

Report for the 27th General Assembly
FIG Working Week in Athens, May 2004

Commission 7 – Cadastre and Land Management
Report on Activities 2003 – 2004

1. General

Commission 7 deals with land administration ('the process of determining, recording, and disseminating information about the ownership, value and use of land when implementing land management policies', ref. UNECE Land Administration Guidelines 1996). 'Ownership' should be seen as a broad concept of land tenure within various jurisdictions (statutory, customary, informal etc.). 'Land' includes constructions at subsurface level, ground level and above land level (e.g. buildings). Furthermore Commission 7 deals with land management, that is the implementation of land policy, by a wide range of land policy instruments (e.g. land reform, land consolidation, land markets, land taxation, marine resource management etc.).

Commission 7 aims at:

- providing a world wide forum for enhancing and exchanging the knowledge and understanding about land administration and land management
- elaborating the role of land administration and land management for sustainable development
- encouraging the development of appropriate concepts and tools for land administration and land management with regard to the specific institutional and operational context of developed and developing countries
- promoting awareness concerning the role of surveyors in this field amongst stakeholders
- encouraging knowledge, skills and capabilities of surveyors in this field
- playing a leading role in advancing land administration and land management

2. Work Plan 2002-2006

The Commission has followed the accepted work-plan. The Regional Conference in Jordan did not take place, this meeting will be organised later. A contribution to a Conference in Italy was finally not required.

3. Annual Meeting 2003

The annual meeting of the Commission in Kraków, Poland, held from 17-23 September 2003 has been very successful. The cadastral developments in Poland have been highlighted by Prof. *Andrzej Hopfer* and Prof. *Wojciech Wilkowski*: market economy and changing user requirements, developments from a very decentralised system to an integrated electronic platform. Mr. *Mika-Petteri Törhönen* presents the results of his PhD research work on 'Sustainable Land Tenure and land Registration in Developing Countries'. Based on four case studies, a literature study and analysis he concludes that the establishment and maintenance of a viable, national level land administration ideally requires good governance, adequate resources, a culturally sensitive approach, equity, quality and commitment. A secure flexible all-inclusive tenure form, whether customary or statutory, provides the best basis for development. An ambiguous, ineffective land administration that fails to serve a large part of

the population and promotes insecurity of tenure is a harmful institution. Mr. *Abed El-Munem Samara* gives an overview of the objectives and activities of the Arab Federation of Surveyors. Mr. *Daniel Steudler* presents the actual status of development of the cadastral template. Mr. *Andreas Drees* informs the Commission on the latest decisions from the FIG Council. National delegates informed the Commission on ongoing developments; all presentations are available at the Commissions website.

Substantial part of the annual meeting has been the 2nd Polish Cadastral Congress at the Agricultural University of Kraków where 11 delegates contributed with sound presentations and papers. The Commission visited the nearby district (so called 'poviat') and town of Bresko. Accompanied by the governor of the district and the mayor of the town of Bresko extensively attention was paid to the Bresko digital cadastre against the background of the Polish Geo Information Infrastructure.

5. FIG Working Week 2003

During the FIG Working Week, held in Paris, 13-17 April 2003, the FIG Commission 7 delegates met on a commission meeting on the 12th of May 2003. 22 delegates, correspondents and friends of the commission participated. The chair presented his report on the activities so far.

The Working Week was a great success. Commission 7 co-ordinated 7 sessions which included 30 papers and 17 poster papers. The subjects were Best Practises, Organisational Streamlining, Standards and Interoperability, Urbanisation and Informal Settlements, 3D Cadastres and Marine Cadastres. It was a great honour for Commission 7 to be invited to present a paper on 'Future Cadastres' at the first plenary session of the conference.

6. FIG 2nd Regional Conference, Marrakech, Morocco

The 2nd FIG Regional Conference took place in Marrakech, Morocco, 2-5 December 2005. The Commission was represented by Mr. András Osskó, vice chair of Working Group 7.1 Hungary and Mr. Christiaan Lemmen, vice chair administration.

7. Working Group activities

Working Group 7.1 – Creating land administration in formal and informal environment

Chair: Vice Chair András Osskó (Hungary).

Progress Report

Land administration matters are more and more important in regions like Africa and South East Asia. It has been decided to put more efforts in giving support to those regions.

The Working Group is active with the preparations of a possible meeting at Nairobi on secure land tenure: new legal framework and tools. Preliminary dates are November 24-26, 2004. There is an intention to use UN/Habitat facilities.

Working Group 7.2 – Instruments for land distribution

Chair: Vice Chair Mikko Uimonen (Finland).

Progress Report

After the symposium on land redistribution in Pretoria, November 2002, WG 7.2 is concentrating on its efforts on the land redistribution and land fragmentation issue. According to the work plan of commission 7 the working group will try to identify the different reasons for land fragmentation and methods and tools to avoid land fragmentation with a negative impact. Furthermore land rearrangements (e.g. land consolidation) will be inspected as a means of combating land fragmentation.

The Working Group is preparing a seminar on Land Consolidation, which will be organised in Clermont Ferrand, 8-14 September 2004 (combined with the Commissions Annual Meeting 2004).

Working Group 7.3 – Advances in modern Land Administration

Chair: Vice chair: Dr. Winfried Hawerk (Germany).

Progress Report

The Working Group is the representative of the Commission in the Standardisation network of the FIG.

The delegate Daniel Steudler continued his work on benchmarking cadastral systems, and on country profiles, see: www.cadastraltemplate.org

On March 17 and 18 2003 a Workshop on Modelling the Cadastral Domain has been held at the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation, ITC, Enschede, The Netherlands. This Workshop has been organised by FIG (Commission 7, Working Group 7.3), in close co-operation with the ITC and the Netherlands Cadastre, in close co-operation with ESRI. About 30 experts in this field, from cadastral organisations, universities and commercial companies, participated in this workshop.

