

Commission 9 Activities in 2007 and 2008

Dear Commission 9 delegate, Academic Member or Speaker in the Helsinki Seminar 2007,

Year 2007 is past and new experiences are awaiting in 2008. In 2007 Com 9's activities concentrated on FIG conferences in Hong Kong on 13-17 May and Costa Rica on 12-15 November and in the Helsinki seminar on 6-8 September.

In Hong Kong the Commission held commission meeting and all working groups had their own meetings, WG 9.2 even three meetings/dialogues. In addition there were plenty of presentations concerning valuation and real estate management in seven sessions. The presentations can be found on the FIG website. Furthermore, a small bird of glass was given to the former chairman Stephen Yip in return for the good work for the Commission 9.

In Costa Rica the activities of Commission 9 were modest, only one presentation: Iyenemi Ibimina Kakulu, Distortion of Land Value Trends and Growth Patterns in Rural Communities in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria. However, the publications from the Helsinki seminar were prepared further. Since the preparation was mainly done by Mrs. Kakulu it was now possible to have discussions about the subject. The conference was very active and the topics dealing with land management issues in coastal areas were interesting and important.

In Helsinki the topic was Compulsory Purchase and Compensation in Land Acquisition and Takings. There were about 120 very active participants from 35 countries with more than 40 very interesting presentations. The presentation slides have been published on the seminar website <http://www.tkk.fi/Yksikot/Kiinteisto/FIG/index.htm> but the full papers are still waiting to be published. A part of the review papers will be published in the first issue of 2008 of the FAO Land Journal "Land Reform, Land Settlement and Cooperatives" themed on Compulsory Purchase and Compensation. The second part of the papers will be published in the special edition of the "Nordic Journal of Surveying and Real Estate Research" and the rest in the seminar book published in the research series of the Department of Surveying at the Helsinki University of Technology. After that the full papers will also be published on the FIG website, approximately in March 2008.

In 2008, the Stockholm Working Week 14-19 June will be the biggest FIG event. Commission 9 will have its annual commission meeting there, as well as all Commission 9 working groups. WG 9.2 - Improving Slum Conditions through Innovative Financing will take a major effort by organising many sessions. Also WG 9.1 – Compulsory Purchase and Compensations in Land Acquisition and Takings will have at least one special session but even more if there are enough papers for the subject area. And this is valid also for all

other Com 9 WG's. Now it is very important to get a lot of papers for the very light Nordic summer.

It was decided in Costa Rica that for the Stockholm WW there will also be an option for review papers. The deadline for full review papers is 31st January 2008. The same date is also valid for the abstracts of normal papers, see the FIG website for more information. It was also decided that the deadlines will be absolute. It is now very important that you send your papers in time. I am looking forward to a plenty of papers for Com 9. If you have any questions concerning them, please do not hesitate to contact me (kauko.viitanen@tkk.fi) or Heidi Falkenbach (heidi.falkenbach@tkk.fi).

A Joint Seminar on State and Public Sector Land Management is planned to be organised on September 9-10, 2008, in Verona, Italy. The seminar will be organised by FIG Commission 7 and the Consiglio Nazionale Geometri, in co-operation with FIG Commission 9, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' (FAO) Land Tenure and Management Unit. The deadline for abstracts of the peer review papers is planned to be February 16 and full papers April 16, 2008. For normal papers the deadlines for abstracts is planned to be February 28 and full papers April 30, 2008. For more information see the Com 7 webpage on the FIG website.

On October 18-19, 2008 a Joint Seminar on Investments and Valuation will be organised in Beijing, China. The seminar will be organised by FIG Commission 9 and the China Institute of Real Estate Appraisers and Agents, CIREA, in co-operation with FIG Commission 8, and The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors, HKIS. More information about the seminar will be found on the Com 9 webpage in the near future. Please, mark the occasion already on your calendar.

I wish a happy new year 2008!

Kauko Viitanen, chairman of the Commission 9