



COMMISSION 1

Newsletter June 2005



Dear Delegates Commission 1,

Working Week Cairo is over and I hope you all came safely back home. And back to daily routine work means keeping all delegates of our Commission 1 informed about what happened in Cairo. Here you may find the minutes of our annual Commission Meeting. Other informations about the General Assembly, the ACCO Meeting or the Technical Sessions you can find under www.fig.net. After publishing two newsletters in 2004 you can now see our third edition in total and the first for this year. The second newsletter 2005 will follow after the regional meeting in Havanna.

COMMISSION 1 MEETING FIG Working Week 2005

Sunday 17 April 2005,
Intercontinental Semiramis, Cairo.

14 Members attended the Commission 1 meeting.

1. Opening Welcome

The Commission Chair, Mr Klaus Rürup, opened the meeting and welcomed all the delegates.

A special welcome was given to Mr Jerry Ives, who had just been formally recognized by FIG for his contribution over many years. It was noted with appreciation that there were a number of past Chairs of the Commission represented in the audience continuing to actively support the work of the Commission.

The Chair thanked the Working Groups Chairs of the Commission for their work for the year acknowledging that this had allowed the positive results from the year's work as would be outlined later in the agenda. Michael Keller was an apology for this Working Week due to other commitments. The commitment of all those who had actively supported Commission 1 activities was much appreciated.

2. Proceedings

The Chair proposed an agenda to cover the following topics:

- Outcomes from the ACCO Meeting
- Report on the work of the Commission for the last year
- Planning for Commission 1 activities for the Congress in Munich
- Planning for Commission 1 activities for the Regional Meeting in Cuba
- Planning for Commission 1 activities for the Regional Meeting in Ghana
- Forward look at the Commission 1 Work Plan for the next four years from Chair Elect, Yaccoub (Jack) Saade
- Commission 1 social event
- Other matters from Commission 1 members
- Discussion and feedback

Additional items were as follows:

*Announcement from Gabriele Dasse on Working Group on Under-represented Groups in Surveying

*Jan de Graeve raised two points relating to Commission 1's role in setting standards across FIG noted the following:

- Two presenters who had contributed papers were not able to attend the conference.
- General Assembly had 51 out of 97 representatives present and were asked to vote democratically on issues – noted that there was no option to have proxy's attend and that this might in the future lead to problems with democratic voting.

3. Outcomes from the ACCO Meeting and Report of Commission 1 Activities for the last year.

The Chair reported that he had presented the Commission 1 report to ACCO and that it was well received. The Commission was commended for its achievements. The report noted that technical sessions for the WW were undertaken in conjunction with Commission 2 and were focused on a future outlook for FIG and Surveyors. In addition there was a comprehensive workshop on standards held by Iain Greenway and a session on developing guidelines to enhance the situation of Under-represented groups in FIG run by Gabriele Dasse.

Other achievements and forward initiatives were the work Jack Saade had undertaken with the Arab Union and the building of the connection with the Arab group of nations, the cooperative arrangements with the CLGE (Council of European Geodetic Surveyors) and FIG facilitated by the Chair in his role as president of CLGE, the building of the Standards Networks and related activities by Iain Greenway and the ongoing strengthening of the relationship with Commission 8 to be strengthened with co-operation with the Working Group run by Leonie Newnham.

CLGE was to hold a Seminar in Brussels on Professional Qualifications that would address a number of Commission 1 interests and would be held in early December. Further inquiries you can find under www.clge.org.

Commission 1 had participated in a number of forums as was detailed in the report given to Council. The Chair asked members to refer to this report and ask any questions about aspects of this during the meeting. This was noted by all.

ACCO had asked that future work plans focus on developing countries compared to activities related to developed countries. A discussion level draft working plan for Commission 1 for the next four years had been prepared. It would focus on Commission 1 issues of concern in developing countries and the relationship between people and the profession. It was expected that these were due in late April as ACCO would review them in May 2006. A report on this would be given later in the agenda.

4. Planning for Commission 1 activities for the Congress in Munich

The Chair reported that the activities for the Congress in Munich would provide the opportunity for the Commission to report on its work over the last four years. He had a number of options for the members to consider for presentations for the Congress and asked for comment and feedback from the members around the Commission 1 contribution.

The aim was for a presentation that allowed a creative approach and allowed participation by commission delegates and those interested in Commission 1 activities. This approach was supported by all.

