

**Report for the 27th General Assembly
FIG Working Week in Athens, Greece, May 22-27, 2004**

Report from ACCO

We have had the first ACCO Meeting this year here in Athens on Saturday the 22nd May 2004, one day prior to this conference.

I just want to point out the outcomes of this meeting from my point of view as the chair of this circle.

As our President always mentions the current Council identifies the 10 technical commissions as the heart of FIG. Following this mainstream the work plan of the Council includes some important changes to better facilitate the work of the commissions by

- making their work more visible (→ information policy, Surveyors Reference Library, SRL, www.fig.net/srl/search.asp)
- giving each Vice President responsibility for support of some commissions
- producing resolutions/conclusions with help of rapporteurs in the technical sessions to provide tangible results of our working weeks and other events
- generally strengthen the cooperation of the Council and commissions

To my sense the implementation of these ideas has already begun.

Let me highlight a few items:

1. Team spirit – good vibrations

After one year, it is my opinion that we have achieved a really good team spirit and good vibrations in the group, which is an important precondition for successful work. With the just new appointed chair of Commission 8, Diana Dumashie, ACCO has really been enriched with a new member full of energy.

And with Gerhard Muggenhuber as linking person between ACCO and the Council we have a successful cooperation. It is always a pleasure to meet these enthusiastic commission chairs of FIG.

2. Inter-commission cooperation

We recognised this as a very important issue and – as you might have noted – established a lot of cross-communication activities. For example:

- The Marrakech Declaration
- W.G. 8.4 Disaster Management
- Informal settlements
- ISO

Our aim is to give these activities the utmost support to have tangible results no later than at the Munich congress 2006.

3. FIG Information policy

This is the field of activities especially for vice president Bettina Petzold. She discussed it with ACCO and in separate meetings in Athens as well. Results have already been presented today.

4. Preparations for coming events

Of course this is one of the major tasks of ACCO to well prepare the technical program of our working weeks and conferences. As in many other cases the benefits of having a permanent office and Markku Villikka as Director became very clear for everybody involved.

5. Surveyors Reference Library (SRL)

The project of a good practice report was already introduced last year in Paris. Since that time a lot of discussions have taken place. The first practical arrangements could be achieved already in Marrakech, November 2003. Now, it is every chair's or rapporteur's duty to give comments to all presentations from our technical sessions in order to better incorporate these papers in our knowledge database, which we now call: Surveyors Reference Library. We are happy to present you a first draft of the system.

The test version of the SRL is available at www.fig.net/srl/search.asp.

6. ACCO – Open Forum

This is a new initiative coming from Matt Higgins, Stephen Yip and Adam Greenland and is a result of our discussions during the remarkable SEASC in Hong Kong late last year. The result is that the Council decided to implement an open discussion forum within the GA to give delegates of our member associations the opportunity to discuss directly with the commission chairs what they have to propose for improvement of their activities. This Forum will directly follow up to my report.