediction of Earthquakes. Edited by C. S. Oliveira, Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil, 2 volumes. Lisbon, 1990.