

IGRGEA LETTER

**International Geophysical Research Group /Europe-Africa
International Geophysical Research Group /Europe-Asia**

IGRGEA

At the end of the IE E Y , in 1995, **IGRGEA** (International Geophysical Research Group Europe Africa) has been organized to follow the research work initiated during IE E Y.

SENEGAL

We are feeling bereaved by the untimely death of our friend Ephrem SAMBOU.

He perished in the sinking of the ship Joola on September 27, 2002, when over 1000 persons died, with among them 200 from Dakar University.

The Senegalese IGRGEA group has lost its founder.

Dr Ephrem SAMBOU, formerly physicist in theoretical plasma physics, turned to ionosphere studies in 1991, and passed a third cycle thesis on the subject : Equatorial F2 layer variations (March 19, 1993).

Besides his University professorship, he was preparing for 2003 a state Ph.D. on African F region dynamics.

Dr Ephrem SAMBOU also taught reading (on a voluntary basis) to children in Casamance, his homeland.

All who had met him at the Parc, (St Maur), at the Bingerville School (RCI, 1995) and at the Lille URSI conference (France, 1996) remember his friendly approach.

IGRGEA AFRICA EXTENTION

Four new African countries are entering IGRGEA :

Benin : Dr Etienne Houngninou

Burkina Faso : Frédéric Ouattara

Nigéria : Dr Tunde Rabiou

Central African Republic : Tiburce Condomat

VIETNAM

IGRGEA is launching a Vietnamese project. The Geophysics Institute at Hanoi is opening a cooperation on geomagnetic and ionospheric studies. This will be managed within the CAWSES (Climate And Weather in the Sun Earth System) project.

The Hanoi Institute belongs to the National Center for Natural Sciences and Technologies in Vietnam (NCST).

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This Institute is running an extended observation network :

- 4 magnetometers
- 1 ionosphere observatory
- 26 sismical stations
- 2 stations for earth crust deformation
- 3 meteorological stations
- A network for lightning records

The Institute employs 93 persons with 60 in Hanoi and 33 in the various sites.

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The Institute comprises 8 departments :

- Geomagnetism
- Applied geophysics
- Atmospheric physics
- Geodynamics
- Seismology
- Sismic sites
- Ionospheric observatory
- Administration

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