

**FIG Commission 4 ‘HYDROGRAPHY’
WG 4.2 – Vertical Reference Frame**

**Summary of Activities
By Ahmed El-Rabbany - Chair**

As a follow-up of commission 4 meeting at the CHC 2002 in Toronto, a draft “white paper” was developed by Ahmed El-Rabbany, chair of WG 4.2. The paper was circulated to the members of the working group in March 2003. The paper aimed at: (1) promoting the understanding and realization of a vertical reference frame; and (2) examining the demand for a seamless vertical reference frame for use in hydrography, marine navigation, and coastal resource management. Feedbacks were received from two members, Mrs Ruth Adams and Mr. Jerry Mills.

The group gave two presentations (by Ruth and Ahmed) at the FIG Working Week, which was held in Paris, France, during the period 13-17 April 2003. Ruth’s presentation contained excellent examples that could be used to explain some of the issues given in Ahmed’s presentation. As such, it was agreed that the two papers be merged to form a second draft of the white paper. As soon as the revised paper is developed, it will be distributed to the members of WG 4.2. for feedback.