



**Fig. 2** **a–d** General views of masses of carbonate microbialites emerged above the present lake level; on **c** and **d** the darker, currently underwater growing (accreting) microbialites are visible. **e** Alchichica microbialites photographed at 8-m water depth showing irregularly

nodular growth of the carbonates accreting by cyanobacterial mats (photo by F. Fernandez). **f** Sample of microbialite from the same water depth