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Prague, June 17, 2008

Dear Professor Burša,

It is a great honour for me that, on behalf of the Czech National Committee of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), I am able to congratulate you on your 80th birthday.

This is an event, the significance of which exceeds the frontiers of the Czech Republic because your life involvement in science and your active part in the work of international scientific organizations and research teams is unique. Your achievements in geodesy, geodesence and astronomy are widely recognized. The Czech National Committee of Geodesy and Geophysics holds in high esteem and greatly appreciates your work.

The Committee represents the membership of the Czech Republic in the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics and its work has a long tradition. As early as in 1826, the then Czecho-Slovak Republic became one of the first members of the Union, and shortly afterwards, in 1827, the 3rd General Assembly of the Union was held in Prague. This year the Union celebrates its 80th anniversary.

Our cooperation is also of long standing and I gladly recall these successful period. Nowadays scientific, research and international activities in geodesence are undergoing great development and have large prospects. Allow me, at this occasion, to voice my conviction that our cooperation is facing a period of further favourable years and new achievements in working for the benefit of our beautiful disciplines.

On behalf of the CNOGG and myself I wish you the best of health, many new ideas for your work, new scientific inspiration and much success. All of us wish you "Happy birthday".

Vladimír Čermák

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