**Associated research Centers for Urban Underground Space**

ACUUS is an international, non-governmental organization dedicated to partnerships amongst experts who design, analyze and decide upon the use of our cities’ underground spaces.

**Creation**
The idea to create the ACUUS was first suggested in 1992 at 5th International Conference in Delft and took form in Paris, within the 6th International Conference “Underground Space and Urban Planning”. ACUUS was formally established in the fall of 1996 at Sendai, Japan, when founding members from Canada, France, Japan and the United States agreed to incorporate the new international organization in Canada. The ACUUS secretariat has been inaugurated in October 1997 in Montreal, at the end of the 7th International Conference “Underground Space: Indoor Cities of Tomorrow”.

**Mission**
The ACUUS is an international non-governmental association actively promoting partnerships amongst all actors in the field of planning, management, research and uses of urban underground space. The ACUUS strives to bind these public, private and university levels into a cohesive network of mutual cooperation for the benefit of all parties involved.

**Objectives**
To facilitate the exchanges between the clientele and the expert knowledge worldwide in regard to the study of costs, potentialities and techniques of expansion in the urban underground;
To raise the awareness of the private sector, the governments at all levels and the general public on the specific issues related to the sustainable use of the urban underground; benefit of all parties involved.
To provide support and services to members of national organizations and research centers conducting similar activities in view of enhancing their relations and international radiance.

**Activities of ACUUS**
Coordination, planning and/or organization of international events: biennial conferences, exhibitions, competitions and others;
Organization of academic and professional exchange on the issues of the urban underground;
Consultation on the issues of urban underground development and identification of critical issues of local, urban and regional importance and appropriate solutions;
Support to the initiatives aiming at expanding and enhancing the public use of the urban indoor and underground networks (tourism, community gatherings sports, or others);
Promotion of strategies and actions for the integrated planning and management of the urban underground space;
Support to members and associated organizations in the developing countries.

**Members of the Board 2013-2015**
Americas region:
Mrs. Sanja ZLATANIC (USA), Prof. John Zacharias (Canada)
Asia and Oceania region:
Mr. Takayuki KISHII (Japan), Prof. YUAN Si (China), Prof. ZHOU Yingxin (Singapore)
Europe region:
Mr. Sergei ALPATOV (Russia), Prof. Dimitris KALIAMPAKOS (Greece), Prof. Evasio LAVAGNO (Italy)
Invited Director (organizer of the next Conference) Prof. RHIM Hong Chul and Mr. Jacques Besner, General Manager, (Canada)

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