

REPORTS FROM THE TASK FORCES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 11 MAY 2001

Task force on Under-represented groups in surveying

Gabriele Dasse, Chair of the Task force informed the General Assembly that the Task force has published its 10th Newsletter. She further informed that the activities during the Working Week in Seoul included networking with Commissions, especially with Commission 2. The other main topic are creating best practices and sharing these between members. Gabriele Dasse also expressed the need guarantee the future of this Task force by giving it a more permanent profile and status within FIG.

Task force on Standards

Iain Greenway, Chair of the Task Force informed the General Assembly that there were large number of useful meetings and discussions during the Working Week. At these meetings the draft FIG Guide on Standards was generally well received. The chair is looking forward to release the next “working version” in July. To include all aspects members were invited to send their additional comments by 30 June 2001.

The key deliverables of the last year of the task force include the FIG Guide on Standards (including the FIG policy), to increase profile of standards in FIG and FIG in standards, to include standard issues in the FIG and Commission work plans 2002–2006 and to find a workable structure on standards for the future.

The plans for 2002–2006 will include testing of standards (along with other material) in particular for applications and to improve standards’ usability. There is a need to focus in particular on promoting TC 211 standards to FIG members. This will happen especially in co-operation with Commissions 3 and 5. The chair is also looking forward to report on developed relations with IVSC. There are already some plans for a joint activity between the two organisations for Washington, DC in 2002.

The Task force will continue its work with the FIG Multi-lingual Dictionary. A proposal to organise a roundtable for all involved in GI terminology has been made, this roundtable could take place during the Intergeo in Cologne in September 2001. There are also preliminary plans for a wider roundtable in Washington for NGOs about development work on standards

The future role of standards in FIG will be planned and decided together with the Task force on the Commission structure.

Task force on Mutual recognition of qualifications

Stig Enemark, Chair of the Task force informed the General Assembly that the concept and draft FIG Statement on Mutual Recognition have been adopted by the Bureau in Seoul. The Task force is now preparing its final report for adoption at the FIG Congress in Washington. The concept and draft statement are included in Stig Enemark’s paper that was presented in the technical conference in Seoul and is included in the proceedings. The final report will include

national case studies and examples. In Seoul it was agreed that such reports will be received from Don Buhler (USA), Ken Lester (South Africa) and Teo Chee Hai (Malaysia).

Task force on Sustainable development

The Task force on Sustainable development completed its work when the FIG Agenda 21 was endorsed by the General Assembly in Seoul in May 2001. In his presentation to the General Assembly Helge Onsrud, Chair of the Task force expressed the need to prepare a concrete plan on the implementation of the FIG Agenda 21 for adoption at the General Assembly in Washington, DC in April 2002. He urged the Council to prepare this plan together with the Commissions and further that the Commissions should include their future action plans in the new Commission work plans. He also encouraged the member associations to implement the agenda and promote it e.g. by translations to their national languages. It is encouraging that already the draft version was translated into Spanish and Finnish even before the final report was adopted. As an example how to implement the FIG Agenda 21 Helge Onsrud mentioned the need to develop low cost methods for planning and cadastre.

Task force on Cultures and languages in FIG

There was no additional report from this task force. The current situation on the work has been recorded in the background paper for the breakout session for Seoul and the report of the outcomes of this breakout session. The final version with economical implications will be submitted to the Council by 15 November 2001 so that it can be included in the agenda of the General Assembly 2002.