

**FIRST CIRCULAR AND CALL FOR PAPERS  
EASTERN AFRICAN QUATERNARY RESEARCH  
ASSOCIATION (EAQUA) 4<sup>th</sup> WORKSHOP**



**Eastern African Quaternary Climate Change and Variability: a View from the Highlands**  
**Nanyuki, Kenya, 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

**BACKGROUND**

The idea of an Eastern African Association for Quaternary Researchers was mooted at a meeting of Quaternary researchers in Nairobi in 2006. The inauguration of the Eastern African Quaternary Research Association (EAQUA) followed in Kampala, Uganda in June 2007. The Association was formed to enhance the growth of the Quaternary Science community in the eastern African region through training and promotion of collaborative research. In addition, the Association was intended to facilitate active communication on Quaternary research issues and information exchange on palaeoclimate, palaeoenvironment, archaeology, palaeontology, palaeoanthropology and geology through eastern African nation's rotational biannual meetings.

The first three meetings held between 2007 and 2011 in Kampala (Uganda), Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) and Zanzibar (Tanzania) brought together quaternary scholars from eastern Africa and international researchers working in the region to deliberate on themes related to various aspects of the quaternary period. The earlier workshops established that there were local and regional variations in climate over the last 2000 years and suggested multidisciplinary approaches for better understanding, in addition to assessing the impacts of global and climate change, vulnerability and adaptations. The status of on and off shore Quaternary research over the last 100,000 years has also been discussed, elaborating on the available marine and lacustrine records, techniques and methods for Quaternary research, palaeoclimate and vegetation reconstruction as well as recent trends in climate change. In addition, a joint EAQUA/INQUA workshop shared with participants the focus, roles and opportunities available to EAQUA members in the various INQUA Commissions. The Association formally ratified its constitution, elected an executive committee

and the registration of its secretariat in Kampala, Uganda where the secretariat will be permanently located.

It is noted that studies conducted in the eastern African region for earlier period of the quaternary before 100,000 years ago remain in exhaustively explored. The fourth EAQUA workshop to be hosted by the **National Museums of Kenya in Nanyuki, Kenya between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July 2013** will therefore highlight the research conducted for the earlier periods of the quaternary with specific reference to the highland areas of eastern Africa. The theme of the workshop is: **Eastern Africa Quaternary climate change and variability: a View from the Highlands.**

The earth system has experienced considerable climatic and environmental change over the last 2.6 million years, influencing its landscapes, ecosystems and socio-cultural systems. Eastern Africa was at the center of hominid and cultural evolution during this period, and has produced large amounts of evidence for faunal (animal and hominids included), physiological and cultural adaptations to changing climates and environments. In addition, geological (volcanic, tectonic and sedimentological) activities in the earth's crust and surface have continued to shape the landscapes and influence climates and environments and vice versa. Climatic and environmental changes in eastern Africa and the rest of the world necessitated physiological and socio-cultural adaptations. The Quaternary period therefore provides a timeframe for research towards understanding the earth surface, ecosystem and socio-cultural processes and adaptations to these climatic and environmental changes over time. The east African highland plains are a result of massive geologic (tectonic and sedimentological) activity during the quaternary, resulting in the general uplift of this area, relative to the rest of eastern African. This has in turn resulted in varied climatic and rainfall systems that continue to influence the ecosystem structures on these highlands. These highlands have also served as an ideal niche for the evolution of mankind and his adaptation to the regions changing climate patterns and environmental conditions.

The ongoing work on palaeoclimate, palaeoenvironment, archaeology, palaeontology and palaeoanthropology in the region needs to be enhanced and complimented by more multidisciplinary research and sharing to correlate the evidences from these fields and need to be shared and networked for a clearer understanding of the attendant climatic and environmental changes and associated adaptations. The workshop is expected to provide a forum for exchange of research results and ideas among the eastern African Quaternary community.

## **Conference themes**

The conference structure will include invited keynote presentations, contributed papers and posters in thematic sessions, as well as plenary discussions. The specific conference themes will include:

1. Late Pleistocene-Holocene climate variability.
2. Quaternary Rainfall variability and human-environment interactions/adaptations in East Africa:
3. Habitat and paleo-environmental reconstruction of pre-historic sites (Paleobotany, isotopes, fauna, sedimentology).
4. The Quaternary fossil and archaeological record of eastern Africa.
5. Climate and Global change – impacts, adaptation and vulnerability assessment for eastern Africa.
6. Eastern African Quaternary geology.
7. Highland Ecosystems.
8. Heritage resource governance for sustainable development

## **CONFERENCE FORMAT AND LANGUAGE**

The official language for the Conference is English. There will be 30-minute Keynote addresses, 15-minute paper presentations, and a poster session. Each oral presentation will be followed by short 5 minutes discussion, and at the end of each session there will be long discussion of up to 60 minutes. A special session is also planned for an Institut de Recherche pour Le Development (IRD) on their Heritage, Resources and Governance-RPP HERIGO project: overview, objectives and opportunities. Afternoon poster sessions will be organized to allow participants to present posters and interact.

