

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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

29 August 2019

10:00 – 12:00 (CEST)

webex

Attendance:

Ms. Kirsikka Riekkinen (Finland), Vice-chair
Mr. Mari Kharadzani (Georgia)
Ms. Chryssy Potsiou, (Greece), Vice-chair
Mr. Filippo Cadamuro (Italy)
Ms. Elena Busch (Norway)
Mr. Konstantin Litvincev (Russian Federation)
Mr. Gil Matoses (Spain)
Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist (Sweden), Chair

Observers:

Ms. Galina Kirichenko (Russian Federation)

UNECE Secretariat

Ms. Amie Figueiredo

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 18-20 September 2019 - “Digitally Enabled Development for a Sustainable Future in Eastern Europe”, Vrdnik . The WPLA will be represented by Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist and he will moderate the session on Transformative technologies. Mari Kharadzani will attend and present on IGIF and INSPIRE.

2.1.2 The Conference, *Ecosystems Related to Real Estate Conveyancing* and Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Cadastre in the European Union (PCC) in Helsinki, Finland will be held 20-21 November 2019. The WPLA session is 1.5 hours and will include presentations on the Fraud Study and the Future scenarios work. To register:

https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/PCC_2019_Helsinki_6897

- 2.1.3 Potential workshop on NSDI: Towards Digital Society in Baku in April 2020. The WPLA bureau will discuss with Mr. Elshad Khanabayli on the content and exact dates for the workshop (noting the Easter holidays) during the 80th Committee Session in Geneva.
- 2.1.4 The organization for the workshop on “International and Indigenous Perspectives for Sustainable Land Governance” in 19 May 2020 – Canada (Mont Tremblant). Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist has had monthly meetings with the organizers to discuss the sessions that the WPLA will organize. Topics for Day 1 are: Land Administration for smart cities and How LA can support needs? For Day 2: Indigenous perspectives, where discussed. If there are any bureau members that would like to join the organization team for this event, please let Fredrik Zetterquist and the secretariat know. There was discussion to potentially present IGIF Implementation at the conference with Georgia, Rep. of Moldova, Kyrgyzstan as case studies. Postcards for the event have been printed and will be available to distribute at the upcoming meetings. WPLA bureau meeting will be held on 19 May 2020.
- 2.1.5 There is potential for a workshop in Sweden in Fall 2020 on the topic of Education for Land Administration in collaboration with University of Gavle. Potential regional workshop for IGIF Fall 2020 in Georgia
- 2.1.6 The EG-LAM work and the draft Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA), was presented at the Ninth session of the Committee of Experts UN-GGIM 7 - 9 August 2019 and will be circulated to member States for global consultation. There was discussion to make the text clearer in regard to ownership rights and security of tenure. There is also alignment of IGIF with FELA. <http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/9th-Session/documents/>

Land administration reviews:

- 2.2.1 Armenia has request support for assistance for three projects: Cadastral Valuation of Agricultural Lands; Integrated Cadastre; Online-Self Service-Paperless Real Estate Cadastre. Support from the bureau can be offered regarding securing of tenure and potential funds could be identified from EU-TAIEX. North Macedonia has experience in integrated cadastre and could potentially offer a study visit to North Macedonia, showing the online services that they have available. Further contact with Armenia must be made to move forward supporting these projects. If there are any more suggestions on ways of assistance, please bring them to the next bureau meeting.

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 completed by member States. The draft that was prepared by Mr. Paul Van Asperen and presented at the WPLA 11th session in February 2019. It will be presented at the Committee Session in October 2019. The draft should be circulated to member States to verify the data that was submitted

and if updates are needed. It will be completed by end October 2019. There was discussion to carry out the survey every two years to monitor the trends.

