

**Report for the 26th General Assembly
FIG Working Week in Paris, 13-17 April 2003**

**FIG Commission 1 – Professional Practice
Report on Activities 2002–2003**
<http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission1>

1. Chairman's Report

After the Congress in Washington Commission 1 started to organize the work of the different working parties. Several discussions via e-mail and phone calls took place to settle the main issues of Commission 1. As I mentioned in Washington Commission 1 working parties will work independently on their own issues in accordance to the work plan.

I am absolutely happy that John Parker went to Puerto Rico October 3-5, 2002 to represent Commission 1 at a meeting at the University of Mayaguez. With Pedro Cavero (Chair of Commission 2), Stig Enemark (past chair of Commission 2) and John Parker (past chair of Commission 1) FIG showed a good presence with substantial contributions in technical sessions. Special thanks to John on behalf of our Commission.

Commission 1 showed flag at the German national congress last year in Frankfurt. Our work plan was presented by Commission Chair and Vice Chairs to the members being present and our Vice Chair of Administration facilitated the impact of the work plan to the national organisation and their ordinary members.

At the national French congress in Lyon Commission 1 was present with the Chair and Vice Chair Michael Keller. Discussions about professional organisations took place about how to improve communication and strengthening the organisation.

In accordance to the work plan of Commission 1 there are four working parties in operation.

2. Working Group activities

2.1 Working Group 1.1 – FIG Standards Network

Chair: Iain Greenway (Ireland)

2.1.1 Introduction

The FIG Standards Network was set up as a result of a decision at the 2002 General Assembly. It grew out of the FIG Task Force on Standards and was designed to provide an

FIG focus on this important area, which is a key part of the previous and current Council workplans. This brief report summarises Network progress since the 2002 General Assembly, and its immediate plans.

2.1.2 FIG policy

FIG's policy on standardisation was ratified at the 2001 General Assembly. The key parts of that policy read as follows:

'Overall, FIG's aim in the field of standards is to assist in the process of developing workable and timely official and legal standards covering the activities of surveyors. FIG is also committed in its objectives to developing the skills of surveyors and encouraging the proper use of technology, activities which are becoming increasingly shaped by standards.

FIG will generally seek to ensure that *de facto* standards become official standards as technology matures, or at the very least that all relevant official, legal and *de facto* standards are produced in full knowledge of all other related material.

FIG sees the following roles for professionals in the standardisation process:

- Assisting in the production of workable and timely standards by proposing material which can be transformed into international standards (rather than relying on work developed by others) and by participating in the process of developing standards; and
- Disseminating information and creating explanatory material and guidance notes to ensure that all members of FIG are aware of the most recent standardisation activities, standards and regulations, and their implications for surveyors.

2.1.3 Terms of reference and membership

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 FIG Bulletin, and more directly to relevant Commission Officers;
- Maintaining the Guide on Standardisation, and related material on the FIG website;
- Working with other NGOs, within the framework of the MOUs signed by the Council; and
- Advising FIG's officers and members on standardisation activities as necessary.

The Network sees itself as at the hub of FIG standardisation activity, making the necessary linkages and providing the necessary advice to commissions and others. Strong links between Network members and their commissions are a vital part of this.

Network membership as at January 2003 was as follows:

Commission 1	Iain Greenway (Chair)
Commission 2	Pedro Cavero (pro tem)
Commission 3	Martin Scheu
Commission 4	Adam Greenland/ Mike Johnston (TBD)
Commission 5	Rudolf Staiger
Commission 6	Aloiz Kopacik
Commission 7	Winfried Hawerk
Commission 8	Paul Lohmann (pro tem)
Commission 9	Brian Waldy
Commission 10	Phil Shearer (pro tem)
ISO TC211	Larry Hothem

2.1.4 Progress in the last 12 months

The Network held a productive meeting at the Washington Congress. Since then, members have assisted in the completion of a grid summarising Commission work relevant to standardisation. This grid has also included ISPRS activity in this area, but has been unsuccessful in including information from other sister societies.

Key areas of activity were agreed in Washington to be:

- Links with IVSC
- The work of ISO TC 172 SC6 on survey instruments
- The work of ISO TC211 on geographic information standards
- Developing an understanding of standards in areas such as hydrography
- Building links with sister societies and with member associations

It was agreed that clearer and more detailed priorities, along with an associated action plan, would be created during the 2003 working week. During the last year, FIG has remained actively engaged in the work of ISO TC211, with Iain Greenway attending the TC meeting in May 2002. Iain Greenway and Gerhard Joos are FIG members of the TC211 Outreach Group, which is working to build TC211's profile and the understanding of its standards, something for which FIG has long argued. FIG has also remained involved in the TC211 work on the qualification and certification of personnel, work which now is reaching conclusion. The likely next step is a sectoral workshop to determine the appropriate next steps, a workshop in which FIG expects to play an active part, both through the Standards Network and also through individuals involved in FIG's work on mutual recognition of qualifications. FIG's contribution to the work of TC211 is much appreciated by ISO.

Links with IVSC have been progressed in a less formal way, with IVSC at a meeting in Washington promising to explore a route through which FIG could be involved in its work. FIG Commission 5 has also remained engaged in the ISO work on survey instrumentation, something in which Jean-Marie Becker has for many years been a prime mover.

2.1.5 Summary

The last 12 months have been a fairly quiet period in developing FIG's agenda on standardisation into new areas, but have seen good progress in a number of existing areas. During the 2003 working week, the key priority for the Network will be to develop a clearer

shared understanding of FIG's priorities and required actions in the area of standardisation, and to build this as a common agenda with the Commissions. The commitment of the Council and of the Commissions to this ongoing work is appreciated and acknowledged.

