



Signatures and Potentials of International Heliophysical Year IHY in Africa

A. B. Rabi(1), C. Amory-Mazaudier (2), and the IRGGEA (International Research Group in Geophysics Europe Africa) (2).

(1)Department of Physics, Federal University of Technology, AKURE, Nigeria. (2) CETP/CNRS, 4 Avenue de Neptune, 94107 Saint-Maur-des-Fossés, France

This paper examined the landmark achievements of the ongoing International Heliophysical Year (IHY) in Africa. IHY facilities already installed in various African countries are presented as the signatures IHY in the region. Various research network are being established between the instrument providers in the North and their respective hosts in the region. About 25% of African nations are well represented in IHY organization. IHY is forging strong partnerships within the African scientists. Two continental IHY workshops were held in Cape Verde and South Africa within a year. Current status as well as prospects of the ongoing IHY projects in Africa - SCINDA, AWESOME and MAGDAS – are presented. We explored the ways African Scientists are taking advantage of the opportunities embedded in the International Program to improve the level of geosciences in the region. Finally, we discussed the challenges of IHY 2007 in both educational and space science research, as well as, the framework of the future strategy for the development of space science in Africa.