

**Task Force on the Future Governance of FIG**  
**44<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,**  
**2021 Working Week (online) Amsterdam, Netherlands**  
*22nd– 25th June 2021*

## **1. Overview**

This is the Chair's final report on the activities of the FIG Governance Task Force over the two year period 2019 to 2021. It also sets out the discussion that will be held at the FIG 44<sup>th</sup> General Assembly on Friday 25th June (11am CEST).

Launched in Hanoi 2019, the Task Force (TF) delivered its final report to Council in January 2021 (appendix A). The Council's next steps will be presented to the 44<sup>th</sup> FIG General Assembly during the 2021 FIG working week.

The chair is appreciative of the input from the TF members (footnote 1) for their support and insights throughout, and is also very grateful for those members that were able to engage and above all give their time to review all the material and provide detailed commentary. This has enabled the TF to move to clear recommendations for council's consideration.

### **Key Findings**

The TF was established because it is Council's wish to understand if changes are required to our governance structure. This will enable FIG to continue to provide leadership to the members in the immediate years ahead. To do this requires that we think about how we organise, communicate and collaborate with our stakeholders and partners.

Above all, the TF was tasked to consider in a short term horizon (footnote 2) and importantly to fully consult with our members. This will inform our advice to Council that will set out the basis of a governance structure that is '**Fit for the future**' needs of FIG members and stakeholders in the immediate term.

The TF has found limited appetite for radical change and no clear evidence for change to statutes in the short term. There is however, a clear need for a fundamental review of how FIG's operates in the areas that we cluster under the headings of governance, conferencing and volunteering.

A number of the challenges that need to be considered are practical and indicate a way to be more collaborative, more effective and to drive inclusivity. This need has been further amplified by the global covid-19 pandemic. Outlined in our report to Council are the ideas and comments heard from FIG members, and informed by these the Task force made 15 recommendations (Appendix A section 4) that we consider will ensure that FIG has a modernised future- facing form of governance that is fit for a 21st century professional body.

### **In summary, the TF has found that:**

- The administration and organisational structure as defined in FIG statutes broadly meets the short term needs of member associations; but
- To meet member's future expectations, some purposeful changes are needed with regard to how these statutes are operationalised in a pragmatic way that ultimately depends upon people rather than the rules.

## 2. Key Activities and Outreach

We have aimed to use methods that reach the greatest audience as possible: the FIG Hanoi Working Week (May 2019); online questionnaires (November 2019) and a series of online roundtables during the FIG 2020 Working week and thereafter facilitating meetings with FIG officers (notably CLGE did so with their members), and throughout we have posted E news and web resources. For an oversight of the TF and all of the detailed reports see the FIG website at:

[https://www.fig.net/organisation/general\\_assembly/task\\_force/governance\\_19-22.asp](https://www.fig.net/organisation/general_assembly/task_force/governance_19-22.asp)

The views of FIG members have been drawn from across the breadth of FIG resulting in responses submitted by MAs, individuals and CLGE on behalf of their own membership, in addition to holding an online meeting with ACCO and Network Chairs to gain further feedback. (Appendix A). Although engagement has been considerably impacted by the covid-19 pandemic resulting in the lost opportunity for face-to-face meetings, notwithstanding there is a clear direction of travel from our members that business cannot continue as usual.

The submissions were reviewed, and recorded drawing on those comments that relate to the central question 'does the current administration and organisational structure meet the current and immediate needs and expectations of MA's and enable FIG to be primed for the future? From these engagement platforms the Task force submitted its final report to Council in February 2021 (appendix A) with 15 recommendations clustered into three broad headings: Governance, Branding our WW Conferences and Volunteering

Members have highlighted significant drivers requiring change which our organisation needs to understand and address in the longer term. While a number of these drivers will take time to fully comprehend and implement by FIG office, there are immediate practical steps FIG may take to respond to the needs of members in the short term.

So important is this topic, a discussion at the General Assembly is a valuable opportunity to further engage with FIG members. How this is scheduled is summarized below.

