

Procedure for designating Global Heritage Stone Resource (GHSR)

GHSR is a scientific recognition, with no commercial value involved

1. Proposal of a Candidate Global Heritage Stone Resource (GHSR)
 - i. Proposals can be submitted by any suitably qualified person or organization, preferably through an activity promoted by HSS (e.g. conference session, seminar etc.). The Secretary General of the HSS Board shall be notified of the proposal.
 - ii. The proposal should be supported by an electronic copy of a draft and/or published paper that addresses the criteria listed by HSS (HSTG before). These can be found at <http://globalheritagestone.com/ghsr/>
 - iii. Proposals should fulfil most or all of the criteria considered in the HSS Terms of Reference
2. HSS Board initial assessment
 - i. The HSS Board will assess whether the proposal is sufficiently strong to become an official candidate stone. If the Board considers that a proposal is weak, the reasons will be given to the applicants.
 - ii. Board members should provide all necessary documents and information to the external reviewers and seek the involvement of the Advisory Panel in the process. The Advisory Panel is made up of correspondents that have volunteered to help the HSS board in all the activities by demand. Their names are published and updated in the HSS web site,
3. The name of the proposed stone is added to the list of official candidate stones.
 - i. Stones approved as candidates will be advertised in the HSS Newsletter, Circulars and on the website. A complete updated list will be published annually.
4. The HSS Board appoints reviewers
 - i. A member of the Board will volunteer to deal with a specific candidacy proposal, provided there is not a conflict of interest (e.g. the board member should not be from the same country as the proposal he/she will coordinate).
 - ii. Two suitably qualified external reviewers will be selected by this member of the Board to consider each candidate stone. There must be no conflicting interests (e.g. reviewers will not be from, or closely connected with, the same country as the nominated stone or with any company exploiting or trading in that stone).
 - iii. Board and Advisory Panel will work together to find the most suitable reviewers.

5. External reviewers send recommendations to the member of the Board involved in the candidacy
 - i. The reviewers' report provides the Board with recommendations on the candidate stone.
6. HSS Board second assessment
 - i. The Board takes a decision about which stone/s can be considered for further evaluation.
 - ii. The decision is made by simple majority voting in the Board on the basis of the information provided by the applicants and reviewers. If there is a tie of votes, the Chair-Person has the casting vote and the decision is final (at that time).
7. Report on the proposed candidacy
 - i. Once the Board has agreed on the appropriateness of the candidacy a report will be issued, preferably written by the member of the Board in charge of it, considering the remarks made by the reviewers and his/her own comments regarding the stone, using his/her expertise on the matter.
8. The HSS board, through the Secretary General, submits the report to the IUGS EC
 - i. The Secretary General submits the report to the IUGS EC with the recommendation of approval of the nomination. The IUGS EC approves, or not, the candidate as a nominated Heritage Stone, with its designation as GHSR
9. The HSS board informs on the final result
 - i. Based on the reviewers' recommendation, HSS Board's decision and final consideration by IUGS EC, the stone will be either approved, and designated, as a Global Heritage Stone Resource or rejected. Reasons for the decision will be given.
10. Future changes in circumstances
 - i. A previously rejected stone may be re-proposed only if there are significant changes in circumstances (e.g. more research on the stone is provided or published) but not until 2 years or more after a rejection.
11. Recognition of the nominated stone
 - i. Recognition of the stone as GHSR will be advertised in the IUGS e-Bulletin, HSS web page and the reports prepared by the HSS. The designation will be promoted through reports on the HSS activities (including IGCP-637) published in *Episodes*.
12. Publication and dissemination

After finishing the whole procedure, applicants and promoters of the stone can undertake their own dissemination activities. Recognition of the IUGS HSS should be included in all publications, reports and dissemination activities.

HSS Board will do their best to involve the people related to the nominated stone, both researchers and quarries and companies, in promoting the nomination and therefore the IUGS activities

Appendix:

- 1) Procedure for resolution of any disputes: Procedure to be decided