



The FIG Report

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FIG Working Week 13-17 May 2007
Strategic Integration of Surveying Services
同心共策 測量服務
www.figww2007.hk



The 2007 FIG Working Week was held from May 13 – 17 in Hong Kong SAR, China. It was hosted by the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) and was attended by 530 delegates from 62 countries. Sixty-three technical sessions were held, presenting over 300 technical papers in 64 technical sessions along with three plenary sessions and a special Map History Session. Each of the ten FIG Commissions met at least once during the week. The theme for this Working Week was Strategic Integration of Surveying Services.

The ACSM FIG Delegation was represented by John Hohol (Head of Delegation), Curt Sumner (Commission 1), Steve Frank (Commission 2), Chuck Pearson (Commission 3), Dave Doyle (Commission 5), John Hamilton (Commission 6), and Bob Foster (Commission 9). In addition, Dave Zilkoski participated in Commission 4 meetings in the absence of Jerry Mills. John Hohol attended the Commission 7 meetings.

Key elements of the Working Week included:

Opening Ceremony

The main highlight of the Working Week was the official opening by The Honorable Donald Tsang, GBM, The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and he was accompanied by the HKIS and FIG Presidents to dot the eyes of the lions to mark the opening of the Working Week. Mr LU Xinshe, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Land and Resources and Director General of State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping of the People's Republic of China, gave a congratulatory message and Mr. Hak CHAN, Chairman of the Organizing Committee gave a welcome message at the opening ceremony.

General Assembly

Forty-five member associations out of 103 members were represented at the first session of the General Assembly on 13 May. Forty-eight member associations were represented at the second session of the GA on 17 May. A quorum for each session was obtained.

Major activities of the General Assembly were:

Membership

The Romanian Associations of Private Surveyors was accepted to membership in FIG. The number of member associations at the end of the General Assembly is 97.

The Agency for Land Management, Geodesy under the Government of Tajikistan and Statens kartverk (Norwegian Mapping and Cadastre Authority), Norway were admitted as Affiliate Members. There are now 17 Affiliate Members in FIG.

Bentley Systems (USA) was admitted as a Corporate Member. The membership of Kampsax A/S is now under COWI A/S. Corporate Members now total 33.

Five new Academic Members have joined FIG. They include School of Public Administration, Renmin University of China, Department of Land & Real Estate Management (China P. R.), ECAM - Haute Ecole Leonard de Vinci, Département Construction (Belgium), University of Liege, Unit of Geomatics (Belgium), National Water Resource Center, Survey Research Institute, Egypt and State University of Land Use Planning (Russian Federation). The number of academic members is now 85.

Mr. Samuel Nguema Ondo Obiang from Gabon was accepted as a new correspondent.

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Holger Magel, immediate Past President of FIG, was appointed as an Honorary President of FIG.

Reports from Permanent Institutions

The FIG Multi-lingual Dictionary Board

A motion was made and accepted to close the FIG Multi-lingual Dictionary Board, one of the three permanent institutions of FIG, because the work of the dictionary board has come to an end after 35 years. Therefore the FIG Multi-lingual Dictionary Board has been closed and is no longer an FIG permanent institution

International Office of Cadastre and Land Records (Office International du Cadastre et du Régime Foncier) OICRF

Prof. Paul van der Molen, Director of OICRF gave a presentation on OICRF activities at the meeting. His report was accepted by the General Assembly.

International Institution for the History of Surveying and Measurement, Permanent Institution of FIG

Written report of the IIHSM was circulated before and adopted by the General Assembly.

Report of the President of the FIG Foundation

Mr. John Hohol, President of the FIG Foundation gave a report on the activities of the FIG Foundation October 2006 – May 2007 addressing the FIG members to promote the Foundation and its agenda to their members. The report was adopted by the General Assembly.

FIG WORK PLAN 2007-2010

The Council has prepared the FIG Council Work Plan for 2007-2010. Together with the FIG Aim, Objectives and Mission Statement and Commission Work Plans the Council Work Plan will form the FIG Work Plan for the next four years. President Stig Enemark presented the Work Plan at the meeting.

Future Working Weeks

The GA selected Rome, Italy as the venue for the 2012 FIG Working Week. Future sessions of the FIG General Assembly will be held at:

- 2008 – Stockholm, Sweden
- 2009 – Eilat, Israel
- 2010 – Sydney, Australia
- 2011 – Marrakech, Morocco
- 2012 – Rome, Italy

Changes to statutes and Internal Rules

Changes were made revising the process for nominations to FIG offices, clarification of terms of office and certain “housekeeping” matters.

Presidents’ Meeting

Totally 49 people attended this Presidents’ Meeting out of which 38 were Presidents or leaders of delegations. At the meeting relations between member associations and FIG and how better reach the individual members were discussed as well as experiences from the FIG Working Week 2007. Additional issues raised by the President were FIG contribution to the UN Millennium Development Goals and ideas for implementation of the FIG Work Plan 2007-2010. In addition the members were able to raise any actual issues of their interest.

Report of the 6th FIG Regional Conference in San José, Costa Rica

Mr. Freddy Bolaños from CFIA, Costa Rica gave the General Assembly a presentation on the arrangements of the 6th FIG Regional Conference that will be held in San José, Costa Rica 12-15 November 2007. The web site of the conference is www.fig.net/costarica.

The President formally closed the 30th General Assembly of FIG. At the closing ceremony the FIG banner was handed over by Mr. Raymond Chan, President of HKIS and

Mr. Hak Chan, Chair of the LOC FIG 2007 to Mr. Svante Astermo, President of SLF and to Dr. Maria Ulfvarson Östlund, SLF. The FIG Working Week 2008 will be held in Stockholm, Sweden 14-19 June 2008.

Technical Tours

4 technical tours were organized including, to the Land Information Centre and Geodetic Survey Section of the Lands Department, Hydrographic Office of the Marine Department and HK-Shenzhen Western Corridor of the Highways Department.

Post Conference Tour

The post conference tour was a visit to the Macau Cartography and Cadastre Bureau.

Of course FIG always organizes memorable social events and the 2007 FIG Working Week was no exception:

Chinese Evening and FIG Foundation Dinner

This evening function was held in a scenic spot at the south side of the Hong Kong Island and attended by 366 delegates. The program for the evening was fully packed with fascinating attractions: to begin with, the Police Pipers playing a welcoming tune to the delegates upon arrival then followed a performance by the world renowned Hong Kong Police Band and Pipes; an informative display of Housing Department's work; speeches by Mr Bay Wong, Assistant Director of Housing Department, Ms. Cissy Tsang, General Manager of the Link Management Ltd, and Mr. John Hohol, FIG Foundation President; tour of the public housing estate, Chinese temple, Maritime Museum, and Murray House; Chinese handicraft performances, and finally a buffet dinner in the restaurants with plenty of delicious international cuisine while enjoying the panoramic sea view.

Gala Dinner

The Gala Dinner was held in the spacious and superbly decorated Grand Ballroom at the conference venue. Mr Michael Suen, the former Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands of the HK SAR Government, was the guest of honor. The meal was an authentic Chinese cuisine with 8 courses prepared by celebrated chef of the Hotel.

Upcoming FIG Events

- 12-17 November 2007 6th FIG Regional Conference, San José, Costa Rica
- 14-19 June 2008 FIG Working Week, Stockholm, Sweden

Papers, pictures, copies of speeches official minutes from 2007 General Assembly and financial reports have been published and are available through the FIG web site at www.fig.net. Photos from the 2007 FIG Working Week can be found at www.figww2007.hk