

# Opening address

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Dear Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova,  
Vladimir Filat

Dear President of Academy of Sciences of the  
Republic of Moldova, Gheorghe Duca

Dear Director General of the Agency for Land  
Relations and Cadastre of the Republic of Moldova,  
Anatolie Ghilaş

Dear President of the IAG Commission 1, Zuheir  
Altamimi

Dear President of the EUREF Sub-Commission,  
Johannes Ihde

Dear Colleagues and Friends.

EUREF is the *Reference Frame Sub-commission for Europe* of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). Together with other five regional sub-commissions and the *Working Group on Dense Regional Velocity Fields*, it integrates the IAG *Sub-commission Regional Reference Frames*.

In the end of my four years term as responsible for this sub-commission, I wish to transmit you that a lot of progress has been made, in some regions more than others, due to specific situations related mainly to resources (personal and material), stable policies and tradition in cooperation, among others.

In spite of the progress achieved so far, there is still a long way to go, and I would like to encourage EUREF as a whole to help and assist other regions, especially Africa and the project AFREF, within its possibilities.

The second message is related to the focus on the activities. Presently, the regional sub-commissions manage geodetic infrastructures (mainly GNSS continuously operating networks like the EPN-EUREF Permanent Network) at regional level and provide their results and solutions according to regional needs and wishes (like the ETRS89 and the EVRS, in the case of Europe).

However, it shall not be forgotten that the regional activities must always be related with the global objectives and scopes. A good example is the regional contribution to the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF) solutions, in one hand, and the use of these ITRF solutions as support to the definition of the regional frames.

At this point it's worth to mention an initiative that is just starting, to promote the International Terrestrial Reference System (ITRS) as an international standard.

Finally, I wish to thank EUREF for the good work and progress achieved in this last four years and its contribution to the global goals of the IAG, and wishes for all the best for the future.

The same wish goes to our host country, the Republic of Moldova. I also thank our Moldavian colleagues for their work and efforts to organize this EUREF2011 Symposium, which I expect to be very fruitful.