- 2.3.2 Fraud in LA systems: The analysis will be presented at the Committee Session in October 2019 and then at the PCC conference in November 2019. There is a request for best practices from member States in order to complete the recommendations. It will be completed by end 2019. There is potential to submit an abstract for consideration at the Land and Poverty Conference 2020.
- 2.3.3 Informal settlements: It will be presented at the Committee Session in October 2019. The guidelines are under final review by the authors and the final draft will be sent for editing and layout in October 2019. The publication must be printed by the end of 2019. There is potential to submit an abstract for consideration at the Land and Poverty Conference 2020.
- 2.3.4 Land consolidation: The updated version of the study will be presented at the Committee Session in October 2019. The TG will be closed when the study is finalized.
- 2.3.5 Scenarios for future land administration: There will be a follow-up meeting in Helsinki on 19 November 2019 during the PCC conference. A summary of progress will be presented at the Committee Session in October 2019 and then at the PCC conference in November 2019.
- 2.3.6 Outreach and Promotion: Further discussion on the next steps in the communication strategy need to be discussed. The task group will need to meet at the next bureau meeting in Geneva to establish the new workplan for the group. It was discussed that the WPLA needs to discuss a branding strategy. A good example of a video is Sustainable Use of Land & Nature Partnership of the Urban Agenda: <https://youtu.be/y7eOZM1Qj5Y> Key points to consider is the audience: how to make it interesting? Target examples of countries; target events; what types of mass communication tools should be used; what types of corporate collateral are available; updating of contact list; reach out to focal points through a survey how they would like to receive communication; use free analytical tools; build a timeline; guest blog; quality of a brochure. The aim is to present the socio-economic benefits of good land administration.
- 2.4.1 In addition, activities for the new PoW 2020-2021 were discussed and could potentially include, updating the LA guidelines; Future scenarios, openness of data benefits, open access, crowd sourcing; Potential benefits and limitations of emerging technologies; conducting a baseline of geospatial NSDI and geospatial action plans; IGIF Implementation (potentially at the Land and Poverty Conference in March 2020).

Item 3: The 80th Session of the Committee on Urban development, Housing and Land Management

- 3.1 Bureau members gave their observations from the Session. There were 120 participants from 37 countries. There was a side event co-organized with UN-Habitat/GLTN on the afternoon of 28 February after the WPLA session ended on *Land Indicators and data collection*¹. Further conversation with GLTN is needed to strengthen cooperation.
- 3.2 The WPLA will present its work since the CHLM session (October 2018) in Geneva in October 2019 including its Programme of Work 2020-2021 and the renewal of the mandate for the period 2021-2025 for approval.

Item 4: WPLA participation and Upcoming events

- 4.1 List of events:
- 18-19 September 2019 - World Experience in Real Estate Registration: Achievements and Prospects“, Minsk, Belarus (Konstantin Litvincev will attend)
 - 18-20 September 2019 - “Digitally Enabled Development for a Sustainable Future in Eastern Europe“, Vrdnik (Fredrik Zetterquist and Mari Kharadzani will attend)
 - 2-4 October 2019 - 80th Session of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, Geneva (Fredrik Zetterquist, Chryssy Potsiou, Victoria Abbott, Kirsikka Riekkinen, Filippo Cadmuro, Tanja Cenova, Konstantin Litvincev will attend)
 - 20-21 November 2019 - The Ecosystems of related to Real Estate Conveyancing Conference and Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Cadastre in the European Union (PCC), Helsinki, Finland (Fredrik Zetterquist, Victoria Abbott, Kirsikka Riekkinen will attend)
 - 16-20 March 2020 - Land and Poverty Conference 2019: Institutions for Equity and Resilience, Washington, DC (Elena Busch, Chryssy Potsiou and others will attend TBC)
 - April 2019 – NSDI: Towards Digital Society, Baku
 - 20 - 22 April 2020 - Sixth High Level Forum on UN-GGIM, Windsor, United Kingdom
 - 10-14 May 2020 - FIG Working Week 2020 – Amsterdam
 - 20-22 May 2020 - “How to assure rights of indigenous peoples and minorities” – Canada (Mont Tremblant)
 - Potential workshop in Sweden in 2020

Item 5: Other Business

- 5.1 As part of the programme of work and in collaboration with HMLR investigating the potential benefits and limitations of emerging technologies such as blockchain, etc. within the property transaction and registration process. This

¹ <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=50205>

will be a helpful to assess where countries are going, what plans are on its usage and where they do not plan on using it. An invitation to participate will be sent to organization to join an international discussion group to share research. The first digital discussion group meeting will be held in September 2019. This initial discussion will then be followed by a series of showcases which will provide each registry the opportunity to demonstrate any blockchain trials or implementations that they have been working on.

Item 6: Next Bureau meeting

6.1 The next bureau meeting will be held on Thursday, 3 October from 13:15-14:45 in Room I in the Palais des Nations Geneva.