



International Federation of Surveyors  
Fédération Internationale des Géomètres  
Internationale Vereinigung der Vermessungsingenieure

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To : Delegates, Correspondents and Friends of FIG-Commission 7  
cc : FIG Office Copenhagen  
From : Paul van der Molen, Chair  
Subject : Newsletter  
Date : March 14, 2003

Dear Friends,

We send you our sincere greetings and trust you all are well.

**1. Annual Meeting 2002**

The CD-ROM including the Powerpoint presentations of the annual meeting in Pretoria is ready and will be send to all participants.

**2. Symposium on Land Redistribution**

Most of the presented papers are available at <[www.oicrf.org](http://www.oicrf.org)>. The papers will be published in a booklet, but the preparations take some time.

**3. FIG Working Week Paris 2003**

The programme of the Working Week is ready. Commission 7 co-ordinates 7 sessions which includes 30 presented papers and 17 poster-papers. There will be 1 session jointly with Commission 4 on Coastal Zone Management and Marine Cadastres with 4 presented papers and 2 posters. The Council asked me, in the capacity as chair of the Commission 7, to contribute to one of the plenary sessions, with the subject 'Future Cadastres-cadastre after 2014'. Commission 7 will have a good presence during this special Working Week, where FIG celebrates its 125th birthday!

I asked the FIG Office to make a reservation for a *Commission 7 meeting* on Monday April 14, from 17:30-19:00h, possibly to extend on Wednesday April 16 from 16:00-17:30h.

I do not know how many Commission 7 people will participate in the prestigious dinner in Versailles. If necessary we can try to reserve some seats on the spot.

**4. Annual Meeting Commission 7 in 2003**

The Annual Meeting will take place in Krakow (Poland), Novotel Krakow Centre, and the University of Agriculture.

The schedule is still the same as mentioned in the previous newsletter. Please make the following reservations in your agenda if you did not already:

Wednesday September 17	Arrival and reception
Thursday September 18	Commission 7 sessions
Friday September 19	Cadastral Congres
Saturday September 20	Cadastral Congres
Sunday September 21	Technical Excursion
Monday September 22	Commission 7 sessions
Tuesday September 23	Commission 7 sessions and closing

The Polish Organising Committee is in good form, and Winfried Hawerk and his Working Group 3 (Advances in modern Land Administration) are already in touch with the organizers to contribute with a half day seminar on Advances in Technology.

**5. WPLA + Commission 3 + Commission 7 in Athens May 2003**

The UN/ECE/Working Party on Land Administration is to organize a meeting in Athens (Greece), 2003 May 28-30, to discuss the updating of the UN Land Administration Guidelines 1996 (see <[www.unece.org/env/hs/wpla](http://www.unece.org/env/hs/wpla)>). The title is 'Spatial Information management for sustainable real estate market- Best Practice Guidelines on Nation-side Land Administration'. This event is supported by Commission 7. Please make reservations in your agenda. The deadline for abstracts is March 28. More information on the above mentioned website and the FIG website.

**6. Symposium IT renewal May/June 2003**

Working Group 7.3 (chair Winfried Hawerk) is the chairman of the organisation committee for a symposium on renewal of cadastral legacy systems, so called IT renewal. This will be a specialised seminar for (senior) information managers, who face the challenge of renewal of their IT architectures while 'the shop keeps open', which is the case in many cadastral organisations which have their systems in place for 10-20 years now and have to renew, for example to meet customers demands.

This symposium takes place in May 8 and 9, 2003 in Enschede, at the International Institute for Geoinformation Sciences and Earth Observation ITC in Enschede (NL). You find attached the promotion leaflet for this event. See also the website of FIG <[www.fig.net](http://www.fig.net)>.

**7. Centre for Land Reform Policy in Ukraine**

It is an honour to be appointed as member of the board of this important Centre (<http://myland.org.ua>)

**8. Permanent Committee for the Cadastre in the EU (PCC)**

Last year in ISPRA (Italy) the PCC is established under the leadership of our Spanish colleagues. Regarding the aim of the PCC, I commented somewhat in GIM International February 2003.

**9. Centre of Excellence for Real Property Rights and Land Markets Budapest**

As Commission chair I participated in a launching workshop for the Regional Centre of Excellence in Real property Rights and Land Market development (< [www.worldbank.hu/rcoe.htm](http://www.worldbank.hu/rcoe.htm)>). This Centre is financed by the Worldbank and the Hungarian Government. The Centre is very much encouraged by FAO, and also our past chairperson Paul Munro Faure was present as chief land tenure service FAO. Also our delegate András Osskó was present. The Centre appointed a staff, of which Marianna Pósfai is the director. You can contact her at [rcoe@worldbank.org](mailto:rcoe@worldbank.org).

