



## **Steering Committee Meeting**

6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012

FIG Working Week Rome – Italy

Room - S. Giovanni, and Meeting Rom 1, Rome Cavalieri

1. Welcome, Opening Remarks, Roll call  
In attendance – Mikael, Rob, Neil, Graeme, David, Volker, Alison.  
Observers – Nic Donnelly, Dan Roman, Renee Shields, Larry Hothem, Kevin Kelly, Ruth Neilan, Chris Rizos
2. Confirmation of Agenda and any additional items  
Additional item – “MEGA” project, Nic Donnelly
3. Action items from previous Steering Committee minutes – Refer to Action Items spreadsheet “Marrakesh”.  
Majority of the action items have been completed, outstanding ones are generally on-going.
4. Feedback, review and reflection on
  - Reference Frame in Practice Technical Seminar
    - the content of the next seminar needs to be focus and be based on a specific theme or purpose relevant to the region
    - it should comprise of theory, case studies and also some worked / practical examples.  
The ratio of content should be balanced but it may also be dependent on the theme or the location of the event.
    - The target audience needs to be clearly defined and thus will also determine the seminar content.
    - The next seminar will most likely be at the next SEASC in the Philippines, June 2013 (3<sup>rd</sup> week ?). The theme and content may be related to APREF and the target audience should be the members and participants of the PCGIAP APREF working group  
ACTION : Rob to upload presentations to the FIG website and advise attendees.  
ACTION : Rob to distribute the feedback from attendees and the original EOI's to presenters.  
ACTION : Mikael / Rob to confirm the venue and date of the next seminar and advise the SC.  
ACTION : Rob to start liaising with John Dawson (PCGIAP) re the organisation and technical program for the next seminar in the Philippines.
  - Technical program and other activities with respect to Rome WW
    - There were some “no shows” experienced with respect to the technical sessions. This meant some sessions only had one or two presentations which shortened the session time considerably without notice.
    - Some sessions had too many presentations so the concept of flash plus poster may need to be re-considered.
    - Facilities for the technical sessions were of a high standard.

- Most of the WW social events were out of the price range or budget of some Commission 5 delegates however the combined Commission function with 4 and 6 was well organised and reasonably priced.
- All other aspects of the working week went well.

ACTION : Mikael to pass the above comments to ACCO and FIG Office

#### 5. Report from WG's

- progress and general discussion on workplans and issues ;
- progress of publications
- discussion of Inter-WGs and Inter-Commissions activities both current and future – i.e. within Comm 5 and with Comm 4 and 6.
- website maintenance

For update of working groups refer to the Commission Open meeting presentation which is attached.

Issues and related ACTIONS–

- WG 5.1 – Need assistance with finding a replacement for Iain Greenway's role in the Standards Network group as the TC 211 liaison officer before Dec 2012. After discussions with Iain Greenway and Larry Hothem it was decided that the person should preferably come from Commission 4,5, or 6 and that Andrew Leyzack was a good candidate. Mikael to contact Andrew.
- WG 5.1 also needs assistance with finding a suitable person to be the facilitator of GNSS queries. It was proposed that Neil Weston could be this person. Mikael to confirm with Neil.
- WG 5.1 is also seeking to find a suitable person to assist with the review of the FIG publication on EDM standards so if there are any suggestions please email David.
- Some of the new Commission officers require official letters from the Commission to verify their participation in the commission and also attendance to FIG WW or related symposium etc. Officers who required this need to contact the WG Chair, Mikael or Rob.
- All working group chairs need to review and update their websites. The protocol is to email these changes to Louise at the FIG Office and cc in Rob.
- All to review / analyse their current work plan to assess what can actually be achieved by the 2014 Congress. This particular relates to those working groups who proposed "publications".
- All to start considering their possible role in the next Commission term (2015-18) with new Chair Elect Volker Schwieger.

Nic Donnelly advised of a new project for either WG 5-1 or 5-2. This project relates to the meta data associated with geodetic observations / data and initially involves creating a web portal to allow working group members to upload their information.

ACTION : Mikael to advise FIG Vice President Rudolf Staiger of this project once Nic has supplied a brief outline of the project

Nic's proposal was as follows –

Hi Rudolf,

I am sending this email so that, if you deem it appropriate, you can mention the proposal below to FIG Council and seek their feedback.

I am proposing to set up a group to work on issues around geodetic data and metadata. The proposed name of this group is Metadata Exchange for Geodetic Applications (MEGA). At this stage IAG, through the IGS, has been approached informally and has

expressed interest in supporting such a working group. The IGS Central Bureau has indicated that it will provide technical support (website, mailing list etc) to this working group.

