

# **SEDIMENTOLOGY OF THE PLEISTOCENE COROPINA FORMATION, SURINAME**

WONG, TH.E. and DE KRAMER, R. NITG-TNO, PO. BOX 80015, 3508 TA Utrecht,  
The Netherlands

The Pleistocene Coropina Formation, largely constituting the Old Coastal Plain of Suriname, recently has been subjected to detailed sedimentological analysis. The Formation is only entirely exposed in the (temporarily) open pits of the bauxite mines in the central coastal plain. There it is part of the unconsolidated overburden that covers the Paleocene-Eocene bauxite deposits. The present study is based on both field observations in the Lelydorp III bauxite mine of Billiton Maatschappij Suriname and well-log interpretation. The Coropina Formation consists of the Para and Lelydorp Members. In the present study, a new, detailed lithological subdivision of these members has been made. In the Para Member four units can be discerned which can be grouped in two transgressive cycles, each ranging from braided towards meandering river, flood-plain and coastal mudflat deposits. The sandy sediments represent fluvial and beach-bar deposits, supplied by rivers from the Precambrian basement and by westward beach drift along the shore. Clays were deposited in extensive mud-flats along the shore. The Lelydorp Member, also comprising four units, represents a depositional system that is very comparable to the recent Suriname coastal setting, e.g. a constant sea level with an alternation of mud flats and cheniers. Finally, a relation between the paleo-bauxite relief and the deposition of the Para Member has been established.