

**Report to the 26th General Assembly
in Paris, 13-17 April 2003**

**Co-operation with the United Nations and Its Agencies
April 2002–April 2003**

1. General

The FIG has an active and long standing relationship with a wide range of United Nations agencies including the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Department of Economics and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), the World Trade Organization (WTO), UNESCO, the World Bank and a range of regional United Nations organizations like the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (and its Working Party on Land Administration), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, as well as United Nations sponsored organizations such as the Permanent Committee for GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP), the Permanent Committee on SDI for the Americas (PC-IDEA).

2. Director FIG/UN Liaison

In 1999 The UK Bureau decided to appoint Prof. Ian Williamson Director FIG/UN Liaison to coordinate and develop the co-operation between FIG and different UN bodies. Prof. Williamson's report on the activities taken 1999-2002 was included in the General Assembly papers at the Washington Congress in 2002. During his term of office the activities with the United Nations and with the World Bank have increased in a remarkable way. The achievements include the bilateral agreements, participation to each other's events and several joint publications.

The German Council has considered the UN relations to be of top priority and therefore it decided at the first meeting of the German Council in January 2003 that during the next years the President will be personally in charge of the UN relations. Because it is not possible anymore for one person to keep contacts to all UN agencies an advisory group will be established to assist the President. Members of this group will be appointed during 2003 and they will be well experienced with the UN and the World Bank.

The Federation owes a big thank to Prof. Williamson for his enthusiastic and successful work when establishing the relations to the United Nations.

3. Agreements and administrative issues

During the FIG Congress in Washington the third Memorandum of Understanding between FIG and UN-HABITAT was signed by Dr. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT. This MoU was signed for four years to cover years 2002-2006.

In September during the visit of President Robert W. Foster to Rome an Agreement of Co-operation between FIG and FAO was signed by President Foster and Mr. David A. Harcharik,

Deputy Director-General of FAO September 18, 2002. The draft agreement was adopted by the General Assembly in Washington, DC and the final agreement is attached to this report as appendix.

President Holger Magel has been in contact with Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It has been recorded that FIG has been recognized by the UNEP as a Civil Society partner already in 1989. UNEP has now offered FIG co-operation on projects that are of interest to both parties.

4. Activities in 2002

World Urban Forum, Nairobi, Kenya, 29 April – 3 May 2002

Director, FIG Office attended the First Session of the World Urban Forum (www.unhabitat.org) organized by the UN-HABITAT in Nairobi April 29 – May 3, 2002 following immediately the FIG Congress in Washington, DC.

About 1,200 participants – twice as many as expected – attended the WUF from over 80 countries representing governments, non-governmental organizations including at least 200 slum dwellers, local authorities, UN agencies and civil society. Designated by the United Nations General Assembly as an advisory body, the World Urban Forum is an open-ended think tank designed to encourage debate and discussion about the challenges of urbanization in this century. At this first session, the dialogues and parallel events provided a rich mix of different viewpoints about the state of cities and the way forward. Though the overall theme was sustainable urbanization, there was a range of options, ideas and innovations. What made the discussions particularly interesting was that unlike at most UN events, everybody was able to table their ideas as equal partners.

From a FIG point of view the WUF was a big success and further strengthened the strong links between FIG and UN-HABITAT. FIG was invited to nominate a member for the Advisory Board of the meeting appointed by the Executive Director. In addition, the Director, FIG office was appointed to chair the only sub group of the WUF to establish the working arrangements for the next Urban Forums. This was the only “inter-governmental” task force during the Forum. The sub-group managed to finish its task in a shorter time than expected and the guidelines were endorsed by the plenary without discussion.

FIG has also been listed as a partner in the new UN-HABITAT initiative Coalition for Sustainable Urbanisation – Partnership Commitments for Implementing Agenda 21, which was launched at the WSSD. In this coalition FIG is listed as a partner under two partnerships “Model City-to-City Cooperation Partnership” and “Learning from Best Practices and Policies in support of Sustainable Urbanisation”.

The 2nd WUF will take place in Barcelona in September 2004.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August – 4 September 2002

The World Summit on Sustainable Development Summit (also known as Rio+10) (<http://www.johannesburgsummit.org>) in Johannesburg was the biggest United Nations event in 2002 to follow-up the Earth Summit that was held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The Summit

was attended by 60,000 – 70,000 delegates including representatives from the governments, major groups (UN agencies, partners, civil society, professionals, private sector and NGOs) and media. Over 100 heads of states attended the meetings in the second week of the Summit. They also agreed on a political declaration (http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/documents/summit_docs/1009wssd_pol_declaration.doc). FIG was represented by Prof. Holger Magel, President Elect of FIG and the Director, FIG Office.

The major outcome document, the Plan of Implementation (http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/documents/summit_docs/plan_final1009.doc), contains targets and timetables to spur action on a wide range of issues, including halving the proportion of people who lack access to clean water or proper sanitation by 2015, restoring depleted fisheries by 2015, reducing biodiversity loss by 2010, and, by 2020, using and producing chemicals in ways that do not harm human health and the environment. In addition, for the first time countries committed to increase the use of renewable energy “with a sense of urgency,” although a proposed target for this was not adopted. From surveyors point of view it is very positive that in the Plan of Implementation there are a lot of references to access to land and land tenure, which give opportunities for surveyors and now just wait for implementation.