January 2003

Iain Greenway

Chair, FIG Standards Network

2.2 Working Group 1.2 – Professional Practice and Organization

Chair: Michael Keller (Switzerland)

2.2.1 Progress Report

The work to complete is based on the following goals:

- Widening professional activities
- European and world-wide limitations
- Dialogue between politicians and surveyors
- Public private partnership

The first step was the exposé on the FIG Congress in Washington, 22.–25.4.2002, “Legal Framework of Conditions with respect to International Surveying Activities”, by Michael Keller.

The exposé in Paris, 14–17.4.2003, “Development Policy and the Influence on Cadastre Systems and Land Management”, by Michael Keller, will show the possibilities of widening the professional activities of a surveyor as a consultant. Furthermore the interaction between financing international and national institutions and programs and projects is described.

As a result of possible reactions a program or some recommendations will be elaborated and presented in the year 2004.

I consider it difficult to consult professionals from all over the world to support the direction of research at this moment. After Paris it will be possible to build up a members list in order to find out about the possibilities of dialogue between politicians (financing institutions) and the surveyors.

2.2.2 Contacts

National French Congress of Surveyors in Lyon, France, 19–21.6.2002

National German Congress InterGeo in Frankfurt, Germany, 16–18.10.2002, presentation of the exposé “Legal framework...”

Swiss Delegation (seco) with State Secretary D. Syz in Guatemala, 7–11.9.2002

Visits to IGN (Instituto Geografico National) and UTJ, executive body of the Government, Guatemala 12–13.9.2002

February 2003

Michael Keller

Chair of Working Group 2.2 – FIG Professional Practice and Organization

2.3 Working Group 1.4 – International project management

Chair: Leonie Newnham (Australia)

2.3.1 Progress Report

The work over the past year is detailed below under the projects identified in the work program. A small core group has been formed for this working group with the aim of increasing membership as the program builds and develops.

Projects identified in work plan:

- Development of a project management resource detailing the major facets of project management delivery as it applies to the profession using an interactive review process with FIG Member Associations.
- Research case studies in project management across regions of the world with the aim of preparing a resource for use by members in learning and discussing project management issues.

Action undertaken

Initial work for this working party has included establishing connections with related organisations with an interest in project management, this includes the Australian Institute in Project Management and associated Academic faculties. Negotiations underway with them about sponsorship for the work of this group and to develop options for a joint seminar.

Review underway to determine if there is any specialist facility that tackles this subject matter as an area of special interest with a view to finding resources that can be used for research and in the preparation of case studies.

Development of a survey for FIG members on the use of project management in land management organisations in their countries to establish usage patterns for project management, activities currently project managed and the project management model used. This to be administered in person, by telephone or electronically.

Paper prepared on working party themes titled, 'Project Management within Professional Organisations. Where Does It Fit?' This will explore land management organisations use or non use of project management and attempt to identify where project management adds benefit for an organisation.

Projects identified in work plan

- Produce a communication and marketing plan for Commission 1 activities to support its work and ensure that key messages are being received by member organizations and that two way communication channels are operating.

Action undertaken

Plan produced in draft form for review at FWW 2003.

Investigation into collaborative technologies for sharing information. Discussions underway with the Victorian Government about use of the *QuickPlace* software to establish a community of interest for this working group. This would enable the people in the community of interest to use a virtual meeting place to share papers, develop a resource library and be able to regularly communicate with each other.

Projects identified in work plan

- Establish a collaborative work site to develop a community of interest group that can work across member organizations to share information on current best practice and quality management in theory and practice.

Action undertaken

See action under the project above. To be further developed in year 2 as per initial plan.

February 2003

Leonie Newnham

Chair of the Working Group 1.4

2.4 Working Group 1.5 – Under-represented Groups in Surveying

Chair: Gabrielle Dasse (Germany)

2.4.1 Progress Report

The quarterly Newsletter of the FIG Task Force has been continued with the Working Group. Since the FIG Congress in Washington 3 issues were published, the last one in January. All newsletters are available on the FIG homepage.

During the Congress in Washington the number of members of the Working Group mailing list increased from 57 to 94. We were successful to integrate more Commission members than the years before.

During the FIG Working Week in Paris the Working Group organises a workshop to discuss guidelines for FIG. The goal is to enhance the involvement of under-represented groups in all activities of FIG and to implement gender mainstreaming in FIG's work.

Contents of the Working Group Newsletter

FIG

- Mixed Message: Conflicting Images Emerge from Spring Conference by Wendy J. Woodbury Straight, USA
- What is New in FIG Concerning Under-represented Groups in Surveying by Gabriele Dasse, Germany

National Associations

- Raising the Ratio - Information by RICS
- German DVW Working Group „Women in Surveying“ now in new Structures by Gabriele Dasse, Germany

Universities

- Why are Young Women Attracted to Survey Education in Sweden by Boo G. Lilje, Sweden
- Let's TWIST and JIVE along with WITBE by Pat Turrell, UK

Surveying Profession

- Mainstreaming Gender Issues in Land Administration by Karin Haldrup, Denmark
- Chances for Women in a Male Profession by Gerda Schennach, Austria

Personalities

- Diane A. Dumashie, United Kingdom
- Dr. Clarissa Fourie, South Africa
- Gail Oliver, USA

January 2003

Gabriele Dasse

Chair of the Working Group 1.5

February 2003

Klaus Rürup

Chair of FIG Commission 1

Commission web site: <http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission1>