

**Report to the 32nd General Assembly
FIG Working Week in Eilat, Israel 2009**

FIG Commission 7 – Cadastre and Land Management

Report of Activities 2008-2009

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)

Commission 7 established its concept of activities about 15 years ago. It is in line with the FIG long term professional strategy and selected topics to deal with

- advanced cadastre
- developing land administration
- creating secure land tenure
- application of innovative, advance technology in land administration

Commission 7 aims

- to provide a forum for enhancing and exchanging knowledge about cadastre, land administration and land management world wide
- to encourage the development of pro poor land management and land administration
- to promote the importance of development of sustainable land administration as infrastructure for sustainable development to underpin economic growth
- to promote the application of innovative and advanced technology in cadastre, land administration
- to promote awareness of the role of surveyors in land administration matters to the public and among stakeholders

2. Work Plan 2007-2010

The Commission activities followed the work plan basically but extended its work participating and contributing actively in many events relevant to Commission 7.

3. Election of Chair Elect 2009-2010

There were two nominations by their associations to Commission 7 Chair for the period 2011-2014. Daniel Roberge from Canada was elected as the Chair Elect for the period 2009-2010. The Chair Elect will normally be appointed to the chair of the commission for the next term of office 1.1.2011-31.12. 2014.

4. Annual meeting

The **Commission 7 Annual meeting** was held in Verona, Italy September 11-15, 2008 including one day open symposium on “*Big Works for the Defence of the Territory*”. The meeting was organised by the Commission in co-operation with the Consiglio Nazionale Geometri, Italian Association of Land Surveyors. The motto of the events (together with the FIG/FAO Seminar) was “*Verona is Passion*”.

Prof. Stig Enemark, President of FIG, who in spite of his several other activities and commitments spent the whole week in Verona together with the participants, not only in the Annual meeting but also in the jointly organised FIG/FAO Seminar before the Annual meeting. He also prepared excellent and impressing keynote presentations for all events.

The number of participants was 51 from 24 countries, with some accompanying persons and several Italian professionals. High ranking Italian politicians welcomed the participants of the Annual Meeting, emphasizing the importance of land administration.

The program followed the tradition of the Commission 7 annual meetings: three-day commission meeting, one-day open symposium and one-day technical tour. During the three days, there were delivered altogether 43 foreign and 7 Italian presentations. On the first day President Enemark gave information on the current FIG policy challenged by the strengthening globalisation. Our Italian hosts informed in their presentations about the current Italian situation on land surveying profession, education, practice and about their role in the society, problems of measuring market value of Italian real estates, town planning and updating of the cadastre.

The Chair and participants of other FIG events delivered their reports. Several delegates spoke about the ongoing initiatives of the Commission (Working Groups 1, 2 and 3, Social Tenure Domain Model, Cadastral Template, FLOSS Cadastre, benefits of using new technologies, good practice, case studies, etc.). Further 13 country reports were presented with special emphasis on developing countries (Ghana, Kenya and Cambodia).

The one day open symposium on “*Environment and Land Administration - Big Works for the Defence of the Territory*” that was organised as part of the Annual Meeting was very popular among the Italian professionals. The symposium was organised in the Congress Centre Verona Fiere to provide large space for the interested professionals, about 400 altogether. President Stig Enemark gave an excellent keynote presentation on environment and land administration in respect of rights, restrictions and responsibilities. There were several interesting presentations by international and Italian professionals. The most important was provided by Mr. Roberto Rosselli, who gave a very detailed information with slides and movies on the ongoing monumental construction work called Mose Project aiming at protecting Venice and its lagoon against high tides.

Following the open symposium, Commission 7 delegates and Italian colleagues visited the Mose Project in Venice mixed with sightseeing in the beautiful, picturesque town. Special thanks to the organizers for this very interesting and excellent technical program and professional guidance.

5. Activities

5. 1. Working group activities

Working Group 7.1 - Development of Pro Poor Land Management and Land Administration

Chair: Vice Chair Christiaan Lemmen (The Netherlands)

Progress report

Following the work plan, the Social Tenure Domain Model, the specialization of the Land Administration Domain Model, was further developed and the Land Administration Domain Model was promoted. In 2008 the Land Administration Domain Model (LADM) has been submitted by FIG to the ISO, the report made by Christiaan Lemmen.

The ISO 19152 Land Administration Domain Model

In 2008 the Land Administration Domain Model has been submitted by FIG FIG Standards Network as a New Working Item Proposal to the International Organisation for Standardisation. The initiative has been accepted by the ISO Technical Committee is active in standardisation in the field of digital geographic information. The work of the TC 211 among others shall link to appropriate standards for information technology and data where possible, and provide a framework for the development of sector specific applications using geographic data.

The LADM ISO 19152 Project Team had three meetings in 2008: a first one in Copenhagen, Denmark in May, second one in Delft, the Netherlands in September and the third one in Tsukuba, Japan in December. The meetings in Europe received a lot of inputs from the project team members from the continent. In Tsukuba the majority of the participants came from outside of Europe (in total 23 participants, 15 non Europeans). The editing team is from the Netherlands, Christiaan Lemmen (chair of the PT on behalf of FIG) Dr. Harry Uitermark (editor, on behalf of FIG) and Prof. Peter van Oosterom (Delft University).

