



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

FIG COMMISSION 7

Cadastre & Land Management

To : FIG Commission 7 Delegates, Correspondents and Friends
cc : FIG Office, Copenhagen
From : András Oskó, Chair
Subject : e-Newsletter December 2010

Dear Delegates, Correspondents and Friends,

This is the last newsletter edited by the Hungarian team, as the present four-year period is slowly closing to the end. So, this is the chronicle of the year 2010 and invitations to call your attention to the coming events of 2011.

Please find below some reports about the events organized by us or information about those we participated, representing Commission 7. There will be some words about plans for the coming year too.

1. FIG Congress “Facing the Challenges – Building the Capacity”, Sydney, Australia, 11-16 April 2010

Objectives of the FIG Congress 2010, Sydney were:

Recognizing the need for sustainable development and the collective, intergenerational and cultural values of customary land, to

- Review the latest thinking and development on customary land use, development and conservation,
- Review the progress, initiatives, issues and challenges experienced in land tenure by Pacific countries,
- Prepare an agenda and programmes for follow-up action over the next FIG Planning term.

General Assembly

The event was the largest ever FIG Congress with more than 2200 participants from about 100 countries. The congress closed down a four years period, the first term with elected president and council.

The biggest interest of the General Assembly agenda was the election of the next FIG President, and new vice presidents 2011-2014. There were three strong candidates for the president, Matthew Higgins from Australia, Chee-Hai Teo from Malaysia and Iain Greenway from the United Kingdom. The President was elected in the second round; Chee-Hai Teo got 34, Matt Higgins 32 votes. Chee-Hai Teo was elected for the next President, the first FIG President from Asia.

There were three candidates for the three positions of vice president: Dr. Chryssy Potsiou from Greece, Prof. Rudolf Staiger from Germany and Dr. Dalal S. Alnaggar from Egypt. They were elected for vice president by the General Assembly.

Technical Program

For the technical program, more than 1000 papers have been offered. 700 papers were presented in 150 technical and flash sessions, 10% of papers went through a peer review process. All the technical sessions have been good professional quality and well attended.

Commission 7 contribution

Following the tradition Commission 7 played a significant role in the technical program in Sydney. About 200 papers have been offered, 124 only for Commission 7 and 83 joint commission sessions.

There were 21 pure Commission 7 technical sessions, 14 joint sessions with commission 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 2 Francophone sessions, 8 flash sessions. Commission 7 appointed chairs and rapporteurs of the technical sessions.

Thanks a lot again for Commission 7 delegates, speakers for their hard works and contribution.

Volcano

The congress was a success but the European participants couldn't return home in time because of the ash cloud in Europe caused by the volcano in Iceland. The majority of Air Companies haven't been very co-operative but finally everybody returned home safely after 5-10 days.

2. Commission 7 Annual Meeting and Open Symposium on „Digital Cadastral Map“, 6-10 September 2010 Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic

The Annual Meeting held in Karlovy Vary was the last occasion for the Hungarian team to meet the delegates, correspondents and friends personally in the 2007-2010 period of the Hungarian Chairmanship of the Commission 7. So we have prepared an unusually detailed report on this very useful and enjoyable event.

This Annual Meeting of 2010 was an extraordinary success in the life of our Commission – due to the good cooperation between the Hungarian team and the excellent and enthusiastic local organizers of the Czech Union of Surveyors and Cartographers: 57 delegates attended the meeting from 32 countries of the world. Countries that have never attended, this occasion sent their delegates: this was the first occasion to welcome experts from Cyprus, Eritrea and Japan at a meeting of Commission 7. This high number of the participants and the interest expressed towards the meeting showed again that cadastre and land administration have been playing more and more significant role in every corner of the world as the most important infrastructure helping the economic growth and sustainable development.

During five days of the Annual Meeting we heard detailed reports both on the activity of FIG and Commission 7, about the latest professional achievements all over the world, including the new developments of information systems supporting the land administration services.

