



International Federation of Surveyors
Fédération Internationale des Géomètres
Internationale Vereinigung der Vermessungsingenieure

FIG COMMISSION 7

Cadastre & Land Management

To : FIG Commission 7 Delegates, Correspondents and Friends
cc : FIG Office, Copenhagen
From : András Osskó, Chair
Subject : e-Newsletter June 2009

Dear Delegates, Correspondents and Friends,

It's our pleasure to inform you about the events and activities since October 2008 and about the future events planned for this and the coming year within the competence of Commission 7.

1. Joint FIG/World Bank Conference "Land Governance in Support of the Millennium Development Goals: Responding to New Challenges" – Washington D.C., USA, 9-10 March 2009

The Conference took place at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington D. C. The conference was organized by the International Federation of Surveyors and the World Bank. The general aim was to emphasize the important role of Land Governance in implementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to show how FIG and the WB work in parallel in this regard.

About 200 invited international experts participated in the event, representing governments, UN agencies, development agencies, professionals, academia and private sector etc. The conference was divided into six themes: Land governance for the 21st century; Building sustainable, well-governed land administration systems; Securing social tenure for the poorest; Making land markets work for all; Improving access to land and shelter; and Land governance for rapid urbanization. In total around 80 papers were presented in 20 sessions.

FIG Commission 7 was represented by Paul van der Molen (as the chief organizer of the Conference), András Osskó, Daniel Roberge, Richard Grover, Odame Larbi, Christiaan Lemmen, Tommy Österberg and Daniel Steudler. The main outcomes of the conference and a joint FIG/WB declaration will be published in the FIG publication series.

2. FIG Working Week 2009 and XXXII. General Assembly – Surveyors Key Role in Accelerated Development – Eilat, Israel, 3-8 May 2009

The WW was hosted jointly by ALSI, the Association of Licensed Surveyors in Israel and FIG in cooperation with the Survey of Israel. More than 500 delegates attended, with exhibitors and accompanying persons about 650, included 60 students. The technical program included plenary and technical sessions with about 250 presentations in 60 sessions and workshops.

General Assembly 4th and 8th May

The activities of the General Assembly were as usual. President's report, FIG Accounts for 2008, budget for 2009, 2010, 2011, report on task forces, young surveyors network, commission reports, co-operation with the United Nations and the World Bank.

The General assembly decided on the venue of the FIG WW 2013. Abuja, Nigeria will host the WW in 2013.

Opening ceremony

The Opening ceremony was held in Dan Eilat Hotel. Mr. Joseph Kraus, President of ALSI welcomed the WW. He pointed out, Israeli surveyors have made a lot of efforts to get the right of organizing this major FIG conference again. 27 years passed since 1972 when Tel Aviv hosted a FIG conference.

Stig Enemark, President of FIG stated in his opening speech that the world is currently facing two major challenges: the global financial crisis and the climate change. FIG is aware of these problems and tries to find opportunities to deal with.

The keynote presentation was given by Dr. Isaac Ben Israel, Chairman of the Israel Space Agency on Israeli Space Program.

Plenary sessions

At the plenary sessions, three important topics were discussed. Geoinformation Management, Emergency and Natural Resource Management, and finally GNSS, Geo Sciences and Surveying.

Commission 7 activities

Unfortunately, András Osskó, Chair of Commission 7 was not able to participate due to sudden sickness. Daniel Roberge, Chair Elect and Daniel Steudler, Chair Working Group 3 replaced him during the General Assembly and also the Commission 7 meeting.

31 delegates attended the Commission 7 meeting in Eilat. The two Daniels informed them about the progress of organizing the 2009 Annual meeting to be held in Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur in October.

Libor Tomandl, Czech delegate announced officially that Czech Republic will host the Annual meeting in 2010.

Commission 7 was the major contributor to technical sessions. We were involved in 13 sessions, 7 full Commission 7 sessions with about 30 speakers and 6 joint sessions with commission 1, 3, 8 with about 30 speakers. Many thanks to all commission 7 delegates and speakers for their active work.

