

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Report of the Meeting of the Bureau of the Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA)

5 February 2020

14:00 – 15:30 (CET)

webex

Attendance:

Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist (Sweden), Chair
Ms. Kirsikka Riekkinen (Finland), Vice-chair
Ms. Chryssy Potsiou, (Greece), Vice-chair
Mr. Andrei Filipenka (Belarus)
Ms. Mari Khardziani (Georgia)
Mr. Filippo Cadamuro (Italy)
Ms. Elena Busch (Norway)
Mr. Konstantin Litvintcev (Russian Federation)
Mr. Gil Matoses (Spain)
Ms. Victoria Abbott (United Kingdom)

UNECE Secretariat

Ms. Amie Figueiredo

Ms. Maike Salize

Item 1: Opening and adoption of the agenda

1.1 The Chair of the Working Party, Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist, opened the meeting and invited the bureau to make any amendments to the previous bureau meeting minutes and then to the agenda. No additional comments were made.

Item 2: Programme of work 2018-2019 and including the work of Task Groups and status on actions

Capacity building and international knowledge sharing:

2.1.1 The conference on NSDI: Towards Digital Society will be held in Baku 2-4 April 2020 has been **CANCELLED, new date to be decided** with the other co-organizers, FAO, UN-GGIM, World Bank, UN-GGIM Europe and potentially the JRC and discuss logistics. The website for the conference: <http://emdk.gov.az/page/view/83>.

2.1.2 The organization for the workshop on “International and Indigenous Perspectives for Sustainable Land Governance” in 19 May 2020 – Canada (Mont Tremblant). Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist reported on monthly meetings with the organizers to discuss the session that the WPLA will organize:

Session 1: “Urban Perspectives” (How are digital twinning and smart cities initiatives shaping urban land governance and urban social dynamics), **Pekka Halme**, Director of Strategic Development, National

Land Survey of Finland: “3D land use plans, 3D building data, and 3D real estates in the cadastre to meet with the needs of people in the urban environment”; **Fredrik Zetterquist**, Chair of WPLA and University Lecturer at the University of Gävle, Sweden: “Stakeholder engagement through scenario study on future land administration and governance”

Session 2: “Environmental & Social Perspectives” (How is land governance evolving to address global sustainability and climate change) **Kåre Kyrkjæide**, Director of International Services, Norwegian Mapping Authority: “Norway Digital – easy access to geospatial data for informed decision-making and sustainable land management and planning”; **Peter Kreuzer**, Director State Survey and Geospatial Information, State Agency for Geoinformation and State Survey Lower Saxony (LGLN), State Survey and Geospatial Information State Agency Germany: “The role of land administration in support of sustainability - a paradigm shift”;

Session 3: “A National Framework for Land Administration Governance in Canada” (building a cohesive land governance community). **Daniel Steudler**, Chair of the Cadastre and Land Registry Knowledge Exchange Network (CLRKEN) of EuroGeographics: “European Collaboration in Cadastre, Land Registration and Mapping: supporting the digital economy.”

- 2.1.3 The workshop in Sweden in autumn 2020 on Education for LA is still in discussion. University of Gävle and University of Aalto might have interest in co-organizing.
- 2.1.4 The EG-LAM circulated the draft Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA), to member States for consultation in the beginning of 2020. The WPLA can contribute inputs to FELA and well as perhaps drafting some comments on its implementation in the UNECE region. Comments/inputs were forwarded to UN-GGIM with an offer for further inputs if needed.

Land administration reviews:

- 2.2.1 This is a placeholder and further information will be shared by the Committee in due course and the research and drafting of the Land Administration chapter for CP Albania will need to be coordinated by the WPLA bureau. Ms. Chryssy Potsiou has expressed interest in participating.

Studies:

- 2.3.1. Benchmarking of LA systems: The *Study on the Cost for Registration and Transfer of Real Estate and Registration of Mortgages in the UNECE Countries* has been updated since the Committee session. It was updated after the Committee Session on 4 October 2019 and the final version is available on the webpage: <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=53567>. It will be shared with the REM to inform the upcoming study on housing affordability. Perhaps a good idea to disseminate the study at the next WPLA events.
- 2.3.2 Fraud in LA systems: Ms. Victoria Abbott has requested for best practices from member States in order to complete the recommendations. She will

draft an email to request the case studies and will send it to the secretariat for dissemination. Follow-up with Victoria for the request. It will be completed by early 2020.

