

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS**PRESIDENTS' MEETING****MEMORANDUM**

of the meeting held in Tarshish A Room at the Dan Eilat Hotel in Eilat, Israel on the 8th of May 2009 from 9:00 to 11:00

In attendance: 36 participants representing 28 member associations, list of participant is attached as appendix to this memo.

1. OPENING

President Stig Enemark opened the meeting and welcomed the participants to the traditional Presidents' meeting on behalf of the FIG Council. The FIG Vice Presidents were also invited to this meeting to collect ideas and impressions from the Presidents of member associations or their representatives. **Recorded** that altogether 36 people were present at the meeting, out of which 28 were Presidents or their representatives from member associations.

President Enemark mentioned in his opening remarks the need for good co-operation between FIG and the member associations and the importance of direct contacts between the President and FIG Council and the Presidents of member associations. As a tradition the discussion was planned to include comments from all Presidents present at the meeting on any issues of their interest. President Enemark referred in his opening remarks to the role of FIG in contribution to professional development and the global agenda and the importance of bringing information on FIG activities in this respect to the members in member associations. His presentation at the General Assembly is available on the FIG web site as a .ppt file for use of the member associations for their purposes at:

www.fig.net/admin/images/fig_general_president_may_2009.ppt.

The participants were invited to discuss any new developments and / or challenges that their association or surveyors are facing in their country. In addition participants were requested as normally to comment the conference arrangements in Eilat. They were further welcomed to raise any other issues they might find relevant.

2. DISCUSSION

The discussion focussed on remarks and proposals from member associations related to the issues raised by the President and other issues that are relevant to the member associations.

John Hohol, ACSM, USA: The biggest challenge in USA is to get new students to surveying courses and thus any fresh ideas in this respect would be most welcome. The second challenge is to get qualified people for educators. Ageing of current teachers creates a wider shortage of teachers.

Steve Jackson, ICES, United Kingdom: The conference in Eilat has been a memorable one as for a first time attendee. Tomorrow's surveying jobs will focus more on finding managerial

solutions for clients than implementing traditional surveying tasks. There has been positive improvement in Eilat with Commission 10 which should continue its work. All countries should get involved in Commission 10 work in respect to its role in management skills. ICES is very pleased on FIG activities with the World Bank and UN – flying high as one would expect. To keep feet on the ground at the same time we need to keep the focus at the meetings relevant to the daily work. Events should also be affordable to all. Young Surveyors' work has been impressive and important as young surveyors are the future of the profession.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: ICES has a vital role in promoting project management as a key area in surveying and getting it on the agenda of different commissions.

Diane Dumashie, RICS, United Kingdom: The Working Week in Eilat was a well organised event. In UK the profession is struggling with the economic situation (impact especially valuers and construction sector), but some sectors like GIS and planning are still doing well. RICS is looking at the education in the future (technical level surveying) and how to get new groups of surveyors (technical level) involved. Geomatics division has been active in finding new routes. RICS is looking for FIG for co-operation in technical training. Marine surveying is an increasing area in RICS and it would be useful to have discussions on information distribution in this field. Location based structures is a big issue in UK as mentioned by Vanessa Lawrence in her keynote presentation and there are legislative developments going on in these areas. RICS is opening its membership for technicians with practical experience (mid level membership). RICS is looking for FIG support to this initiative.

Paul Marshall, PLATO, South Africa: The situation with applicants to Cape Town University has been encouraging – for the first time students have been turned down by the Surveying Department. This can however be temporary situation (mathematics requirements at the qualifications). New registration act for surveyors is under preparation and if passed it may have implications on participation to FIG activities. The profession as such is healthy in South Africa.

Mwenda Makathima, ISK, Kenya: ISK is vibrant and has been the driving force in implementing national land policy in Kenya. ISK has also increased the public knowledge about the profession, now everyone knows ISK based on its knowledge projects. The work is focussed on environmental and urbanisation processes. ISK has introduced technician level membership. ISK is very happy with the FIG membership and co-operation.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: FIG will expose the role of ISK in Kenya as a model for other member associations.

Craig Sandy, ISA, Australia: ISA will merge with other Australian associations to a new organisation called Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (ISSS) by the end of 2009. So it is most likely that the Congress 2010 will be hosted by the new bigger organisation. There is continuous shortage of surveyors in Australia. The market has been opened for overseas surveyors which has increased the number of applications from 5-10 to 150 from overseas per annum. Preparations for FIG 2010 are proceeding well: ISA warmly welcomes all FIG members to this main FIG congress in April 2010.

