

IAEG farewells Professor Sijing Wang

Dear members of IAEG, colleagues and friends,

We are all saddened by the news of Professor Sijing Wang's passing.

Professor Sijing Wang, former President of the International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment (IAEG) from 1998 to 2002, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, former Director of the Institute of Geology and Geophysics at the Chinese Academy of Sciences and an internationally renowned scientist in the fields of engineering geology, rock mechanics and environmental geology, passed away in Beijing at 5:46 on September 15, 2025, at the age of 91.

Professor Wang dedicated his career to interdisciplinary and integrated research spanning geology, engineering and mechanics. He was a key founder of rock engineering geomechanics in China, proposing the theory of interaction between major human engineering activities and the geological environment and establishing principles and methodologies for stability analysis in rock engineering. His work included critical research and demonstration for major national projects such as the Three Gorges Dam. With long-standing focus on urbanization and sustainable development strategies, Professor Wang made outstanding contributions to both the advancement of international engineering geology and national infrastructure development.

Professor Wang served two terms as IAEG Vice President for Asia (1982–1986 and 1992–1996) and later as IAEG President (1998–2002). He was awarded the Mayor's Medal of Lyon, France, in 2005 and was appointed Knight of the French National Order of Academic Palms in 2007. In 2008, he received the IAEG Hans Cloos Medal and in 2017, he was honored with the Evgenii M. Sergeev Outstanding Contribution Medal by the Russian Academy of Sciences.

During his second term as IAEG Vice President for Asia, Professor Wang successfully organized the IAEG Executive Committee and Council meetings and hosted the IAEG Annual Academic Conference as part of the 30th International Geological Congress (IGC) held in Beijing in 1996. As IAEG President, he actively promoted the development of engineering geology communities in developing countries—particularly in Asia, South America and Africa. He initiated the IAEG Asian Regional Conference, which became a major and enduring academic event within the association, significantly enhancing academic exchange among Asian countries and between Asia and the world. Under his leadership, three major annual academic events were held in developing countries: Kathmandu, Nepal (1999); Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2000); and Durban, South Africa (2002). These gatherings received enthusiastic support from local IAEG national groups and colleagues across the global engineering

We deeply mourn the passing of Professor Sijing Wang and pay solemn tribute to his life and legacy. His contributions will forever be remembered.

geology community, fostering academic dialogue, friendship and peace.

The International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment)

Professor Sijing Wang (1934 - 2025)