In order that the working group also includes the geodetic surveying community, I believe there would be benefit to having FIG involvement in some form. We are happy to be guided by FIG as to the most appropriate form for this cooperation. This could be a joint FIG/IGS working group, or some of other form.

A charter for the working group will be developed over the next couple of months. I have raised this proposal at the Commission 5 meeting and there was strong support for such a group. At this stage, the general aims of the working group would be:

- promote best practise in the development of metadata standards in geodesy
- coordinate metadata standards development in geodesy, up to the point that it is appropriate to work with a formal standard-setting body, such as ISO
- provide a forum for discussion of matters related to geodetic metadata and metadata exchange
- provide a centralised mechanism for discovery of metadata exchange initiatives in the geodetic community

Kind regards,

Nic

#### 6. Report on ACCO and Council

The following is relevant information from the ACCO meeting :

- Conference statistics – 1200 participants, 700 abstracts, 450 presentations in 100 sessions from 85 different countries.
- 130 participants to the Young Surveyors Conference
- 42 participants to the Reference Frame in Practice Seminar
- 61 papers were submitted for the Peer Review process and 25% were rejected; the Commissions need to consider suitable reviewers for the next Working Week in Nigeria. Note there will be no peer reviewing for the regional conference in Uruguay – Montevideo
- Each Commission to critically analyse their work plan – i.e. what was working and what was not.
- Commissions need to respond quickly when the request for possible session topics for the next FIG events are emailed. This will occur once the FIG Office has advised of the event “themes” for both the Working Week and Regional conference. Commissions are also to consider “technical” plenary / key note speakers.
- Commissions need to consider what they can contribute to the UN Geospatial Information project 7 initiatives.

#### 7. Future FIG symposiums and activities – Focus will be primarily technical sessions / workshops / forums for 8th FIG Regional Conference 26-29 November, Montevideo, Uruguay. Any others? See the above notes in the previous section. Dates for the Regional Conference : 26-29 November 2012, Working Week : 6-10 May 2013.

At this stage the Regional Conference may focus on SIRGAS related topics / themes.

**ACTION :** All to consider possible themes for the Regional Conference and WW. This also includes potential plenary speakers

8. FIG Liaisons update and future – i.e. with UN, IAG, ION, ISPRS, PCGIAP. Includes – reports on events with sister organisations, attendance to any relevant conferences, new opportunities / liaisons, future projects / arrangements.

Refer to Open Commission meeting presentation and potential events that Commission 5 officers might attend.

**ACTION :** All - If possible the attending FIG officer should write a brief report on the event so that it can be published on the website or is included in the next Commission newsletter. This report could include event statistics and technical issues or content highlights.

Discussions on future FIG / IAG liaisons occurred. The following points of interest were –

- FIG/IAG Technical seminar, next in Philippines June 2013 At SEAC conference. Should have APREF focus and thus will also involve PCGIAP and possibly ICG also.  
**ACTION :** Rob and John Dawson to decide on focus, format etc as soon as possible.
- Special issue for the Journal of Applied Geodesy. This issue could focus on Kinematic, Mobile Mapping and Ubiquitous positioning. Published during 2013  
**ACTION:** Allison to check with Guther on the way forward.
- FIG/IAG publication on Reference Frames and Dynamic Datums  
It was decided that the way forward is to start by developing a table of contents and from there ask people to contribute. Publication to be ready for the General Assembly at the Congress in 2014.  
**ACTION:** Graeme to take lead and to draft the content list.
- MEGA - A sub-working group on Metadata Exchange for Geodetic Applications (MEGA) is proposed and endorsed by FIG Commission 5. This is a joint initiative together with IAG. A proposal is to be considered by FIG Council via Vice President Rudolf Staiger.

#### ISPRS / FIG

**ACTION :** Mikael to source the current MoU

**ACTION :** Allison to find a possible FIG ISPRS contact. Possibly get back in contact with Naser El-Sheimy.

9. Website and Communication – general discussion on the main pages of the Commission’s Website and other forms of media.

See **ACTIONS** in Agenda Item 5.

10. Define and clarify our basic communication protocols and admin procedures with – ourselves, FIG Office, other organisations etc.

**ACTION :** Mikael, Rob and other senior Commission officers to provide the relevant advice as required or requested.

11. Next Steering Committee meeting.

Depending on who is available, the next Steering Committee could most likely be in the Regional Conference in Uruguay, Montevideo or the next WW in Nigeria, Abuja. If these are not feasible then a Steering Committee meeting may be convened in another related event such as the SEASC in the Philippines.