

Commission 9 Valuation and Real Estate Management

“Managing Value for our Future”

**Report to General Assembly,
Abuja, May 2013**

WORKPLAN

The work plan of the Commission continues, with the focus on Property Taxation, specifically Automated Valuation Models (Study Group 9.1 Varnavas Pashoulis), Large Scale Land Acquisitions (Working Group 9.2 Ibimena Kakulu) and, in conjunction with Commission 7, the Management of Public Property Assets in Developing Countries. Learning lessons (from both good and bad practice) is an important theme underlying the work of Commission 9's Working Groups.

We are also involved in widespread discussions of methods of valuation where there is no market and anticipate further progress on this in Abuja in May. As a result, we will be seeking advice and input from Commission 9 delegates and friends in the near future.

Despite the fact that we are half-way through the four year term, it is time to plan the delivery of the reports which we proposed at the start, and that will be the main focus for the next two years.

Almost inevitably, over a four year term, things change and it is unfortunate that Prof h.c. Dr.-Ing Ingolf Burstede is unable to continue to chair our working group 9.3. A four year commitment to such a role is a big undertaking for anyone and we are very grateful to Ingolf for his early work in the area of Management of Public Property Assets in Developing Countries. While we are seeking a replacement for him, we continue to work jointly with Commission and their Working Group 7.4 on Land Management Reforms.

COMMISSION 9 STUDY GROUP 9.2 WORKSHOP

A Workshop of Mass Appraisal Systems was held on 14th – 16th September 2012 at Neapolis University, Paphos, Republic of Cyprus. The Workshop was organised jointly by the Cyprus Association of Property Valuers, Neapolic University, Paphos, and Commission 9.

The workshop was attended by delegates from around the world, including Alan S Dornfest of the International Association of Assessing Officers, based in the USA.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE, MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

After the Working Week in Rome which I reported on in my last newsletter, Commission 9 was present in Montevideo for the very first FIG Regional Meeting in South America. The event was very well attended and Commission 9 technical sessions proved most popular. It was particularly interesting to hear the presentations from the “local” surveyors and to discover both the similarities and the differences which we have between the major issues which confront us all.

As with all these occasions, much of the progress was made out of the sessions, with friendships and networks being developed and strengthened.

NEWSLETTERS

Two newsletters were published, one in June 2012 (following the Rome Working Week) and one in February 2013, both of which included updates from the IVSC and TEGOVA websites. These are available on the Commission 9 Website and my thanks go to the staff in the office for all their support in this as well as other FIG matters.

CHAIR ELECT

The election of Professor Dr Liao Junping as chair-elect to Commission 9 is an important milestone for Commission 9, and we look forward to working closely with him in the future.

Liao Junping is Associate professor and Director of the Institute of Real Estate Studies, at Lingnan College, Sun Yat-sen University. He is also the Vice President, China Institute of Real Estate Appraisers and Agents; President, Guangzhou Society of Real Estate Appraisers Lingnan College, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou in P. R. CHINA. He is also the CIREA delegate to Commission 9 and can be contacted at: liaojp@mail.sysu.edu.cn

SAD NEWS

I am sorry to report the death of Bruce Harding, who passed away on 20 January 2013. Bruce was born in 1931 in the USA and was Commission 9 Chair during the Finnish Presidency (1988 – 1991). His good friend, Juha Talvitie, describes him as “*modest*” and “*a good man and devoted appraiser*”. He worked at Harding Appraisal Co Eng, in Sebastopol, Ca. Our condolences to all his friends and family.

ANNUAL WORLD BANK CONFERENCE ON LAND AND POVERTY

There will be a paper presented to the Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty 2013 entitled “*Community Growth through Land Taxation*”. This paper is jointly authored by the Chair and Vice Chair of Commission 9 (Frances Plimmer and William J McCluskey).

Of particular interest is the increased links between the Commission, UN's FAO and the GLTN. There will be more about how the Commission and these important international organisations are collaborating in the future.

INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

FIG is represented by Frances Plimmer in a coalition recently established to develop International Property Measurement Standards, which will ensure a high degree of consistency in the measurement of property globally. She is supported by other colleagues in FIG in this activity. The first meeting of a coalition, which is led by RICS, will be held in May in Washington DC, USA. Further details will be made available via the website.