

## **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**

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

*5 October 2018*

*14:00 – 17:00 (CET)*

*E-1066, Palais des Nations, Geneva*

#### Attendance:

Mr. Rik Wouters (The Netherlands), Vice-chair

Ms. Tanja Cenova (FYR Macedonia)

Ms. Elena Busch (Norway)

Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist (Sweden), Chair

Ms. Victoria Abbott (United Kingdom)

#### Observer:

Sonja Dimova (FYR Macedonia)

#### **UNECE Secretariat**

Ms. Amie Figueiredo

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#### **Item 1: Opening and adoption of the agenda**

1.1 The Chair of the Working Party, Mr. Frederik 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 will be held in Athens from 7-9 November 2018. The theme of the meeting will be “Economy, Society and Climate Change - Current Trends and Solutions for the Built Environment, Construction Industry and Real Estate”. There will be a REM session on the morning of 8 November and Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist will give opening remarks of behalf of the WPLA.
- 2.1.2 Further discussions regarding the workshop to be held in May 2019 in Norway on key registers for the implementation of the SDGs. Need to be discussed at the next WPLA bureau meeting.
- 2.1.3 All seems to be on plan for the on “How to assure rights of indigenous peoples and minorities” in the spring 2020 in Canada.
- 2.1.4 The EG-LAM meeting was held in Deqing, Zhejiang Province, China, between 27 – 29 September 2018. Regarding the EG-LAM work, Rik Wouters discussed the proposals to create a new framework for LA, including six

- pillars. It was suggested to submit directly to NY the frameworks that already exist and the opinions on whether a new framework is needed. Fredrik Zetterquist will attend the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) in Deqing, China, 19-21 November 2018 and present on the FIT-for-PURPOSE management of informal areas. Further discussions on how to work better with UN-GGIM in a more coordinated way with UNECE were discussed. The secretariat will discuss with the UNECE statistics department on how to better coordinate communication regarding meetings and general information exchange.
- 2.1.5 The WPLA participation in the Common Vision agreement was discussed. There was a majority vote in the poll from the bureau to join the CVC-agreement, though some bureau members view the participation more as a pledge to work with the other organizations and that it sometimes can be more advantageous to work independently. It was agreed to work on a separate MoU instead of signing the CV-agreement. The secretariat will send examples of some current MoUs to see how one could be drafted for this purpose.

Land administration reviews:

- 2.2.1 WPLA in cooperation with the Bulgarian Cadastre to organize a workshop on 15 November 2018 in Sofia. The secretariat will share the programme again. Julius Ernst has agreed to represent the WPLA and give opening remarks on its behalf.

Studies:

- 2.3.1. Benchmarking of LA systems: Group leader, Elena Busch was not available for the meeting but the *Study on the Cost for Registration and Transfer of Real Estate and Registration of Mortgages in the UNECE Countries*. Outcomes will be a joint project of SK, WPLA, ITC. The questionnaire has been set up in survey monkey and has had some additional comments after the first pilot trial. Further discussions need to be had at the next bureau meeting. A meeting with the consultant working on the questionnaire should be scheduled on the margins of the Athens Conference. Results are planned to be presented at the WPLA 11<sup>th</sup> session in February 2019.
- 2.3.2 Fraud in LA systems: Victoria Abbott has taken on the role of the new TG leader for this work. The survey has been sent out as a pilot to the TG members. There have been some initial comments and they need to be incorporated before it is sent to all focal points.
- 2.3.3 Informal settlements: A draft of the Guidelines were presented at the CHLM 70<sup>th</sup> Session in October 2018. The plan is for the guidelines to be finalized and printed in time for the WPLA 11<sup>th</sup> Session. Chryssy Potsiou and Rik Wouters have been working closely with the consultant on the guidelines. The publication will be sent and reviewed by UN-Habitat-GLTN, FAO, OHCHR and independent experts as well as the REM. The executive summary and recommendations will need to be submitted to as an official document for

approval at the WPLA 11<sup>th</sup> session, **the deadline for submission is 30 November 2018.**

