ACCO Meeting, FIG Working Week, 14 June, Stockholm, Sweden

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FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting Verona, Italy,
11-15 September 2008

Participants of the ACCO Meeting

- Matt Higgins, Vice President
 - Commission chairs (3 Vice Chairs of Administration)
 - Invited Officials: President Stig Enemark, Office Director Markku Villikka
 - Organizers of FIG Events
 - Stockholm WW 2008
 - Eilat WW 2009
 - Sydney Congress 2010

Election of New ACCO Representative for 1. 1. 2009 - 31. 12. 2010.

- Chryssy Potsiou has been ACCO representative for 2007-2008,
- ACCO had to elect or appoint its representative to the Council for term of office 1.1. 2009-31. 12. 2010,
- In discussion two candidates were appointed: Chryssy Potsiou (Comm.3) and Rudolf Staiger (Comm.5),
- Each Commission has one vote in the election,
- Chryssy Potsiou was re-elected as the ACCO representative to the Council for 2009-2010,
- The decision was confirmed by the Council and endorsed by the General Assembly.

Discussion with the President, No.1

- The 7th FIG Regional Conference will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, 19-22 October 2009,
- The South East Asia Survey Conference will be held in August 2009 in Bali, Indonesia. FIG will cosponsor this event and the focus in Bali will be in Commissions 4, 5 and 6,
- The 7th FIG Regional Conference will be focusing mainly on land administration, land governance and environmental issues expecting other commissions contribution, especially Commission 7,
- Many of the national mapping and cadastre agencies are affiliate members,

Discussion with the President, No. 2

- Meeting between FIG President and Director Generals of national mapping and cadastre agencies (30 chief executives attended) on 15 June 2008,
- The aim is to get national mapping and cadastre organizations to work in closer cooperation with FIG,
- After the meeting there are 28 affiliate members (9 new affiliate members adopted in Stockholm),
- The Council has put a target of getting 50 affiliate members by the end of 2010.

Conference Programmes, Poster Presentations

- Quality sessions, key presentations,
- Joint sessions,
- Poster presentations are recommended,
- Concept is proposed and introduced by Commission 5 in Stockholm,
- Result of poster presentations will be evaluated,
- FIG will use posters next time in Sydney.

New FIG Publications

- No. 39: FIG Work Plan 2007-2010,
- No. 40: FIG Statutes, Internal Rules and Guidelines,
- No. 41: Capacity Assessment in Land Administration,
- No. 42: Informal Settlements: The Road towards More Sustainable Places.

Peer Review Process at the FIG Events, No. 1

- The peer review process was used for the first time for an FIG WW or a congress in Stockholm.
- Chryssy Potsiou coordinated the process and has prepared a report on the experiences.
- It is essential for the people from academic world to get permission to attend and also the only way to attract academics to the conferences.

Peer Review Process at the FIG Events, No. 2

- In Stockholm, 62 papers were offered for peer review. 39 peer reviewed papers were presented at the conference (about 10%).
- Decision was taken in Stockholm to improve the FIG WW peer review process.
- The peer review process will not change the role of FIG or the basic concept of conferences, but it offers additional options to those that need academic merits.

The most important points of the decision (No. 1)

- A PR will be offered only for the FIG WW or congress and for specific Commission Workshops when required, but not for FIG regional conferences.
- The PR will be blind. Reviewers can be Drs and/or Profs.
- The current list of reviewers and the editorial board for each WW should be on the FIG website.
- The PR procedure needs to be automated, since great number of papers may be submitted in the future.

The most important points of the decision (No. 2)

- An FIG list of keywords is necessary for that. The list will be used both by the reviewers and the authors in order to declare their scientific fields.
- The list of active reviewers for each WW will be named "Scientific Committee".
- The Editorial Board will be responsible for improving the peer review process, solving any problem during the PR and deciding about the final results.

The most important points of the decision (No. 3)

- Council members: President Prof. Stig Enemark, Vice Presidents Prof. Paul van der Molen and Matt Higgins will supervise the work of the Editorial Board as it happened until now.
- Chief Editor and FIG Office will finalize the deadlines for Eilat WW.
- Reviewers will be asked to document their decision clearly and in details.
- Commission chairs need to increase their list of academic members and propose them for the review. Identify reliable academics from various regions as well.
- Reviewers will be asked to submit a very short CV and the keywords related to their scientific field.

The most important points of the decision (No. 4)

- Authors will be asked to submit the form with their corrections in order to speed up the checking of the revised papers by the editorial board.
- Language aspects are also very important.

Report on the ACCO Meeting, FIG WW, 14 June 2008, Stockholm

Thank you for your kind attention!