

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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

7 March 2017

10:00 - 12:00 (CET)

Room VII, A-Building, Palais des Nations

Attendance:

Mr. Elshad Khanabayli (Azerbaijan), Chair
Mr. Rik Wouters (The Netherlands), Vice-Chair
Mr. Julius Ernst (Austria), Bureau member
Ms. Chryssy Potsiou (Greece), Bureau member
Ms. Nicky Heathcote (United Kingdom), Bureau member

Observers

Ms. Mari Khardziani (Georgia)
Ms. Elena Busch (Norway)
Ms. Olga Boronenko, Mr. Konstantin Litvintcev (Russian Federation)
Mr. Fredrik Zetterquist (Sweden)
Ms. Tatjana Cenova Mitrevska, Mr. Darko Crenkovski (the FYR Macedonia)
Mr. Howard Bushell (United Kingdom)

UNECE Secretariat

Ms. Amie Figueiredo, Ms. Ivonne Higuero, Ms. Marina Garnier

Item 1: Opening and adoption of the agenda

1. The Chair of the Working Party, Mr. Elshad Khanalibayli, opened the meeting.
2. The Chair invited the observers to introduce themselves to the WPLA members.

Item 2: Third Meeting of International Organizations, 7 March 2017, and 10th WPLA Session, 8-9 March 2017

3. The Chair invited the secretariat to present the updates regarding the third meeting of international organizations and the Tenth WPLA session programme.
4. The secretariat mentioned that the new mandate of the WPLA has been approved by EXCOM on 1 February 2017. She presented the program of third meeting of international organizations which will be held 7 March from 14:00-17:00. She went through the detailed programme of the Tenth WPLA session

and gave updates on the session. She announced that two speakers, one from Armenia and the other from the Republic of Moldova, will not attend the session to present the land administration reviews from their respective countries. The secretariat will present recommendations from the Reviews, on their behalf.

5. Mr. Rik Wouters questioned about the development of technical guidelines on informal settlements. Ms. Chryssy Potsiou responded that during the session will be a conversation of what it required to develop these guidelines. Mr. Wouters expressed that a participation of UN-Habitat in the development is needed. Ms. Figueiredo explained that there is no fixed timeline established yet but that the objective would be to set a timeline by the end of the session.
6. The secretariat explained the process of the election of the new bureau members: the list of the proposed nominees for bureau members will be shown to the participants and if no one oppose new members are elected by acclamation. The secretariat explained that the final rules for the procedure of the election of new members would be communicated on the 8 March 2017 to the WPLA.
7. The secretariat also explained the process for the adoption of the report and the proposed programme of work for 2018-2019, which will be presented at the end of the 10th session.

Item 3: Questionnaire on land administration systems

8. The secretariat gave an update on the status of the questionnaire. She said that there was exactly the same amount of replies as the year before. She explained that the full results are available in a document on the webpage for the session. The Chair requested if Mr. James O'Boyle could help the new bureau members to continue this work now that he is no longer on the WPLA bureau.

Item 4: WPLA Workshops for 2017

9. The Chair presented the two 2017 workshops :
 - a. WPLA / CLRKEN in Lausanne, Switzerland 21 April 2017:
 - i. Mr. Wouters explained that it is a joint one-day workshop funded by Swisstopo on land administration and land management. It will host both Swiss and international speakers from the UNECE region.
 - ii. The secretariat will attend and the workshop and the Director of the Forest, Land and Housing division will give opening remarks. She invited the Bureau members to circulate the event in their networks. She explained there will be a dinner,

cultural activities and that the photography exposition will also be set up there.

- iii. Mr. Rik Wouters sent to the bureau the draft programme for comments and suggestions. The save the date and the invitation letter have gone out to all CLRKEN and WPLA focal points. Reminders will be sent.
- iv. The secretariat will request meeting room to hold a bureau meeting on 20 April in Lausanne, from the organizers of the workshop. Tentative time will be 14:00-18:00, to be confirmed.

b. Common Vision Conference, Vienna, 5 - 6 October 2017 :

- i. Mr. Julius Ernst presented the joint event on Cadastre and Land Registry organized by the BEV including the participation of WPLA, Eurogeographics, PCC, FIG. A festive event will be held on the 4 October with 250 participants and then the workshop will receive 100 to 120 participants. The topic is tradition and innovation and the WPLA will be asked to make presentation. He requested that the bureau send proposals for the topic of the workshop, for example: How do Cadastre and Land registry deal with this, show best practice and look for future developments in organisational, technical and legal aspects. More information will come up within next weeks: updates of the agenda, the website, and the speakers. A book will be published in English and German about cadastre in the Austrian region. The Chair expressed his wish that the WPLA takes an active role in the preparation of the workshop.
- ii. The Common Vision Conference in Vienna is listed on the UNECE website and will be updated as soon as there is more information.
- iii. Bureau meeting was proposed to be held on the afternoon 4 October, to be confirmed.

10. Bureau is to explore other potential options for workshops in 2018 with the new bureau: some proposals are Cyprus, United States, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Lithuania.

Item 5: Other business

11. Ms. Potsiou asked information about the bureau meeting in Vienna. This issue will be discussed during the next bureau meeting.

12. The secretariat expressed that the WPLA received an invitation for UN-Habitat event at MIPI in Cannes on Wednesday, May 15 2017, hosted by FIABCI, the International Real Estate Federation, on the launch of a tool to assess

sustainable urban development for the launch of a City prosperity index (UN-Habitat). The Chair invited the Bureau members to attend and represent the WPLA even if there will not be a dedicated session of the WPLA. The secretariat will not attend to the session but is interested in feedback.

13. The secretariat highlight that unfortunately they cannot attend to every event but invited the bureau members to represent the WPLA in the events they will attend

Item 6: Next Bureau meeting

14. The Chair closed the meeting and reminded the participants that the Third Meeting of International Organizations would begin at 14:00.
15. He also reminded them that the next bureau meeting will take place on Thursday, 9 March in the Room VII at 14:00.