

**Report to the 32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
FIG Working Week in Eilat, Israel 2009**

**FIG Commission 1 – Professional Standards and Practice**

**Report of Activities 2008-2009**

**1. General**

Commission 1 contributed to the FIG Working Week in Stockholm by having two own sessions: “Standards” and “The Profession”; and a joint session with Commission 2 for “Young Surveyors” and with Commissions 7 and 3 on “Digital Land Administration”.

Major activities in Commission 1 are related to Standards Network and to Young Surveyors Working Group that is a joint working group with Commission 2. At the General Assembly in Eilat this working group will get new terms of reference and will be reorganized to Young Surveyors Network in a similar way as the Standards Network emphasizing the cross commission nature of young surveyors’ activities.

In Stockholm we had an informal session with young surveyors and as Chair of Commission 1, I had a message to the young surveyors “*believe that you can Fly, your new Space is the FIG space and it is so wide that you can swept your wings as your ambitions can reach and fly*”. This message was not an advice but a wish since young surveyors are the future of the profession and also the future of FIG all around the world, and we should take care of them and assure them the chances to prove themselves as real capable professionals.

What Commission 1 plans to do is to launch the “*Arena of Young Competencies*” a platform where they can fly in the sky of FIG. AYC should be under FIG, because we have to remember that FIG is our umbrella, and this umbrella was matured by years and competencies of the elites of the profession and FIG can assure the safe and clear path towards a better future for the young elites.

In Stockholm we had a meeting for the Executive Board of the Arab Union of Surveyors to discuss the possibility of organizing the First Symposium of the Arab Union of Surveyors in Beirut at the end of June and as a member of the Executive Board of AUS and the Chair of Commission 1, I proposed to regional group all the topics from all FIG Commissions under one theme “*A Unique Map for the Arab World*” for the motto of the First Symposium. The symposium will include following technical sessions:

1. How to form the Professional Surveyor
2. Organizing the Profession of a Surveyor under Laws and Legislations
3. Normalization of the Map
4. The problematic related to the Toponymy
5. Regional Geodetic References
6. Cartography of Natural Phenomena
7. Land Management and Cadastre
8. The Infrastructures of Spatial Data

9. Cartographic Forms and Presentations
10. Amelioration of Laws and Legislations
11. Geographic Names and Cartography
12. GIS and the General Data Base for the Arab Specialists and Spatial Data for Investments

These will cover all Commissions' topics and especially Commission 1 since the need in the Arab World tends towards organizing and developing the profession. The young surveyors are also integrated into this symposium, since a private and professional session is organised about how to form a professional surveyor and building capacities which meets the FIG vision as well. This will be also a chance for the young surveyors from all around the world to meet their colleagues from the Arab Region and exchange ideas and perspectives.

In preparations for the seminar I have visited several Arab countries like Tunisia, Qatar, Syria and Bahrain to collect data about the profession and especially about professional organisations and young professionals. With the same purpose I have sent a formal letter from the Arab Union of Surveyors to some embassies in Beirut to encourage them to support young professional delegates from their countries to attend this event in Beirut and I hope to get the support from FIG in this respect.

With the support of the Order of Surveyors in Lebanon I have received a delegation from the ESGT-France in Beirut in order to create a national institute for surveying in Lebanon and to adopt international standards for the professional education and practice.

The work to collect information and data about surveyors from all around the world is still going on. There have been difficulties to find coordinators in some regions but I think through this year we will be able to manage that problem and find the right solutions. Hope that this will be the ready for the congress in Sydney in 2010.

Many official meetings have been held with Lebanese and Arab ministers to establish new standards always accordingly to FIG references. Pictures and reports will be added to Commission 1 e-newsletter.

This year will be a turning point in establishing new basis for the structures of Commission 1 especially with the young surveyors' team that I hope we will be able to enlarge it and give them new horizons.

The WG2.2 (e-learning) can become an alternative for our plan especially that the new generation of surveyors is having different learning standards and methods that can create a distance between young learners around the globe if we couldn't manage to follow a well defined level and apply the FIG standards. We have to create a joint venture network with Commission 2 to establish such rules. This will make short the distances and lead to a more harmonised international professional society.

## **2. Working Groups**

### **WG 1.1 – Standards Network**

Chair: Iain Greenway (United Kingdom)

Report of activities is attached to this commission report.

### **WG 1.2 – Young Surveyors (a Joint Working Group with Commission 2)**

Chair: Miss Cecilia Lindén (Sweden)

Report of activities is attached to this commission report.

