

# **FIG Working Week 2013 – "Environment for Sustainability" Abuja, Nigeria, 6 – 10 May 2013**

## **I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The FIG working week 2013 was held for the first time in the history of the Federation in central Africa. The event was organized in Abuja – the capital of Nigeria, with exclusive security measures. For the place of the working week was chosen the luxurious hotel Nicon. Host of the event was NIS – Nigerian Institution of Surveyors.

## **II. CEREMONY OF THE OPENING OF THE WORKING WEEK**

The official opening of the event was held in the exhibition centre, situated in the vicinity of the hotel. The delegates and the guests were warmly welcomed with traditional African music and dances at the entrance of the building. During the opening ceremony along with the welcome speeches by the officials, African music and dances were played by Nigerians.



The official opening of the working week

## **III. GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The sessions of the assembly were held in two parts in the beginning and in the end of the working week. They were opened for observers and reporters. The presence of the media crews for reporting of the event of FIG was quite noticeable, including at the technical sessions.

At the general assembly were done several presentations by a number of officials.

#### **IV. PLENARY SESSIONS, MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

The working week included 3 plenary sessions entitled “Governance and Approaches“, “Technologies and Systems“ и ”Professional and Capacity Development“.

The technical sessions included presentations of papers as well as the so called short (flash) presentations. From the presented materials there were 14 peer reviewed papers. The flash presentations were 5, which treated specific cases from the theory and practice in geodesy and surveying.



A presentation by a colleague from Nigeria

There was also a French speaking session.

Special attention in the FIG working week 2013 was focused on the usage of technologies, including hardware with low cost, as well as the application of the mobile IT in geodesy and surveying.

During the working week meetings of the commissions were held. At these meeting the chairs presented detailed information about the activities and the forthcoming events. It is important to be noted that there was an active presence by the colleagues from Africa. Each colleague from the audience was asked by the chair for opinion, questions and proposals to the work of the commission.

## **V. DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Mr. Andrew Stirling presented the activities for the preparation for the forthcoming FIG working week in 2016 in New Zealand.

Mr. Angel Yanakiev – CGS presented information about the FIG working week 2015 in Sofia, Bulgaria.

At the assembly was given detailed financial information for the incomes and expenditures of FIG. Data for the membership fees were also given to the audience. It was concluded, that despite of the hard financial year the budget was realistic.

## **VI. BULGARIAN PARTICIPATION**

Two Bulgarians presented their papers at the FIG working week. Their names are given below (in alphabetical order of the family name):

- Dr. M. Sc. Gintcho Kostov – author of a paper entitled "Applying of the Mobile Versions of Google Earth and AutoCAD for Field Control of a Specialized map of a Large Urban Garden" – presented in session "Positioning and Navigation - Today and Tomorrow" – in the Commission 5;

- Dr. M. Sc. Ivo Milev - author of a paper entitled "Infrastructure Maintenance Supported by Low Cost GNSS Applications" – presented in session "Engineering Surveying 1" - in the Commission 6.

The Bulgarian authors took part also as chairs of technical sessions.

Bulgaria was represented by its two members associations of FIG: USLM and CGS.

By its delegates the country participated actively in the events of the working week – the general assembly, meeting of the commissions 5 and 6 as well as in the meeting of the Presidents. In the last, the delegates from each country did short speeches, which included information for the organization – member of FIG.

The delegates had the possibility to inform the President – Mr. CheeHai Teo and the other members for the major problems of the geodesy in their country. Media crews were not allowed in the Presidents' meeting. For each delegate's speech the FIG administration recorded the relevant notes.



Speech by Mr. CheeHai Teo – President of FIG

## VII. CONCLUSION

The closing of the working week was done with special ceremony, just after the second session of the general assembly.

It was proposed that the next 37-th general assembly to be scheduled in two full days. It was also noted that there should be presentations by the commissions, foundation, etc. Another proposal was done for choice of two vice-Presidents and one President for mandate 2015-2018.

The technical problems (not limited to: stopping of the electricity, bad quality and low speed Internet, breakdown of the presentation equipment) were not missing, they were even quite often happening – even during the general assembly. These problems were explicitly noted as “minuses” by the officials in their presentations.

The President thanked for the contribution of the organizing committee and the work of FIG administration for the successful conduction of the working week 2013.

From 16-21-st of June 2014 will be held the XXV-the FIG Congress - "Engaging the Challenges, Enhancing the Relevance" in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.