

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE INSTITUTE OF NAVIGATION (ION)  
AND  
THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS  
(FIG)**

## **1. Background**

The International Federation of Surveyors (Fédération Internationale des Géomètres, hereinafter referred to as FIG) and the Institute of Navigation (hereinafter referred to as ION) both recognize that each is an organization with many complementary activities serving similar professional constituencies involving research, development and education into varied aspects related to navigation, surveying, and positioning techniques.

FIG specializes in technical and professional areas, such as positioning and measurement, engineering surveys, hydrography, geographic information systems, infrastructure development, land and environmental planning, development and management, property valuation, and construction economics and procurement. FIG Commission 5 on Positioning and Measurement is the most closely aligned to the work of ION.

ION specializes in scientific, technical and professional areas, such as positioning, navigation, guidance, advanced space technology, such as Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS). ION is dedicated to the advancement of the art and science of navigation and serves a diverse community including those interested in air, space, marine, land navigation, and position determination. Although basically a national organization, ION's international membership, areas and scope of activities makes it a significant organization on the international scene. ION is affiliated with the International Association of Institutes of Navigation.

## **2. Objective and scope of this Cooperation Agreement**

The objective of this Cooperation Agreement (CA) is to provide an effective framework for a continuing liaison between the two organizations, for maintaining and increasing the opportunities of technical exchange between their members through a continuing program of cooperation, leading to mutual sharing of knowledge and expertise to the advantage of the membership of both organizations.

The motivation behind these collaborative efforts is the existing substantial overlap in the membership and the research and professional goals and objectives between ION and FIG, and the potential benefits that may include:

- Cross-advertising of professional meetings and regular information exchange
- Jointly sponsored meetings or sessions at professional meetings
- Joint professional workshops, schools and seminars
- Growth of the organizations' memberships and increased professional visibility.

### **3. Program of Activities**

In accordance with the background, objectives and purpose, as described above, both organizations agree to endeavor to establish and promote their cooperation for mutual benefit. The proposed activities will include, but are not limited to the following steps:

1. Regular contact should be established between both organizations and their elected leaderships to institute and maintain continuing liaison between the two organisations. Both FIG and ION should appoint contact persons to ensure such liaison. The focal point in FIG for this cooperation is Commission 5.
2. The organizations should inform each other about the structure of the established active entities, such as Commissions, Working Groups, Task Forces, Projects, etc., and invite representation from the other organization to each of these entities, where it is agreed that it would be appropriate and sensible.
3. The themes of mutual interests identified at the moment are:
  - Reference frames and observing systems
  - Positioning, measurements and applications
  - Navigation and tracking
  - Geoid determination and height systems
  - Sensors and platforms
  - Hydrographic surveying, marine geodesy
  - Systems for data processing, analysis and representation
  - Special applications of geodesy to engineering
  - Theory and algorithms
  - Education and training
  - Cooperation with other international organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
  - Contributing to multi-disciplinary research and advisory teams
4. The program of proposed schools, seminars, workshops, etc. should be communicated to the other organization to enable consideration as to whether joint participation would be of mutual benefit. Final announcement of such events should be communicated to the members of both organizations either by e-mail or via a posting on the organization's web site.
5. Both organizations should investigate possibilities to organize specialized joint seminars or workshops to serve broader professional communities.
6. Decision on joint or co-sponsored activities will be made by the ION and FIG Councils upon receiving favorable recommendations from the appropriate operational Office Bearers in ION and FIG.
7. Each organization should invite a representative from the other organization to attend their primary professional event (i.e., Congress, General Assembly, etc.).

8. If it is agreed that it would be appropriate and sensible, each organization should consider inviting a representative from the other organization to become a member (representative) of the appropriate bodies of each organization.

#### **4. Financial Commitment**

Recognizing that both ION and FIG are non-profit organizations, participation at jointly organized events or events organized either by ION or FIG should be funded by their respective organizations or from the budget of the event as agreed.

It is understood that neither organization can commit the other to any expenditure, save that from administering this agreement, without the specific written agreement of both organizations.

#### **5. Intellectual Property Rights and Legal Status**

Intellectual property rights, in particular copyright, of material such as information, software and designs, made available by ION and FIG to be used to carry out the activities under this CA shall remain with the originating party. Appropriate grants for use of such materials will be further described as specific activities and projects under this CA are formalized.

Copyright of the information, as well as rights to any other intellectual property, developed jointly by ION and FIG shall be jointly vested in both parties. Each organization shall have full rights to exploit such jointly owned works after informing the other organization without the need of approval of the other.

This Cooperation Agreement does not create any legal link between the two organizations, who will remain mutually independent entities.

This Cooperation Agreement is valid until ION or FIG proposes changes to it. Each organization has the right to propose changes to this Cooperation Agreement at any time. Any changes shall be subject to the agreement of both organizations.

Neither ION nor FIG will make any agreements with associations, which may conflict or compete with this Cooperation Agreement before giving advance notice and securing the agreement of the other organization.

On behalf of ION



Jim Doherty  
President of ION

On behalf of FIG



Prof. Stig Enemark  
President of FIG