

ACCO**MINUTES**

of the meeting of ACCO (Commission Chairs and Commission Chair Elects) to be held on Sunday 01 May from 08:30 to 16:30 at Rydges Latimer Hotel, 30 Latimer Square, Christchurch

Members: Diane Dumashie (in the chair), Brian Coutts, Liza Groenendijk, Enrico Rispoli, Angela Kesiena Etuonovbe, Volker Schwieger, Ivo Milev, Gerda Schennach, Steven Nystrom, See Lian Ong, Eva-Maria Unger,  
 In attendance: Louise Friis-Hansen, Claudia Stormoen, Tian Tian, Maria Bargholz  
 LOC for WW2016, WW2017 and Congress 2018.

Apologies: Kwame Tenadu

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## **1. OPENING**

Vice President Diane Dumashie, Chair of ACCO opened the meeting. At the opening, FIG President Chryssy Potsiou was also present to greet all the Commission Chairs.

Diane Dumashie explained the programme and targets of the meeting. The official ACCO meeting ended at 15:30. Hereafter the Local Organisers for the Working Week 2017 and Congress 2018 were invited for a discussion with ACCO and Council, primarily on the technical programme of the events. The Local Organisers for the WW 2016 were invited to inform about the Working Week and for a short evaluation. The meeting ended at 16:30, so that there would be time enough for those who would like to attend the Young Surveyors Charity Run.

At 19:00 there was an ACCO dinner at a restaurant nearby.

**Motion:** That the ACCO records the meeting opened.

**Decision:** The motion was adopted.

## **2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion:** That ACCO adopts the agenda as circulated.

**Decision:** The motion was adopted.

## **3. MINUTES OF ACCO MEETING IN SOFIA, BULGARIA MAY 2015**

Minutes of the ACCO meeting that was held in Sofia during the FIG Working Week were circulated in June 2015 and are attached as **appendix to agenda item 3**.

**Motion:** That the ACCO records the minutes as circulated.

**Decision:** The motion was adopted.

## **4. EVALUATION OF FIG WORKING WEEK 2016 IN CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND**

### **4.1. Technical Programme**

The technical programme process was changed considerably this year. The flow chart describing the process and the actual experience using the system was discussed and evaluated. The discussion included What went well, and what can be improved further:

- Process: Using the news system:
  - The process worked much better this year – it was a joint effort
  - The system was easy to use – once getting used to it and to save updates
  - The sorting of papers went well
  - The guidelines were easy to understand and use

Consideration to address:

- It is a challenge that all can change all – but clear who was in main charge of a paper
- Challenge if more were online at the same time
- Can the system give you a warning if you leave without having saved – it was not always easy to remember to go to the bottom of the page and save because the page was very long
- It would be good to get more info on those presenters who are uncertain – is it because of visa problems, are they actively searching for funding or just because they do not respond
- We have to live with a certain late uncertainty
  
- Time: Selection and input of Papers versus Author registration deadlines
  - The deadlines were ok and worked
  - Most were good at keeping deadlines
  
- Quality of sessions: Numbers of papers, Rejecting papers, Poster sessions, Special sessions, and
  - Many speakers submitted papers within the main topic of the conference
  - You do not know who will present
  - 1 paper per author. Some authors had more than one paper (but some for ok reasons)
  - who is lead author/presenter
  
- Helping your Session Chairs to manage time
  - Session chairs and rapporteurs received an email before the WW
  - A page was distributed in all session rooms for further instructions

The flow-chart with the initial procedure was attached as **appendix to agenda item 4.1**

#### **4.2. Peer Review Process**

Volker Schwieger, chief editor, gave a brief evaluation of the process.

62 papers were included in the Peer Review process. Of these 37 papers were accepted and 25 rejected. 9 of the 25 rejected papers were included as normal papers. The process worked well. It was faster than last year, and by February all papers were through the process. Still, some reviewers are not good at responding.

We still miss reviewers, and there was also a wish to know more about the reviewers than the information that is available today.

ACCO discussed the evaluation and improvements for next year.

- FIG Office will work on the reviewers and the reviewer system in order to get more sorted and available information about the reviewers. E.g via a questionnaire to the reviewers.
- Volker and Office will work on a template for reviewers
- Include which year a reviewer is accepted for review
- Commission chairs are encouraged to help finding new reviewers – and also finding new ways of getting in contact with potential reviewers
- Statistics on reviews by a reviewer.

- Reviewers should be mentioned on the web site

### **4.3. Further Comments**

There were no further comments

**Motion:** That ACCO evaluates the WW2016, evaluates the new system and discusses improvements for the future Working Weeks.

**Decision/Action:** The system was evaluated and improvements discussed.

#### **Process:**

FIG office will include in abstract submission form who will present a paper.

FIG office will together with the abstract database also send submission info in an excel sheet to all commission chairs.

#### **Peer review papers:**

Volker Schwieger was thanked for his valuable efforts over the past 2 years. He was nominated by ACCO to be re-elected by ACCO as Chief Editor of the peer review process, and he accepted.