## **SUBMISSION OF EXTENDED ABSTRACT**

Extended abstracts will be accepted for oral or poster presentation by 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013. Please indicate preference when submitting. Extended abstracts are to be submitted by email as attached file (in MS Word format) to the Local Organizers using the email address: [cogola@gmail.com](mailto:cogola@gmail.com), [rkinyanji@gmail.com](mailto:rkinyanji@gmail.com).

## FORMAT

The extended abstract should not exceed 400 words with no figures, tables or references.

Title: Upper and Lower Case; Left justified, Times New Roman Font: 14 pt bold

Contributors Names: Upper and Lower Case; Left justified First Name first and Surname last. Times New Roman Font: 11 pt.

Affiliation: Upper and Lower Case; Left justified; Times New Roman Font 10 pt. Numbered superscripts should be used to indicate affiliation of each co-author. Email address can be in parenthesis at the end of the corresponding contributor's affiliation.

Main Text: Single-spaced text, Times New Roman 10 pt font

## TENTATIVE DEADLINES

First Announcement: Call for themes	October, 2011
Second Announcement: Call for Abstracts and submission of Abstracts	November, 2012
Third Announcement: Call for Abstracts and submission of Abstracts	January 15, 2013
Deadline for submission of Abstracts and support applications	April 15, 2013
Acceptance of Abstracts	May 15, 2013
Deadline for Registration and Return of Completed Participant Forms	June 30, 2013
Conference	July 23 – 27 2013

## REGISTRATION

The conference is open to all involved in palaeoclimate, palaeoenvironment, archaeology, palaeontology palaeoanthropology and geology research.

### Registration Fees

Categories of participants	Rates
Non EAQUA Members	US\$ 250.00
EAQUA Members	US\$ 200.00
Non East African Students	US\$ 100.00
East African Students	US \$ 50.00

## SPONSORSHIP

Subject to availability of funds, the Local Organizers may sponsor the participation of students and some key contributors from the Eastern Africa sub-region based on quality and relevance of abstract to the Conference theme. Application for sponsorship should be addressed to the Local Organizers along with completed registration form and abstract.

## **TRAVEL**

The Local Organizers will arrange travel service from the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (KJIA), Nairobi to Hotel and/or Registration Desk. Participants will be required to arrive in Nairobi by the morning of 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2013 for the group commute from Nairobi to Nanyuki Town on the same day. Please communicate your exact arrival and departure dates and times to the Organizers as soon as you fixed your travel schedule.

## **VISAS**

Most overseas participants will require traveling visa to enter Kenya. Participants are strongly advised to ask for entry visa requirements to Kenya at the nearest Kenyan Embassy/High Commission or Consulate in their Country. Visitors Visa to Kenya can also be obtained upon arrival at the local Airport subject to payment of visa fees \$50 Participants from member countries of the East Africa Community do not require entry visa. Should there be need for an official invitation letter for the application of entry visa, please send email to the Local Organizers: Christine Ogola [cogola@gmail.com](mailto:cogola@gmail.com) and Rahab Kinyanjui ([rkinyanji@gmail.com](mailto:rkinyanji@gmail.com)).

## **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

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## **LOCAL ORGANIZERS**

All correspondence (including registration, abstract submission, hotel reservation, application for sponsorship) should be addressed to the Local Organizers:

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### **Lucyline Mbogori**

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## **CONFERENCE DATES**

Arrival, transfer to Nanyuki and Registration: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2013

Registration: Wednesday, 24 July 2013

Scientific Sessions: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2013

Association Matters: Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2013

Field Excursion: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

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Nanyuki, Kenya, 23 – 27 July 2013**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Surname: .....  
First Name: .....  
Institution / Organisation: .....  
Address: .....  
Street: .....  
Town: .....  
Country Code:.....  
Country: Tanzania .....  
Tel No.: ..... Fax No.: .....  
Email: .....  
Date and Time of Arrival: ..... Flight No.: .....  
Date and Time of Departure: ..... Flight No.: .....  
Dietary Needs: [Halaal / Vegetarian / Other (specify):  
I will be attending the 4th EAQUA Workshop 23 – 27 July 2012.

I would [like / not like]\* to make [Oral/Poster]\* Presentation

Title (Please attach extended Abstract):

Additional Comments:

*\*delete as appropriate. Please complete all sections.*

**Return completed forms to: [cogola@gmail.com](mailto:cogola@gmail.com) by Monday, April 2013**

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**SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

For a **limited number of participants**, the workshop organizers will provide partial financial support for travel or accommodation. Those who wish to apply for such support are required to complete this form and submit on or before **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2013**. One application form per participant only.

First name ..... Surname .....  
Email: .....

**Nature of Sponsorship Requested:**

Partial sponsorship: Accommodation/Return Air Ticket .....

Full Sponsorship .....

Please Indicate the cost in US \$ .....

**Name of your Institution/Organization and Address:**

**Designation/Position Title (please elaborate):**

**Explain why you would want to attend this 4<sup>th</sup> EAQUA workshop and how it is relevant to your professional roles & responsibilities (max. 150 words).**

Please return completed forms to [cogola@gmail.com](mailto:cogola@gmail.com) and [rkinyanji@gmail.com](mailto:rkinyanji@gmail.com) by Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013. Selected applicants will be notified by June 15, 2013.