

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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

3 October 2019

13:00 – 15:00 (CEST)

Salle I, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Attendance:

Ms. Kirsikka Riekkinen (Finland), Vice-chair

Ms. Chryssy Potsiou, (Greece), Vice-chair

Mr. Filippo Cadamuro (Italy)

Mr. Bakytbek Djusupbekov (Kyrgyzstan)

Mr. Konstantin Litvincev (Russian Federation)

Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist (Sweden), Chair

Ms. Victoria Abbott (United Kingdom)

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 Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist gave an update on the conference “Digitally Enabled Development for a Sustainable Future in Eastern Europe”, Vrdnik, 18-20 September 2019 which he presented at on behalf of the WPLA.

2.1.2 The Conference, *The Ecosystems of 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 will present the latest updates on the Scenarios study as well as the conclusions of the Fraud study. To register: https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/PCC_2019_Helsinki_6897

2.1.3 Proposal for workshop on NSDI: Towards Digital Society in Baku 2-3 April 2020. Next steps are to speak to other co-organizers and the to focal point in

- Azerbaijan to develop the agenda and discuss logistics. Mr. Konstantin Litvincev has agreed to be the liaison from the bureau.
- 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 title of the conference as well as the sessions that the WPLA will organize. Postcards are available for the event, secretariat has them if anyone would like. Potential sessions are as follows: Session 1: “Urban Perspectives” (How are digital twinning and smart cities initiatives shaping urban land governance and urban social dynamics), Session 2: “Environmental & Social Perspectives” (How is land governance evolving to address global sustainability and climate change) and Session 3: “A National Framework for Land Administration Governance in Canada” (building a cohesive land governance community).
- 2.1.5 Potential workshop in Sweden in autumn 2020 on Education for LA is still in discussion. University of Gavle and University of Aalto might have interest in co-organizing.
- 2.1.6 The EG-LAM work and the draft Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA), will be circulated to member States for consultation in the beginning of 2020. The WPLA can contribute inputs to FELA. If there are any inputs, please forward them to the secretariat in order to consolidate them and send them to UN-GGIM. <http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/9th-Session/documents/>

Land administration reviews:

- 2.2.1 Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist has sent information on EU-TAIEX to the secretariat so that it can be communicated to Armenia following their request for 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, 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. The secretariat will follow-up.

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 and the final draft is available for review of the bureau. The draft that was prepared by Mr. Paul Van Asperen and presented first at the WPLA 11th session in February 2019. Was updated in July 2019 and was presented at the Committee Session on 4 October 2019. There was discussion to carry out the survey every two years to monitor the trends. The study will be finalized end of 2019. Please send all comments to the final draft to the secretariat by 5 December 2019.
- 2.3.2 Fraud in LA systems: Ms. Victoria Abbott gave an update on the study and will present it at the WPLA session as part of PCC in Helsinki. The preliminary results were first presented at the WPLA 11th session and then again, the

Committee Session on 4 October 2019. There is a request for best practices from member States in order to complete the recommendations. It will be completed by end 2019. An abstract was submitted to the Land and Poverty Conference 2020.

2.3.3 Informal settlements: The guidelines are under review by the secretariat and the final draft will be sent for editing and layout. It will be presented at the Committee Session in October 2019 by Ms. Chryssy Potsiou. The publication will be submitted for print by the end of 2019.

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. Still awaiting further information from FAO to see when the Guide will be launched. Proposal was for LANDNET workshop in Galicia, Spain, 5-8 November 2019.

2.3.5 Scenarios for future land administration: There will be a meeting in Helsinki in November 2019 on the fringes of the PCC conference to discuss further the study. A summary of progress was presented at the Committee Session in October 2019 and then at the PCC conference in November 2019.

2.3.6 Outreach and Promotion: Some of the members of the TG met with the secretariat on 4 October 2019 to discuss an action plan for communications. The action items were to develop a communications survey to send out to focal points to see how and what they would like to receive from the WPLA. Also, it was discussed to update the website text. This text could also be used to to develop language in order to present the socio-economic benefits of good land administration. The task group will need to meet at the next bureau meeting to establish the new workplan for the group.

2.3.3 Ms. Victoria Abbott gave an update on the on the survey of *Potential benefits and limitations of emerging technologies forum* the first call will be on 15 October 2019. More information should be available by the next bureau meeting.

Programme of Work 2020-2021:

2.4.1 Proposed activities for work 2020-2021 were discussed: PPPs for Land Administration which Ms. Kirsikka Riekkinen will be the focal point, this is in collaboration with FIG commission 7; The WPLA has been invited to be part of the Prindex advisory group, Ms. Chryssy Potsiou will be the focal point, the first call of the Group will be held on 18 November 2019.

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

- 3.1 Bureau members attended the Session and the activities for Programme of Work 2018-2019 were presented by Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist; activities for the PoW 2020-2021 were presented by the secretariat. The new PoW was endorsed by the Committee.
- 3.2 The terms of reference for the WPLA were presented and the renewal of the mandate for the period 2021-2025 was approved. Both the PoW 2020-2021 and the renewal of the mandate will now go to the EXCOM for endorsement on December 2019.

Item 4: WPLA participation and Upcoming events

4.1 List of events:

- 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
- 16-20 March 2020 - Land and Poverty Conference 2019: Institutions for Equity and Resilience, Washington, DC
- 2-3 April 2019 – NSDI: Towards Digital Society, Baku
- 10-14 May 2020 - FIG 2020 – Amsterdam
- 19-22 May 2020 - “How to assure rights of indigenous peoples and minorities” – Canada (Mont Tremblant)
- 30 Aug. - 5 Sep. 2020 Annual Meeting 2020 of FIG-Commission 7 in Bern, Switzerland
- Potential workshops in Sweden in autumn 2020

Item 5: Other Business

5.1 There was nothing further discussed.

Item 6: Next Bureau meeting

6.1 The next bureau meeting will be held on the margins of the PCC Conference in Helsinki, more information to be shared once confirmed.