

**Report to the 28<sup>th</sup> General Assembly  
FIG Working Week in Cairo, April 2005**

**Report from ACCO Round Table at the General Assembly**

- Vice President Andreas Drees asked the Chairs Elect from Commissions to the stage (Comm. 1: Yaacoub Saade; Comm. 2: Bela Markus; Comm. 3: Chryssy Potsiou; Comm. 4: Andrew Leyzack; Comm. 5: Rudolf Staiger; Comm. 6 Alojz Kopacik; Comm. 8: Simon Adcock; Comm. 10: Andrew Morley). Commission 7 was represented by its current chair: Paul van der Molen.
- Adam Greenland ‘set the scene’ by providing an issue for the General Assembly to ponder. The statement / question was –
  - How can Member Associations interact and engage more with Commissions to progress their work?*
  - This could include issues like...*
  - Greater input from National Delegates to the future work of Commissions?*
  - ... or ...*
  - Addressing Developing Country issues more effectively?*
- Statement by Helge Onsrud: FIG needs to continue to build on the Sustainable Development publication by addressing the needs of the poor people through Commission projects.
- Paul van der Molen (Comm. 7) responded by saying that his new Chair Elect is proposing to have 3 WGs that will focus on :
  1. Land Tenure Issues - formal / informal settlements and their social / legal aspects
  2. Land Reform – land allocation and registration
  3. Land Technology – application to appropriate situation.
- Andrew Morley also responded by pointing out that there is an existing WG on affordable housing and that he will continue this in his work plan. He also mentioned that he would like more participation from other Commissions.
- Yaacoub Saade (Comm. 1) proposed to:
  1. provide symposiums specific to their commission
  2. have programs associated with the people and human side of the profession
  3. focus on professionalism and ethics in surveying
  4. gathering and identifying the needs of surveyors in developing countries.
- Iain Greenway challenged the Chairs Elect to look at :
  1. how FIG can re-engage National Delegates. He suggested that using technology such as chat rooms, on-line forums – especially during the stage of drafting work plans
  2. reviewing the current FIG goals and then developing a work plan around these goals. He suggested that FIG do not have working groups within in each Commission but rather that WGs focus on a whole of FIG work plan with cross commission involvement.Iain Greenway’s suggestion was welcomed by the General Assembly.
- Robert Foster commented the private sector (who make up the core membership of the member associations) feels FIG has little relevance to them. He felt FIG (when developing

their work plans) have not been considering / including the wants / needs or workings of the private as much as it should. He also added that because of this the engagement / interaction of the private sector with FIG has been low, and as the public and academic sector can related to the current topics being promoted by FIG they are more abundant in FIG. He therefore requested the Chairs Elect to encourage / entice more involvement from the private sector by –

1. developing FIG work to be more relevant to the private practice
  2. defining the relationship of the public / private sectors
  3. increasing the communication / dialogue between the sectors.
  4. considering private sector issues.
- Andrew Morley and Yaacoub Saade agreed with Robert Foster's comments.
  - Bela Markus (Comm. 2) briefly explained his work program which included the knowledge infrastructure.
  - Chryssy Potsiou (Comm. 3) will work on land management with a more balanced approach between the private / public sector. She also said that they will concentrate on the area of assisting / developing young professionals and this will require support from member associations
  - Andrew Leyzack (Comm. 4) will be looking at the coast / tidal interface zones to assist developing countries to manage this potential area of high activity. He also mentioned the role of Comm. 4 in capacity building in developing countries through cooperation with the IHO.
  - Andreas Drees closed the discussion by stating that all these issues will be tabled / and discussed at ACCO in Cuba.

Matt Higgins  
Chair of FIG Commission 5