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EDITORIAL

The International Cartographic Conference is the main event of the International Cartographic Association (ICA/ACI). These events happen biennially, and the Rio de Janeiro Conference is its 27th edition, where simultaneously will occur the 16th General Assembly, with the contest of the national representatives of the country members.

The event, on average, has the attendance of 700 to 1,500 delegates, with approximately 400 to 800 foreigners' delegates coming from almost 70 different countries. Hundreds of technical papers are presented, among oral presentations and posters. Cartography Reports of around 30 countries are also presented. Around 1,000 different classes of maps are subscribed in the International Cartographic Exhibition. The Barbara Petchenick Competition, the Cartography for Children Contest is performed, also gathering maps created by children, varying in age groups from 4 to 15 years-old. Several other events are organized, such as the pre-conference and after-conference events and even parallel events to the Conference, such as the Workshops of the ICA Technical Commissions. These events take place in the host city or in different cities, under the sponsorship of technical-scientific and academic organizations which are willing to host them. This way, not only the city of Rio de Janeiro will be benefited, but also other cities, where the technical and scientific community will have the opportunity to participate of several important events.

Today, we live a moment where the world's society, including the Brazilian society, as a whole, becomes increasingly aware of the importance that mapping undertakes, either for the purpose of planning, regulation, taxation or environment preservation. This situation occurs from, partly, the growing concern of the municipal and state governments with the management of their territory, and the concern of several levels of the government with the sustainable development of the country. The primary theme of the International Cartographic Conference: "Maps Connecting the World", looks forward to showing Cartography as a science, a tool and a technology, able to contribute in every area of knowledge, for the scientific, technological and social development of all countries.

As a reminder, this conference is the most important event in the calendar of the International Cartographic Association, ICA, presenting a technical-scientific profile of exceptional quality, bringing together researchers, academics, professors, professionals, technicians or just people who like and act in several areas of Cartography and Geoinformation Science. In this way, it's possible to evaluate the importance of the Conference for the Brazilian Cartographic Community.

This will be an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences and to have a direct interaction with this participant public as well as to enjoy this marvelous city of Rio de Janeiro.

The Brazilian Journal of Cartography is proud to participate as one of the scientific journals, to publish selected papers from the submitted ones to the Scientific Committee. In this way we'd like to congratulate all authors from this special issue.

Prof. Dr. Paulo Márcio Leal de Menezes

RBC Editor

General Director ICC2015