## 3. Engagement at FIG General Assembly 2021

Council is pleased to include in the GA session 3 a focus on the TF final report and invites GA members and conference delegates to attend and participate in breakout sessions devised to specifically discuss three areas that are underpinned by the following recommendations:

- **Member Benefits (recommendation 3)** Outlining the Benefits of the FIG Network to members, moderated by FIG Director Louise Friss Hansen
- **Brand (recommendation 7 and 8):** Understanding and defining the FIG brand, moderated by VP Diane Dumashie
- **YSN transitioning and integration (recommendation 12 and 13):** Increasing and enabling young surveyors to transition from the YSN, moderated by Chair YSN, Kwabena Asiana

The session is intended to be informative, participatory and will result in gaining members views of their needs. The session is designed into three moderated breakout session discussions with the outcomes presented at plenary. These deliberations will be important to further inform organisational considerations in the upcoming year. The session is broadly formatted as follows:

<b>CEST</b>	<b>Friday 25th June, session 3:</b>
11.00hrs	Session 3 starts
<b>11.20hrs</b>	<b>Agenda Item: Governance Task Force</b>
<b>10 mins</b>	TF Presentation highlights
<b>10 mins</b>	Presidents response
<b>50 mins</b>	Break out discussion x 3
<b>20 mins</b>	Moderator feedback; main action oriented highlights arising from the discussion- i.e what can FIG Council consider and FIG Office to do
<b>13.00</b>	Next Steps and Close

## 5. Closing remarks

FIG has been ever mindful of the need to be relevant to its members. To ensure that FIG has a modernised future-facing form of governance fit for a 21st century professional body this Task Force has engaged and listened to the views of its members. Because the TF is operating in the short term, our work is effectively a rapid appraisal of the FIG's current position and looks forward to consider what is necessary for the organisation to be 'primed' and 'Fit for the Future'.

### *The TF has found that*

- ***The administration and organisational structure as defined in FIG statutes broadly meets the short term needs of member associations; but***
- ***To meet their future expectations, some purposeful changes are needed with regard to how these statutes are operationalised in a pragmatic way that ultimately depends upon people rather than the rules.***

The result of the collaborative engagement has been reported to Council with the ideas and comments heard and in turn these have informed the preparation of 15 recommendations. It is important to recognise that the report has gleaned and highlighted so much more from members and that this will take time to comprehend. The Task force is pleased that Council and the FIG office will be going through the detail in the upcoming year.

It is considered that the report's positive comments will enable FIG to meet the changing expectations of members in the short term which when combined with the Presidents 2028 initiative will continue to enable FIG to operate as a global network that is ready to equip the profession for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The chair looks forward to the participation of GA members and conference attendees during the dedicated session on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June

**Dr Diane Dumashie FRICS**  
**FIG Vice President**

**Footnotes 1&2**  
**Appendix A**

**Foot note 1: The members of the Task Force:**

Chair: Diane Dumashie (FIG VP), Jakoba Kgopolelo (Botswana), James Kavanagh (UK) Kate Fairlie (Australia) Kwabena Asiama (Ghana) Maurice Barbieri (Switzerland) Mikael Lilje (Sweden) Melissa Harrington (USA) Pekka Halme (Finland) Robert Sarib (Australia)

**Foot note 2:**

So important is this topic, a further closely aligned initiative also emerged, i.e. the much longer future strategy of FIG to 2028. To be clear, this governance TF is working in the context of change in the immediate term, and will be concluded in 2021. The long term is being considered under the auspices of FIG 2028 initiative (see footnote 2).

With the advent of the FIG 2028 initiative the distinguishing terms of reference for each are defined as follows;

- **FIG 2028:**  
Refers to the visionary processes by which a body assures itself that the long terms interests of its stakeholders are satisfied.
- **FIG Task Force 2021:**  
The Task Force on Governance refers to the short term process (2 year horizon) by which a body plans, organises, implements and monitors its day to day operations and administrative matters.