

# IGRGEA LETTER

## International Geophysical Research Group / Europe - Africa

### AIM OF THE LETTER

At the End of the IEEY, IGRGEA (International Geophysical Research Group Europe Africa) has been organized in January 1995, to follow the research work initiated during IEEY. The IGRGEA Letter has replaced the IEEY letter **edited for the first time in May 1992.**

### IVORY-COAST PROJECT

Dr. O. Obrou (Abidjan University) has been granted a one-year course at ICTP-A & R L Laboratory for equatorial ionosphere profile simulations in the frame of IRI model studies.

Pf. D. Rees has invited Dr. J.-P. Adohi (Abidjan University, presently visiting LMD/CNRS at Grenoble, France) to the British Hovemere site for a brief training on the Korhogo interferometer system and on the scaling techniques for deriving F layer night-time winds.

Dr. A.T. Koba (Abidjan University) is terminating his 1997-1998 Research Course at NCAR (HAO, Boulder, USA). On his way back to Ivory Coast (mid-July 1998) he will pay a short visit to IGRGEA Saint-Maur.

### SENEGAL PROJECT

The Scipion HF radar system is being set up in July on a site of the Fann-Dakar University.

**The whole IGRGEA group is expressing grateful thanks to ITNA (Institute of Nuclear Technology) for sheltering the instrument in its building of the UCAD Dakar Campus.**

Dr E. Sambou will arrive in September at Cctp/Saint-Maur for a research course on Equatorial F layer dynamics.

### FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY

The LETTI HF sounder transmitter is undergoing final tests in France. Its shipping to Korhogo is expected next month. It should start operations during September 1998.

### SENEGAL PROJECT

Mrs M.-M. Refik-Limare, formerly Scientific Attachée at the Ivory Coast Cultural and Scientific Mission in Abidjan (1992-1995) recently contacted Dr. Amory-Mazaudier at GIRGEA Saint-Maur. Mrs Limare is now commissioned at the Paris Vice-Directorate of the Research Development Mission for Senegal and Togo (French Foreign Affairs Ministry).

### SCIENTIFIC MEETING

IGRGEA will organize a scientific meeting in Paris on 2 and 3 November 1998.

The Activity Report for the four Years 1995-1998 is in preparation.

### CURRENT IONOSPHERIC STUDIES

**-Global TEC** (Total Electron Content) variations obtained by dual UHF frequency sounding from the TOPEX satellite are being compared with West African F2 peak structures. They allow deducing intertropical fountain and neutral wind-drag processes in low-latitude F layer plasmas. The TEC data graciously communicated by CNES Toulouse are processed and studied at FRANCETELECOM by R. Fleury, with help for interpretation by E. Sambou and P. Vila.

**-WINDII neutral wind profiles.** R. Wiens (York University, Canada) recently communicated new sets of vertical profiles of the wind vector obtained by Fabry-Perot interferometry under the UARS satellite. These data are being compared with simultaneous equatorial F2 ionosphere variations ( E. Sambou, A.T. Koba, Th. Farges and P. Vila.).

**-Spread F and Sporadic E traces** of low solar activity months (1994-95) will be compared on Korhogo with similar Fortaleza (Brazil) statistics recently interpreted by Dr. M. A. Abdu and Mrs I. Batista, with the London University group at Ontario, Canada.

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*PAPERS to be PUBLISHED*