- 2.3.3 Informal settlements: The guidelines have been finalized and the printed versions are available. The launch of the publication will be at FIG working week in Amsterdam on Wednesday, 13 May 2020 at 14.00-15.30. Chryssy Potsiou will present the Guidelines. Mr. Rik Wouters will also attend the launch in addition to a representative from UNECE. Hardcopies of the publication will be available at the event.
- 2.3.4 Land consolidation: FAO is still in the process of finalization of the Guide and in parallel doing copy editing of technically finalized sections. They are organizing a joint FAO-FIG session on land consolidation legislation at the FIG Working Week in Amsterdam on 10-14 May where the final version will be presented and discussed. The TG will be closed when the study is finalized.
- 2.3.5 Scenarios for future land administration: There is a proposal for a consultation with relevant stakeholders to discuss how countries are looking into the future and how to use the scenarios in June 2020 to review and discuss a draft paper on future scenarios. The exact date is yet to be determined. After the consultation there will be an opportunity to revise and update the report. It was suggested that the preliminary findings could be presented perhaps at the 81st committee session in October 2020 or during the WPLA workshop in Sweden in Fall 2020.
- 2.3.6 Outreach and Promotion: A communications survey will be sent out to focal points to see how and what they would like to receive news from the WPLA. The task group will need to meet at the next bureau meeting to establish the new workplan for the group. There was an idea to send out a newsletter to WPLA focal points with current activities and upcoming events.
- 2.3.3 Ms. Victoria Abbott gave an update on the on the survey of *Potential benefits and limitations of emerging technologies forum* the next forum will be held on 17 February 2020. AI and Machine Learning will be the topic of the February 2020 meeting. An abstract was submitted to the Land and Poverty Conference 2020, there will be a masterclass held on Friday, 20 March 2020. Ms. Kirsikka Riekkinen and Ms. Chryssy Potsiou will also participate in the masterclass.

Proposed activities Programme of Work 2020-2021:

2.4.1 A Task Force has been established in collaboration with FIG Commission 7 on PPPs for Land Administration. Ms. Kirsikka Riekkinen is appointed as Chair; Mr. Peter Creuzer has agreed to review the study based on his experience with a similar publication [Guiding Principles for Public/Private Partnerships \(PPP\) in Land Administration](#).

2.4.2 The WPLA has been invited to be part of the Prindex advisory group, Ms. Chryssy Potsiou is the focal point, and submitted inputs and will follow-up with the Prindex team to see the next steps.

Item 3: The 12th Session of the WPLA

3.1.1 Malta would like to host the 12th Session of the WPLA in March 2021. Dates have yet to be determined. The secretariat is liaising with Malta on the host country agreement and logistics. The back up plan is to have the 12th session at the Palais des Nations in March 2021.

3.1.2 The topics for the 12th session should already be discussed and can include PPPs for LA, future scenarios, etc.

Item 4: WPLA participation and Upcoming events

4.1 List of events:

- CANCELLED - 16-20 March 2020 - Land and Poverty Conference 2019: Institutions for Equity and Resilience, Washington, DC
- CANCELLED - 2-4 April 2019 – NSDI: Towards Digital Society, Baku
- 10-14 May 2020 - FIG 2020 Working Week, Amsterdam
- 19-22 May 2020 - “International and indigenous perspectives for sustainable land governance” – Mont Tremblant, Canada
- 30 August-5 September 2020 Annual Meeting 2020 of FIG-Commission 7, Bern, Switzerland
- 7-11 September 2020 Fourth Regional workshop on IGIF to be held in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan.
- Potential workshop in Sweden in Autumn 2020

Item 5: Other Business

5.1 The secretariat forth WPLA will be managed by Ms. Maike Salize while Ms. Amie Figueiredo is on temporary assignment in Nairobi. Ms. Salize participated in the webex meeting and the bureau welcomed her to the bureau.

Item 6: Next Bureau meeting

6.1 The next bureau meeting will be held by webex and the secretariat will send out a poll to decide on the date.