



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
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Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

## Natural Sciences Sector Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences

Apuan Alps Global Geopark  
Alessia Amorfini  
Antonio Bartelletti

3 November 2015

REF: EES/EGR/GGN/03112015

Dear Global Geopark team,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Global Geoparks Bureau, at its meeting on 18 September 2015 in San'in Kaigan Global Geopark, Japan, after having examined your revalidation documents and related revalidation reports, has decided to reconfirm **Apuan Alps Global Geopark's** continuing membership of the Global Geoparks Network (so-called "**green card**") for a further four-year period.

### Recommendations:

*The GGN Bureau recommends that the Global Geopark management team:*

- 1. considers how the visibility of the Global Geopark can be strengthened for visitors through the use of boundary signage and map boards, and through the development of a separate brand identity to the Regional Park;*
- 2. considers how to create a clear vision and strategy for the Global Geopark which is distinct from the Regional Park Master Plan and which can be used to raise community awareness of and support for the Global Geopark further;*
- 3. continues the excellent work undertaken to date to develop local food initiatives and provide support for local producers;*
- 4. develops a pilot project to trial techniques for remediating old marble quarry workings so as to lessen their impact on the landscape and geological features of the Global Geopark;*
- 5. reviews the interpretation panels installed to date to ensure that the information they contain is easily understood by as many visitors as possible. The panoramic panel at Pian della Fioba in particular requires simplification;*
- 6. develops a geotrail leaflet for the Giant's Pot Holes geotrail;*
- 7. produces an interpretation panel to celebrate the superb natural stone arch at Monte Forato and its cultural associations with the summer solstice (Ponte Stazzemese provides a perfect point from which visitors can appreciate the arch);*

8. *revises the hiking and geotourist map to show more clearly where the promoted geosites and geotrails are;*
9. *develops itineraries which connect geosites and geotrails;*
10. *considers how best to structure the Regional Park's budgets so that the Global Geopark's core costs can be more easily reported and evaluated.*

The GGN is a huge platform of exchange that helps to find the right ideas and make you progress. Working together with international partners is the main reason for Global Geoparks being united in this international network. While continuing the improvement of your Global Geopark we urge you to actively participate in our upcoming training courses and international meetings. Please note the upcoming conferences and training courses in your calendar:

- **20-30 June 2016 – International Intensive Course on Geoparks**  
Lesvos Island Global Geopark, Greece  
<http://www.petrifiedforest.gr/geoconservation/>
- **27th-30th September 2016: 7th International Conference on Geoparks,**  
English Riviera Geopark, UK  
<http://ggn2016.com/>

Looking forward to our continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick J Mc Keever". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Patrick J Mc Keever

Cc: Permanent Delegation of Italy to UNESCO  
National Commission of Italy to UNESCO  
Italian National Geopark Committee  
European Geoparks Network