

**FIG President Professor Dr.-Ing. Holger Magel
at 8th SEASC 2005 in Brunei**

Closing Remark at Closing Ceremony on 25 November 2005

Honourable Permanent Secretary, Dear President Matusin Matasan,
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is already like a tradition that the FIG President attends the SEASC.

Two years ago I was unfortunately not able to come to the 8th SEAS-Conference in Hong Kong, China due to a long standing invitation to the 75th Anniversary of our Jamaican member association; but I asked my Deputy President, Vice President Andreas Drees, to represent me and FIG at the 8th SEAS Conference. This year I was more successful having managed to come with my wife to the 8th SEASC in Brunei.

I am happy having been here and to be here, especially today amidst such wonderfully dressed Bruneian colleagues, because of three reasons:

1. I have got a convincing impression of a very vital South East Asian Surveyors Community, the ASEAN FLAG, which has a high profile and has professional skills to organize such interesting and – regarding the speakers, participants and exhibitors – such attractive conferences. I am happy that SEA-surveyors do believe in FIG as their mother and umbrella and that FIG is welcomed as co-sponsor. I am very sure that this close partnership will happen in future, too.
2. The second reason for being very satisfied is that I had the opportunity to visit one of our youngest member associations, BIG, and also our affiliate member, Bruneian Survey Department on site. That is part of my policy to visit both our oldest, like I did it with my visit to CNG in Italy in October, and our youngest member like I did it in March with our Algerian member, or now with Brunei. The visit is in the mutual interest and provides mutual information and incentives. With pleasure I can state that this goal was fully reached in Brunei – more than ever I am convinced and will report this to the Council and the General Assembly that FIG has become enriched by our Bruneian members.
3. This leads me to the third reason: It is the unique merit of one man and really the highlighting end of his professional career exactly on his 55th birthday that all came and comes together: First time there was SEASC in Brunei, then the Survey Department became affiliate member of FIG, followed firstly by establishing BIG and then secondly by its application for FIG membership, which was approved by the General Assembly in April 2005 in Cairo. So, let me heartfully congratulate and thank our FIG member and BIG President Mr. Pg Matusin Matasan for his outstanding support of FIG's role and his successful efforts to bring surveyors of Brunei Darussalam and FIG together. It is my real pleasure to honour you, Mr. Pg Matasan, with my President's gift, with the big FIG globe! It will hopefully remind you of FIG and of your unforgettable contributions and it should remind you too, if you look at the bottom of the globe, to possibly come to Munich in 2006 but not only for the Football World Championship in June! You should also come to the FIG World Congress 2006 in October. You are very much welcome!

SEASC 2005 – from the viewpoint of FIG: it was one of the highlights in the survey calendar 2005! It is therefore my pleasure too, to present to the very competent Congress Director, Mr. Acting Surveyor General Jamil Ali, the FIG globe thus honouring him and the efforts of your whole organizing committee!

Many thanks again – see you in Munich!