

**FIG (INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS)  
LIAISON REPORT TO ISO/TC211 PLENARY  
STOCKHOLM, JUNE 2005**

*Introduction*

FIG continues to play an active part in the work of ISO/TC211, and expects to continue to do so into the future. The Federation remains keen to continue to develop its strong relationship with TC211. Efforts within FIG to raise the profile of standards and standardisation issues are continuing to bear fruit, with most of FIG's 10 technical commissions now involved in aspects of standardisation work. A leading player in FIG standardisation activity also now chairs the ISO/TC211 Focus Group on Data Providers, further strengthening the links between FIG and the TC.

*Coordinating FIG's standards activity*

The FIG Standards Network continues to coordinate standardisation work in FIG. The scope of the standardisation work spreads beyond ISO/TC211, for instance to ISO/TC172 SC6 on survey instruments, and the work of the International Valuation Standards Committee (IVSC). FIG also continues to work closely with sister societies to ensure that work is progressed to best effect. A table of current FIG activity in standardisation matters, and of those sister societies that have provided such information to FIG, is maintained in the Standards Network area of the FIG website ([www.fig.net](http://www.fig.net)).

*Priorities*

Within its limited resources and funds, FIG recognises the ongoing need to prioritise its activities. At the annual meeting, the following priorities and outline plans within the scope of ISO/TC211 were agreed/ confirmed:

- Agreement of a cadastral domain model: a second workshop in this area was held in Bamberg, Germany, in December 2004. FIG remains active in this area and continues to link with other relevant activity;
- Ensuring that standardisation of sensors is covered effectively in the TC211 suite of standards – this relates to 19130 in particular, where FIG has submitted a number of comments about the style and content of the CD;
- Continuing to play a leading role in the development of practicable methods for validating the capability of surveyors, to allow them to work across national borders, ensuring that the methods used to do this do not stifle the ongoing development of the profession. In this field, FIG is working closely with ASEAN representatives, whose Governments have approved the development of a Mutual Recognition model to cover the surveying profession (along with a number of other professions), with the content of the model to be approved by Governments later this year;
- Continuing the Outreach work that has made such good progress over the last year;
- Supporting the work of the Focus Group on Data Providers.

*Outreach*

FIG remains keen to further the work of TC211's Outreach Group, in which Iain Greenway and Gerhard Joos are both active FIG members. FIG and GSDI co-hosted a full-day workshop on

standards in the joint conference held in Cairo in April 2005. This was a great success, with a suite of professional presentations given (including by leading members of the TC211 community), and over 100 people in attendance. The presentations will be added to the ISO/TC211, GSDI and FIG websites shortly. A key message of the workshop was that standards are now having a noticeable practical effect on those working in the GI arena, with the various TC211 documents impacting the systems and infrastructures being put in place.

### Other areas

Aside from the work of TC211, FIG remains keen to progress work in many other standardisation fields, including:

- The valuation standards being developed by the IVSC: FIG has been offered a seat on their Standards Board and is searching for the right individual to take up this position;
- Influencing the development of standards in the construction and spatial planning areas;
- The work of ISO/TC172 SC6, where Professor Hansbert Heister leads for FIG, particularly those standards being developed for the calibration and testing of GPS, which FIG believes are impractical and inappropriate in their current draft forms.

### Final words

FIG is pleased to be playing a role in developing the profile of standards, including those of ISO/TC211, seeing standardisation as a vital component in developing the services provided by surveyors to their various clients. It intends to continue to work closely with TC211, and is happy at any time to receive further ideas on areas and ways in which this might be achieved.

Iain Greenway

Chair, FIG Standards Network and Lead Liaison with ISO/TC211

3 May 2005