

**Editorial**

- 146 **IUGS Adhering and Affiliate Members: Actors or spectators?**  
by Alberto C. Riccardi

**Articles**

- 148 **The Aptian Stage: Back to fundamentals**  
by Michel Moullade, Bruno Granier and Guy Tronchetti
- 157 **On the growth of national geoparks in China: Distribution, interpretation, and regional comparison**  
by Guifang Yang, Zhenghong Chen, Mingzhong Tian, Fadong Wu, Robert A.L. Wray and Yamin Ping
- 177 **Iron-rich formations at the Cerro Manomó region, Southeastern Bolivia: Remnant of a BIF?**  
by P. Comin-Chiaramonti, V.A.V. Girardi, A. De Min, P.C. Boggiani and C.T. Correia

- 186 **A new concept of continental construction in the Central Asian Orogenic Belt**  
by Inna Safonova, Reimar Seltmann, Alfred Kröner, Dmitry Gladkochub, Karel Schulmann, Wenjiao Xiao, Juyong Kim, Tsuyoshi Komiya and Min Sun

- 197 **The 10th International Geology Congress, Mexico (1906)**  
by Octavio Puche Riart and Luis Felipe Mazadiego Martínez

**Conference Report**

- 208 Recent advances in geology and exploration in the Balkash-western Junggar region (Kazakhstan and Xinjiang, China): Report on the “International workshop on the large Balkash-western Junggar copper-gold province”

- 
- 215 Calendar

*Cover*

*Front: The Aptian-Albian transition in the Vocontian area, SE France. The Aptian-Albian boundary is underlined in red.*

*Back: The Aptian (s.s.) marls cropping out in the vicinity of the Aptian historical stratotype.*