

**Report to the 29th General Assembly
FIG Congress in Munich, October 2006**

**Co-operation with the United Nations and Its Agencies
April 2005– July 2006**

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), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Office of Outer Space Affairs (UN OOSA), 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. UN Co-operation Network

The UN Co-operation Network has worked under the chairmanship of President Magel. The members of this network are Stig Enemark (Denmark), Gerhard Muggenhuber (Austria), Matt Higgins (Australia) and Willi Zimmermann (Germany).

3. Activities in 2005

Eighth United Nations Cartographic Conference for the Americas (UNRCCA), New York, USA 27 June - 1 July 2005

Vice-President Stig Enemark and Prof. John Parker represented FIG at the 8th UNRCCA in New York. The conference is convened every four years (since 1976). The conference attracted 140 participants from 33 countries. About 20 country reports were tabled and 40 invited papers were presented. The program and included a number of interesting papers on SDI developments in the Latin America and Caribbean Region as well as a number of invited papers from other countries and professional institutions. Prof. Enemark presented a FIG position paper on “*Supporting Capacity Development for Sustainable Land Administration Infrastructures*”. He also presented a joint paper with John Parker focusing on the outcome of the “*Special Forum on the Development of Land Information Policies in the Americas*”. The FIG publication “*Aguascalientes Statement*” was tabled and endorsed as a result of resolution adopted at the UNRCCA held in 2001.

UN-Habitat Professionals Forum, Istanbul July 2005

As part of the co-operation with the UN-Habitat the Habitat Professionals Forum organized in conjunction to the UIA World Congress (International Union of Architects) in Istanbul an own session on “*Governance – People – Professionals*” under the chair of President Magel, who is the current chair of the Steering Committee of the HPF. The panelists including Dr. Lars Reutersward (UN-Habitat), Prof. Magel, Ms. Aydan Erim (UIA) and Mr. Selman Erguden (UN-Habitat) discussed the changed roles of planners and architects as professionals in a changed world of increasing civil society, good governance principles and citizens who ask for more participation. At the meeting of the Steering Committee of HPF the most inspiring outcome was the clear expression of UN-Habitat representatives that the HPF is regarded as a very important professional partner for UN-Habitat at the global level and that it is therefore asked to make strong contributions to the program of the 3rd World Urban Forum in Vancouver in June 2006.

UN-Habitat workshop on Global Land Tool Network, Oslo, Norway, 23–24 March 2006

Vice-President Stig Enemark attended the UN-Habitat workshop in Oslo to present the FIG commitment to the UN-Habitat Global Network for Development of Innovative Pro-Poor Land Tools. About 100 participants attended the workshop by invitation representing various land right related organizations throughout the world being potential partners of the Global Land Tool Network. The first half day was organised by the High Level Commission for Legal Empowerment of the Poor (HLCLEP). The High Level Commission is chaired jointly by Dr. Madeleine K. Albright, former Secretary of State, USA, and Mr. Hernando de Soto, President of the Institute for Liberty and Democracy, Peru.

The following one and a half day focused on the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) with Dr. Clarissa Augustinus, Chief of the Land and Tenure Section at UN-Habitat, playing a key role. FIG Vice-President Stig Enemark presented the FIG commitment to the GLTN which is in line with the general commitment of FIG – especially within Commission 7 and 8 – for developing and promoting the concept of land administration systems for sustainable development where special attention has been given to good governance, gender issues, and pro-poor land tools.

The contribution of FIG to the GLTN will be mainly in the area of analysing and designing adequate land administration systems that include relevant pro-poor land tools, promote social inclusion, and support sustainable development. The project on developing a Social Tenure Domain Model can be seen as such an example of and FIG contribution to the GLTN. The project was presented at the FIG Regional Conference in Accra, Ghana.

FIG commitment to GLTN was reconfirmed at the 3rd World Urban Forum in Vancouver and will include a workshop on Slum Upgrading and Housing Financing organised by FIG and UN-Habitat during the FIG Working Week 2008 in Stockholm.

World Urban Forum, Vancouver, Canada, 18-23 June 2006

The 3rd Session of the World Urban Forum attracted some 10,000 participants from over 100 countries to Vancouver in June. This was more than double to the previous meeting in Barcelona and 2,000 more than expected by the organisers. Especially number of participants

representing professionals, academia and NGOs and grass root organisations exceeded the estimates.

FIG was represented in the World Urban Forum by delegation led by President **Holger Magel**. Other representatives of FIG included Vice President **Ken Allred**, Ms. **Jenny Whittal** (South Africa) and the FIG Director, also some other actives from FIG participated the conference and its preparations. Preparatory meeting included the FIG Commission 7 organised Expert Group Meeting in Bangkok and Global Land Tool Network in 2005.

President Magel made a presentation in two sessions organised by UN-Habitat on the Global Land Tool Network. The first session was a GLTN - Development of pro poor land tools. FIG is one of the main professional partners of UN-Habitat on this major initiative for the next few years. The Global Division of UN-Habitat organised a round table on gendering land tools. FIG's contributions were made by President Magel and Ms. **Jenny Whittal**.

The third major event for FIG during the week was the Networking Event organised by the Habitat Professionals Forum. This event "*Public Engagement: The Inclusive Approach*" was attended by more than 100 delegates, so that the room was overcrowded and some delegates had to sit on the floor. At this two-hour session five presentations were made under the chair of President Magel, Chair of the Habitat Professionals Forum.

During the WUF there was also the meeting of the Steering Committee of the Habitat Professionals Forum. At this meeting future activities including participation to the 20th Meeting of the Governing Council in 2007 and at the 4th World Urban Forum in Nanjing, China in 2008 were discussed.

During the conference also the initiative of organising a joint FIG / UN-Habitat Seminar in Stockholm in conjunction to the FIG Working Week 2008 was launched. This event and initiative has been prepared between Sweden Government, the Swedish FIG member association SLF and FIG, especially commission 9. It will focus on slum upgrading and the importance of financial mechanisms. FIG will consider how to link this initiative to the other joint activities with UN-Habitat. At the meeting with Executive Director Dr. Anna Tibaijuka and Director Lars Reutersward full support from UN-Habitat was confirmed to this project. The focal points for this project are Lars Magnusson, Bengt Kjellson and Ann Jennervik from Sweden.

Others

We are delighted to see that several UN agencies co-sponsored the 5th FIG Regional Conference in Accra in March 2006. These include UN-Habitat, FAO, UN ECA and the World Bank.

5. Future activities

Vice President Enemark will participate the 17th UN Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP)/12th Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) in Bangkok, Thailand 8-22 September 2006.

July 2006

FIG 29th General Assembly

Munich, Germany, October 8-13, 2006

Report on the Co-operation with the United Nations and Its Agencies