The Chair suggested a panel discussion that allowed each of the Working Group chairs to report on the work they had done in turn and provided an overview of the work of the Commission – this then to be opened for discussion and comment from the audience on issues, questions and forward directions. He also suggested that there might be value in a session on missing issues – to explore why particular parts of the work plan were not covered.

There was an active discussion about options and a number of points and ideas were presented as follows:

- support for a panel discussion format that highlights elements of the work done and allowed for audience participation and discussion;
- workshops around themes that allowed for short presentations outlining topics and then an open forum for discussion of the issues raised. This noted to be particularly effective for areas of interest such as underrepresented groups in surveying and standards issues.
- the need for an interactive approach to any work done that allowed delegates time for discussion and comment.
- the need to consider that there were a number of events before Munich and that this needed to be considered and attention given to planning for the next period in a way that built on each session rather than creating from new.

It was decided to plan around the panel discussion format for the Commission 1 reporting sessions. One to be on looking back on what had been achieved, the other on what was proposed by the new working groups. It was noted that there would also be workshops around particular themes such as standards and underrepresented groups in surveying, Commission 1 technical sessions and as with recent approaches this was to allow for joint approaches between Commissions to explore related themes.

Discussion was held about the themes that would be of interest to member associations and delegates. It was noted that the basic business operations, ethics, forming associations (for countries that had no history of associations), legal context and standards were topics that had been raised as those of interest around the

world. However the particular regional area would determine what would be the issue of interest and so the content of the workshop would vary. FIG and Commission 1 had prepared guidelines and information booklets in this area and this could be the basis of a very good session, where the content was already prepared to an agreed standard and presenters from Commission 1 had expertise. Workshops around Commission 1 themes allowing local experts to participate and using the published information was viewed enthusiastically by the delegates. This was agreed to be particularly applicable for the Regional Meetings.

5. Planning for Commission 1 activities for the Regional Meeting in Cuba and the Regional Meeting in Ghana

The Chair noted that due to his presidential commitments for CLGE he would not be able to attend the meeting in Cuba however the Chair Elect, Jack Saade and the Secretary, Dietmar Sperling.

The idea of the workshop around Rights/Duties and Obligations as outlined under item 3 – adapted to suit the particular needs of the region was agreed as the best option for this meeting. A number of Commission 1 delegates with expertise in relevant areas noted interest in participating in such a program. (Ken Allred, John Parker and Iain Greenway).

Jack Saade was asked to arrange this with the Cuba, Regional Conference organizers, potential speakers and also make connections with local organizations to arrange speakers to talk about local issues in this area.

Once this approach was trialed in Cuba it would be reviewed and if appropriate used for Ghana.

6. Commission 1 social event

A social event was to be held for Commission 1 delegates at the Italian Restaurant in the hotel on the terrace from 17.30 to 19.00 on Tuesday 19 April. Leonie Newnham would arrange and put a sign with details on the Conference Notice Board.

7. Other matters from Commission 1 members

Gabriele Dasse announced the Workshop to be held on guidelines to enhance the situation of under-represented groups in FIG to be held on Wednesday 20 April from 14.00 to 15.30. A number of Commission 1 delegates made a commitment to attend.

The points raised by Jan de Graeve were discussed.

- Two presenters who had contributed papers were not able to attend the conference.
- General Assembly had 51 out of 97 representatives present and were asked to vote democratically on issues – noted that there was no option to have proxy's attend that might in the future lead to problems with democratic voting.

It was considered that the both were issues that should be referred to the Council for review and possible action. The second particularly to be directed to Ken Allred for consideration in his role as Vice President.

Jack Saade noted that a number of presenters had papers accepted as poster sessions and this was disappointing to people traveling large distances to participate in the conference. The issue was discussed in detail and it was agreed that this should be referred to ACCO for action.

There was no additional discussion and feedback and the meeting was closed. The Chair thanked all those delegates who attended and participated in the meeting.

Six generations of commission 1 chairs at General Assembly in Cairo



Jaques Tassou, Jan de Graeve, Ken Allred, John Parker, Klaus Rürup and the incoming chair Yaacoub Sade (from l. to r.)

Six generations of commission1 chairs met at the general assembly in Cairo for discussion and exchange of experience. All of them are still active and interested in the work of FIG.

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You may have noticed the picture at the top of this newsletter. With this photo commission 1 started a riddle. Who is it? Every newsletter will have a different picture at the top. At the congress in Munich commission 1 will award the winner. Please send your answers to the chair or secretary:

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