

XI International Conference, San Jose, Costa Rica, 16 – 18 September 2010

Welcome Address

Dear Minister, dear president, dear colleagues and friends

Buenos días, queridos colegas y amigos

- I am very happy to be here in Costa Rica again, actually for the third time. I was here in November 2006 to prepare for FIG regional Conference here in Costa Rica held in November 2007 at this conference and hotel facility. A highly successful conference that also started a new era of cooperation between FIG and the Latin American region.
- FIG has had a focus on Latin America over the recent years and we strongly support the efforts of establishing a regional organization. This is also why we are three representatives from FIG present at this conference – I as the current FIG President, Teo Chee Hai as the incoming President taking over by the end of the year, and my good friend Pedro Cavero as the FIG liaison ambassador for Latin America. The aim is to finalize the establishment of a Pan American Association of Surveyors that can work in close cooperation with FIG as the global organization. This is a great achievement and I congratulate our Costa Rica colleagues on this.
- I also congratulate our Costa Rican colleagues on hosting this international conference with such a good attendance. This is a great opportunity to share experience and further develop the profession. And I understand that Costa Rica has some exciting ongoing developments in the area of cadastral and land administration that in turn also may change the profile of the professional surveyor in the region. For me this conference is also a great opportunity to meet with so many colleagues and friend from the Latin American region
- In the coming three days we will work very hard for the development of the profession in this region of the world. I am sure we will have a very successful conference and I wish all the best...

Muchas gracias y muchos éxitos y mucha diversión y happiness – Thank you