

**Report to the 31st General Assembly
FIG Working Week in Stockholm, Sweden, June 2008**

FIG Commission 7 – Cadastre and Land Management

Report of Activities 2007-2008

1. General

Commission 7 deals with land administration (“the process of determining, recording and disseminating information about the ownership, value and use of land when implementing land management policies”, ref. UNECE Land Administration Guidelines 1996)

Commission 7 established its concept of activities about 15 years ago. It is in line with the FIG long term professional strategy and selected topics to deal with

- advanced cadastre
- developing land administration
- creating secure land tenure
- application of innovative, advance technology in land administration.

Commission 7 aims:

- to provide a forum for enhancing and exchanging knowledge about cadastre, land administration and land management world wide
- to encourage the development of pro poor land management and land administration
- to promote the importance of development of sustainable land administration as infrastructure for sustainable development to underpin economic growth
- to promote the application of innovative and advanced technology in cadastre, land administration
- to promote awareness of the role of surveyors in land administration matters to the public and among stakeholders

2. Work Plan 2007-2010

The Commission activities followed the work plan basically but extended its work participating and contributing actively in many events relevant to Commission 7.

3. Annual meeting

The Commission 7 Annual meeting was held in Seoul, Korea, 18-23 May 2007, including an open symposium on “Good practice in Cadastre and Land registry”. The meeting was organised in co-operation with the Korean Cadastral Survey Corporation, KCSC. 40 participants from 14 countries attended the meeting. We were pleased to welcome Mongolia as a new country and new delegates from Germany, Hong Kong and Bulgaria.

The Annual meeting received a very strong political support by Korean Cadastral Survey Corporation and the Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs, MOGAHA. The Annual meeting was opened by the President of KCSC Mr. Kong Min Bae and the vice minister of MOGAHA. We were officially invited to visit MOGAHA and the Minister Myung- Jae, Park received the chair of the Commission, Paul van der Molen FIG vice president and the three working group chairs for discussion.

The program of the Annual meeting was structured according to traditions three days commission meetings, one day open symposium and one day technical tour. Korean representatives have introduced the activities of KCSC and land surveyor profession in Korea. They are very advanced in technology and electronic services. The commission was informed about the FIG Council, Commission 7 and working groups work plan 2007-2010. There was a good discussion on the preparation of the special technical session to be held in Stockholm WW on “slum financing” and commission contribution.

The commission, together with KCSC, organised a very successful open symposium on “Good Practice in Cadastre and Land registry” which was a parallel event with the Cadastre Expo organised by KCSC. The Seoul Convention Center was the venue of the symposium and the EXPO. 400-500 Korean professionals attended the symposium. We organised 4 technical sessions with 14 presentations, 5 from Korea, 2 from Japan, Commission contributed with 7 presentations. The opening ceremony of the Cadastre Expo - held in the auditorium of the Convention Center - was the part of the symposium with an audience of 3000, politicians and professionals, not only from Korea but from other neighbouring countries as well. The minister of MOGAHA and the president of KCSC opened the event. The chair of Commission 7 was invited as the only keynote speaker.

4. Activities

4.1 Working group activities

Working Group 7.1 – Development of Pro Poor Land Management and Land Administration

Chair: Vice Chair Christian Lemmen (The Netherlands)

Progress report

Followed the work plan, the Social Tenure Domain Model, the specialization of the Land Administration Domain Model, was further developed, the Land Administration Domain Model was promoted..

Expert Group Meeting for African Land registrars was organised by UN Habitat in Nairobi, Kenya, November 26-27. Commission 7 was invited. Christian Lemmen, chair of the working group attended the workshop, presented the paper "Social Tenure Domain Model" and also represented András Osskó, chair Commission 7.

Many questions were discussed, for example, how can the existing continuum and recognition of customary rights be applied to implement incremental tenure upgrading. It was also discussed what particular techniques and procedures must be envisaged to register land rights and transactions in non cadastral environment.

Working Group 7.2 – Land Administration to Support Sustainable Development

Chair: Vice Chair Soeren Christensen (Denmark)

Progress report

A workshop on “Land Administration for Sustainable Development”, as a pre-conference for GeoConference Quebec 2007 October 2-5 2007, was organised by Commission 7. Working group 2 in co-operation with the Fédération des Géométriers Francophones (FGF). Thanks to the chair of the working group 2 Soeren Christensen, and Daniel Roberge Canadian delegate to Commission 7 for their excellent job. FIG President Stig Enemark, Remy Sietchiping from UN Habitat and Keith Bell from the World Bank were invited speakers of the initial session. The workshop attracted about 50 participants from 22 countries, half of them arrived from the developing or emerging countries, mainly officials, responsible for land administration and cadastre, land surveyors, geomaticians, legal experts, academics, and students involved in co-operation projects.

