

WELCOME FROM AGI

As President of AGI, the Italian Geotechnical Society, I would like to join the Editors of these Proceedings in introducing the reader to the contents of the Second European Geosynthetics Conference (EuroGeo 2).

We are glad we came to the decision to organize EuroGeo 2: initially, the pressing invitation of the Italian Chapter of the International Geosynthetics Society (AGI-IGS), to get into this endeavour was accepted by the Board of AGI not without a certain degree of hesitancy. However, since our attitude has always been to move toward the New Millennium with optimism and to face new challenges, we started organizing EuroGeo 2 and we are today particularly happy we did.

AGI is a National Society with more than half a century's tradition in the promotion of Geotechnics and its different fields of interest into Italy. With a membership of more than 1000 people, AGI is the National Group of ISSMGE (International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering), ISRM (International Society for Rock Mechanics) and IACMAG (International Association for Computer Methods and Advances in Geomechanics), in addition to being the Italian Chapter of IGS.

Through the *Rivista Italiana di Geotecnica*, the Italian Geotechnical Journal, we contribute to a more extended knowledge in Europe and worldwide of the results of both research activities and technological advances in the fields of Geotechnics in Italy. By means of continuing education courses, which are regularly given by AGI members throughout Italy, we contribute to the diffusion of "geotechnical" culture in our country.

On behalf of AGI, I would like to express my gratitude to the Editors and to the EuroGeo 2 Organising Committee for the work done and the efforts made in order to make this Conference a successful event. To all participants a warm welcome to Bologna and to EuroGeo 2.

Giovanni Barla
President of AGI

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