Bids to host FIG Congress 2014 – Evaluation Report

Summary of the evaluation

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Region: Asia. Previous congresses: 2010 Australia and the Pacific (Australia), 2006 Europe (Germany), 2002 North America (USA); 1998 Europe (United Kingdom); 1994 Australia and the Pacific (Australia); 1990 Europe (Finland); 1986 North America (Canada). Working Weeks: 2009 Middle East (Israel); 2008, Europe (Stockholm); 2007 Asia (Hong Kong SAR, China); 2005 Africa/Middle East (Egypt); 2004 Europe (Greece); 2003 Europe (France); 2001 Asia (Republic of Korea) and 2000 Europe (Czech Republic). There has never been an FIG Congress in Asia. Working Weeks in Asia: Hong Kong SAR, China (2007); Seoul, Korea (2001); Singapore (1997) and Beijing, China (PC meeting 1991).

Country: Malaysia has never hosted an FIG Congress or Working Week. Malaysia has hosted Commission 7 annual meeting in 1997 (Penang) and 2009 (Kuala Lumpur).

Member association: The bid is made by the Association of Authorised Land Surveyors of Malaysia (AALSM / PEJUTA) that is the Malaysian member association in FIG since 2002. AALSM has been established in 1979 and has about 400 members that represent 97% of practicing licensed surveyors. Malaysia was in 1968-2003 represented in FIG by the Institution of Surveyors Malaysia.

Supportive organisations: The bid is supported by Government of Malaysia (Tourism Malaysia); Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia; Land Surveyors Board; Board of Quantity Surveyors; Board of Valuers, Appraisers and Estate Agents Malaysia; Institution of Surveyors Malaysia; Professional Services Development Corporation and Universiti Malaya.

City: Kuala Lumpur is with 1.5 million people is a hub of commerce, entertainment and international activities. It is known for food and shopping opportunities. Variety of museums and cultural sights. Kuala Lumpur is rapidly developing and offers lot of interesting projects for surveying professionals.

Venue: The proposed congress venue is the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC). This is a modern first class convention centre in Kuala Lumpur City Centre overlooking KLCC Park and the iconic Petronas Twin Towers. It is easily accessed by extensive public transport and has 6,000 hotel rooms next door. KLCC fulfills all FIG requirements for a congress venue (both technical programme and exhibition). KLCC offers a value add programme (worth about 15,000 EUR).

Access: Kuala Lumpur International Airport is located 75 km (30 minutes) from Kuala Lumpur City. It is served by 50 airlines to over 100 destinations. Malaysian Airlines will be
official carrier offering special advantages for the participants. Citizens of some countries are required to obtain visa before arrival (visa issue is not considered as a problem).

**Safety:** Malaysia can be considered safe in international standards. There are no concerns on safety issues related to organising the FIG Congress in Kuala Lumpur.

**Time of the conference:** Preliminary booking 11 – 16 June 2014 but afterwards proposed to be 11-16 May 2014 to better fit the FIG conference timelines.

**Technical programme:** AALSM together with the other Malaysian associations will be able to provide full professional programme also to Commissions 9 and 10 that have been problematic at some other conferences. Thus there will be no problems in organising local contributions to the technical programme. Options for programme with partners (quantity surveyors and appraisers) need to be considered as well as the role of the national conference that is normally held in June.

**Technical tours:** In Kuala Lumpur interesting technical tours can be organised for all FIG commissions.

**Social programme:** Kuala Lumpur offers culturally sensitive programme with Malaysian and international components. Modern venues offer excellent value for money. First class pre- and post-conference opportunities (resorts, rainforests, national parks, golf).

**Attendance:** Number of expected participation depends on local and regional interest. Because there has not been an FIG Congress in Asia, this event offers good opportunity to expand FIG activities to this region. Good value for money offers opportunity to offer lower registration fees than at some other FIG events. Local and regional participation may need special arrangements.

**Hotels:** Within 10 minutes walk from KLCC there are 6,000 hotel rooms of varying grades. Congress rates vary (in 2010) from 120 EUR to 20 EUR. All hotels are very good value for money.

**Finances:** Draft budget has been made according to FIG requirements and will easily give a surplus that the FIG Council has settled as target level. A more detailed budget will be drafted based on the venue and more detailed information. No concerns about the finances, but the fees and result are depending on the attractiveness of the exhibition and sponsor income.

**Attractiveness:** Kuala Lumpur is internationally attractive congress venue and has improved conference and other infrastructure rapidly. According to ICCA statistics Kuala Lumpur was no. 27 destination among most popular conference cities in 2008.

**Possible pros and cons:**

**Issues supporting Kuala Lumpur:**
- There has never been FIG Congress in Asia.
- Malaysia and Kuala Lumpur are an attractive destination for international conferences, and has easy access from all over the world.
- First class technical infrastructure (congress centre, hotels etc.). Excellent conference centre that is centrally located with different level hotels next door.
- Very competitive pricing for accommodation and also registration fees because of low local price level
- Technical programme will cover all ten Commissions (also quantity surveying and valuation)
- Attractive social and pre/post conference programme
- Good local support
- Financially excellent value for money guaranteeing good income to FIG.

Issues not favouring Kuala Lumpur:
- AALSM is reasonably small association and has been FIG member for a shorter time, although has good back-upped from other local professional associations.
- Number of participants to the congress is depending on promotion and participation from the region. The same issue relates to the exhibition. At the same time this offers an opportunity to expand FIG activities in the region
- Historical sights and options do not compete with some other international destinations.