Steve Nystrom, AI, USA: USA is struggling with the finance crisis that influences especially residential market. The Appraisal Institute has kept its position better than others in the

market. AI is strongly supporting its international activities, which is a big improvement compared to the previous years. One characteristic is also that the education has converted from detailed US centric courses to cover more general valuation topics. AI has interest in costs estimating costs that relates to Commission 10 activities. There is an option to approach firms for sponsorship and corporate membership. Nystrom is personally attending UN ECE Real Estate Advisory Group (REAG) activities and proposed to study options to increase co-operation between FIG and REAG.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: Encouraged Steve Nystrom (AI) to make contacts with PAIGH in the American region on Commission 9 topics. Recommended also Nystrom's paper in Eilat for general reading.

Heidi Falkenbach, MIL, Finland: MIL has restructured its organisational structure. The main challenges for MIL are how to recruit young surveyors. The university has been successful in recent years to attract students, but it is difficult to get young professionals to join and work in the association and especially to get them interested in international activities. The interest to attend international events has even been decreasing. The members are also increasingly critical on the value of international partnerships because of expenses.

Henning Elmstroem, DdL, Denmark and President of CLGE: FIG should consider giving more focus on private sector (cadastral work) – and thus go back to roots. There is interest to share educational experiences in different regions. At future FIG events the participant list should be available prior the conference to allow communication and set appointments in advance. News from CLGE includes that CLGE and Geometres Europas (GE) will merge next year. CLGE has hired a house in Brussels that is available also for FIG members for meetings in Brussels. It was difficult to come to Eilat, but all have gone well on site.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: FIG is supporting regional co-operation such as with CLGE in Europe and also regional organisations in Africa, Latin America and groups like the Arab Union of Surveyors and the group of Francophone surveyors (FGF).

Brian Coutts, NZIS, New Zealand: There is an increasing interest for surveying education in New Zealand; this year 180 applications for 60 places. The change in the educational structure offering more flexible course structure may have helped the situation. Hydrographic education in Otago is the only certified course in southern hemisphere. There is also new generation coming in the staff at universities for the first time since early 1990s. The age of teachers has dropped by 10+ years. Cadastre is one subject in the tool box. At the moment New Zealand has 700 licensed surveyors out of total 1,000 surveyors. New cadastral license board has been introduced. NZIS is stable and growing slightly. Almost all surveyors are members of NZIS. NZIS has bilateral agreement with RICS and with ISA. Core competence issues are of interest to NZIS. FIG should re-brand Commission 10 to project management. In New Zealand professional practice and project management are compulsory components in the education.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: FIG publication on Mutual Recognition (# 27, www.fig.net/pub/figpub/pub27/figpub27.htm) is still valid. Vice President Teo CheeHai is active on this area in Asia. Gert Steinkellner from Austria is working on the structural and managerial issues in surveying education (WG 2.3 in Commission 2).

Cecilia Lindén, ASPECT, Sweden: The Swedish association has gone through big changes after the Working Week in Stockholm. It merged with other associations and has now a new name ASPECT (Association for Chartered Surveying, Property Valuation and Transactions). The surplus from the FIG Working Week 2008 has been used to make a reserve to support international activities. It is difficult to get students to surveying education, but there has been progress by rearranging the studies. From 2003 civil engineering and surveying have been in the same programme and e.g. programme for built environment has been successful attracting three applications per one free place at KTH in Stockholm.

Enrico Rispoli/Maria Scorza, CNGGL, Italy: There were some problems in travelling to Eilat but on site the conference has worked extremely well. Technical sessions have been good and having not too many papers which has allowed time for discussions. CNGGL is focussing on young people by organising courses. CNGGL also sponsored three students to Eilat and is considering bigger contribution next time.

Jürg Kaufmann, geosuisse, Switzerland: geosuisse has 700 members the majority being licensed surveyors. The new law on geoinformation is now in force. It is the first in the world of its kind and therefore translated to English (available on Swisstopo web site: www.swisstopo.admin.ch/internet/swisstopo/en/home/swisstopo/legal_bases.parsys.75436.downloadList.38432.DownloadFile.tmp/geoigen.pdf). It has been based on the implementation model presented in Cadastre 2014. Project management has an increasing role and it would be a pity if it would be dropped from FIG commission structure. He asked whether the terms geomatics, Geoinformation, and land professionals should be further discussed as this is an ongoing issue raised time to time. In Switzerland there is lack of 10,000 engineers at the same time when mass production is moving out from the country. Local sections of geosuisse are working actively to get more students by promoting their regional schools. Each school needs 30 students per year, even though at national level the total need is only 60 students. Geosuisse will take a role in coordinating this. FIG 2009 has been an excellent event, only too much eating. He attended also the previous meeting in Tel Aviv in 1972.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: Cadastre 2014 (authored by Jürg Kaufmann and Daniel Steudler) has just been translated to Italian and is now available in 28 languages.