Perhaps the main outcome from the Summit was that it generated concrete partnership initiatives by and between governments, citizen groups and businesses. These partnerships are bringing with them additional resources and expertise to attain significant results where they matter in communities across the globe.

In addition to the environmental issues, the topics of the meeting covered social and economic aspects of sustainable development and the discussions were very much influenced by the economic issues. Issues closest to surveyors like security of tenure were very much included in the discussions and were of interest to the media but they were discussed less at the plenary sessions than expected.

There were plenty of parallel events in Ubuntu Village, at NASREC and at the two hotels reserved for these purposes. These events were quite well attended. The official side events at the Conference Centre “lunch meetings” were all very well attended, most of these were organized by the UN agencies and their partners. The other side events were not as successful. As an example the seminar on tenure issues organized by USAID and the World Bank attracted only 20 people even though the keynote speaker was Hernando de Soto.

Perhaps the most successful side event was organized by ICLEI (local authorities). This three-day seminar was attended by more than 700 paying delegates. In this seminar FIG attended a special UN-HABITAT seminar on the new initiative Coalition for Sustainable Urbanisation – Partnership Commitments for Implementing Agenda 21 that UN-HABITAT published in conjunction to the WSSD. FIG was announced as partner of two of the eleven partnerships (Model City-to-City Co-operation Partnership and Learning from Best Practices and Policies in support of Sustainable Development) thanks to Commission 3, in particular.

The FIG contribution was very useful both with regards to the profile of FIG in relation to the United Nations and to our co-operation with international bodies. The representatives managed to meet with Mrs. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Mr. Ian Johnson, Vice President of the World Bank, representatives of USAID and GTZ who were

more than positive to further co-operation with FIG, Hernando de Soto, representatives from FAO and the Bruce Moore from the Popular Coalition to Eradicate Hunger and Poverty. Prof. Magel also managed to meet with Chancellor Gerhard Schröder from Germany. In addition contacts to several ministers and delegations were made.

The representatives also met with some representatives from member associations e.g. at a three-day seminar on the Global Alliance for Building Sustainability organized by the RICS Foundation.

Habitat Professionals Forum

After the successful contributions to the Istanbul+5 Conference in New York in June 2001 the Habitat Professionals Forum has actively promoted Agenda 21 and the Habitat Agenda at the conferences of the partners of the Forum. These include the FIG Congress 2002 where the Forum had a special session with three papers presented by Dr. Irene Wiese – von Ofen, President of IFHP and Chair of the Habitat Professionals Forum, David Mammen, IFHP and Prof. Holger Magel, President Elect of FIG. The Steering Committee also had its 7th meeting in Washington, DC.

The Forum was invited to participate in the Advisory Group of the first World Urban Forum 29 April – 3 May 2002 in Nairobi. Markku Villikka represented not only FIG but also the Forum at this event.

There was a Professionals Forum at the UIA (International Union of Architects) World Congress in Berlin, 22-26 July 2002. Speakers at the closing plenary session included Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of UNEP and Prof. Holger Magel, President Elect of FIG, who made one of the keynote addresses. The other members of the Forum represented IFHP, IsoCaRP, IFLA and UIA.

The Forum further organized a Professionals Forum at the “Intergeo” 16.October 2002, in Frankfurt am Main with speakers from FIG (Tom Kennie and Andreas Drees) and IFHP (Irene Wise – von Ofen).

The 8th Steering Committee meeting of the Forum took place in Copenhagen December 6-8, 2002. At this meeting FIG representatives were President Magel and Director, FIG office.

Other events

President Foster attended the ECE REAG meeting in Rome in September 2002 in conjunction with his visit to Italy and FAO.

The planned FIG/UN/PC IDEA Workshop planned for Mexico in 2002 was first postponed and then later cancelled. It is now considered to be linked to the 4th FIG Regional Conference that will take place in South America in 2005.

5. Future activities

FIG will participate in the 19th Session of the Commission on Human Settlements in Nairobi, May 5-9, 2003.

Prof. Stig Enemark has been invited to make a keynote presentation at the next Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific which will take place in Japan in July 2003. At the same time he will represent FIG at this UN-RCC.

February 2002



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**MEMORANDUM OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS (FIG)**

and

THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

Preamble

Recognizing the interest of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to establish the framework of a partnership for cooperation in the implementation of the land tenure related recommendations contained in FAO's Strategic Framework, in the World Food Summit Plan of Action adopted by the World Food Summit held in Rome in 1996 and in FIG's published workplans 1996-1999 and 2000-2003 and in the report "Co-operation between FIG and the UN Agencies 2000-2003" of the FIG/UN Roundtable in Melbourne in 1999;

Acknowledging that both parties have, in recent years, collaborated in joint activities and share common approaches and interests including, among others, the support of FIG members and experts in seminars, workshops and research activities organized by FAO in its work programmes relating to land tenure,

The parties have agreed to the following arrangement:

1. Global Developmental Objectives

1.1. To strengthen the capacity of civil society and governments, both central and local, to formulate and implement in a participatory manner integrated policies that promote sustainable land use, providing opportunities for access to land and security of tenure for all classes and sections in the community; and

1.2. To improve global, regional and local capacity in land tenure related issues, to facilitate increased access to land and security of tenure for all classes and sections in the community, but particularly in relation to the disadvantaged as envisaged in the World Food Summit Plan of Action.

