VISION STATEMENT FOR AOGS SOLID EARTH CANDIDACY

AOGS has passed through its first decade of existence, and has grown considerably. Yet, we still need to widen diversity of participation from member geoscientists from more countries in this biggest region of the world. Having been a section secretary (Solid Earth) for 10 years now, I have helped increase the participation of Philippine geoscientists in this Society. In the past two years, a significant number of students from my university have presented at AOGS. Currently, we have been working with scientists from Japan, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Indonesia and Malaysia, and I am convinced that we can build on these relationships to further strengthen the Solid Earth section of AOGS. I was just elected the President of the Geological Society of the Philippines and I will vigorously encourage the participation of more Philippine scientists to AOGS. We sit in one of the most exciting geotectonically active areas in the world, and AOGS should be a vehicle to share and deepen the findings we have been encountering. Having been a practicing geoscientist while also in the academe for some years now, I also believe that we should continue raising the awareness of the impact of earth science research in daily lives: in our region we are confronted with major geology-related hazards and earth scientists should be in the forefront not only in helping mitigate the effects of natural disasters but also in developing accurate and timely warning systems. Our experience in the Philippines in this regard (Project NOAH) have been presented extensively at AOGS.

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