SHORT REPORT OF NATIONAL FORA OF ITALIAN GEOPARKS

During the last six months the National Forum of Italian Geoparks worked a lot to promote the Geoparks concept and to coordinate the activities of the EGN Italian members as following:

- Strong synergy with the Italian National Commission for UNESCO, ISPRA - Institute for Environmental Protection and Research, Geotitalia - Italian Federation of Earth Sciences, the National Council of Geologists and Federparchi - Europarc to promote Parliamentary initiative to modify the National Law on Protected Areas 394/1991 which provides for the inclusion of geological parks as a new category of protection. This inclusion will help all activities relating to the conservation and the promotion of the geological heritage, just in close synergy and integration with the more general and broad policies for the protection of nature.

- Connection with the National Italian Commission for UNESCO and the Italian Permanent Delegation at UNESCO to support the procedure for the recognition of Geoparks as an UNESCO official initiative.

- Several initiatives with National Council of Geologists to promote the national geological heritage (for example Award for the most beautiful Italian geological village).

- Agreement with association of Italian touristic caves.

- Upload the book Italian Geoparks in this moment only for ebook version.

- Building (work in progress) the virtual library about Italian Geoparks.

- Our work always creates more interest in the Geoparks. For 2014 have been already submitted two new applications. We are following the other new applications: Pollino National Park, Carso District at the border Italy/Slovenia, the Viterbo volcanic districts area.

- In the June the 6th Workshop of the Italian Geoparks was hosted by Apuan Alps Geopark (3rd – 6th June 2014). The topic of the workshop will be about geodiversity and the typical local food and productions to better understand and appreciate the close relationship between physical-geological features and agronomic potentialities. During this workshop the aspiring geoparks met.

- The Italian Geoparks acted within the framework of the "European Geoparks Week 2014", and will act of the "Geological & Tourism Day 2014 in collaboration with the Italian Association for Geology and Tourism (23rd – 24th May), of the "Week of Planet Earth" (12th – 19th October).