2. Mechanisms for Co-operation

2.1 The co-operation will include joint activities within the framework of the work programme of the two parties and will count on the following mechanisms:

1. Promoting an awareness campaign of FIG's role in the developing and supporting of policies and their implementation leading to improved access to land and security of tenure for all classes and sections in the community;
2. Involving FAO Regional Offices and field projects, as well as FIG country surveyors' associations and FIG thematic commission members through a consultation process between all concerned;
3. Organizing policy seminars, training workshops and expert group meetings at global, regional and country level;
4. Promoting networks of professional experts in the considered fields;
5. Identifying, documenting and disseminating successful experiences and best practices;
6. Providing technical expertise on pilot projects and other activities as available and requested;
7. Considering requests for sabbatical periods during which FIG members could be associated to FAO activities under FAO's Partnership Programme for Visiting Experts subject to the availability of funds;
8. Contributing to multi-disciplinary research and advisory teams;
9. Strengthening local training and capacity-building institutions in land tenure, land management, land administration, land use planning and valuation-related issues;
10. Developing land management tools, such as land information systems/geographical information systems and readjustment methods adapted to the various regional and local contexts;
11. Liasing and collaborating with other partners, such as other professional groups and UN organizations concerning areas of common interest; and
12. Ensuring that all joint activities are developed with a gender perspective and promote the recommendations of the Global Agenda for the Promotion of Women's Development issued at the Beijing Conference, September 1995.

2.2 Subsequent to this Memorandum of Co-operation (MOC), separate project documents may be developed for each activity indicating the respective contributions covering financial, material and human resources. Each project document will be considered as an annex to the present MOC but is also to be consistent with FAO's Financial Rules and Regulations. Annex 1, attached to this MOC, includes a list of the proposed joint activities for 2002-2003.

3. Intellectual Property Rights

3.1. Intellectual property rights, in particular copyright, of material such as information, software and designs, made available by FIG and FAO to be used to carry out the activities under this MOC shall remain with the originating party. Appropriate grants for use of such materials will be further described as other projects under this MOC are formalized.

3.2. Copyright of the information, as well as rights to any other intellectual property, developed jointly by FIG and FAO shall be jointly vested in both parties (FIG and FAO). Each party shall have full rights to exploit such jointly owned works after informing the other Party without the need of approval of the other.

4. Data Access

FAO and FIG shall have free access to all information developed pursuant to activities mutually undertaken as a result of this MOC for their internal use.

5. Final Provisions

5.1. Participation of FIG and FAO representatives at jointly organized events or events organized either by FAO or FIG should be funded by their respective organizations.

5.2. The fulfilment of the provisions of this MOC and any and all operational responsibilities set forth in this MOC shall be subject to the availability of funding.

5.3. In the event of misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the clauses contained herein, the parties shall attempt to settle such misunderstanding or misinterpretation by consensus.

5.4. This MOC shall be reviewed periodically by the parties and may be modified in writing upon their mutual consent. The parties agree that specific activities undertaken between them under this MOC shall be subject to subsequent arrangements signed by the authorized representatives of the FAO and FIG.

5.5. Nothing in this Agreement or in any document relating thereto, shall be construed as constituting a waiver of privileges or immunities of FAO, nor as conferring any privileges or immunities of FAO to FIG or its personnel.

The present Agreement shall be governed by general principles of law, to the exclusion of any single national system of law.

5.6. This MOC may be terminated by the parties at a jointly agreed time or by one party giving three months' notice in writing to the other party.

5.6. This MOC shall represent the understanding of the parties upon its signature by FAO and FIG.

International Federation
of Surveyors (FIG):



Robert W. Foster
President
Council 1999-2002

Date: 18 Sept '02

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations:



David A. Harcharik
Deputy Director-General

Date: 18 Sept 02

Annex I

Proposed joint activities for 2002-03

- a) FIG and FAO to progress issues of common interest in their respective work plans aiming at the implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action, and the Bathurst Declaration resolutions.
- b) Regional workshop/symposium on capacity building for land administration in 2002-2003.
- c) Regional workshop/symposium on land administration in Africa in 2002.
- d) FIG Working Week and International Conference in Paris, April 13—17, 2003.
- e) Sabbatical period at FAO headquarters under the Partnership Programme for Professor Holger Magel, Vice President and incoming President FIG, 2003-07, and Professor Paul van der Molen, Chairperson 2002-06, FIG Commission 7 on Cadastre and Land Management in 2002-2003.
- f) Joint publications together and/or with third parties, e.g. on land tenure issues and women's access to land.