Commission 4 continues in its 1st year of the 2011-2014 term, pursuing significant contributions to hydrography and hydrography-related activities at the international level. The Commission’s Work Plan is now available online1. In 2011, Commission 4 members and associates have, and will, contribute to a number of conferences and meetings and other initiatives.

FIG Working Week 2011, Marrakech, Morocco
In May 2011 (18th – 22nd) FIG held its Working Week in Marrakech, Morocco. A report on FIG Working Week 2011 is to be found online2. Notwithstanding some no-shows, Commission 4 technical sessions comprised approximately 26 papers and covered general themes such as:

- Hydrography-Assisted Monitoring;
- Hydrography in Practice;
- Hydrography and the Environment; and
- Marine\Coastal Modelling and Technology.

The technical sessions were well attended, and attendees made significant contributions through questions, comments, and commitments. Of significance was the participation and “Young Hydrographers” as part of FIG’s Young Surveyors’ Network.

Commission 4 Delegates in Marrakesh, Morocco
11th South East Asian Survey Congress, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The 11th South East Asian Survey Congress was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia during the period June 22nd to 24th, 2011. The Chair of FIG Commission 4 was invited as a special guest speaker to address a plenary session on the topic of implementing a marine cadastre. The concept of the marine cadastre maintains importance to jurisdictions in South East Asia, and hydrography plays an important role in developmental strategies.

Hydrography Awareness in Nigeria

A meeting to enhance awareness of the importance of hydrography is being organized in Nigeria for October 2011. The plan is to have policy makers, all of Nigeria’s 36 States’ Surveyor Generals, and other hydrography stakeholders convene to have discussions on the topic. Commission 4 will be represented by its Chair, Dr. Michael Sutherland, the Chair of Working Group 4.5 (Hydrography in Africa), Ms. Angela Etuonovbe, and some of its Nigerian membership. Dr. Sutherland had previously attended the World Hydrography Day event in Abuja, Nigeria, June 22, 2009.
Coming up in October (27th and 28th) is IHO - IMO - IOC – WMO – IALA - IAEA 5th CAPACITY BUILDING COORDINATION MEETING to be held at IALA Headquarters, Saint Germain en Laye, Paris, France 27-28 OCTOBER 2011.

Officers Needed
Commission 4 is seeking nominations for the following positions:

- Chair-Elect (2012-2014). This person has to be nominated by an FIG member association. It is desirable to have nominations presented at FIG 2012 in Rome;
- Chair, Working Group 4.2, Standards and Guidelines for Hydrography, to eventually take over from the current Chair; and
- Chair, Working Group 4.4, Maritime and Marine Spatial Information Management, to eventually take over from the current Chair.

Please check Commission 4’s appropriate website for contact information to make nominations.

Publications
Check out Commission 4’s main website for information on, and access to, the following publications:

- FIG Publication No. 57 - Report on the Economic Benefits of Hydrography; and
In June 2011, Dr. David Neale, former Commission 4 Vice-Chair Administration and Communication, lost his battle with cancer. He is very much missed.

Hydro International
Check Hydro International on a regular basis for Commission 4 news and other articles of interest to the hydrography community.

Web References

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