



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS

## Sydney Declaration

We, members of FIG and participants of the FIG XXIV International Congress in Sydney, 11-16 April 2010, recognise the importance of good land information and good land governance in support of the global agenda such as the Millennium Development Goals, and as a basis for meeting the key challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century such as climate change, natural disasters, environmental degradation, rapid urban growth, and poverty eradication.

We note a range of scientific, technological and practical developments reported during the plenary and technical sessions of the Congress and the immense progress made within the global surveying community. We particularly note:

- Great progress in the development and use of global positioning infrastructures in a wide range of activities for the benefit of society;
- Significant technological developments in surveying and mapping tools and practices;
- Wide applications of integrated land information systems in support of decision making and good land governance;
- The importance of good land administration for sustainable development;
- The development and advancement of new tools such as the Social Tenure Domain Model;
- The emerging concept of spatially enabled society;
- The important role of land professionals in land acquisition, land development and project management
- The increasing role of land professionals towards sustainable cities and the development of rural spaces towards bridging the urban-rural divide; and
- The need for engagement and leadership by land professionals in the area of climate change, not just in monitoring but also in explaining to a broader audience.

We confirm our commitment to:

1. Capacity building, education and training, and professional development and ethics;
2. Engagement of the ten FIG commissions and encouragement of young surveyors;
3. Continuing engagement with national member associations and regional structures and organisations;
4. Continuing partnership with the UN agencies such as FAO, UN-HABITAT, UN-OOSA, and the World Bank, as well as sister organisations within the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies;

and call for sustained international collaboration to address the global challenges, achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and enhance the contribution of the surveying profession in this regard.

The Congress also hosted a forum for representatives of national cadastral and mapping agencies at the Director General/Chief Executive Officer level, as well as a very successful Small Islands Developing States Workshop resulting in an Agenda for Action on Building the Capacity.

The XXIV FIG International Congress 2010 was immensely successful, attracting over 2,200 participants from over 100 countries, over 800 presentations in about 150 sessions.

16<sup>th</sup> April 2010