### **WG 1.3 – Surveyors Changing Role in Society**

Chair: Ms. Leonie Newnham (Australia)

Vice-chair: Prof. John Parker (Australia)

#### Policy issues

To study surveyors as entrepreneurs – Surveyors changing role in Society. This would show in detail how Surveyors are taking new roles in a changing world over and above the typical thoughts/mindset around the role of Surveyors.

#### To produce papers or case studies on topics related to the topic of the Working Group

##### *Papers exploring related themes*

A series of papers will be produced to look at various aspects of the surveying professionals changing role to highlight their role as practitioners, academics and as contributors to the larger society.

Initial paper was delivered to FIG Working Week in 2007 on Surveyors - land professionals, adventurers, pioneers and now entrepreneurs? This sparked a lot of interest in the members of FIG who attended the sessions held on the celebration of the role of surveyors in their countries and the innovation and change that had been created by individuals. A paper presented to the FIG Working Week in 2008 titled, 'Innovation in organisations - how surveying professionals can change the world from within.' This paper developed the theme of the working group by reviewing how surveying professionals make a difference in larger organisations. It looked at the sorts of skills are needed to be a change agent or 'intrapreneur' and identified ways to find a path that will lead to successful innovation and change.

Many surveying professionals demonstrate innovative approaches to how they work. This second study reviews how surveying professionals work within large organisations and create and respond to ongoing changes in the work world. Feedback was received from a number of surveyors attending that these sorts of issues were ones that were of increasing importance to the profession and that attention was being paid to how to make organizations more innovative and responsive to rapidly changing environments on a number of fronts, societal, business and natural.

The paper for the 2009 conference Accelerating Responses to a Changing World - Developing Innovative Cultures in Land Management Organisations will review how organisations are adapting to changes and trying new approaches to manage in complex and often chaotic environments. It will use case studies on private and public organisations from research on innovation in organisations to provide ideas and examples that have been used successfully and identify ones that may be useful to land management organisations. This will continue to

build ideas and approaches that can be shared and used by professionals. This will include the exploration of Web2 tools to develop collaboration and sharing of knowledge.

#### *Work with other Commissions*

Work underway with **Commission 10** to develop the theme of surveying professionals as change agents highlighting the role of change in project management. Paper presented to Working Weeks 2007 and 2008 on this theme.

Further discussions will be held with **Commission 2** on how the changing role will be reflected in surveying education and professional development and on possibilities for joint work.

#### Workshop(s)

Presentations made at the 2007, 2008 and 2009 FIG Working Week as part of the Commission 1 programme.

Discussions underway with Victorian Surveying Professionals to develop a workshop or conference to be held in conjunction with the Congress at Sydney in 2010 dealing with surveyors changing role in society and innovation in the surveying industry.

#### Publication

A discussion paper for FIG Member Organisations to stimulate debate within organisations on the changing role of surveyors and what it means for their organization - for publication in 2010.

### **3. Cooperation with Other Commissions**

Working Group 1.2 Young Surveyors is a joint Working Group with Commission 2.

### **4. Events**

#### **2009**

- FIG Working Week 2009, Eilat, Israel, 3-8 May 2009
- The First International Symposium of the Arab Union of Surveyors, Beirut, Lebanon 29-30 June - 1 July 2009
- Trying with Chryssy Potsiou, Chair of Commission 3 to organise a common workshop in Beirut or Greece for building capacities and exchanging experiences and competencies between Greek and Lebanese Surveyors (this can be opened for all Mediterranean surveyors).
- 7<sup>th</sup> FIG Regional Conference, Hanoi, Vietnam, 19-22 October 2009.

Yaacoub Saade  
Chair of FIG Commission 1

February 2009

## **FIG Standards Network Report to FIG General Assembly 2009**

The Standards Network was formed in 2002. It works within Commission 1 and consists of representatives from each of FIG's Commissions.

### **Terms of reference**

The terms of reference of the Network are set out in the FIG Guide on Standardisation and are as follows:

- Building and maintaining relations with the secretariats of standardisation bodies
- Proposing priorities on FIG's standardisation activities, including advising the Council on priorities for spending
- Setting up necessary Liaison relationships with standardisation bodies
- Ensuring that lead contacts to Technical Committees etc are in place
- Maintaining an information flow on standardisation to FIG members, including through the FIG website, and more directly to relevant Commission Officers
- Maintaining this Guide, and related material on the FIG website
- Working with other NGOs, within the framework of the MOUs signed by the Council
- Advising FIG's officers and members on standardisation activities as necessary

