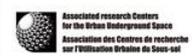




**16th World Conference of the
Associated Research Centers
for the Urban Underground Space**
5 - 7 November 2018
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Organised by:



Press Release

The 16th World Conference of the Associated Research Centers for the Urban Underground Space opens in Hong Kong

(5 November 2018, Hong Kong) The 16th World Conference of the Associated Research Centers for the Urban Underground Space (ACUUS) opened in Hong Kong today. More than 350 leading experts, scholars and professionals in the field of underground space development shared the experiences on the efficient use of underground space resources to provide effective integrated solutions with a view in addressing the different challenges of urban development. The conference is jointly organised by ACUUS, the Geotechnical Division of The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) and the Hong Kong Geotechnical Society.

ACUUS is an international organisation which concentrates on research on urban underground space development. A world conference is held every two years to provide a platform for knowledge exchange and sharing of experiences on the applications of underground space and other technical subjects. This year, the conference is being held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 5 to 7 November, with the theme “Integrated Underground Solutions for Compact Metropolitan Cities”.

At the Opening Ceremony, the Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) of The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Ir S H LAM, extended a warm welcome to the distinguished guests and speakers from all over the world. He said that the conference theme this year is of particular relevance to Hong Kong, which is a world-class city well-known for its compactness with embedded efficiency and effectiveness. He said he was delighted to see that over 110 papers had been received for the Conference from 24 countries. He also said that the insights, views, expert knowledge and experience that would be shared at the Conference could shed light on how Hong Kong can move forward to accomplish our goals and vision in areas of underground development in a smart and innovative manner.

Also officiating at the opening ceremony were the President of ACUUS, Professor

Dimitris KALIAMPAKOS; Vice President of the HKIE, Ir Edwin CHUNG; and the Chairman of the Organising Committee, Mr Mark WALLACE.

The three-day conference comprises six keynote lectures, eight theme presentations, an expert panel session, and a series of parallel sessions, covering the past, present and future of underground space development in various dense urban cities. It also includes a number of multi-disciplinary subjects such as integrated planning, design and construction, innovation and technologies, risk and safety, human factors and communication. Many internationally renowned experts, scholars and stakeholders have been invited to be speakers, including Professor Qihu QIAN, Academician, Chinese Academy of Engineering, China; Mr Raymond LEE, Director of Planning, The Government of the HKSAR; Mr Eng Hwee LIM, Chief Executive Officer, Urban Redevelopment Authority, Singapore; Professor David MANGIN, Co-partner, SEURA Architects, France; Mr Ilkka VÄHÄ AHO, Chairman of the Finnish Tunnelling Association International Activity Group, Finland; Ms Sanja ZLATANIC, Senior Vice President, HNTB Corporation, the US; Ir W K PUN, Head of the Geotechnical Engineering Office, The Government of the HKSAR; and Mr Han ADMIRAAL, Co-Chair of ITACUS.

For more information on the conference, please visit www.acuus2018.hk or contact the ACUUS 2018 Conference Secretariat at (852) 2852 2333.



The 16th ACUUS World Conference attracts over 350 leading experts, scholars and professionals from 24 countries.



Officiating guests (L to R) Mr Mark WALLACE, Chairman of the Organising Committee; Professor Dimitris KALIAMPAKOS, President of ACUUS; Ir S H LAM, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) of The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), and Ir Edwin CHUNG, Vice President of the HKIE.