



International Federation of Surveyors  
**Commission 4** Hydrography (2002-2006)

**Commission 4 Meeting #1**

**14 April, 2003**

**FIG Working Week 2003 – 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FIG, hosted by the French Topographic Association and the Order of Expert Surveyors  
National School of Geographic Sciences, Marne-la-Vallee, Paris, France**

1. **Attendees:**

**Chairman** - Adam Greenland  
Chair of WG 4.4 Education and CPD

Port of London Authority, UK

**Vice Chair** - Andrew Leyzack  
Chair of Administration & Communication (Secretary)

CHS, Central and Arctic Region

**Vice Chair** – Michael Sutherland  
Chair of WG 4.3 – Coastal Zone Management

University of New Brunswick, Canada

**Vice Chair**- Dr. Ahmed El-Rabbany  
Chair of WG 4.2 – Vertical Reference Frame

Ryerson University, Canada

T.N. Wong  
Vice President FIG and council to Commission 4

Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

Winnie Shiu  
Personal Hon. Secretary to T.N. Wong

Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

Ruth Adams  
Member WG 4.2

UK Hydrographic Office

David Neale  
Member WG 4.3

CANE Associates Co. Ltd.,  
Trinidad & Tobago

Svante Astermo  
Former Hydrographer of Sweden

Svante Astermo AB, Sweden

Teo Chee Hai

Jurukur Perunding Services, Malaysia

Dr. Joachim Behrens

Federal Institute of Hydrology, DVW  
National Delegate

*The meeting commenced at 10h10.*

2. **Welcome:** Adam Greenland welcomed everyone, introduced himself Andrew Leyzack and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

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3. **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the 09 Oct., 2002, Commission 4 Meeting held in Kiel at Hydro2002 have been posted on the FIG Commission 4 web site and were made available at the meeting. Adam referred attendees to the FIG web site as a point of contact for C4 activities and reviewed the minutes:

With respect to Federation, Adam identified the difference between National Hydrographic societies (HS) federating under FIG vs. the International Federation of Hydrographic Societies (IFHS aka. THS) and that it would be up to the HS to decide what course to take. THS executive were in attendance at the Kiel meeting which encouraged a lot of good dialogue.

Mr. Neale questioned the advantages of Federating as identified at Kiel.

Adam identified the various differences including long-standing links with IHO and FIG being a professional organization whereas IFHS is a learned society.

Mr. Astermo asked about co-operation with the International Cartographic Association (ICA) with respect to Coastal Zone Management (CZM).

**ACTION<sup>1</sup>** Mr. Sutherland to contact Mr. Ron Furness of the ICA on co-operation with C4 with respect to CZM.

**ACTION<sup>2</sup>** Andrew Leyzack to provide contact information for Mr. Furness to Mr. Sutherland.

4. **Annual Report on Activities 2002 – 2003:** The annual report was circulated at the meeting and Adam identified that C4's report was presented at the 13th April General Assembly. Adam referred to the C4 stand, which was prepared for this working week and that favourable comments have been received re: the work of the commission in its efforts to date (which are identified by posters prepared by the working group chairs).

Mr. Neale asked about council guidelines for commissions and Adam referred to the FIG work plan adding that council does give recommendations and encouragement to the commissions especially w.r.t. co-operation with other commissions. Adam also referred to dialogue resulting from ACCO meetings between council and the commission chairs.

Mrs. Adams asked about activity in WG 4.4 (CPD) and Adam reported that there has been no progress to date.

Adam spoke briefly on our relationship with IHO, referring to Mr. Kerr as our liaison.

5. **Commission 4 Work plan:** Adam referred everyone to *the FIG workplan 2003 – 2006, Publication No 32*, containing the Commission 4 Workplan as well as the information posted on the web. The commission was on target and good progress was being made.

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6. **Workgroup Reports:** in general were deferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> C4 meeting on Wednesday, 16 April; however Mr. Sutherland did speak briefly to WG 4.3. In particular that he was concerned about attendance at the scheduled WG 4.3 meetings due to member obligations to other activities during Working Week. Mr. Sutherland proposed a special meeting of experts w.r.t. Ocean Governance etc. at the University of New Brunswick (UNB) to be held in September, 2003, suggesting the FIG leverage this activity. Adam concurred. Mr. Sutherland further requested communications support from C4 to assist in extending an invitation.

Mr. Leyzack offered to broadcast through the Canadian Hydrographic Association media. Mr. Astermo suggested extending the invitation to C4 delegates worldwide.

