



**NECLIME Annual Conference 2024, Almaty, Kazakhstan
September 8-15**

First Circular

Dear colleagues and NECLIME members,

We are delighted to invite you to participate in the **24th Annual NECLIME Conference**, which will be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan from **September 9th to 14th, 2024**. We are looking forward to your registrations and to seeing you in Almaty!

NECLIME Annual Conference (September 9 - 10)

Main scientific topics

We kindly invite presentations based on data from all kinds of proxies and methods. This explicitly includes animals, fungi, geochemical proxies and modeling. We also would like to encourage young scientists to present their work and take part in the discussions.

Evolution of climate, vegetation, biogeography in (Central) Asia

With the location of our venue in the middle of Central Asia, we would like to give the discussion of our well-established NECLIME topics paleoclimate, paleovegetation and paleoenvironment a regional focus. Analyses of the interactions between paleogeography, vegetation, fauna and climate in combination with biome modeling approaches are potential topics to shed light on the evolution of Asian environments. Following the current NECLIME topic extremes of climate and environments, our main focus here may be the extreme dry or continental climate (as seen today in Kazakhstan), its evolution and impact on vegetation and ecosystems.

Drivers of Past Biodiversity

Diving deeper into the questions of the history of biodiversity, we would like to discuss potential drivers that have shaped present and past diversity. The history and natural variability of plant diversity may shed light on such driving forces such as climate, mountain uplift, CO₂ and more. Animals and fungi as important constituents of biodiversity may also be considered here.

Open scientific topics of NECLIME related fields

As always, contributions on all topics related to NECLIME are appreciated and highly welcome to present the variety of NECLIME research.

The Venue

The conference will be held at the Institute of Geological Science, 69 Kabanbay batyr str., Almaty, Kazakhstan



Institute of Geological Sciences named after K.I. Satpayev, Laboratory of Mesozoic and Cenozoic Geology

Conference fee

The conference fee of **150 EUR** includes a welcome party, coffee breaks, lunches, an abstract volume, conference excursions, and other conference facilities, and is payable on site.

Conference excursions:

- Main Botanical garden
- One day (about 7 hours) city tour excursion including visit to the mountain Chimbulak (Medeo)

Travel and accommodation

There are several hotels within walking distance of the conference venue.

From Almaty International Airport you can leave by cab. More detailed information about accommodation and transport will be sent to you after registration.

Post-conference field trip

On September 12th – 14th we offer an excursion to the national natural parks of Charyn and Altyn-Emel, located 250 km southeast of Almaty. This area presents Paleogene-Neogene lake and river sediments, which contain the remains of fauna and flora of the Paleogene, Neogene and Quaternary periods. These archives allow to reconstruct the main stages of formation of the arid zone of Eurasia and changes in landscapes from the plain savannahs of the Paleogene to the foothill deserts of the Quaternary period.

The cost of the excursion will be about **200 EUR** at the current exchange rate. The price includes transfer (off-road vehicles), hotel accommodation, meals (including field lunches), and other amenities.

More detailed information will be sent to you after registration.

Visa

Kazakhstan has a **visa-free regime** for citizens of 54 countries (including India, China, Iran) for 14 to 30 days. You can check at https://new.wpk.kz/kaz_entry_eng.

After registration of those who need it, we will send an official invitation to apply for a visa. Please let us know in time if you require an official invitation.

Organizing committee

Saida Nigmatova, Svetlana Popova, Aizhan Zhamangara, Angela Bruch, Torsten Utescher

Important dates

Deadline for preregistration: **March 1, 2023**

Deadline for registration and abstract submission: **June 3, 2023**

Abstracts for oral or poster contribution have to be submitted using the attached abstract form; the size should not exceed approximately 3,000 characters. All submitted abstracts will be published in an abstract volume. The conference will be held offline.

Please register for the conference by sending email to Saida Nigmatova
nigmatova@mail.ru

Preliminary schedule

September 8th

Arrival, hotel accommodation
18:00 – registration
19.00 – welcome dinner

September 9th

9:00 Registration
10:00 – 17:00 Scientific Sessions:
Welcome and Introduction to NECLIME
Keynote: The geological structure of Kazakhstan in the Cenozoic
Oral and poster presentations
13:00 – 14:00 Lunch
Oral and poster presentations

September 10th

10:00 – 17:00 Scientific Sessions:
Keynote: Modern biodiversity of Kazakhstan
Oral and poster presentations
Lunch
Oral and poster presentations
Final discussion

17:00 – 20:00 Visit to the Main Botanical Garden

September 11th

10:00 – 17:00 City tour and visit to the mountain **Chimbulak (Medeo)**

Post conference field trip¹

September 12th

7:00 – 17:00 - Departure from Almaty and visit to the Charyn Canyons (230 Km) ¹

17:00 – 19:30 - Transfer to Altyn Emel National Park (150 km)

Evening: Dinner and accomodation at the hotel in Altyn Emel National Park.



Castle Valley



Ash grove in the valley of the Charyn River

September 13th

9:00 – 13:00 Visit to the Singing Dune (40 km)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch at 700-year-old Willow tree

14:00 – 18:00 Excursion to Aktau Mountains (key geological section of Cenozoic of South-Eastern Kazakhstan) (80 km)

Evening: Dinner and accomodation at the hotel in Altyn Emel National Park.



Singing Dunes



Singing Dunes

¹ The total trek is about 800 kilometers. For the field trip, you should provide trekking shoes, headgear, and long sleeve shirt. The weather in September is +20-25 °, usually without precipitation.



Aktau Mountains



Aktau Mountains

September 14th

9.00 – 18:00 Departure to Almaty city, visit of Tambaly tas Buddhist petroglyphs on the Ili River, Lunch at the restaurant in Konaev city
18:00 Return to Almaty, check-in to hotel



Tambaly tas - Buddhist petroglyphs on the Ili River

September 15th

Departure day