

# INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL PANEL ON SOILS (ITPS)

HELAINA BLACK  
ON BEHALF OF ITPS CHAIR AND COLLEAGUES



# HISTORIC EVENT FOR SOILS

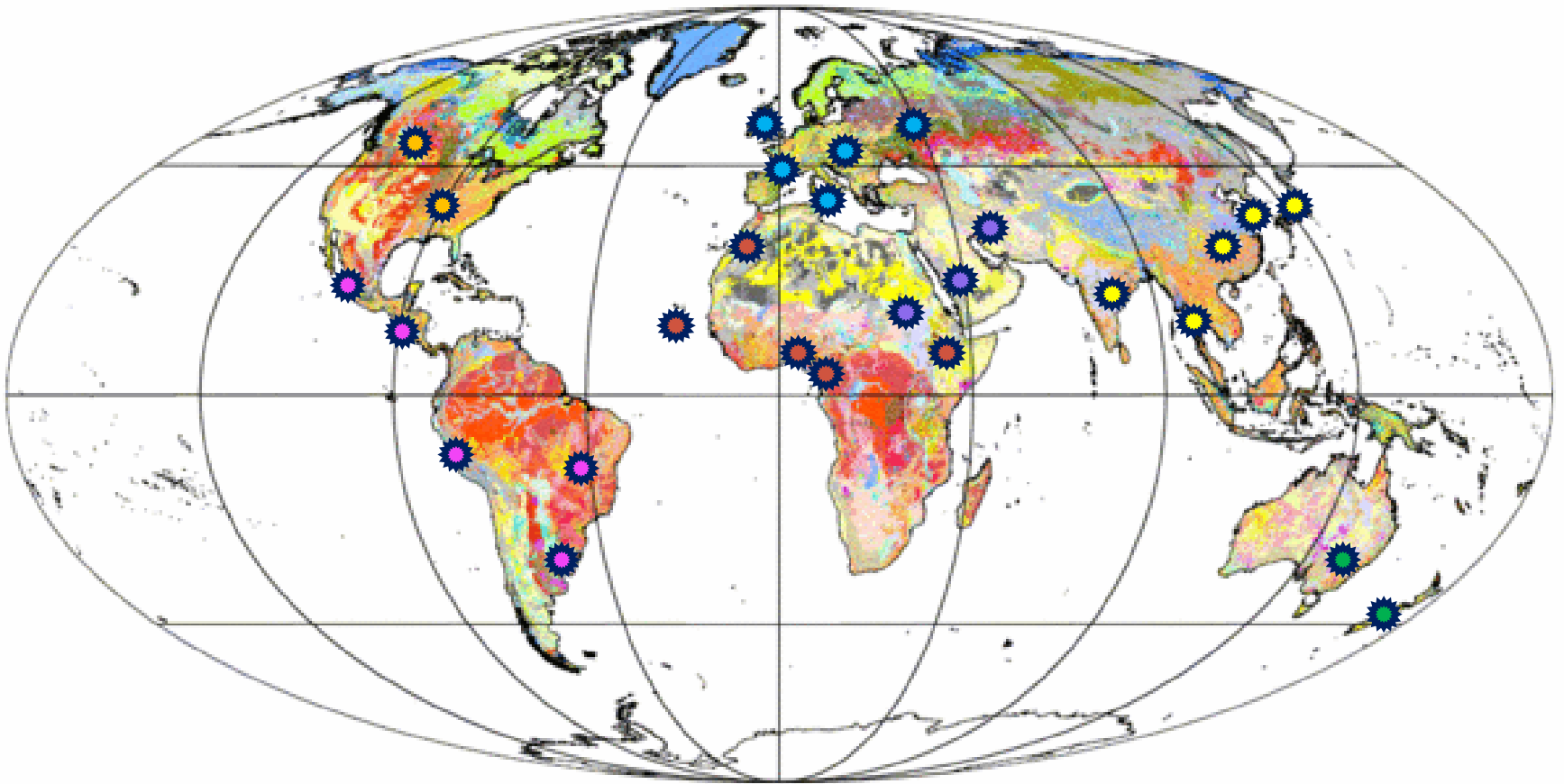
- Inaugural ITPS meeting held in Rome from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2013
- Attended by 25 members, of 27 endorsed by GSP Plenary Assembly on 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> June 2013
- Chair elected for 2013-2015
  - Dr Luca Montanarella, Italy