About ACCO meeting

ACCO is the Advisory Committee of Commission Officials: Commission chairs and Council members meet periodically. ACCO members discussed many issues, among others the following:

- Reports of current Task Forces and proposed creation of two new Task Forces. At the moment, FIG has two Task Forces: 1) Institutional and Organizational Development chaired by Iain Greenway and 2) Developing Global Land Tools for Pro Poor Land Management chaired by Paul van der Molen.
Two proposed Task Forces: Spatially Enabled Societies chaired by Dr. Daniel Steudler (Vice Chair Comm. 7) and FIG Africa Task Force chaired by Dr. Diane Dumashie.
- Conversion of the Young Surveyors Working Group to the Young Surveyors Network. (You can find more details in the present Newsletter.)
- Further cooperation with the World Bank.
- How could FIG be more visible in the debate on climate change, poverty alleviation and disaster risk management?

- Peer review Process at the FIG events. No intention peer review for Regional Conferences. Chryssy Potsiou chair Commission 3, presented statistics. The number of papers for peer review for Sydney, estimated to be 100-150, big efforts are needed.

Social events

Gala dinner at the King Solomon's Pillars in Timna Park and FIG Foundation Dinner.

Technical tours

Visit to Petra in Jordan, post conference tours Dead Sea and Jerusalem.

For more information, reports and picture gallery of the Eilat WW, please visit the home page www.fig.net

3. FIG Young Surveyors Network

We have received a letter from Ms. Cecilia Lindén, Chair of the FIG Young Surveyors Network (*addressed to all commission chairs and chairs elect*) saying that their initiative from being the Working Group 1.2 developed into an official network similarly to FIG Standards.

But before becoming a functional network, they need help in filling the structure. At the same time, also they offer their help to the national commissions too. They gave information about it during the Eilat Working Week in May, in Israel. Please find a part of her very enthusiastic and kind letter below:

„The reason I'm writing you this letter is because we need your help to move this project forward. The Young Surveyors Network wants to help you out by offering our services. Or more correctly, the services of all the young surveyors who want to get involved.

There is a letter going out at the same time as this one to all national presidents urging them to involve their Young Surveyors on a national level and then to put them in contact with us so that we can help them get involved within FIG. And that's where you come in. I'm sure that you have loads of interesting things that need to be done within your commissions.

I have been the chair of the Young Surveyors Working Group since 2006 when I founded the group and we have grown from there. But after the congress in Sydney, I'm hoping to move on to other tasks within FIG and concentrate on my career so we need to find those talented young people that I'm convinced that you have got in your country.

Plan for action:

Let us know what you have and I'll get you the contacts of the people who are interested in getting involved. We can also help you out in other when it comes to interaction between generations, let us know what kind of help you need? Or if you have any ideas on what you think we could do let us know as well.

Important to state is that we are not after a complete generation change within FIG, we are here to help with the knowledge transfer. And we don't want to take over, not yet anyway ;-)

Looking forward

Kind Regards

Cecilia Lindén

Chair of the FIG Young Surveyors Network"

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4. Questionnaire on Public and State Land Management (Elikkos Elia, Cyprus)

In May 2009, the national delegate of Cyprus, Mr. Elikkos Elia offered to work out a questionnaire on public and state land/ property management to be circulated among the members of Commission 7. The aim is to collect basic information on state and public land properties in different countries and to compare best practices as a basis for improving state and public land/property management policies. Because of the hot topic, I welcome the proposal and advised Mr. Elia to give a presentation during the 2009 Annual meeting in Kuala Lumpur. The questionnaire will be circulated before or after the Annual meeting.

Coming Events, 2009-2010

1. Commission 7 Annual Meeting 2009 and One-Day International Open Symposium on "Progressing Towards u-Cadastre "- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 12 - 16, 2009

On 8 June, we have already circulated the Invitation and the Preliminary Note among Delegates, Correspondents and Friends of our Commission by e-mail, and also you can read them on the FIG Commission 7 website.

