

Opening Greeting

Dr. Ron ADLER

Prof Enemark – FIG President, Mr. Yossi Kraus – Chairman Israeli Surveyors Association, Dr. Haim Srebro – Director General Survey of Israel and Director of the Working Week, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the great privilege to speak to you today, 37 years after I served as Chairman of the FIG meeting in Tel-Aviv in 1972. I have been associated with the FIG ever since. Israel put up its candidacy to host the 2003 Working Week at the FIG Congress in Brighton, England. I made the presentation to the General Assembly there and Eilat won over Paris by an overwhelming majority. The leader of the Israeli Delegation was Aviel Ron, then Director General of the Survey of Israel.

To our great dismay Aviel Ron was killed by a suicide bomber, together with his two children Anat, 21 and Ofer, 18, whilst having lunch at a Haifa restaurant on the 31 March 2002, a few days before the FIG Congress in Washington. Aviel was well liked by his colleagues, admired by his subordinates for his natural charm, the unusual ability to express himself in simple words on complicated matters and for his easy smile. We miss him and shall never forget him.

The motto of this meeting is "Surveyors role in accelerated development" – Eilat is one of the accelerated development examples in Israel together with Tel-Aviv which celebrates 100 years of its existence, Ashdod and others.

I would like to mention briefly that accelerated development was the Israeli surveyors finest hour. They were everywhere, worked long hours and often coordinated the development efforts.

However the accelerated development does not easily coexist with legal cadastre. In the case of Israel we suffer from the consequences of this problem in the many years of its existence including the present. In an ideal situation one would expect the new tenant to receive the keys to his home in one hand and a certificate of registration of his rights in the other hand. Unfortunately the pressures of accelerated development in many cases result in ad hoc solutions which are very difficult to rectify afterwards. You will hear, I am sure, about this during the technical sessions.

I wish you all a very pleasant and successful Working Week.

Opening Ceremony
Ron Adler
Welcome Greeting

FIG Working Week 2009
Surveyors Key Role in Accelerated Development
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