Working Group 7.3 – Application of Innovative Technology in Land Administration

Chair: Vice Chair Daniel Steudler (Switzerland)

Progress report

During the Annual Meeting in Seoul, Korea the Commission organised in co-operation with the Korean Cadastral Survey Corporation a one day open symposium on “Good practice in Cadastre and Land Registry”. It was a great success, about 400 professionals attended mainly from Korea but also from the neighbouring countries. 14 speakers from 9 countries presented papers on good practice of the topic.

The Working group supported the start of UN/FAO Project “FLOSS Cadastre”. An Expert Group Meeting was held in Rome, October 22-23, 2007.

The project is being supported by the World Bank as well. The FAO provided some funding for getting the project started. In a first phase, a consultant, Gertrude Pieper has been mandated to establish a scoping paper, the intention of which was to explore the field and make a recommendation how to approach the topic. This scoping paper is very good quality and a valuable basis for continuation.

In Commission 7 Working group 3. Work plan the working group intend to explore the possibilities of “free/libre open –source software”, FLOSS, in the cadastre field. The main initiative comes from the FAO Land Tenure group, which has seen many projects failed in developing countries, often due to the high costs of software and licenses. FAO and Commission 7 are convinced that a contribution in this area would be beneficial to many projects. In the EGM Mika Törhönen, Paul Munro-Faure, Dave Palmer, Vladimir Evtimov represented FAO, FIG Commission 7 was represented by András Osskó and Daniel Steudler. Gavin Adlington from World Bank, Gertrude Pieper and Gottfried Konecny as consultants have also participated in the EGM.

The aim of the EGM was to recognize the results of the scooping paper and to discuss the next steps. Commission 7 intends to support the project in the future as well.

4.2 Contribution to major FIG events

The Commission actively participated in the major FIG events, Working Week, Regional conference during the reported period.

- FIG Working Week, Hong Kong, SAR, China, May 13-17, 2007
The commission presented more than 70 papers
- 6th FIG Regional Conference, San José, Costa Rica, November 12-15, 2007

4.3. Contribution to other events

UN-Habitat and the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) in cooperation with the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) held a three day expert group meeting on Transparency in Land administration in UN headquarters Nairobi, Kenya 29-31 January 2007. Paul van der Molen and Christiaan Lemmen attended the event.

The Commission contributed to workshop on “Pro Poor and Innovative Land Tools” in UN Habitat, Nairobi Kenya 24. July 2007. Vice Chair Christiaan Lemmen attended the event.

Conference on “Challenges for Land Policy and Administration” was held in Washington D.C. US, in February 14-15 2008. Vice Chair Christiaan Lemmen participated in the event presenting paper on “Social Tenure Domain Model”

5. Communications

Commission 7 holds a website within the FIG website. Our aim to keep the interested professionals informed. The website is being maintained by FIG Office, many thanks for their active support.

The Commission published and circulated three newsletters, December 2006, June 2007, and December 2007, via e-mail to delegates, correspondents and friends. We have been using the list of the Commission e-mail addresses. We try to keep the list up-to-date, based on reported changes by delegates, and friends.

6. Future activities

The Commission will hold its Annual meeting in Verona, Italy, 11-15 September 2008.

The Commission with FIG Commission 2 and ITC (International Institute for Geoinformation Science and earth Observation) co-organises a joint International Workshop Sharing Good Practices on “E-Learning in Surveying, Geo-Information Sciences and Land Administration” in Enschede, The Netherlands, June 11-13, 2008, just before the Stockholm Working Week.

The Commission organises an International Seminar on “State and Public Sector Land Management” in September 9-10, 2008. Verona, Italy before the Commission 7 Annual meeting. Organisation of the Seminar, based on FIG-FAO agreement and supported by the Italian Surveyor Association, CNG.

Commission supports the joint UN Habitat-FIG Seminar as a special session of the Stockholm Working Week.

The Commission will support the Second Cadastre Congress in Ankara, Turkey, 21-23 May 2008. The chair of the commission is invited to attend the Congress.

7. OICRF

The OICRF will report separately to the General Assembly.

András Osskó
Chair, FIG Commission 7
28. February 2008

Commission web site: <http://www.fig.net/commission7>