

## **THE GEOLOGICAL MAP OF THE WORLD AT 1:25 M SCALE:A SECOND EDITION, A NEW CONCEPTION**

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The Geological Map of the World at 1:25M scale was the first global geological document displaying the geology of continents and oceans ever compiled at such a scale (Mercator projection, size 1m x 2m). The first edition, compiled by the CGMW and published in 1990, is now out of print. In 1995 the Secretary General, assisted by a number of regional senior experts, launched a new compilation. Significant improvements, as regards the first the edition, have been made. Among the most relevant:§ For continental areas: 1) distinction between 3 main facies for all chronological units: sedimentary, large extrusive volcanic, and endogenous (plutonic/metamorphic) rocks; 2) clear chronological distinctions between Archean, Proterozoic and undifferentiated Precambrian that bring to view the oldest cratonic areas; 3) better plotting of recent volcanic centers; 4) representation of astroblems (diameter 1km : 114 units).

For offshore areas: 1) improved contouring of continental/ island arc margins and subduction zones; 2) age of the oceanic crust based on updated files of magnetic anomalies data with age interpolation according to the general chronostratigraphic scale; 3) seamounts, fracture zones, accretionary ridges selected from satellite altimetric data (gravimetry anomalies).This synthetic geological map was conceived so that the cartography of the onshore and offshore main structural axis (thrusts, subduction zones, spreading axis, transform faults) allows to distinguish easily the shape of the different lithospheric plates. The CGMW/UNESCO 2nd co-edition will be published for the 31st IGC. A digitized version (vectorized GIS in Arc-Info format) will be available along with the printed version.