7. **MoU with IHO:** Adam identified that FIG council directs the commissions to establish relationships with sister associations. Adam furthered that IHO has, since 2002, appointed new directors and that we will renew our relationship. He is in regular contact with IHO director, Capt. Hugo Gorziglia.

Mr. Neale asked about the terms of the MoU.

Adam explained the terms of reference provide for a framework of co-operation and gave examples of FIG/IHO initiatives such as the International Advisory Board (IAB), TACC (now restructured solely under IHO) and said that C4 would actively seek new areas of joint co-operation.

Adam reiterated that IHO is an inter-government body traditionally concerned with nautical charting. FIG has had a traditional link with IHO bringing experience from the non-government/industry side of hydrography.

**ACTION<sup>3</sup>** Adam is to draft MoU based on standard FIG template identifying interests, practical contributions and board participation.

*At this point in the meeting, Dr. El-Rabbany and Teo Chee Hai arrived and identified themselves and their respective interests in C4.*

8. **Good Practice Report (GPR):** Tabled at Advisory Committee of Commission Officers (ACCO). Copies of the report were circulated at the meeting and Adam outlined its aims. *Additional copies to be prepared and provided at the C4 stand.*

**ACTION<sup>4</sup>** As a first step, the commissions have been encouraged by council to review and report back on the content. Those present are to provide feedback on the report at the 16 April, C4 meeting. An oral report re: GPR will be submitted to council via ACCO.

9. **Standards Network:** Adam referred to the *FIG Guide on Standardisation, Publication N<sup>o</sup>. 28* and identified that C4 needs to provide representation and to cooperate with WG 1.1 Chair Iain Greenway. Mr. Leyzack offered to get involved in the fall of 2003. Adam went on to elaborate on areas where C4 has, in the past, been involved in standards, eg. IHO Special Publication N<sup>o</sup>. 44.

Dr. Behrens identified Germany's standard for sea surveying.

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Dr. El-Rabbany asked for clarification on ToR for standards WG/Standards network.

**ACTION<sup>5</sup>** Andrew Leyzack to investigate how to contribute by meeting with the standards group and to report back to C4 in future.

10. **Next Meeting:** Adam identified that the next meeting (16 April, 15h00) will provide a forum for C4 members to touch base on their activities/experiences with the Working Week so far. The agenda to include WG reports and feedback on GPR.

A C4 social evening is to be held in the evening of 16 April and those interested in participating should meet at Gare de Lyon at 19h00. Venue to be determined.

11. **Future Meetings:** The following C4 meetings were identified: South East Asian Survey Congress (SEASC) Hong Kong - Nov 2003, FIG Regional Meeting - Morocco - Dec 2003 and the next FIG Working Week – Athens, May 2004.

Mr. Sutherland questioned the relevance of a Canadian paper at SEASC, where the theme is focus on the Asian experience.

Mr. Wong explained some of the HK Hydrographic activities and summarized that hydrography is relevant everywhere and that Canadian activities are relevant to Asia. SEASC pamphlets were provided for distribution at the C4 stand.

**ACTION<sup>6</sup>** Andrew to contact University of Otago, NZ to encourage the hydrographic faculty to submit papers to SEASC. *Done- letter cc' d to Greenland and Wong.*

Dr. El-Rabbany distributed information on MELAHA (Navigation in Channels and Restricted Waters) April, 2004 [www.ainonline.org](http://www.ainonline.org) to C4 members and to the secretary C4 for distribution from the C4 stand.

Adam explained the significance of the regional meeting at Morocco and advised WG chairs that it would be up to them to decide how best to facilitate their activities.

12. **AOB:** Mr. Asterno identified that his term was ending at the end of 2004 and that there was an impending requirement for C4 to nominate a representative to the IAB, a commitment of 5 years.

**ACTION** Commission to identify a successor for C4 representation on IAB. Ideally, to be appointed for a period beginning at the next IAB meeting in Malaysia, 2004 until 2007\*.

*\*It was not clear to the secretary as to the mechanism and procedure for fulfillment of this obligation to IAB. The 16 April agenda should include discussion re: IAB representation which would include reference to the ToR and nomination/appointment or election process required to satisfy this IAB obligation.*

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Mr. Wong asked that Adam brief the audience at SEASC on the FIG GPR.

**ACTION** Adam to discuss further with TN Wong.

With no other business to attend to, Adam Greenland thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and asked that they attend the second meeting during this WW on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April.

*The meeting was adjourned at 12h30.*