The Association Internationale pour l’Étude des Argiles (International Association for the Study of Clays) (AIPEA) was founded in 1963 in order to promote international cooperation in clay research and technology. Our members are the representatives of the various national clay groups and, via them, all their members, together with individual members in countries without a clay group. As such, AIPEA can count on >1,300 researchers in the field of clays and clay minerals worldwide. The impact of this group of researchers can be gauged from successful (and large) international meetings, such as Euroclay 2019 in Paris (France), and in local meetings all over the world.

Important clay meetings organized by our national clay groups will take place around the world in 2020 (https://aipea.org/conferences/), including two in Asia: these are the 4th World Forum on Industrial Minerals (in China), and the 4th Asian Clay Conference (in Thailand). Also lined up are the 57th Annual Meeting of the Clay Minerals Society (in Richland, Washington, USA) and the 10th Mid European Clay Conference (in Poland). We also draw your attention to the 8th International Conference on Clays in Natural and Engineered Barriers for Radioactive Waste Confinement (in Nancy, France), and Eurosoil 2020 (in Geneva, Switzerland).

News on congresses and field trips on clay minerals around the world is available in the AIPEA Newsletter, available on the AIPEA website (www.aipea.org).

Japan
The 63rd Annual Meeting of the Clay Science Society of Japan was held 10–12 September 2019 at Saitama University (organized by Prof. Chiaki T. Oguchi). A total of 70 papers, including 32 posters, were presented. The program included a symposium related to the promotion of diversity and a symposium entitled “Role of Clays in Aquaplanetology”.

India
The 22nd Annual Convention and National Conference on Application of Clay and Applied Sciences in Agriculture, Environment and Industry, organized by the New Delhi–based Clay Minerals Society of India was held 23–24 September 2019 at Indian Agriculture Research Institute (New Delhi, India).

Reiner Dohrmann, AIPEA President