The scope of this International Standard includes the following:

- It defines a reference LADM, covering all basic information related components of Land Administration.
- It provides an abstract, conceptual schema with five packages, related to (1) people and organisations (parties), (2) parcels (spatial units), (3) property rights (rights, responsibilities and restrictions), (4) surveying, (5) geometry and topology
- A terminology for land administration based on various national and international systems, that is as simple as possible in order to be useful in practice. The terminology allows a shared description of different practises and procedures in various jurisdictions
- A basis for national and regional profiles
- It enables the combining of land administration from different sources in a coherent manner

The following is outside the scope:

- The interference with (national) land administration laws, that might have any legal implications

The comments received during the discussion resulted in improvements of the model:

- Several objects of type LA Spatial Unit (e.g. parcels) grouped into a LA Recorded Object where rights can be associated.
- The model supports 2D and 3D and mixed representations

- Classes which are outside the scope of the LADM (e.g. persons, addresses) are represented as blueprint classes
- A number of informative annexes has been included to better explain the functionality of the model
- The standard has also been submitted to the CEN-CEN/TC 287 is the Technical Committee of CEN concerned with geographic information

The next meeting of the PT is scheduled in Molde, Norway in May 2009

Working Group 7.2. – Land Administration to Support Sustainable Development

Chair: Vice Chair Soeren Christensen (Denmark)

Progress report

During the Annual Meeting in Verona, Italy the Commission 7, Working Group 2, in co-operation with the Italian Association of Land Surveyors (CNG) organised a one day open symposium on “*Environment and Land Administration - Big works for the Defence of the Territory*”. The symposium was a great success, about 400 Italian professional attended besides the Commission delegates. 7 Italian and 4 international speakers presented papers in connection with the topic.

Working Group 7.3. - Application of Innovative Technology in Land Administration

Chair: Vice Chair Daniel Steudler (Switzerland)

Progress report

The Working group supported the start of UN/FAO Project “*FLOSS Cadastre*”. An Expert Group Meeting was held in Rome, October 22-23, 2007.

The project is being supported by the World Bank as well. The scoping paper was prepared by Gertrude Pieper and there was an active discussion in Rome about next steps.

A workshop was organised in Dunedin, New Zealand, May 2008. Discussion at workshop showed that there would be a tremendous benefit when large national project declare their software developments as open-source. The C&LR community should be more aware of high costs of software license fees and the potential of FLOSS. FLOSS needs to be based on open concepts standardized data modelling is essential (no matter what the data model is or what the modelling mechanism is). The big issue in Europe at the moment: fees. Discussion are currently more often about open source data rather than open source software. Private cadastral offices start to discover FLOSS possibilities while they grow tired of license restrictions, limitations and costs.

The working group is responsible to keep the **Cadastral Template** up to-date with contribution by national delegates and representatives.

5.2. Contribution to major FIG events

The Commission actively participated in the major FIG event, Working Week, in Stockholm, Sweden “*Integrating Generations*” and the XXXI. General Assembly, Stockholm, Sweden, June 14-19, 2008.

The commission representatives presented more than 80 papers during the Commission 7 session and joint sessions with other commissions.

The Commission contributed to the joint FIG/UN-HABITAT Symposium on “*Improving Slum Conditions through Innovative Financing*”. Contributions were made by Tommy Österberg (Sweden), Paul van der Molen (the Netherlands) and Christiaan Lemmen (the Netherlands). Thanks belong also to Commission 7 delegates for their active work resulted a great success of these sessions.

Thanks for all Commission 7 delegates, speakers as well for their active contribution to the success of the event.

5.3. Contribution to other events

Joint International Workshop “*Sharing Good Practices on E-learning in Surveying, Geo-Information Sciences and Land Administration*”- Enschede, The Netherlands, June 11-13, 2008

The Workshop was jointly organised by FIG Commission 2, Commission 7 and ITC (International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation) just before the Working Week. The aim of the workshop was to bring together professionals engaged in e-learning and distance education in surveying, geoinformation

Joint FIG/ UN FAO International Seminar on “*State and Public Land management*” 9-10 September 2008, Verona, Italy

Just before the Annual meeting and open symposium, a two-day International Seminar was held, based on FIG/FAO agreement and financially supported by FAO. The Seminar was organised by Commission 7 in cooperation with the Italian Association of Land Surveyors CNG-GL. FAO supported the participation of some eminent international experts and representatives from developing countries from all continents to keep the professional balance. 64 participants from 26 countries attended the seminar together with many interested Italian professionals.

This topic that is heavily affecting national economies is important and problematic in both developing and developed countries, therefore it was very useful for the international audience to see and hear various solutions and approaches.

High-ranking Italian politicians, President Stig Enemark and other leading officials of FIG and FAO welcomed the audience - about 250 persons being present at the opening. In two days 25 presentations were made. Prof. Richard Grover summarized the evaluation of the event.(report on Commission 7 web site).

6. Communications

Commission 7 holds **a website within the FIG website**. Our aim is to keep the interested professionals informed. The website is being maintained by the FIG Office.

The Commission published and circulated one newsletter in October 2008 via e-mail to delegates, correspondents and friends. We kept Commission delegates, friends informed circulating letters about news, daily developments related to Commission 7 activities. We have been using the list of the Commission e-mail addresses. We try to keep the list up-to-date, based on reported changes by delegates, and friends.

7. Future activities

The Commission will hold its **Annual meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 12-16 October 2009**. The first invitation has been already circulated.

The **World Bank and FIG** organise a Conference on “*Land governance in Support of the MDGs: Responding to New Challenges*” in **Washington, DC, March 9-10 2009**. Commission 7 chair, chair elect and other representatives have been invited and will participate in the event.

The Commission will be one of the major contributors to the **FIG Working Week in Eilat, Israel, 3-8 May 2009** “*Surveyors’ Key Role in Accelerated Development: New Horizons across the Red Sea*”.

Commission 7 delegates will participate and contribute to the **7th FIG Regional Conference, Hanoi, Vietnam 19-22 October 2009**.

The Commission will continue to support the **LADM ISO 19152 Project Team**.

8. OICRF

The OICRF will report separately to the General Assembly.

András Oskó
Chair of FIG Commission 7

9 February 2009