Address to the first International Biopetrological Congress

——Sheng-He Wu, the President of the International Society of Palaeogeography

First of all, give my warm congratulations on the successful opening of the first International Biopetrological Congress!

Because the general assembly and council of the International Society of Palaeogeography will be held today, I am very sorry to be unable to participate in this grand event!

Bioliths formed by biological processes are an important rock type, and has its own characteristics. The study of carbonate rocks should not only stay in the traditional theory and method, but should apply the new method and new theory of biopetrology. Only in this way can we truly reveal the characteristics, formation mechanism and formation environments of bioliths.

To reveal the characteristics and evolution of natural environments in geological history is the main goal of paleogeography, and biopetrology is an important means to restore the natural environment in geological history. In this sense, the emergence and development of biopetrology will greatly promote the development of paleogeography.

Paleogeography and biopetrology are closely related subjects. The International Society of Palaeogeography and the International Biopetrological Association are closely related international academic organizations. I hope that the two institutes will learn from each other, support each other and develop together in the future.

I wish the first International Congress of Biopetrology a complete success!

In Chinese:

首届国际生物岩石学大会致辞

吴胜和

（国际古地理学会理事长）

首先，热烈祝贺首届国际生物岩石学大会胜利召开!

因为今天要召开国际古地理学会会员大会和理事会，不能现场参加这次盛会，十分遗憾!

生物作用形成的生物岩是一种重要的岩石类型，其成因机制具有自身的特征。对它们的研究不能仅停留在传统的碳酸盐岩沉积学理论和方法上，而应当应用生物岩石学的新思维、新方法、新理论去研究。只有这样，才能真正揭示生物岩的特征、形成机制和形成环境。

地质历史时期自然环境特征及其演变是古地理学研究的目标，而生物岩石学则是恢复地质历史时期自然环境的重要手段。从这个意义上说，生物岩石学的出现和发展将会极大推动古地理学的发展。

古地理学与生物岩石学是密切相关的学科；国际古地理学会与国际生物岩石学会是密切相关的国际学术组织。希望两个学会之间今后互相学习、互相支持、共同发展。

预祝首届国际生物岩石学大会圆满成功!