



IUCN XIth International Otter Colloquium



**Pavia, Italy
1-5 September 2010**

1st Circular



INVITATION

We have pleasure in announcing that the XIth International Otter Colloquium will be held in Pavia (Lombardy Region), Italy, from the **1st to the 5th of September 2010**. The principal host of the congress is the University of Pavia, in co-operation with the University of Molise and the IUCN/SSC Otter Specialist Group.

The organizers look forward to welcome you to Italy and hope that you will enjoy your stay in Pavia, an attractive town near Milan.



Claudio Prigioni - University of Pavia



Anna Loy - University of Molise



Jim Conroy – IUCN OSG

BACKGROUND

The XIth International Otter Colloquium is an excellent opportunity to become familiar with current knowledge and on conservation status of the 13 otter species in the world. It is also an opportunity to exchange research experiences with colleagues from different countries. Following the success of the previous colloquia, it is now the turn of a Mediterranean country to host this stimulating event and to invite all otter researchers to the XIth I.O.C. in Pavia.

LOCATION AND DATES

The location of XIth I.O.C will be the “University of Pavia”, Strada Nuova 65, 27100 Pavia, Italy (www.unipv.eu). The Colloquium will begin with the registration on Tuesday, **August 31**, and will close on Sunday, **September 5**. Optional excursion is planned after the Colloquium.

ORGANISERS

Claudio Prigioni - Dipartimento di Biologia Animale, Università degli Studi di Pavia, Piazza Botta 9, 27100 Pavia, Italy; tel. 0039 0382 986304, fax 0039 0382 986290, e-mail: prigioni@unipv.it

Anna Loy - Dipartimento S.T.A.T., Università degli Studi del Molise, 86090 Pesche (CB), Italy; tel. 0039 0874 404140, Fax 0039 0874 404123, e-mail: a.loy@unimol.it

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

The official language of the congress will be English. The Colloquium will focus on various aspects of research and conservation, and will include plenary and standard sessions, workshops and a poster session. The Colloquium will also host the continental meetings of IUCN/Otter Specialist Group. The abstracts of the submitted papers will be published on *Hystrix, The Italian Journal of Mammalogy* (www.italian-journal-of-mammalogy.it/).

A first list of indicative topics: Phylogenetics and systematics, Population dynamics (including non invasive genetic methods), GIS and habitat assessment, distribution and connectivity, Ecology (habitat, space use, diet), Captive breeding and recovery, Status and assessment, Toxicology, parasitology and physiology, Otters and conflict, Education and conservation.

REGISTRATION

All participants must register on-line (registration form will be found in the second colloquium circular July 2009). This will include details of fees etc. You can send your registration form by e-mail (lutra@live.it) or by fax (0039 0382 986290), if you have problems with the on-line submission.

ACCOMODATION

Pavia has a good availability of university colleges, where the participants of the congress will find accommodation at a cheap price. The colleges are located in the city centre and close to the venue of the Colloquium. A complete list of the possibilities for accommodation (hotels, holiday farms, camping sites) and restaurants will be provided later.

TRANSPORTATIONS

International flights to Milan airports (Linate and Malpensa) are very frequent from all countries. Linate and Malpensa airports are about 40 km and 70 km respectively from Pavia. If necessary a bus service will be provided directly from Milan airports to the Colloquium venue in Pavia, on the first and the last day of the congress. Otherwise, Milan is well connected to Pavia by railway (for timetable look: www.trenitalia.it). Pavia can be reached by train from France (via Genoa) and from Switzerland and Germany (via Milan). The train station in Pavia is near (about 1 km) to the Congress Centre. Car rentals are available across the Lombardy region, but it is better to make reservations well in advance. On the registration form it is important to communicate dates of arrival and departure in order to plan your travel.

