

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

***Re: Election for FIG President at FIG Congress 2022 in Warsaw, Poland***

It is my great pleasure to e-meeting you via this communication. I hope you and your respected members of Association of Surveyors and Geospatial professions are all well and safe.

I – Prof. Abbas Rajabifard from the University of Melbourne, Australia have been nominated by our national association (Spatial Science and Surveying Institute-SSSI Australia) to be a candidate for upcoming FIG President election. The role I see for professional associations like FIG to represent the interests of its members is becoming more strategic in the current fast changing world and the emerging market.

We are living in an increasing complex and interconnected world, and a very fast growing digital market. In this context, risks are real in terms of skills quality, market concentration and external geopolitical factors in addition to the global challenges, such as climate change, sustainability, community and infrastructure resilience, and significant effects of covid, which are are increasingly altering all aspects of our societies and our economic stability.

In this context I see more important role for our surveying and geospatial professions to play, and at the same time the changing directions and new requirements I see for these professions.

For FIG to maintain its international leading role and to improve its standing, we need to re-examine our FIG values and vision, its strategies, operational processes to better serve the global community. We should develop a smarter plan and strategic activities, and ensure FIG remains relevant and connected, and serve the needs of the market, and the interests of surveyors for the world we have today and into the future, in this transformation process. In particular inline with global initiatives such as SDGs, IGIF, FELA, NUA, ..that have been emerged by authorities and global entities such as United Nations, UNGGIM, and World Bank.

Should I get support to serve FIG as President, my promise and proven international leadership track records would ensure FIG is on a very positive trajectory for future, its strategic impacts, its sustainability and growth. I will bring a vision for FIG in converging its aims, objectives and

mission in line with all changes in the market. My focus will be on FIG agenda today and potential future - opportunities and challenges, and strategic pathways to nurture strong collaborative partnerships with all relevant players.

As the main points in our strategy for the FIG over the next four years, I will focus on:

- Global Agenda, connecting local challenges to the global actions, and global market to local opportunities;
- Growth of member associations, and increase opportunities for wider surveyors/practitioners;
- FIG Commissions, their missions and plans, and their cross-boundary collaborations;
- Regional needs, challenges and opportunities;
- Connecting with the surveyors on the ground;
- FIG diversity and inclusion,
- Supporting Young Surveyors and Women in surveying and geospatial community (promoting *Digital Surveyors/Engineers*);
- Capacity Building (human capacity and organizational capacity) and providing new digital skills.

Among others, I am preparing my campaign with a website [www.abbasrajabifard.com](http://www.abbasrajabifard.com), where you get more information about me, my collaborative plan and activities.

I am also interested to hear from the member associations, what their wishes and intentions are for FIG. I therefore, would welcome an opportunity to meet at a convenient time with you and your team to discuss to get to know and to listen to each other, and we share our vision as well as keen to hear the members' concern. Please let me at know ([abbas.r@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:abbas.r@unimelb.edu.au)) if you have any questions, or suggest time to meet online.

Please visit this this website:

[www.abbasrajabifard.com](http://www.abbasrajabifard.com)

Kind Regards,

Abbas Rajabifard  
Candidate for FIG President 2023-2026