- 2.3.4 Land consolidation: A draft of the study (narrative) was presented at the CHLM 70<sup>th</sup> Session in October 2018. Group leader, Rik Wouters and University of Munich will finalize the study (narrative & legal framework), and it will be presented as an official document at the 11<sup>th</sup> WPLA session.
- 2.3.5 Scenarios for future land administration: A roundtable will be organized in Amsterdam on 18 December 2018 to continue the discussions started in the June 2018 roundtable. The combined results will be presented at the WPLA workshop in Athens in November 2018. The summary of progress will be submitted in an official document and presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> WPLA session.
- 2.3.6 WPLA/REM cooperation: There was discussion about potentially closing this task group as coordination with the REM has been consistent and there does not seem to be a need to have another group dedicated to it.
- 2.3.7 Outreach and Promotion: A new TG leader must be nominated with the departure of Mr. Howard Bushell. TG had face-to-face meeting with the team from HMLR at the end of January 2018 and discussed possible tools to disseminate the work of the WPLA, next steps in the communication strategy need to be discussed at the next bureau meeting. **The WPLA LinkedIn page will be the primary method for dissemination but needs to be updated relevant information. There was discussion to have a printable brochure from the WPLA webpage. The TG members will send some proposals for new text for the brochure.**

### **Item 3: The 11<sup>th</sup> Session of the WPLA**

- 3.1 The session dates are 27-28 February 2019. The secretariat requested that the bureau think about what events, theme, etc. should be included in the Session. Son suggestions were: **Transforming Land Administration: (then adding subtitles)**
- 3.2 **Bureau elections will also be held during this session.** Those bureau members that plan on continuing the bureau will need to obtain letters of support from their organizations and send them to the secretariat by 30 November 2018. The bureau can also accept new nominations for bureau members, these will need to be submitted to the secretariat and then confirmed by the respective missions in Geneva.
- 3.3 Official documents need to be submitted by end of November 2018.
- 3.4 Financial support for travel of participants and for hospitality is needed. If there are any ideas of who could contribute please discuss this with the secretariat as soon as possible.

### **Item 4: WPLA participation and Upcoming events**

- 4.1 List of events:

- 7-9 November 2018 - WPLA, FIG and Technical Chamber of Greece - Athens (WPLA members: Tanja Cenova, Rik Wouters, Fredrik Zetterquist, Mari Khardzani, Victoria Abbot, Chryssy Potsiou will attend.)
- 15 November 2018 – Workshop on Cadastre – Sofia, Bulgaria (WPLA members: Julius Ernst will attend.)
- 19-21 November 2018 – United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) – Deqing, China (WPLA members: Fredrik Zetterquist, and Chryssy Potsiou will attend.)
- 20-21 November 2018 – PCC meeting – Austria (WPLA members: Rik Wouters, and Julius Ernst will attend.)
- International Conference "European Smart and Sharting Cities", 22-23 November 2018, Prague
- 27-28 February 2019 - WPLA 11<sup>th</sup> Session – Geneva
- 25-29 March 2019 - WB Land and Poverty conference, Washington
- 22-26 April 2019 - FIG Working Week, Vietnam
- TBC - May 2019 – WPLA workshop – Norway
- Autumn 2019 – Joint PCC/WPLA meeting – Finland
- Spring 2020 – Canada (Mont Tremblant)
- 10-14 May 2020 - FIG 2020 - Amsterdam

#### **Item 5: Other Business**

- 5.1 The joint PCC joint conference in Finland in fall 2019 was briefly discussed it should be further discussed at the next bureau meeting.
- 5.2 There was discussion about created and closing some of the task groups. This should be agreed upon before presenting this at the 11<sup>th</sup> WPLA session.
- 5.3 Several bureau members have submitted abstracts for the next Land & Poverty Conference in Washington DC, 25-29 March 2019.
- 5.4 There were discussions with UN-Habitat on how to better cooperate with the GLTN. Fredrik Zetterquist will liaise with Oumar Sylla from the GLTN to see where there may be synergies.
- 5.5 Fredrik Zetterquist and Rik Wouters met with the coordinators of the Astana Smart District to discuss their request for support. The Astana team is to send more information to the WPLA.
- 5.6 Rik met with the UNECE staff and Belarus representative to discuss the country profile report.

#### **Item 6: Next Bureau meeting**

- 6.1 The Chair closed the meeting and the next bureau will take place on 7 November 2018 from 16:00-19:00.