FIG Office will include on the web site under peer reviewed papers how many percentage were rejected per year (will be included when the peer review section will be published)

Commission chairs were asked to help find new reviewers.

## **5. FIG GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016**

Diane Dumashie informed about the General Assembly 2016 based on the agenda and decisions of the FIG Council 30 April 2016.

At the first session of the General Assembly each chair will join a panel and is asked to make a short report on the progress of the Working Plan.

At the second session of the General Assembly the ACCO Vice President will make a short report on the results from Commission activities over the working week. By mid-day Thursday, each chair to be responsible for supplying two bullet points.

**Motion:** That the ACCO agrees on the presentations for the General Assembly.

**Decision:** The motion was adopted.

## **6. IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMISSION WORKING PLANS AND COMMISSION MEETINGS IN CHRISTCHURCH**

Commission chairs informed about the development of their Work Plans, and the further progress was discussed. Each commission chair had prepared 2-3 slides that should also be used at the 1st session of the General Assembly. Each chair will be given a max of 5 minutes to present the Work Plan in order to also give room for some discussion and questions from the audience. The slides were presented to ACCO and final amendments were made.

All Commission Work Plans can be found here:

[http://www.fig.net/organisation/general\\_assembly/agendas\\_and\\_minutes/2015/agenda.asp#14](http://www.fig.net/organisation/general_assembly/agendas_and_minutes/2015/agenda.asp#14)

The discussion in ACCO included the progress in the implementation of Commission Work Plans and needs for changes as well as information on planned publications was discussed.

Com1: working on a new publication on International Boundaries. Ethics is an important area e.g. geo-ethics, data-ethics. Com1 will be involved in the international coalition on Ethics.

Com2: working according to plan. Had a very successful workshop in Nepal.

Com3: 4 WG's. Very good cooperation with commission 3, 7 and 8. Good participation at the yearly meeting and conference.

Com4: 2 WG's are doing very good. New standards that com4 has contributed to

Com5: is working according to WP WG's cooperating with Standards Network

Com6: 4 WG's. WG 6.3 is facing challenges

Com7: 4 WG's. Many delegates do not feel engaged in the commission. Com Chair finds it sometimes unclear how the roles are between com 7 and FIG Council, especially in the cooperation with UN organisations and WB. Communication between the Commissions and Council is essential in this matter and to sort this out.

Com9: Published a Joint FIG/UN-Habitat/GLTN publication – Pub 67 Property Taxation for Developing Economies - FIG Report. Com9 is also included in another UN publication

Com 10: there are 30-35 active. Focus is on BIM. The Chair is working on encouraging others to become active. Engagement in ICMS

YS: in line with the WP. Are working on an events toolkit.

At the WW2016 all commission meetings have been placed on the second conference day after the technical programme from 17:30-18:30. At the last session in the technical programme (16:00-17:30) all commissions will have a technical session. The idea is that those who are interested in a session can continue in the session room, and commission chairs are encouraged to organise a following dinner.

**Motion:** That ACCO records the guidance notes and decides on any further action related to implementation of Commission Work Plans.

**Decision:** The motion was adopted. Com chairs are asked to report back to Louise before *15 August 2016* on how the commission meetings worked.

## 7. FIG TASK FORCE ON COMMISSION STRUCTURE

The FIG task force on Commission Structure is to be presented to the first GA session inviting initial observations from attending Members. A further special lunch-session on Wednesday, 4 May 12:45–14:00 will be held to enable a comprehensive discussion and the Member Association Forum on 5 May 11:00 – 12:30 can also (partly) be used to discuss the paper. The results of these discussions will inform the decision for the Task Force on how to proceed with its recommendations and maybe take the matter to a vote at the WW Finland. The summary outcome of the roundtable deliberations will be presented at the GA II.

Mikael Lilje was invited to attend the ACCO meeting under this agenda item and to present the TF work to ACCO.

ACCO had a following discussion first together with Mikael Lilje, and hereafter alone. ACCO was in principle not against change in the structure, but most of the ACCO members were not encouraging the current proposal.

Main comments from ACCO to the Task Force were that:

- construction, valuation and hydrography seem to be removed from FIG if there are no commissions to take care of these areas or if they are included into other main topics. ACCO is concerned that FIG will lose the members that are working within these fields.
- Furthermore survey engineering is not very visible anymore.
- Having so few and so large commissions might make the commissions (ACCO) a technical council under council which might be difficult.
- The commission chairs will have a large responsibility and much work to cover all areas within a commission
- The com. Chairs. need to delegate very much, and the role of the chair will change into a pure coordinator role with a large organisation underneath.
- Is this due to a wish of savings?

ACCO discussed whether there should be one ACCO response to the Task Force or individual comments. ACCO agreed that it could be difficult to give one unified response since the situation was different for the various commissions.

All Chairs agreed that changing Commission 1 and 2 into Networks would make sense, since their work is inter-commissionaire.

Paper written by the Task Force is attached to the General Assembly agenda:

[http://www.fig.net/organisation/general\\_assembly/agendas\\_and\\_minutes/2016/agenda/app\\_13\\_04\\_TF\\_commission\\_structure.pdf](http://www.fig.net/organisation/general_assembly/agendas_and_minutes/2016/agenda/app_13_04_TF_commission_structure.pdf)

**Motion:** That ACCO discusses the proposal

**Decision:** The motion was adopted. ACCO agreed that individual comments during GA and the following meetings were preferred.