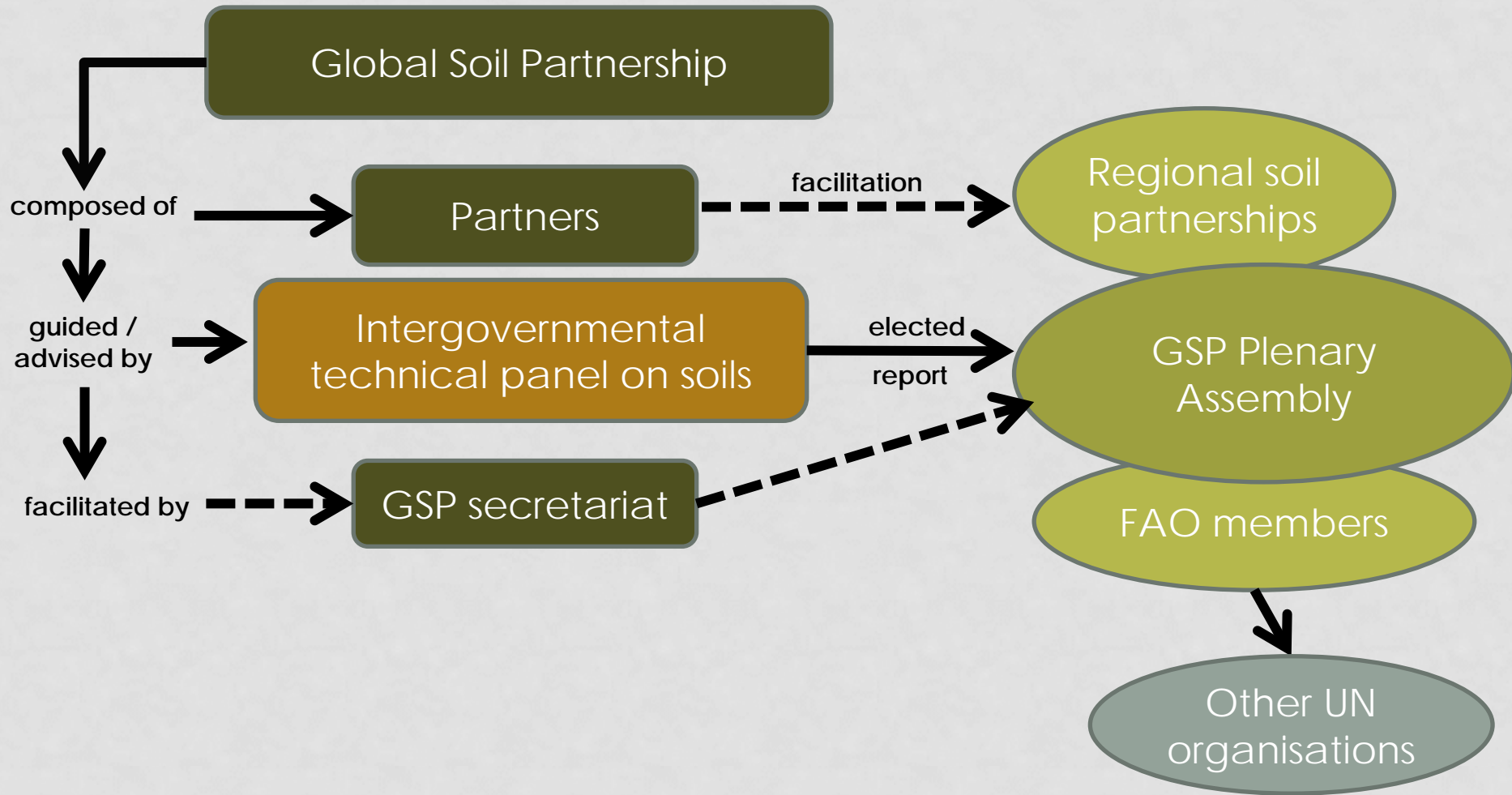
The Panel was welcomed by Ms. Fernanda Guerrieri, FAO Directeur de Cabinet and Mr. Rapibhat Chandarasrivongs, Permanent Representative of Thailand and current Chair Person of the GSP Plenary Assembly