First day: presentations about the Czech cadastre and land registration system, its history and its role in the higher education. Later about FIG and FIG Commission 7 activities in the past four-year period, together with the reports by Chairs of Working Groups 1, 2 and 3. The representative of Bentley Systems Inc. held a remarkable presentation about the technical background and experiments of his firm with 3D cadastre. Prof. Ian Williamson (University of Melbourne, Australia) as co-author introduced the newly published book *„Land Administration for Sustainable Development“*.

Second day: The opportunities of applying open source software and the results of a questionnaire internationally distributed on the management of State and public lands were discussed. There were presentations on the current status of cadastral and land administration systems of Azerbaijan, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Malaysia, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, South-Korea and Sweden.

Third day: There was an organised visit to the Regional Land Office of Karlovy Vary. The delegates could have a look into the everyday life of the Czech land administration that was especially interesting for those who arrived from the states (Austria, Hungary, Slovenia) belonging to the late Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, as the standardized documents of the former empire showed many similarities.

In the evening we had the traditional Commission 7 dinner in the nearby scenic historical Loket Castle. This was a farewell party at the same time for the Chairman FIG Commission 7, Mr. András Osskó and the Hungarian team, closing to the end of the four-year period of the Hungarian chairmanship. It was a special honour to the participants that Prof. Stig Enemark, President of FIG (Denmark), Mr. Chee-Hai Teo, Chair Elect of FIG from 2011 (Malaysia), together with our hosts Mr. Václav Šanda, President of the Czech Union of Surveyors and Cartographers and the Lord Mayor of Loket town were present at the dinner.

Fourth day: in the row of the country reports we heard the presentations on the cadastre of Canada, Eritrea, Finland, Japan, South-Africa and The Netherlands.

This was also the day of the **International Symposium on „Digital Cadastral Map“**. The keynote speaker was Prof. Stig Enemark who delivered a detailed and successful presentation with the title „The Evolving Role of Cadastral Systems in Support Good Land Governance“. Later on we heard presentations from the delegates of Bavaria (Germany), Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Saxony (Germany) and Slovakia.

Fifth day: on the last day we heard the last country reports (Australia, Austria, Nigeria), about the development tasks of Trimble (UK) and about the cadastral activity of the OAS, Organization of American States, the delegate of which was sent to FIG Commission 7 meeting for the first time.

In the closing section, Mr. Daniel Roberge (Canada), chair elect for the next four-year period from 2011 gave information on Commission 7 Work Plan; the participants discussed it shortly. Later on, the chairs of the working groups separately held short meetings with their invited members about planned activities.

Mr. Osskó spoke about the coming events (**Joint meeting of the Commission 3 and Commission 7 in Sofia (Bulgaria), 15-17 November 2010; FIG Working Week in Marrakech (Morocco), 18-22 May 2011**).

As Prof. Andrzej Hopfer, representing the Polish Union of Surveyors and Cartographers mentioned in his speech that they would step back from the organizing of the next **Annual Meeting** in favour of Austria, Ms. Gerda Schennach (BEV, Austria) proposed to organize the event in **September 2011 in Innsbruck**. (Exact date will be decided later.) There was no need to vote about this question. But **Poland will host the 3rd Cadastral Congress in November 2011**. (The venue and exact date will be decided later.)

We use this opportunity to express again our heartfelt thanks to the Czech organizers for their professionalism in organizing both our „workdays“ and social programmes, also for the friendly atmosphere of the Annual Meeting.

(For more information on the achievements of the period 2007-2010, please find attached the presentation of the resigning chairman.)

The presentations will be soon available on the FIG website. Photos under selection.

3. FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance on Tenure of Land and other Natural Resources. Regional Consultation Meeting – 22-24 March 2010. Bucharest, Romania

Land and natural resources provide a platform for livelihoods and basis for social, cultural, and religious practices. FAO together with number of partners is developing “Voluntary Guidelines on responsible governance of tenure of land and other natural resources”

FAO together with partners organised regional consultation meetings around the world in 2009 and 2010. Each consultation meetings resulted in a “Regional Assessment for the FAO Voluntary Guidelines Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land and other Natural Resources”

The consultation meetings focused on the following issues of governance of tenure:

- Land tenure and administration, natural resources including forest tenures, fisheries and water.
- Safeguard of vulnerable groups and gender issues, land use planning and urban development, land economics, markets and valuation.