## 8. COMMISSION CHAIRS ELECT

FIG Council decided to postpone the election of Commission Chairs Elect because of the current Task Force work on commission structure. Depending on the outcome of the discussions on the Task Force on Commission Structure ACCO must look for suitable candidates within the commissions.

**Motion:** that ACCO discusses how to secure that there will be nominated suitable candidates for the commissions.

**Decision:** ACCO agreed that it would be difficult to find chairs elects in an unclear period of time, and that it would be important to get a clear indication from Council on

- When new Chairs elect will be elected and deadline for nominations
- To which commission shall there be elected chairs elect – old structure or a new structure

## 9. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS

Each Commission Chair is asked to update on activities with the UN and other international cooperation activities. ACCO chair will update on the overall activities with UN, WB and other bodies.

Commission 2 works together with FAO and GLTN. FAO and Commission 2 have organized the Academic Member Forum at the WW.

Commission 3 works together with FAO and GLTN

Commission 5 works together with UN-OOSA – 5 participants for the Reference Frame workshop was sponsored by International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG).

Commission 7 works together with FAO and GLTN

General initiatives include the LIC coalition with FAO and Africa Regional Network with FAO and GLTN.

**Motion:** That the ACCO decides on the projects with UN agencies and decides on any other action needed.

**Decision:** the update was noted.

## 10. COMMISSION ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATION

There was a discussion on administrative issues between Commissions and the Council and FIG Office. FIG Office encouraged commissions to have their commission web sites updated regularly. Material should be sent to FIG office. Communication with commission delegates can be done through FIG office. It is also possible to get the email addresses if a commission chair wants to send out an email, it is however important to note that the email addresses and delegates are under constant update, and that the email addresses should not be re-used later. If there are changes to email addresses or national delegates

please inform FIG Office who will update the changes.

**Motion:** That the ACCO records the discussion and decides on future steps.

**Decision:** The motion was adopted.

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Any additional issues proposed by ACCO.

**Motion:**

**Decision:** There were no items under this agenda item.

## **12. NEXT MEETING**

Next face-to-face meeting is planned to be in Helsinki, Finland. The meeting will most likely take place on Sunday 28 May 2017. There might also if needed be organized a Skype meeting in connection with the planning of the technical programme for WW 2017. The programme will be discussed on email and agreed January 2017.

End of ordinary meeting (15:30)

## ***MEETING WITH ORGANISING COMMITTEES FOR FIG WW2016, WW2017 AND CONGRESS 2018 TOGETHER WITH FIG COUNCIL***

## **13. FIG WORKING WEEK 2016 LOC UPDATE**

Representatives from the local organisers attended the meeting for an update on the preparations for the Working Week 2016. The plenary sessions and technical programme has many presentations that refer to the main theme, Recovery from Disaster. The attendance seems quite positive – around 800 – but there has been quite many challenges and a lot of work on visa issues, and not all applicants have got a visa. That will affect the technical programme. The venue is different -a sports arena, but LOC has done their utmost to use the area in the best way. Session rooms are separated from the plenary hall and exhibition, but all hope for nice weather (the weather was very good). Session rooms have been divided with thick carpets – it is not optimal but the best possible solution. ACCO is asked to help adjust the volume of the microphones in the rooms if there are any problems, and session chairs and rapporteurs are also informed about this.

**Motion:** That ACCO notes the update report from the Local Organisers.

**Decision:** The motion was adopted.

## **14. FIG WORKING WEEK 2017 IN HELSINKI, FINLAND AND FIG CONGRESS 2018**



**WW2017:**

Representatives from the local organisers attended the meeting to discuss the Working Week 2017, hereunder the idea of the overall theme, the technical programme, the call for papers, and further areas of interest for ACCO. The overall theme of the WW is “*Surveying the world of tomorrow - From digitalization to augmented reality*” and ACCO is asked to consider and work on special sessions within the theme and also to consider if specific information shall be included in the call for paper. The draft call for paper will be sent to ACCO in June.

The WW will take place in Helsinki Conference Centre. The session rooms are located fairly close to each other. LOC is already now paying attention to the visa issues.

**Congress 2018:**

Preparations are well underway, and LOC has done a thorough job to promote and engage local stakeholders. LOC has also made an agreement with Turkish Airlines to get discounted air fare. There are still two venues under consideration – one in the city center close to hotels, and one a little outside the city center with a wonderful location, and an excellent organisation. The final decision on venue will be taken very soon. LOC expects around a total of 2000 participants. The overall theme is being discussed with FIG Council and will also be decided during 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2016.

**Motion:** That ACCO notes the progress and discusses the technical programme for the WW 2017, hereunder special sessions, high level sessions under commissions and the call for papers, and that ACCO notes the update on FIG Congress 2018.

**Decision:** The motion was adopted. The draft call for papers for WW2017 will be sent to ACCO in June for input.