Referential for surveying studies in Sub Saharan francophone countries

By François Mazuyer, President of the FGF, and Rafic Khouri

History

• The text of the referential is the result of the regional seminar organized by FGF in Niamey (capital of Niger) in October 2010 to evaluate the training opportunities for surveyors in Sub Saharan countries

• 15 countries were represented, mainly francophone: Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Rep., Chad, D. R. of Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, in addition to Belgium and France
The seminar was organized with the partnership of GLTN (UN-Habitat) and FIG, in addition to some sponsors.

A booklet has been published summerizing both the answers to a preliminary questionnaire, and the debates; copies are available in the room.

One of the conclusions of the seminar was that training schools were scarce in the Francophone Sub Saharan countries, that they had different curricula, usually criticised by professionals for providing poor levels of training in different areas.

The reasons of these problems are well known: scarcity of trainers, of financial resources, poor in-service training, outdated or poorly maintained tools, etc.
Rationale (2)

• In addition to those problems, the citizens of Western Africa benefit of freedom of movement; with the result that surveyors with a variety of levels try to work in the area. The situation gets more difficult in the absence of in-service training;
• This is why participants have felt there was an urgent need to set up standards for surveying studies which would meet the area’s needs.

The ad hoc Working Group

• It was set up under the chairmanship of President François Mazuyer, and coordinated by Roch Bah (Benin), with the participation of Professor Sidi Moctar Sangaré (Mali) and Presidents of the professional organizations of Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Niger and Senegal.
• Meetings have mainly taken place in Marrakech and by phone.
The referential

• Those meetings have produced the referential, available in the room, which consists of 7 chapters: General law, Specific laws for surveyors, Measurement sciences and geomatics, Territorial development, Property management, Business administration, General education.

• The referential is conceived to train surveyors with an engineering degree in 5 university years.

The referential (2)

• **Chapter 1: General Law** includes the following sub-chapters: general background, civil law, legislation on public and private land, planning law, environmental law, rural law, legal expertise

• **Chapter 2: Specific laws for surveyors** consist of: Demarcation, public domain, cadastre,
The referential (3)

- **Chapter 3: Measurement sciences and geomatics** consist of: Topography, GIS, Analysis and image processing, Geodesy, Traceability and security of data,

- **Chapter 4: Territorial development** consist of: General background, Urban planning, Spatial management, Engineering

The referential (4)

- **Chapter 5: Property management** consist of: Key players in real estate, Owners associations, Real estate expertise, Partition of property and its regulations,

- **Chapter 6: Business administration** consists of: Social laws, Professional practice, Management and accounting, Project management, Management.
The referential (5)

• Chapter 7: General Education consists of: Languages, Office tools, Applied computing, Applied mathematics, Applied physics, Communication.

The referential (6)

• It contains a list of topics to be included in the curriculum; however, it does not yet provide specific indications about the level of competence required per topic (from general knowledge to in-depth knowledge); this part of the working group’s task should be carried on at a later stage.
The referential (7)

- It is nevertheless a crucial tool to assess ongoing training courses, as well as a tool for organizing such courses.
- It is also an incitement for additional in-service training courses for surveyors, and their professional organizations.
- It is open to discussions with our partners and other stakeholders, including GLTN, FIG, anglophone African countries, etc.

What next?

- Comments and proposals are welcome, and will be considered as soon as possible.
- The text should be submitted to a variety of stakeholders: academics, professional organizations, African officials (Members of Parliament, Ministers, etc.), African international bodies (ECOWAS, UNECA, etc.)
What next (2) ?

• Additional challenges: determination of the level required per topic should also be considered, and then published.

• Obviously, this is a medium term process, and a very useful experience of regional exchange of experiences and recommendations.

Thank you for your attention

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