

**Report to the 28<sup>th</sup> General Assembly  
FIG Working Week in Cairo, April 2005**

**Co-operation with International Organisations  
May 2004–April 2005**

**1. General**

After IUSM was disbanded in 1999 FIG has concentrated on bilateral co-operation with other international associations. Special focus has been on co-operation with traditional partners like the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), the International Cartographic Association (ICA), the International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) and the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB / IHO). FIG has signed memoranda of understanding with all these organisations.

FIG has close co-operation also with other international organisations like ISM, IFHP, ICEC, FIABCI and CIB. Some of these are networked in the Habitat Professionals Forum. FIG is also very active in ISO and its different TCs especially in TC211 and TS172 C6.

**2. Co-operation in 2004-2005**

International Association of Geodesy (IAG)

FIG has intensified co-operation especially with the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). The new President of IAG, Prof Gerhard Beutler attended the FIG Working Week in Athens giving a keynote presentation and he also attended the FIG Regional Conference in Jakarta as a speaker. Both visits offered an excellent opportunity for discussions between the Presidents of IAG and FIG. There has been discussions on a closer co-operation in organising events between FIG and IAG after IAG restructured its administration and commissions. Matt Higgins who is the focal point for IAG co-operation in FIG has worked in close co-operation with Chris Rizos in IAG and this has resulted in the strategy paper for FIG/IAG co-operation and on the practical level in participation in the UN OOSA. This action plan of the MoU will be updated by the end of 2005 at the IAG meeting in Cairns and at the FIG events. It has already been agreed that the FIG International Symposium on Deformation Measurement (12<sup>th</sup> Symposium will take place in 2006) will be organised in the future as a joint FIG/IAG event bringing the similar event of IAG to one event. Similar plan has been approved on organising the Symposium on Mobile Mapping Technologies (IAG, FIG and ISPRS). The MMT event will be organised in odd years and the deformation measurement symposium on even years. FIG and IAG are also co-operating in GNSS issues in UN OOSA

International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)

President Magel and Vice President Schroth attended the ISPRS Conference in Istanbul in July 2004. During the conference there was also a meeting of the Joint Board of Spatial Information Societies. President Magel met also with Prof. Ian Dowman, who is the new President of ISPRS in London in December 2004 during his visit to the United Kingdom. It is

expected that similar development that has happened with IAG in the last few years will be possible with ISPRS. President Dowman will also give a keynote presentation in the FIG Working Week 2005/GSDI-8 in Cairo.

#### International Cartographic Association, ICA

Prof. Milan Konecny, President of ICA attended the FIG Working Week in Athens and Secretary General Ferjan Ormeling attended the Regional Conference in Jakarta strengthening the co-operation between FIG and ICA. FIG participation to the ICA conference in Coruña, Spain in summer 2005 is planned.

#### International Society for Mine Surveying (ISM)

Vice President TN Wong attended the Congress of ISM in China P.R. in September 2004 and Prof. Yu Changxing, President of ISM attended the FIG regional conference in Jakarta where future co-operation was discussed. A good opportunity for joint activity would be the FIG regional conference to be held in Ghana in March 2006.

#### International Hydrographic Office (IHO/IHB)

The FIG/IHO/ICA Advisory Board has continued its work and had its annual meeting in Malaysia in August 2004. Svante Astermo, Chair of the Advisory Board gave the chairmanship to Andy Armstrong (IHO) at this meeting. He also left the Board after representing FIG for a long time. His successor is Ms. Tiina Tuurnala from Finland. The other FIG representatives are Gordon Johnston (Vice Chair), Dr. Mohd Razali Mahmud and David Wells.

President Alexandros Maratos, attended the FIG Working Week in Athens and will also attend the conference in Cairo.

#### International Federation of Hydrographic Societies (IFHS)

Chairman of the newly established IFHS Paul Hornsby will attend the Working Week in Cairo and preparations have been made to sign a MoU between FIG and IFHS during the week.

#### Joint Board of Spatial Information Societies

The role of the Joint Board of Spatial Information Societies has been unclear until recently. Some members of the Joint Board have been interested in more close and more formal co-operation while e.g. FIG has been reluctant to re-establish the International Union for Surveys and Mapping. The latest development indicates that the Joint Board will find its role as a coordinating body on geoinformation issues between the United Nations (Statistics Division) and the professional associations. It has been proposed that the Joint Board should have a permanent address and this should be the FIG office. More detailed discussions on the goals and aims of the Joint Board will be discussed at the next meeting of the Joint Board during the FIG/GSDI conference in Cairo.

## Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) and ISCGM

FIG and GSDI are organising a joint conference in Cairo. During the conference future co-operation and its formats will be discussed.

ISCGM will also have its annual general meeting in Cairo, which will offer FIG a good opportunity to discuss the FIG involvement in the Global Mapping.

## Other associations

During the year President Magel met with the President of International Federation of Housing and Planning, Dr. Francesc Ventura and immediate Past President Dr. Irene Wiesevon Ofen in Barcelona discussing future co-operation. At the same time FIG (Habitat Professionals Forum) participation to the International Union of Architects (UIA) Congress in Istanbul was agreed.

February 2005