Statement

It is an important day for all of us, for UN Habitat, the donors from Norway and Sweden, for all GLTN-partners, for FIG and, I hope, for all poor people in the world. Therefore, congratulations to UN Habitat!

Let me state from the point of view of FIG the following:

1. FIG is strongly committed to MDG and supports its implementation by promoting the goals and measures within its more than 100 member countries.

2. FIG as globally acting NGO, is a serious and loyal partner of UN Habitat and is the leading international umbrella organisation of all experts of land, land survey, land administration, land management, SDI including cadastre, secure tenure aspects, gender issues, valuation, planning, and even partly registry.

3. Since a long time, FIG has been engaged and involved in (Global Campaign of) secure tenure, Good Governance, urban-rural interrelationship, Agenda 21, women’s access to land, sound land administration, conflict resolutions. FIG has a long standing cooperation with Habitat Division for Land and Tenure and vice versa (especially Commission 7 with its own working group “Development of pro poor land management and land administration”). FIG conferences and publications comprise the whole range of aspects and approaches towards a secure tenure as a basis for better life and economic and social activities and investments.

4. FIG appreciates the idea of GLTN and is willing to support its implementation intensively. FIG admits as well that we need innovative and unconventional approaches to security of tenure that are not based on land titling alone. That may be addressed against the philosophy of De Soto! On the other side it will be not possible to deliver security of tenure without a Land Administration System (LAS). We should know that in principle we need large scale solutions and systems which can not be substituted by micro or grass root solutions only.

5. In last years, FIG has developed some new ideas and models for such kind of LAS like Cadastre 2014 or recently the FIG “Core Cadastral Domain Model” (CCDM), which has already started to include beside of the legal rights also customary and informal tenures.

6. Following the right idea of GLTN initiative of “Development of Pro Poor Land Tools”, which we have started to discuss at WUF II in Barcelona two years ago, the challenge now is to further develop the CCDM toward a so-called “Social Tenure Domain Model”, which is flexible standardized and fulfils the needs of poor people in many developing countries at a large scale.

7. FIG has started to develop and has first time presented at FIG Regional Conference in Accra 2006 this Social Tenure Domain Model which should on the one hand allow a
communication based on a jointly shared ontology implied by the model and standardization and should, on the other hand, guarantee that the complex variety of valid social (and we surveyors are surely trying to know also social assets) relationships between people, especially poor, female and indigenous people and land is included and recorded.

8. This model should be implemented for one or more maintenance organisations using GIS and operating on national, regional or local level. A lot of CCDM technology and philosophy can be used but also a lot of special dedication e.g. to introducing a Socio Tenure Relationship etc. and steps of research have to be done in the next time.

Conclusion

We as FIG are already on the common path and are happy to be part of a global network. We are eager to contribute successfully and essentially to GLTN-Initiative!”