Kuala Lumpur is an exciting venue, home of the famed Petronas Twin Towers. Malaysia as a country has undergone tremendous development since its independence some 52 years ago and this includes its cadastral system.

The One-day International Open Symposium with the theme "Progressing Towards u-Cadastre", as always, is a key event during this year's Annual Meeting. Many countries and jurisdictions have already in place or been implementing e-Cadastre. Ensuring efficient delivery system requires that progress be continual and "u-Cadastre" ('u' for "ubiquitous" meaning existing or being everywhere at the same time; constantly encountered) is the next horizon.

The registration for the Annual Meeting includes registration for this One-day International Open Symposium:

Delegate, Correspondent & Participant

(Registration for the 3-day Annual Meeting, 1-day International Open Symposium, 1-day Technical Visit)

RM. 2,900.00 (approximately EUR 600; USD 830)

(inclusive of 6 night accommodation, 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 3 dinners)

Accompanying Person

(Registration for 1-day Technical Visit and participation of 2-half day City Tour)

RM. 900.00 (approximately EUR 180; USD 260)

(inclusive of 6 night shared-accommodation with a delegate, correspondent or participant, 6 breakfasts and 3 dinners).

The 2009 FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting website and registration details will be available in due course. In preparation for the Annual Meeting, you are kindly invited to send agenda items to foldmeresv@foldhiv.hu or figcomm7@fomi.hu

We use also this occasion to invite everybody to participate who is interested in the theme, and we look forward to welcoming you in Kuala Lumpur this October.

2. 7th FIG Regional Conference Hanoi, Vietnam: 19-22 October 2009

The 7th FIG Regional Conference will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, 19-22 October 2009, immediately after Commission 7 Annual Meeting 2009 to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, earlier October.

The regional conference will be focusing mainly on land administration, land governance and environmental issues, expecting contributions especially from Commission 7. The reason: FIG will cosponsor the South East Asia Survey Conference to be held in Bali, Indonesia in August 2009, focus of which will be the activities of Commissions 4, 5 and 6.

The registration fee for the regional conference participants includes conference attendance, proceedings (CD-ROM), lunches and 2 coffee breaks 19-21 October, a welcome reception, Vietnamese evening and farewell dinner. The tour to Ha Long Bay will be included in the registration fee for international participants. Costs are the following:

- Delegate, full registration, after **15 August 2009** EUR 300
- Delegate, daily registration, before **15 August 2009** EUR 350
- Accompanying person registration, before **15 August 2009** EUR 150
- Accompanying person registration, after **15 August 2009** EUR 150

3. FIG Congress, Sydney, Australia, 11-16 April 2010

Objectives of the FIG Congress 2010, Sydney:

Recognizing the need for sustainable development and the collective, intergenerational and cultural values of customary land, to

- Review the latest thinking and development on customary land use, development and conservation,
- Review the progress, initiatives, issues and challenges experienced in land tenure by Pacific countries,
- Prepare an agenda and programmes for follow-up action over the next FIG Planning term.

4. Venue for Commission 7 Annual Meeting 2010: Czech Republic

During the Commission 7 Annual Meeting of 2008 in Verona, Italy, Czech delegate, Mr. Libor Tomandl interpreted the proposal of the Czech Union of Surveyors to host the Annual Meeting in the Czech Republic in 2010. This was subsequently accepted by Commission 7 delegates and members.

We are pleased to inform you that recently also a written official confirmation has arrived to Budapest:

"Now we would like to officially declare our desire to organize the Commission 7 Annual Meeting in the Czech Republic in the first half of September 2010. This decision was confirmed and adopted at the 9th Congress of the Czech Union of Surveyors and Cartographers on 28th March 2009 in Prague. We hope you will find our proposal acceptable. It would be our great pleasure to welcome all delegates and contributors within the framework of this event in our country."

Needless to say, on behalf and in the name of all members of FIG Commission 7, a reply was sent at once that we are very pleased to accept this invitation.

Best regards

András Oskó, Chair Commission 7
Gyula Iván, Vice-Chair (Administration)
Maria Tóth (Assistant to the Chair)