Daniel Roberge, CIG, Canada: Canada has strengthened international activities by forming a national forum for international activities. This forum will include all major associations in Canada. Terms of reference are to be finally confirmed but the forum reached common opinion on the working models in March 2009. Canada is preparing to make a bid to host FIG Congress 2018 in Vancouver.

Pavel Novak, CUSC, Czech Republic: This is the first FIG meeting. The meeting has been of good quality and given good impressions having earlier background in international co-operation in IAG.

Bénédicte Fournier, OGE, France: France as many other countries is struggling with finance crisis that influence the profession. The other key issues are sustainable development that has resulted in the Marseille Agenda 21 on sustainable development. Expressed full support to the young surveyors' network. Training is essential as a continuing activity.

Makis Apostolatos, TEE, Greece: Working Week 2009 was a well organised event. Suggested to circulate the Young Surveyors Network terms of reference and agenda to all member association with request for implementation. Second issue is still the non-show speakers. FIG should be more creative in organising sessions (this time eventual non-shows were gathered to same session(s)).

Stig Enemark, FIG President: Young surveyors' activities are placed very high at the Council agenda.

Karl-Friedrich Thöne, DVW, Germany: The quality management with the Working Week has worked well. There were excellent plenary sessions and technical sessions (even a standing ovation at one Commission 9 session). This improved quality in the technical programme has been influenced by introducing the peer review option for technical sessions. DVW is very satisfied on the new finance policy. It allows now the Federation work effectively and transparency in finances is well shown, so all issues addressed in Stockholm are now well in place. Thirdly, the Young Surveyors Network is a good step forward and a good initiative from President Enemark to change the image of the profession and guarantee the new profile of a land professional. Finally DVW is very pleased that Africa has now really been involved in the FIG family, however further work is needed with India and Latin America.

Tor Valstad, NJKF/Geo-Forum, Norway: The President of NJKF was not able to attend this time because of the CLGE conference in Bergen just prior the Working Week. The biggest problem in Norway is how to recruit students at all levels. To join international activities is a continuous problem and it is difficult to get new faces. Maybe it would help to offer more traditional surveying topics in the technical programme.

Gert Steinkellner, OVG, Austria: OVG has put lot of efforts in students and education also by organising the FIG Commission 2 seminar in Vienna with very good results. The seminar has been reported separately. The attendance of President Enemark was very well received by the participants and especially the students.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: As a policy I have attended almost all commission events to enable direct interaction between the Council agenda and the work of the commissions.

Jan Hardos, CSC, Slovakia: Situation in Slovakia is different to most other European countries. There are lot of students and surveyors in Slovakia, which has resulted in increased competition where prices are decreasing and quality of the work is falling. The problem is that surveyors' services are not known by the clients and therefore poor quality is accepted. When only the lowest price counts the delivered quality will not be good for the reputation of surveyors. Most companies are small and therefore all surveyors cannot become managers. It seems that data collection and need to control data will go down and because of this the need for professionals to do this work will decrease. Need for expertise in data collection will decrease and in the worst scenario the managers will be IT and other professionals. Is there a need to establish a task force on the future role of a surveyor?

Stig Enemark, FIG President: At the moment there are no plans to make new task force on this issue. But the issue is well understood and the Council is planning to prepare a brochure on the role of surveyor in the society to be published before the end on 2010.

Joseph Kraus, ALSI, Israel: Thanks to everyone for attending the conference. The discussion shows that the problems are almost the same everywhere. In Israel there is a need to change the education. When the sophisticated measurement systems have been introduced the roots have been forgotten (how and who will put the marks on the ground?). There is shortage on traditional surveyors, as the interest is now on GIS and office work. People know lawyers and doctors but surveyors' skills are not that well known which also influences the interest to profession. There is discussion with Survey of Israel on how to increase professionals in the traditional surveying profession.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: Thanks from FIG to ALSI for organising the successful Working Week and also showing that surveying is still sexy.

Steponas Deveikis, LTVA, Lithuania: Thanks to ALSI for the successful event and to FIG for the Francophone sessions that were very successful and well attended. As mentioned by others young surveyors are the key issue on the agenda.

