



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

## Regional Conferences Find their Role – ‘Surveying the Future’ a Big Success

The 3rd FIG Regional Conference held for the first time in the Asia and Pacific region, gathered more than 350 delegates from 33 countries in Jakarta, Indonesia from 3rd to 7th October. Delegate numbers exceeded the expectation of organisers, worried that the bomb blast in Jakarta just two weeks prior to the conference might scare off some delegates. As it turned out, more than 120 international participants attended the conference.

The focus of the Regional Conference was on economic, environmental and social development and combining these three main factors to promote sustainable development. The conference theme was ‘Surveying the Future – Contributions to Economic, Environmental and Social Development’, highlighted in the opening speech by FIG president Prof. Holger Magel. Three other topics stand out from the conference programme as being of very great importance for the Asia and Pacific region.

First is the close co-operation between surveying, geodesy and geoinformatics. FIG was very happy that several international sister organisations co-sponsored this event. These included the International Association of Geodesy (President Gerhard Gutler), the International Association of Cartography (Secretary General Ferjan Vermeulen) and the International Society of Mine Surveying (President Yu Changxing). A special workshop was

also organised on the theme of how international and regional associations might better co-operate in the Asia and Pacific region.

The second key topic was professional standards and qualifications in Asia, and in the ASEAN region in particular. This also provided the topic for a plenary session followed by discussion by a panel of experts. The third important topic was covered, in a new approach by a FIG conference, in a plenary session organised together with the World Bank on land-administration projects in Asia during which Keith Bell of the World Bank gave a keynote address. He also of-



The whole organising committee getting thanks from the participants after a successful conference.

fered FIG possibilities for future closer co-operation with the bank.

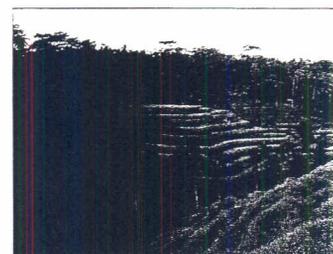
The conference was organised by the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the Ikatan Surveyor Indonesia (ISI) and the Indonesian National Co-ordinating Agency for Surveys and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL). As with the previous FIG regional conferences, the event in Jakarta was co-sponsored by the United Nations and its agencies FAO, UNEP and UN-Habitat. Other partners included the Asean Federation

of Land Surveying and Geomatics (ASEAN FLAG) and the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia & the Pacific (PCGIAP). Local co-sponsors included the Ministry of Research and Technology (RISTEK), the governor of Jakarta City Government (DKI) and Kepala Badan Pertanahan (BPN) (National Land Agency).

A technical programme included the opening ceremony, with keynote presentations from Prof. Dr Dorodjatun Kuntjoro-Jakti, Co-ordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, Mr Rudolf Matindas, head of BAKOSURTANAL and Prof. Holger Magel, president of FIG. A total of five plenary sessions and 24 technical sessions took place, the technical sessions including more than a hundred papers.

At the closing ceremony President Holger Magel summarised the outcome of the conference, recommendations and drew attention to the Jakarta State-

ment: “It is all about Sustainable Development . . . The Asia and the Pacific Region faces many exciting challenges in the fields of political, economic, environmental and social development. On the occasion of the 3rd FIG Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific ‘Surveying the Future – Contributions to Economic, Environmental and Social Development’ (Jakarta, 3-7 October 2004) the International Federation of Surveyors and its international and national partners believe that a well-balanced sustainable development in urban and rural areas is the key factor for a prosperous future and for



just human living conditions for all people in these countries and societies.”

“Surveyors can in a manifold way contribute to a more sustainable development, from establishing a basic geodetic framework to monitoring measurements in risk areas, starting from cadastre, titling, valuation, spatial data infrastructure and planning to comprehensive land management in urban, rural, coastal and marine zones.

Surveyors request policy-makers and society to better recognise the indispensable role of surveyors as part and partner of emerging civil society and nation building. Surveyors demand policy-makers provide appropriate educational and professional frameworks and recognition.

FIG, as the leading global umbrella organisation for surveyors, feels deeply committed to the Asian and the Pacific region and is committed to further strengthen the profession in this important part of our common world.”

The conference was a great success, thanks to the local organising committee chaired by Dr Irawan Sumarto, Mr Rudolf Matindas, head of Bakosurtanal, Dr Sobar Sutisna, president of the Ikatan Surveyor Indonesia and Diah Kirana, secretary-general of the conference. Many thanks go to them and to their whole team. ■

Markku Villikka  
 FIG Director