

MENAO Symposium at the ICM2014

In 2014, the IMU held a day-long symposium prior to the opening of the International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM), entitled **Mathematics in Emerging Nations: Achievements and Opportunities** (MENAO).

More than 250 participants from around the world, including representatives of embassies, scientific institutions, private business and foundations attended the symposium. Attendees heard inspiring

stories from individual mathematicians and from several developing nations that have progressed quite substantially in mathematics over the last half-century.

The symposium showed that a mathematically-educated population is a powerful force to spur economic development in all nations. Major challenges such as: disease, hunger, climate change, environmental degradation and energy development require strong mathematical, computational, statistical and other quantitative skills. Given such challenges, more support is needed for those who wish to become educators and researchers in mathematics.

During MENAO there were also poster presentations by a number of organizations that have been involved in promoting mathematics in the developing world. Prof. Wandera Ogana made a presentation on the African Mathematics Millennium Science Initiative (AMMSI).