



International Federation of Surveyors  
Fédération Internationale des Géomètres  
Internationale Vereinigung der Vermessungsingenieure  
**Commission 5**  
Positioning and Measurement (2002-2006)  
[www.fig.net/figtree/commission5](http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission5)

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## Newsletter

### Cairo Working Week Highlights.....

- More than 900 delegates attended the "*Pharaohs from Geoinformatics*" Working Week in Cairo. There were 51 technical sessions and more than 400 papers, presentations and posters made. The conference was held jointly with the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure organisation. It also bettered the numbers achieved in Athens 2004, thus it now has the 'title' of being the biggest FIG annual conference.
- For an overview of the Working Week please refer to websites -  
[http://www.fig.net/news/news\\_2005/cairo\\_2005/cairo\\_ww.htm](http://www.fig.net/news/news_2005/cairo_2005/cairo_ww.htm)  
or  
[http://www.fig.net/news/news\\_2005/cairo\\_2005/magel\\_closing\\_cairo\\_2005.pdf](http://www.fig.net/news/news_2005/cairo_2005/magel_closing_cairo_2005.pdf)
- For proceedings please refer to website -  
[http://www.fig.net/pub/cairo/tech\\_programme.htm](http://www.fig.net/pub/cairo/tech_programme.htm)
- Work on the AFREF project (being run by IAG) was a major event at this Working Week. Matt, Cyril, Mikael and Rob attended the AFREF meeting. It was an open meeting that saw good representation from decision makers from the majority of the 50+ countries in Africa as well as the Presidents of IAG (Gerhard Beutler), ISPRS (Ian Dowman) and ICA (Milan Konecny). IGS (Ruth Neilan) and Commission 1 of IAG (Herman Drewes) were also represented. The open meeting and a meeting of the project steering committee enabled discussion of the next steps in the establishment of an ITRF based single reference frame for the African continent. The meeting was led by IAG and FIG's role at this meeting was primarily to facilitate and provide technical assistance where possible.

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We also recommend you read Richard Wonnacott's paper (TS 13.2) on AFREF that was presented at the Cairo Working Week.

The next AFREF related meeting 'face to face' meeting which Commission 5 representatives will attend will be in Accra, Ghana - March 2005.

Some photos taken during the AFREF meeting -



- Please refer to website -  
<http://www.fig.net/commission5/index.htm>  
to read about and view other Commission 5 meetings and activities at the Cairo Working Week.

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### **NEW COMMISSION REPs**

A warm welcome to the following new Commission 5 representatives -  
 Stephen Djaba - the National Delegate for Ghana  
 Siniša Delčev - the National Delegate for the Union of Geodetic Engineers  
 and Surveyors of Serbia and Montenegro  
 Christos Pikridas - the National Delegate for the Technical  
 Chamber of Greece.  
 Niraj Manandhar - the Correspondent from Nepal

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To all Commission 5 participants - active or non active.....if you have any ideas for this Commissions work plan, term 2006-10, please email your thoughts, comments, proposals to Rudolf Staiger (Chair -Elect) -  
[rudolf.staiger@uni-essen.de](mailto:rudolf.staiger@uni-essen.de)

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### **Commission 5.2 Website**

FIG Commission 5.2 Working Group Reference Frame in Practice needs your ASSISTANCE. We are rebuilding the Commission 5.2 website to be a more useful tool for the practical and operational surveyor by presenting information on reference frame issues and giving links to key web sites and other resources on the topic. So HELP out by supplying some websites from your Region that relate to reference frame issues OR fit into the following categories -

**MUST VISIT SIGHTS**  
 REGIONAL REFERENCE FRAME  
 NATIONAL MAPPING AGENCIES  
 GEODETIC INFRASTRUCTURE  
 ON-LINE GPS PROCESSING  
 GEODETIC ASSOCIATIONS

Please email your information to  
 Mikael Lilje - [mikael.lilje@lm.se](mailto:mikael.lilje@lm.se)

OR

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OR

Cyril Romieu - [romieu@ensg.ign.fr](mailto:romieu@ensg.ign.fr)

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## Coming Events

### **Monitoring and Understanding a Dynamic Planet with Geodetic and Oceanographic Tools.**

A Joint Assembly of the IAG, IAPSO and IABO.