During the workshop there was agreement that: the approach should be object oriented, a spatial representation of (public) restrictions on land has to be included in the model, data maintained by different organisations (e.g. cadastre and land registry) have to be integrated in the model, all object classes and attributes should be identified, there should be the flexibility to include in implementation only those objects which will be maintained, maintenance of historical data should be possible, implementation of the model could start at the data publication side followed by attention to transactions on land. E.g. the inclusion of spatial representation of area's with public restrictions. Those valuable remarks have been used as input for further developments, presented at several conferences.

In 2003 the Working Group organised a symposium on "strategies for IT renewal for land registry and cadastre" (Enschede-NL, May 8-9). The objective of this Symposium was to facilitate presentations by chief information officers from Land Registry and/or Cadastre organisations of countries currently intensively involved in the modernisation of their Information Systems, focus was on European countries. The Symposium reserved time for discussions on the exchange of experiences, the identification of key issues, and reviews of solutions – all with the ultimate objective of learning from each other's experiences. This symposium was organised by the Commission in co-operation with ITC and Netherlands Cadastre. Many issues in relation to the subject of IT renewal have been presented and discussed, all papers and presentations are available at www.oicrf.org (Keyword: IT Renewal).

Sub-Working Group – 3D Cadastres

A joint Working Group with Commission 3

Progress Report

This Working Group is a joint activity with Commission 3, under the aegis of Working Group 7.3. The sub-group was headed by Dr. Martin Salzmann (Netherlands). Because of a new accepted job in 2003 he has been followed up by Dr. Hendrik Ploeger (Netherlands) and Prof. Doytscher (Israel).

A website has been launched in 2003: <http://www.juritecture.net/3d.html>

The working group aims to publish a publication on guidelines to establish 3D Cadastres, addressing legal, institutional and technical issues. This “primer on 3D Cadastres” will be presented at the next FIG-congress in 2006.

The Working Group aims at publishing a FIG publication on guidelines to establish a 3D Cadastre, addressing legal, technical and institutional issues.

Following the work done before, the Working Group organises a session on the issue at the Working Week Paris 2003. Symposia are planned for 2004 and 2005.

Joint Working Group – Coastal Zone Management and Marine Cadastres

(A Joined Working Group with Commission 4, lead Commission 4)

Chair, Dr. Michael Sutherland (Canada)

Progress Report

A meeting on Marine Cadastres has been organised in New Brunswick, Canada, 15-16 September 2003, chaired by Dr. Michael Sutherland. Marine Cadastres are a new development in our field of work, which will be followed carefully.

Joint Working Group – Appropriate Technology for Developing Countries

(A joint Working Group with Commission 5, lead Commission 5)

Progress Report

The working group had difficulties in finding a chairman. Meanwhile Mr. Dan Schnurr (UK) was willing to accept this post. Since then, the group met twice and presented papers at different FIG events.

8. Communications

Commission 7 holds a website as part of the FIG website. The Commission appreciates the active support from the FIG Office.

The Commission published Newsletters on March 14, 2003, on May, 28 2003 and on December 9, 2003

The Commission keeps a list of addresses of delegates, correspondents and friends of the Commission.

The Permanent Committee for Cadastre in EU requested the Commission to publish some Commission 7 papers (www.eurocadastre.org) under FIGs copyright.

Mr. Andreas Drees is the contactperson of the Commission in the FIG Council.

The Commission contributes in the publication of FIGs Best Practises.

9. Contribution to events, institutions

The chair has been appointed as member of the Board of the Centre for Land Reform Policy in the Ukraine.

Working party on Land Administration + FIG Commission 7 and 3, Athens, Greece, May 28-31 2003. Updating of UN/ECE Land Administration Guidelines has been discussed. The Commission is preparing the publication of the new guidelines.

The chair is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Central-European Land Knowledge Centre in Budapest, Hungary. The chair participated on a meeting at June, 16 2003.

10. Future Events

The annual meeting of the Commission will be held at Clermond Ferrand, France, preliminary dates are 8-14 September 2004. Part of the meeting will be a seminar on Modern land Consolidation, prepared by Mr. Mikko Uimonen.

The Commission will contribute to or organise the following events:

A contribution of the Commission to a (evt.) Symposium on Land Administration in Post Conflict Areas, tentative dates 29 April - 1 May, Prishtina, Kosovo (UNMIK), Organised by FIG Commission 7 and the Kosovo Cadastral Agency KCA Prishtina.

FIG Working Week, 22-27 May 2004, Athens, Greece.

A contribution of the Commission to the Symposium e-Land Administration, Innsbruck, Austria, 2-4 June 2004. There will be invited papers and presentations on various e-aspects of Land Administration. The latest developments on e-Conveyancing and e-Data supply will be highlighted.

Participation of the Commission to the 225th Anniversary of the State University of Land Use Planning, Moscow, Russia, May 25th. The Chair is invited to present a paper.

Participation of the Commission to the meeting of Nordic Surveyors, Helsinki, Finland, June 8-9 2004. The chair has been invited to present a paper.

Possible Meeting organised by the Commission at Nairobi, Kenya, on secure land tenure: new legal framework and tools. Preliminary dates November 24-26 2004.

11. OICRF

The OICRF will report separately to the General Assembly.

Prof Paul van der Molen

Chair, FIG Commission 7

Christiaan Lemmen

Vice Chair, Administration, Commission 7

Commission web site: <http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission7/index.htm>

March 2004