### **Work since the 2008 General Assembly**

The Network met at the 2008 Working Week and members have corresponded by email since then. Key activities being undertaken by Network members and other colleagues include:

- **Maintaining a list of commission topics relevant to standardisation** – this has been published on the Standards Network page of the FIG website
- **Staying involved with ISO/TC 211 standardisation activity** – Christiaan Lemmen and Harry Uitermark attended the ISO/TC 211 meeting in Japan in December 2008
- **Progressing ISO 19152 on the Land Administration Domain Model (LADM)** – this work has grown out of the Commission 7 work on the Core Cadastral Domain Model and the work was accepted into the ISO/TC 211 work programme in 2008. The LADM ISO 19152 Project Team has held three meetings in 2008: in Copenhagen, Denmark in May 2008; in Delft, the Netherlands in September 2008; and in Tsukuba, Japan in December 2008. The meetings in Europe received a lot of inputs from the project team members from the continent. In Tsukuba the majority of the participants came from outside of Europe (in total 23 participants, 15 non Europeans). The editing team is from the Netherlands, Christiaan Lemmen (chair of the PT on behalf of FIG) Dr. Harry Uitermark (editor, on behalf of FIG) and Prof. Peter van Oosterom (Delft University). The work is making good progress, and is maintaining close contact with UN HABITAT concerning the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM). Further details of the developing standard can be found in the Commission 7 report to the General Assembly.
- **Staying involved with ISO/TC 172 SC6 work on survey instrument standards** – Hans Heister leads this work for FIG and has been very active in the sub-committee. Key

current work includes revising ISO 17123-1 Theory – this will move from standard errors to the Uncertainty of Measurement, a change that will require editing of all of the other standards in the series

- **Determining how to be involved in the International Valuation Standards Council**, now that they have revised their governance. A number of discussions with Commission 9 officers have been held regarding this, and decisions are being taken forward in Commission 9.
- **Considering what material on instrument calibration and testing could usefully be made available to FIG members**, and also considering whether FIG Publication No 9 should be revised or withdrawn. Commission 5 is taking forward this work, largely within Working Group 5.1.

The Network plans to meet again in Eilat and consider its work for the coming year. I plan to stand down as Network chair and, subject to General Assembly assent, David Martin (Chair of Working Group 5.1) will take over as Chair.

Iain Greenway  
Chair of Standards Task Force

20 February 2009

## FIG Young Surveyors Working Group (WG 1.2) Report to FIG General Assembly 2009



The main event during 2008 was the FIG Working Week in Stockholm. The conference had approximately 100 registered attending students and a large number of student volunteers helping out during the Working Week. The volunteers did a truly great job and deserve to be mentioned for this!

During the Working Week we concentrated on two main activities. The first was a meeting place in the exhibition area, which was manned by the YS committee. There we were able to actively promote our group, field questions and generally meet the Working Week participants. We had a colourful, and stand out decoration that attracted a large number of interested people. We got thanks to this a large number of new subscribers to our newsletter.

The second activity was “*Speed Mentoring*”, during lunchtime in the hallway next to the exhibition. In total three sessions were held with excellent attendance (~30 participants) per day. All participants noted the event as valuable, and excellent feedback was obtained for use at upcoming FIG events as integration between generations.

The first session was a technical session with papers presented from, Sweden, Germany, Australia and Hungary. This session was so popular that people who wanted to attend were rejected at the door after the room had been filled up with standing people. Even the FIG President Stig Enemark was rejected at the door.

The next session was an informal session with invited guest speakers and a bigger room was arranged. We had the following guest speakers:

- Mentor and mentee from the Swedish mentor program to expand on their experiences and the benefits of the programme
- Peter Normann Hansen, FIG Ambassador for Corporate Members and CEO of Blom International in Denmark to discuss the importance of networking
- The third speaker was Christian Tufvesson from the YS Team who shared his experiences on how he had benefited from networking. He went for six months to Australia to work through contacts that he had gained at the FIG Congress in Munich.

### Newsletter and publications

The third issue of the YS Newsletter was released at the beginning of the Stockholm 2008 Working Week – again with positive and supportive feedback! Further 24 people have joined our Yahoo group for newsletter distribution, in addition to our university and FIG contacts. Additionally, this latest issue included a number of articles from young surveyors not previously affiliated with the FIG.

A fourth issue was released during the autumn to discuss some of the experiences that we had gained during the Working Week in Stockholm.

2008 have been a very positive year for the FIG Young Surveyors Working Group and we look forward to the continuation!

Cecilia Lindén  
Chair of Young Surveyors Working Group

February 2009