

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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

17 January 2018

10:00 – 11:30 (CET)

webex

Attendance:

Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist (Sweden), Chair

Ms. Mari Khardziani (Georgia)

Ms. Roberta Marconi (Italy)

Mr. Konstantin Litvintcev (Russian Federation)

Mr. Howard Bushell (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. 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 In 2018, workshops will be held in 19-21 June 2018 in Skopje, TFYR Macedonia on Land consolidation with FAO and Landnet; the save the date will be sent followed by the invitation letter.
- 2.1.2 In November 2018 in Greece on property markets with FIG and TCG, to see if REM is interested in co-organizing.
- 2.1.3 For 2019, the secretariat received interest from Norway to host a workshop in May 2019 on key registers for the implementation of the SDGs. Secretariat to follow-up with Elena Busch. There was interest in Canada to host a workshop in the autumn 2019. Rik will now seek confirmation for the event.

Land administration reviews:

2.2 The research mission for the land administration review for Belarus will be in June 2018 Rik Wouters and Konstantin Litvintcev will participate. The pre-mission to Belarus was in December 2017 and where the dates for the research

mission in 2018 will be defined. **Bulgaria:** would like assistance in digitization of their records. They have 30% digitized but need additional resources to complete the process. They have requested the WPLA to offer assistance.

2.3 No further comments were received and the guidelines are available on the webpage: <https://www.unece.org/housing/working-party.html>

Studies:

2.4 Benchmarking of LA systems: Group leader, Ms. Elena Busch was not available for the meeting and the bureau will follow-up to see the status of the work.

2.5 Fraud in LA systems: The TG has met and there is an updated workplan. Work will be carried out during 2018. This should be a comprehensive study looking at how things have changed since the previous study from 2011. Further information as to who the previous survey went to and who completed it would be useful to collect in order to update the study. The survey should be circulated to ELRA for their input and to assist in the dissemination. A face-to-face meeting is planned to discuss progress.

2.6 Informal settlements: The consultant has been hired and is working on the guidelines. There have been several e-meetings to discuss the timeline and the table of contents. There has been interest from UN-Habitat-GLTN, FAO, OHCHR and independent experts to be part of the review committee. REM will be involved as well.

2.7 Land consolidation: Group leader, Mr. Rik Wouters was unable to attend the meeting but the workshop will be held in Skopje on 19-21 June 2018 in collaboration with FAO Landnet, and University of Munich are partners in the study, the work should be completed by end of summer 2018.

2.8 Scenarios for future land administration and management: the TG met in Stockholm in December and is working with two Finnish researchers on the megatrends of the impact of land administration. The plan is to showcase the results of the study at the WPLA workshop in Athens in November or at the PCC meeting in Vienna in November 2018. Discussions will continue throughout 2018.

2.9 WPLA/REM cooperation: Request from REM what their interest is in co-organizing or presenting at the Workshop in Athens. Highlighted the ongoing cooperation between the two groups. The Policy framework is currently being updated and they will ask the WPLA to comment and provide further inputs.

2.10 Outreach and Promotion: Is focusing on marketing and will have a face-to-face meeting with the team from HMLR at the end of January 2018 to discuss possible. The WPLA LinkedIn page needs to be updated with relevant information.

Item 3: Upcoming events and WPLA participation

3.1 World Urban Forum took place in Kuala Lumpur, 8-13 February. Helge Onsrud presented on behalf of the WPLA during the Special session: Security of tenure, land market and segregation organized by the GLTN.

3.2 Fredrik Zetterquist will present at the [First Arab Land Conference](#) in Dubai; 26-28 February 2018 hosted by the Dubai Land Department and the Government of the

United Arab Emirates in partnership with the World Bank, the Global Land Tool Network, UN-Habitat, the Arab League and the Arab Union of Surveyors.

3.3 WB Land and Poverty Conference, 19-23 March 2018, Washington DC. Several other bureau members will attend, the secretariat will send out a list of those events that the WPLA bureau members will be involved in.

3.4 [FIG Congress](#), Embracing our smart world where the continents connect: enhancing the geospatial maturity of societies, 6-11 May 2018, Istanbul. Mr. Rik Wouters will attend to promote the FIG2020 conference.

3.5 Eleventh Regional Conference on cadaster, June 2018 in Bulgaria Ms. Tanja Cenova explained the background: Regional conference where some 10 Balkan countries meet once a year to exchange experiences on land administration, registers, NSDI, etc.

Item 4: Dates for the 11th Session of the WPLA

4.1 Based on the availability of the rooms the 27-28 February 2019 will be the dates of the Session

Item 5: Other Business

5.1 WPLA/UNGGIM cooperation: The pilot project on the tenure atlas of the world was successfully finished. Rik Wouters was the coordinator and reported on this project early last year also at the Poverty Conference 2017. On Friday, 23 March in a special Side Event of the Land and Poverty Conference the results will be presented. And discussions the possibilities to start a follow up project to bring the atlas at production level. That is not only a matter of upgrading the atlas software but also to reach a content of data that makes the atlas an instrument “fit-for-purpose”. That means that relevant data (orientated on the SDG’s) for a substantial number of countries and at a good quality are available. Apart from this a lot of organizational arrangements should be made. They are requesting experts to do the work.

Item 6: Next Bureau meeting

6.1 The Chair closed the meeting and reminded the bureau that the next bureau meeting will take place during the Land and Poverty Conference in Washington DC.