# ITPS MEMBERS

Digital Soil Map of the World

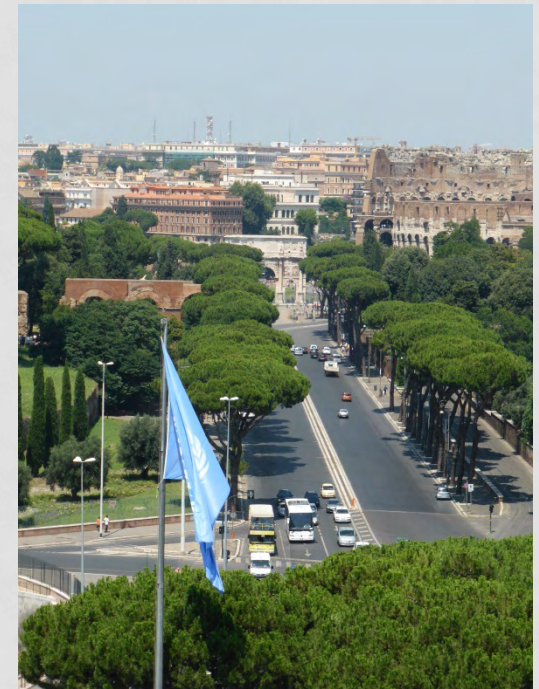


# ROLE OF ITPS



# DUTIES OF ITPS MEMBERS

- Appoint a Chairperson by consensus
- Participate at the GSP Plenary Assembly
- Declare (*and act with*) no-conflict of interest
- Provide scientific and technical advice on global soil issues to the GSP





# FUNCTIONS OF THE ITPS

1. **Provide scientific and technical advice on global soil issues to the GSP and requests from global or regional institutions.**
  - ❑ Work plan to update the World Soil Charter to reflect contemporary global soil issues. To be submitted to FAO 39<sup>th</sup> Conference 2014 for release during the International Year of Soils 2015.
2. **Advocate for the inclusion of sustainable soil management into different development agendas.**
  - ❑ Drafting of Issue Brief on “Soils and Sustainable Development Goals – Soils as a critical component of Sustainable Development” as an input to the Post 2015 Process, with associated ITPS Working Group.
  - ❑ ITPS members attending UNCCD COP11 and IPPC General Assembly
  - ❑ ITPS Chair establishing formal links with bodies including the IPCC, IPBES and the CST of UNCCD
3. **Review and follow up on the situation and issues related to soils in the contexts of food security, use and management of natural resources, ecosystem services provision, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and other relevant areas.**
  - ❑ Draft structure for the first World Soil Resources Report for publication during IYOS 2015

# FUNCTIONS OF THE ITPS, cont.

4. **Review and endorse from a technical viewpoint the GSP Plans of Action.**
  - ❑ Approval of Action Plan for Pillar 4 [Enhance the quantity and quality of soil data and information] for endorsement by GSP Plenary
    - ❑ A decentralised approach to provide soil mapping from 1km to 100m, reflecting short and longer term actions and opportunities to link to existing initiatives e.g. GEOSS.
  - ❑ ITPS members assigned to remaining Pillars to assist with development of outstanding Action Plans
5. **Follow up on the implementation of these Plans of Action.**
6. **In exceptional cases, when complex technical matters arise, request the Plenary Assembly and the Secretariat to form technical committees aiming to gather specific advice.**

# FIRST MEETING OF ITPS: CONCLUSIONS

The ITPS members committed towards contributing to the global soil agenda in order to:

- Globally promote the preservation and sustainable use of healthy soils
- Support the restoration of degraded soils as a crucial input to the sustainable development agenda.



