The Scientific Board of the Research Center on Prevision, Prevention and Mitigation of Geological Risks (CERI) - University of Roma “La Sapienza”, in planning the introduction of the new Italian Journal of Engineering Geology and Environment, solicited the preparation of monographic issues, acting like guidelines.

Few months after the publication of the first issue of volume 1, this issue represents a special volume containing the extended abstracts presented at the NATO ARW on “Security of Natural and Artificial Rockslide Dams”, held in Bishkek (Kyrgyz Republic) in June 2004.

The Editorial Board of the Journal favourably accepted the proposal made by the editors, Prof. G. Scarascia Mugnozza, Prof. S.G. Evans, Dr. A. Strom, Dr. K. Adbrakhmatov and Dr. R.L. Hermanns, who are gratefully acknowledged for having chosen this Journal to publish such important contributions in the field of natural and artificial rockslide dams.

During this year 2006, apart from the second issue, other important special volumes are planned: the first one will concern Seismic Microzonation in Urban Areas; after the recent introduction of new seismic codes in Italy, this volume will give new insights about the choice of correct seismic actions to be adopted for new and already built constructions.