Joseph Salukvadze, SPLIT, Georgia: In transitional countries the discussion is still very much focussed on why to have professional associations and to pay fees for the association. This applies both at national and international levels. It is important to explain the benefits of being a member of a professional association. Help from FIG in this respect has been most helpful. The membership in SPLIT is increasing slowly but in most Caucasus countries there is no professional association. On the education sector the challenge is that surveying is not considered as prestigious as some other professions. Participation to international events is a problem because of costs and visas; if other member associations could help in this respect e.g. when there is no embassy of the host country that would be appreciated. In the programme the tours offered for accompanying persons are sometimes too attractive.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: The presentation made at the General Assembly on the FIG role as part of the President's report is available for the member associations to explain what FIG is doing. Recorded thanks to OGE from France in helping African delegates to get visas to Israel through France.

Marc Vanderschueren, UBG, Belgium: The focus in Belgium has been very much on European issues. UBG has worked very much to get the educational qualifications to the same level in all regions in Belgium. UNG requires now also 20 points per year CPD for all its members. Land professionals have now a role in registration.

Yakubo Maikano, NIS, Nigeria: Recruitment is not a problem in Nigeria, but instead the quality of education has become a major issue. Accreditation of high level professionals at universities is a bid issue. Three professors at surveying departments have retired and have not been replaced. FIG help on this issue would be appreciated. NIS is sponsoring one week survey camps to assist with education. Surveyors still see themselves as field workers and not as managers. NIS is trying to change this concept. There is a need to get women interested in the profession. NIS has been planning for Working Week 2013 for 5 years and is prepared to welcome FIG to Nigeria in 2013.

Stig Enemark, FIG President: The Working Week 2013 will be admitted to Nigeria now and the President will visit Nigeria in November 2009.

Nihat Sahin, TMMOB/HKMO, Turkey: Thanks to ALSI and FIG. The second GIS Conference will be held in Izmir in September 2009. The focus is very much in cadastre in graphical terms and in the big World Bank cadastre project in Turkey and the Turkish SDI.

Mamadou Camara, OGE, Mali: Mali is interested in closer co-operation with FIG. The main issue at the moment is the tenure project that started in 2005.

3. SUMMARY

President Enemark summarized the meeting that FIG is a healthy organisation and still sexy at the age of over 130. The challenges are related to the economic crisis and the environmental issues that also offer opportunities for the profession. There are some challenges in the profile of surveying and the Council is aware of these and is gradually providing material to address these issues.

The President concluded that he is always looking forward to these meetings to get in direct communication with the presidents. At these meetings any topics are open to discussion. He thanked the participants for their valuable comments. The discussion shows that FIG works according to the expectations that the members have set. Based on the discussion FIG has a great future ahead.

Thanks for attending the meeting.

**XXXII FIG General Assembly and Working Week 2009
3-8 May 2008, Eilat, Israel**

**Attendance List
Presidents' meeting 8th May 2009**

Name	Member association
Stig Enemark	President, FIG, chair
Iain Greenway	Vice President, FIG, United Kingdom
John Hohol	ACSM, USA
Steve Jackson	ICES, United Kingdom
Diane Dumashie	RICS, United Kingdom
Paul Marshall	PLATO, South Africa
Mwenda Makathimo	ISK, Kenya
Craig Sandy	ISA, Australia
Heidi Falkenbach	MIL, Finland
Henning Elmstroem	DdL, Denmark
Kjeld Lohmann Scholer	DdL, Denmark
Brian Coutts	NZIS, New Zealand
Cecilia Lindén	ASPECT, Sweden
Enrico Rispoli	CNGGL, Italy
Maria Scorza	CNGGL, Italy
Jürg Kaufmann	geosuisse, Switzerland
Pavel Novak	CUSC, Czech Republic
Bénédicte Fournier	OGE, France
Daniel Roberge	CIG, Canada
Makis Apostolatos	TEE, Greece
Steven Nystrom	AI, USA
Karl-Friedrich Thöne	DVW, Germany
Rudolf Staiger	DVW, Germany
Gert Steinkellner	OVG, Austria
Jan Hardos	CSC, Slovakia
Joseph Kraus	ALSI, Israel
Steponas Deveikis	LTVA, Lithuania
Joseph Salukvadze	SPLIT, Georgia
Marc Vanderschueren	UBG, Belgium
Yakubu Maikano	NIS, Nigeria
Nihat Sahin	TMMOB/HKMO, Turkey
Tor Valstad	NJKF/Geo-Forum, Norway
Mamadou Camara	OGE, Mali
Garibou Guindo	OGE, Mali
Matt Higgins	Vice President, FIG, Australia
Markku Villikka	Director, FIG, secretary

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