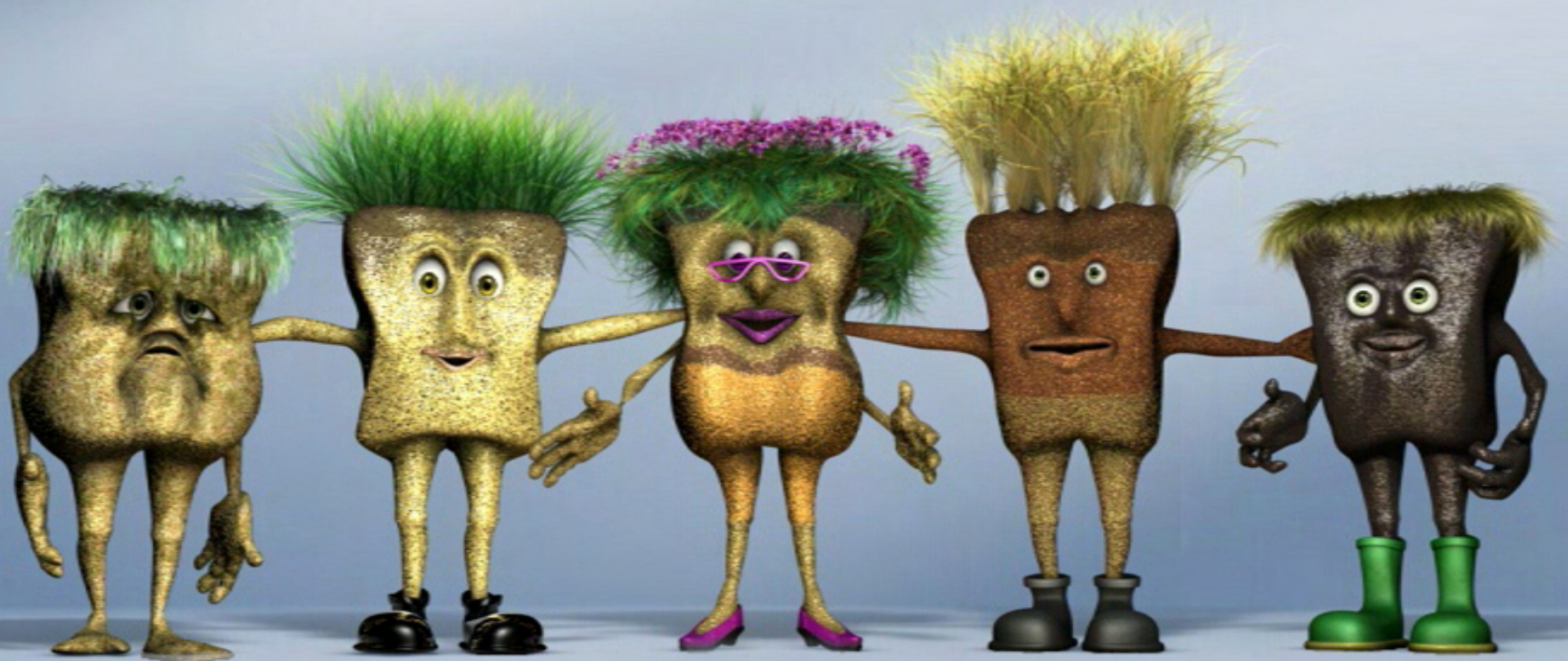


# THE FUTURE ...

- 2014 = busy year
  - 2nd ITPS meeting 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014
  - Engaging World's Soils Experts for WSRR
  - GSP Plenary endorsement of Action Plans
  - Post 2015 development agenda
- 2015 = International Year of Soils
- ITPS, with GSP and associated activities
  - Affirmation of Global Soils Community with strong "voice" on critical issues



# THANK YOU



**"What we plant in the soil of contemplation, we shall reap in the harvest of action"**  
Meister Eckhart, German Writer and Theologian (1260-1328)