**10. Virtual Australia**

The Commission congratulates its former chairperson Ian Williamson in achieving approval of the research proposal to develop *Virtual Australia* through the establishment of a Cooperative Centre for Spatial Information that will part of Ian's department.

**11. ASPRS Annual Conference, Anchorage**

The American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing ASPRS holds its annual conference May 5-9 in Anchorage Alaska (<[www.asprs.org/alaska2003](http://www.asprs.org/alaska2003)>)

**12. 7th South East Asian Survey Congress 2003**

FIG Vice President T.N. Wong invites us to participate in the 7th South East Asia Survey Congress 2003, which takes place in Hong Kong November 3-7. Please visit <[www.seasc2003hk.org](http://www.seasc2003hk.org)>. The deadline for submission abstracts is March 31th. Deadline for early bird registration is July 31th. Subjects are (a.o.) cadastral surveying, valuation and land management, projectmanagement (attachment).

### 13. FIG Regional Conference Morocco

The FIG Council asked Commission 7 to contribute to the FIG Regional Conference in Marrakech (Morocco), 2003 December 2-5. In the first drafts Commission 7 involvement was not foreseen, but the organizers would appreciate our involvement very much. On behalf of the Commission I agreed on a commitment.

### 14. Call for articles for Hong Kong Journal of Geospatial Engineering

Our delegate Conrad Tang asks our cooperation in submitting articles for the Hong Kong Journal of Geo Spatial Engineering. He writes us as follows:

*Dear friends of Commission 7*

*I have been given a mission from the Journal of Geospatial Engineering, which is supported by my department (Department of Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics) to organize a special issue on cadastral survey and land registration to be published in this June. It would not be a success without the participation of Commission 7. Therefore, I would like to seek your support and contribution to this cadastral issue of the journal. You are welcome to introduce the advancement of your system or give comments on our new development.*

*The invitation of papers to a Hong Kong surveying journal at this moment relates directly to two important cadastral development processes happening here. Firstly, the Hong Kong Legislative Council is now reading the Titles Registration Bill which is promoted by the Land Registry. Unlike any other titles registration, the Hong Kong system will not take up the land boundary issue on board. There is no legal sanction of land boundary and it remains approximate as before. Secondly, the survey department of Hong Kong is now promoting a full-scale systematic re-survey of our rural area the New Territories. The survey department asks for a funding of US\$ 250 millions. Our government still hesitates on the decision. Thus the publication of a journal discussing the problem of surveying and land registration would be timely and beneficial to our society.*

*We also plan to invite a couple of the prominent authors of this special issue to come to Hong Kong through the application of Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fund to give public speech concerning the development of titles registration and land boundary issues.*

*Regards,*

*Dr Conrad Tang  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
Tel : 852 2766 5963 Fax : 852 2330 2994  
Email : [lstang@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:lstang@polyu.edu.hk)  
Web: <http://www.lsgi.polyu.edu.hk/staff/Conrad.Tang/index.htm>*

Attached please find the author's instructions. Please do not hesitate and submit!

### 15. Andreas Drees contactperson in FIG Council

We are happy to be informed that Andreas Drees will be the contactperson for Commission 7 in the FIG Council. We welcome Andreas in the Commission 7 family!

**16. FIG Initiative for Best Practices**

The FIG Council plans to publish Best Practices (see the workplan of the Council). This week I will attend a meeting in Munster (Germany) to hear about the plans and to identify what role is expected from Commission 7.

**17. Report Commission 7 to General Assembly Paris**

The Annual Report over 2002 of the Commission to the General Assembly is accepted by the Council, and will be published as part of the agenda on the FIG website.

**18. Workshop Cadastral Domain Enschede (NL)**

ESRI and ITC (Christiaan Lemmen, our vice chair administration and Pauline van Elsland) organize a workshop on 'cadastral domains' in Enschede (NL), March 17 and 18. This workshop is supported by the Commission. The proceedings will be published.

**19. Appointment Clarissa Augustinus**

The Commission congratulates dr. Clarissa Augustinus (formerly known as Fourie) who has taken up the post of Chief Land and Tenure Section of UN/Habitat.

**WE WISH YOU ALL THE BEST AND MAYBE WE WILL MEET IN PARIS!**

**Paul van der Molen, chair**

**Christiaan Lemmen, vice chair administration**

**Pauline van Elsland, secretariat**

<pauline.vanelstand@kadaster.nl>