

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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

17 December 2018

11:00 – 13:00 (CET)

webex

Attendance:

Mr. Bakytbek Djusupbekov (Kyrgyzstan)
Mr. Rik Wouters (The Netherlands), Vice-chair
Ms. Elena Busch (Norway)
Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist (Sweden), Chair
Mr. Konstantin Litvintcev (Russian Federation)

Observers:

Mr. Andrey Pridankin (Russian Federation)
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 A brief update was given on the Joint Conference of WPLA, FIG and Technical Chamber of Greece held in Athens from 7-9 November 2018. The theme of the meeting was “Economy, Society and Climate Change - Current Trends and Solutions for the Built Environment, Construction Industry and Real Estate”. There was a REM session on the morning of 8 November there were many joint events held and there is a declaration the will issued. The presentations can be found here: <https://tufe2018.com/presentations/>
- 2.1.2 There is a proposal for a workshop to be held in the UK in Late May/June 2019, jointly with Ordnance Survey and HMLR. Further discussions are needed within the two organizations and the proposal will be discussed at the next WPLA bureau meeting. Finland’s interest in hosting a Joint PCC/WPLA meeting in fall 2019, date to be confirmed.

- Fredrik Zetterquist and Chryssy Potsiou presented at the joint FIG/UNECE/GLTN session on “Linking people to land: the framework for effective land administration” as part of the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) 19-21 November 2018 in Deqing, China. The status of the UNGGIM-LAM expert group’s Framework for Effective Land Administration was also discussed during the session, including the question on whether the framework is requested, considering the various global frameworks and guidelines for land administration already available.
- 2.1.3 Rik Wouters gave an update after speaking with Maurice Barbieri (CGLE), Jan Moerkerke (ELRA), Martin Salzmann (Eurogeographics), Julius Ernst (PCC) and it was decided that a MoU would not be the best instrument to foster greater collaboration with the organisations being part of the common vision agreement. With the current agreement perhaps, an addendum can be added with more explicit references to joint activities. For the time being no further action is taken.

Land administration reviews:

- 2.2.1 There was a short summary given by the secretariat on the workshop in Bulgaria, *The Cadastre - A Sustainable Basis for Property Registration and Investments* on 15 November 2018. Bureau member Julius Ernst gave opening remarks on behalf of the WPLA. Several member States presented on their perspectives from the UNECE region, Austria, Finland, Norway, Croatia.
- 2.2.2 The Cadastre will need to devote funding to the project the terms of reference for the project to complete cadaster subsidy projects will need to be defined.

Rik Wouters consulted with Violeta Koritarova, Director of the Bulgarian Cadastre GCCA regarding request for WPLA to make experts available for technical assistance. It was specified that limited support by WPLA is possible and that more intensive TA must be financed by other means. The discussion was:

- a) formation of strategy how to complete the land register data and map. Backlog is considerable and no clear vision how to complete the remaining work. Link with Ministry of Justice (responsible for land registration) is not foreseen but relevant when drafting a comprehensive future strategy.
- b) defining a project proposal to apply financial support/subsidy from the EU Commission in Brussels. EU TAIEX program advised for first round of support. Helge Onsrud (Norway) would also be a good candidate.

Studies:

- 2.3.1. Benchmarking of LA systems: The questionnaire for the *Study on the Cost for Registration and Transfer of Real Estate and Registration of Mortgages in the UNECE Countries* was sent to member States. The deadline for responses is

- 16 January 2019. Results are planned to be presented at the WPLA 11th session in February 2019 by the consultant working on the study.
- 2.3.2 Fraud in LA systems: The questionnaire was sent, and the deadline is 16 January 2019. The preliminary results will be presented at the WPLA 11th session. The TG will be closed when the study is finalized.
- 2.3.3 Informal settlements: The executive summary was produced and will be available as an official document for the WPLA 11th Session. The plan is for the guidelines to be finalized for the WPLA 11th Session.
- 2.3.4 Land consolidation: Walter de Vries will present the finalized study (narrative) as an official document at the 11th WPLA session. The TG will be closed when the study is finalized.
- 2.3.5 Scenarios for future land administration: The results were presented in Athens at the WPLA workshop and in China at the UN-GGIM Geospatial World Congress both in (November 2018). A roundtable was organized in Amsterdam on 18 December 2018 to continue the discussions started in the June 2018 roundtable. The summary of progress is available as an official document at the 11th WPLA session.
- 2.3.6 Outreach and Promotion: The WPLA LinkedIn page <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6610809/> should be used for the dissemination of WPLA activities, please join if you are not already a member.
- 2.3.7 Further discussion on the next steps in the communication strategy need to be discussed at the next bureau meeting. It was discussed that the WPLA needs to discuss a branding strategy.

Item 3: The 11th Session of the WPLA

- 3.1 The session dates are 27-28 February 2019. The secretariat requested that the bureau members suggest speakers for the keynote segment on: **Transforming Land Administration** and for the **Land governance, the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda segment**.
- 3.2 Suggestions were given for speakers from: the Russian Federation, the bureau members will send directly to the secretariat their suggestions.
- 3.3 The secretariat requested if there was a possibility of sponsorship for travel of participants, the reception or coffee breaks available. Please let the secretariat know as soon as possible.
- 3.4 Bureau elections will also be held during this session. The bureau is also accepting nominations for the vice-chair, these will need to be submitted to the secretariat.
- 3.5 There were discussions with UN-Habitat/GLTN to co-organize a side event on the afternoon of 28 February after the WPLA session ends on *Land Indicators*

and data collection. The secretariat will coordinate with GLTN and the Statistics Division at UNECE to plan the agenda for such a side event.

Item 4: WPLA participation and Upcoming events

4.1 List of events:

- 27-28 February 2019 - WPLA 11th Session – Geneva
- 25-29 March 2019 - WB Land and Poverty conference, Washington (Elena Busch will attend)
- 22-26 April 2019 - FIG Working Week, Vietnam (Rik Wouters and Fredrik Zetterquist will attend; there will be a session organized by the Rosreestr)
- TBC – May/June 2019 – WPLA workshop – UK
- November 2019 - Joint CVC conference – Finland
- Spring 2020 – Canada (Mont Tremblant)
- 10-14 May 2020 - FIG 2020 - Amsterdam

Item 5: Other Business

5.1 No other business was brought up.

Item 6: Next Bureau meeting

6.1 The Chair closed the meeting and the next bureau will take place on 26 February in Geneva.