22-26 August, Cairns, Australia

Web site: <http://www.dynamicplanet2005.com/>

Commission 5 will be well represented at this conference. In addition to the many relevant sessions, there are also several workshops on operational geodetic regional issues such as dynamic datums, geoids, vertical datums in hydrography and reference frames in general being scheduled. For more information on these please contact :

[Matt.Higgins@nrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Higgins@nrm.qld.gov.au) .

Also, there will be a strategic meeting between key IAG/ FIG representatives to further the current liaisons between these organisations.

### **4th FIG Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean CANCELLED !**

25-29 September, Havana, Cuba

Web site: [www.fig.net/havana](http://www.fig.net/havana)

The 4th FIG Regional Conference organized by UNAICC and FIG and scheduled to take place in Havana, Cuba, 26-29 September 2005 has been cancelled because of practical problems with logistics.

### **5th FIG Regional Conference for Africa.**

8-11 March, Accra, Ghana

Web site: [www.fig.net/accra](http://www.fig.net/accra)

There is a call for abstracts and they are requested to be submitted in electronic format, if possible in MS-Word. The deadline for abstracts is 10 November 2005. The authors will be informed by 10 December 2005 of acceptance of their paper. The deadline for full papers (not exceeding 15 pages) is 10 January 2006. Detailed guidelines on submitting the papers are available on FIG web site - [fig@fig.net](mailto:fig@fig.net)

Also Commission 5 will be intending to hold a full Steering Committee meeting at this regional conference.

**FIG XXIII Congress and XXIX General Assembly****8-13 October, Munich, Germany****Web site: <http://www.fig2006.de>**

There is an open Call for Papers for the FIG Congress 2006 in Munich. The topics of the technical part of the congress will cover each of the ten commissions of FIG. The number of abstracts will be limited to up to two per author. All abstracts should be submitted by email to the FIG Office under [fig@fig.net](mailto:fig@fig.net). Full papers are to be provided in English and include an English summary. An additional summary can be prepared in German and any other language.

Deadlines for papers:

15 March 2006 Deadline for the abstracts

31 May 2006 Confirmation for papers to the authors

15 July 2006 Deadline for full papers

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**REPORT on EUREF - FIG****Mikael Lilje**

**EUREF is the IAG Reference Frame Sub-Commission for Europe, integrated in the Sub-Commission 1.3, Regional Reference Frames, under Commission 1 - Reference Frames.**

**EUREF held its 15th symposium in Vienna, Austria on the 1st - 4th of June. The event attracted almost 150 delegates from various European countries and there were 80 presentations with 15 posters on display.**

**At this symposium, the ex officio member - Sub-commission President Joao Agrida Torres from Portugal (and several others) highlighted that although many countries had adopted ETRS89 / EVRS and major projects such as INSPIRE utilised these systems, it was important for existing users and organisations responsible for National reference systems to continually promote, support and use the ETRS89 and EVRS. He also mentioned that they also need the assistance of international bodies such as FIG and EuroGeographics to assist with the advertisement of EUREF to other potential users and National authorities.**

Briefly, the work of EUREF has been focused on establishing, maintaining and promoting the European Reference Systems - ETRS 89 (European Terrestrial Reference System) and EVRS (European Vertical Reference System) to the European community. To monitor the European Reference Systems, a network of permanent GNSS stations known as EPN (EUREF Permanent Network) has been established. This network consists of some 170 GPS / GLONASS base stations that also provide local GNSS services to each host country. Another important role for EUREF is to monitor and establish systems that combine different geodetic observing systems as GNSS, Absolute gravity, levelling, tide gauges, VLBI, SLR etc. This project is called the ECGN (European Combined Geodetic Network).

Links for more information:

EUREF: <http://www.euref-iaq.net/>,

EPN: <http://www.epncb.oma.be/>,

INSPIRE: <http://www.ec-gis.org/inspire/>

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**Cheers from Commission 5 !**

Photo of Commission 4 and 5 dinner in Cairo -Thanks to Naser El-Sheimy



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If you would like to circulate Commission 5 NEWS to all our members please email your item for consideration to the Vice Chair of Administration - [robert.sarib@nt.gov.au](mailto:robert.sarib@nt.gov.au)

Please note the next Commission 5 newsletter is scheduled for August / September 2005.