The Bucharest meeting was the Eastern European Regional Meeting with about 100 participants from 30 countries including representatives from UN FAO, World Bank, GTZ, FIG and other organisations.

András Osskó chair of FIG Commission 7 was invited and participated in the event and led one of the working group sessions (gender, indigenous people, vulnerable groups issues)

Further details: www.fao.org/nr/tenure/voluntary-guidelines/en/

4. Joint FIG Commission 3 and Commission 7 meeting: Information and Land Management. A Decade after the Millennium – 15-17 November 2010, Sofia, Bulgaria

This was a joint meeting of the FIG Commissions 3 and 7 in cooperation with the Chamber of Bulgarian Graduated Surveyors. The topics of the conference were relevant to both commissions and also the host country.

56 professionals participated in the meeting from 17 countries not only from Europe but from Egypt, Israel, USA, Nigeria and UN FAO was also represented. Commission 3 held its annual meeting during the workshop. In the technical program we could listen to 41 presentations.

András Osskó chair, Gyula Iván vice chair of administration and other 5 delegates represented Commission 7 with four presentations.

5. Handover Meeting at the FIG Office 25-27 November 2010, Copenhagen, Denmark

The Handover Ceremony between the current and incoming FIG Councils and Commission chairs took place at the FIG Headquarters in Copenhagen 26 November 2010. This event was attended by a hundred representatives from 25 countries. It was an opportunity to recognise the achievements of President Enemark and his team over the four-year period of administration 2007-2010. The new FIG president CheeHai Teo also presented the new council and the incoming president chairs for the next term (1 January 2011-31 December 2014). Unfortunately, resigning Chair of the Commission 7, András Osskó was not able to attend the Ceremony because of other commitments. For the same reason, the report of the event and the proposed Work Plan was prepared by Daniel Roberge, the new chair.

FIG also organized a meeting of the Advisory Committee of Commission Officers (ACCO) gathering the new president Teo, the vice president responsible for ACCO Rudolf Staiger and the new chairs of each of the 10 commissions of FIG. At this meeting, the work plans of the incoming FIG Council and Commissions were discussed and developed and the next conferences 2011-2014 planned. FIG Commission 7 Proposed Work Plan 2011-2014.

At the above mentioned ACCO meeting, Daniel Roberge presented the proposed Work Plan for the four next years. This Work Plan will be organized around 4 working groups and one joint working group with Commission 3:

Working Group 7.1 – Pro poor land tools – C. Lemmen: Promote land rights infrastructures and good land governance to contribute to pro-poor and sustainable development

Working Group 7.2 – Land administration, natural disasters and climate change – D. Mitchell (david.mitchell@rmit.edu.au) and J. Zevenbergen (zevenbergen@itc.nl): Information and Online training course

Working Group 7.3 – Cadastre 2.0 – G. Schennach (Gerda.Schennach@bev.gv.at) : Perspectives, participation of citizens, 3D (joint 3D WG with Com. 3 – Peter van Oosterom - P.J.M.vanOosterom@tudelft.nl), future tools

Working Group 7.4 – Land management reforms – R. Grover (rgrover@brookes.ac.uk): Cadastral and Land management reforms, State land management, Governance of land management

For those who would like to contribute to the work of one or another working group, please contact the working group chair.

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Enclosure: Achievements of FIG Commission 7 in the period 2007-2010 (Presentation of A. Osskó)

Commission 7 Delegates, Correspondents and Friends,

the Hungarian Commission 7 team members,

András Osskó, Gyula Iván and Maria Tóth

wish you all the best for the coming years

and active participation in the work of FIG, especially in Commission 7.

Merry Christmas and a Happy, Successful New Year!