

## **Minutes of Annual General Meeting of FIG Commission 4**

Held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at Room 359, Norra Latin, Stockholm, Sweden

### **Present were:**

Gordon Johnston (UK) - Vice Chair Commission 4  
Steve Shipman (IHB)  
Angus Adimora (Nigeria)  
Akhigbe Irenen (Nigeria)  
Volker Emem (Nigeria)  
Isang Emem (Nigeria)  
Teo Chee Hai (Malaysia)  
Ulf Olsson (Sweden)  
David Neale (Trinidad and Tobago) - Vice Chair Commission 4  
Michael Sutherland (Canada) - Vice Chair Commission 4  
Angela Etounoube (Nigeria)

### **Apologies**

Andrew Leyzack- Chair Commission 4  
John McCarthy – Vice Chair Commission 4

The meeting began at 14:40

### **1.0 Absence of the Commission Chair**

The Vice Chair Administration began by offering an apology for the absence from the meeting of Andrew Leyzack, the Commission Chair who is unable to attend the 2008 FIG Working Week. Andrew informed the FIG of his inability to attend the Working Week and asked that David Neale act as chair for the Conference and the Annual General Meeting of the Commission.

In this respect David Neale attended the ACCO meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008 as well as General Assembly on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2008.

### **2.0 Annual Report of the Work of Commission 4.**

David Neale commented that he had been in touch with Andrew over the month prior to the Working Week and that the agenda for the present meeting was prepared by him. Further, the Annual report of the commission was prepared by Andrew and submitted to council as required under FIG regulations. The Commission's work between June 2006 and December 2007 is summarised in the FIG Annual report that is available online at [http://www.fig.net/annual-review/anrew06\\_07/anrev06\\_07.htm](http://www.fig.net/annual-review/anrew06_07/anrev06_07.htm)

### **3.0 Oral Reports of Working Groups**

#### 3.1 WG 4.1 Hydrographic Surveying in Practice

There was no oral report on the activities of this working group

#### 3.2 WG 4.2 Standards and Guidelines

There was no oral report on the activities of this working group

#### 3.3 WG 4.3 Administering Marine Spaces

Michael Sutherland- Vice Chair presented a short oral report on the activities of his working group over the past year. These are summarised below:

- The vice chair attended the FIG Regional Conference in San Jose, Costa Rica in November 2007 and presented a paper at one of the plenary session of that conference.
- The vice chair participated as a co-author in a publication that was initiated at The 2007 Costa Rica Regional Conference and launched at the present conference – FIG Publication No. 43: The Costa Rica Declaration: Pro-Poor Coastal Zone Management. [<http://www.fig.net/pub/figpub/pub43/figpub43.htm>]
- The Vice Chair also attended the Canadian Hydrographic and National Surveyors Conference 2008 held in Vancouver, Canada, between 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008 where he participated in a workshop and delivered a technical paper.
- Working Group 4.3 is planning a joint effort with one of the working groups of Commission 8. In this regard, a meeting is scheduled during the present conference on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at 14:30. All are invited.

#### 3.4 WG 4.4 Economic Benefits of Hydrography

Gordon Johnston, Vice Chair and leader of the 4.4 Working Group reported that there was little activity in his working group to date and that he was preparing plans for activities during the upcoming year.

### **4.0 ACCO and GA**

The meeting chair reported that he had attended the ACCO meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2008 and General Assembly on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2008, standing in for the commission chair. The following were the key outcomes form both meetings that are of concern to Commission 4:

- ACCO reported that the newly introduced (at this conference) peer review option for papers did have some initial problems particularly with differences of opinions by reviewers and time schedules. In general however, the option seemed a workable one with many good responses from authors. ACCO agreed that a small sub-committee be formed to deal with some of the problems that were identified during preparations (including the need for guidelines for reviewers) for the present conference.
- ACCO announced that the FIG was in the process of setting up a fund to assist participants for developing countries to attend FIG conferences and meetings. Present delegates were asked to encourage qualified applicants to apply to the fund.
- Chryssy Potsiou was elected as the ACCO Representative to Council.
- There is considerable effort to include as one of the themes for the 2010 FIG Congress: Coastal Zone and SIDS. This may give Commission 4 the opportunity to make a significant contribution at that congress.

## **5.0 IAB Report**

Gordon Johnston gave a brief report on the activities of the International Advisory Board. Gordon is the present IAB Chairman. The key report items are as follows:

- The IAB met in April 2008 in Sydney, Australia for its annual meeting where several course submissions and other matters were considered.
- David Neale – Vice chair of Commission 4 is now a member of the IAB. David could not attend the April 2008 meeting because of the late notice of his appointment.
- There is a proposal for the IAB for drop the word ‘Advisory’ from its name. This proposal must be approved by all of the participating bodies.
- The work of the IAB is likely to increase significantly because for some changes in review period of courses, the increased number of courses coming before the IAB and a proposal presently before the IAB for the accreditation of individuals.
- The IAB also considered the need to pursue funding for the IAB activity particularly support for members travel and other expenses to attend annual meetings. The inability of members to access funds is cited as the most significant cause of members not attending annual meetings

## **6.0 Meetings and upcoming Events**

The following is a list of upcoming FIG meetings for 2009 that Commission 4 delegates should consider attending:

**3-8 May, Eilat, Israel** FIG Working Week and XXXII General Assembly - New Horizons across the Red Sea - Surveyors Key Role in Accelerated Development  
Web site: [www.fig.net/fig2009](http://www.fig.net/fig2009)

**19-22 October, Hanoi, Vietnam** -7th FIG Regional Conference. Spatial Data Serving People. Surveying & Mapping for Land Administration and Environment Management. Organised by FIG and the Vietnam Association of Geodesy, Cartography and Remote Sensing.  
Web site: [www.fig.net/vietnam](http://www.fig.net/vietnam)

The meeting ended at 16:10

David Neale  
Vice Chair Administration Comm 4.