



29 July 2009

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF CLGE
Krakow / Poland, 27-28 March 2009**

MINUTES

Venue MCK Conference Centre, Old Market Square 25
Wierzynek Restaurant, Old Market Square 15
Chlopskie Jadlo Restaurant, Grodzka Street 9

1. Opening

The president opens the GA and underlines the historic aspect of this meeting. If we include the Russian Federation, CLGE counts 30 countries and that's quite a record.

He especially thanks the Polish organizers, Marek Ziemak and Andrzej Dyja who did a wonderful job. As usual he also thanks his close collaborators for their work behind the scenes. Special thanks to the Secretary General, as well as Katarzyna Perlik, project manager of the local Tourist Agency.

2. Roll call and Apologies of Absence

All but four members (Cyprus, Luxembourg, Slovakia and Spain) take part in the Strasbourg GA. See enclosed participation list on the website.

The four absent delegations have sent their apologies.

3. Approval of the Agenda

DECISION [D GA 09-I/1]:

The CLGE GA unanimously approves the agenda as circulated on the 22nd March 2009.

4. Approval of the minutes from Strasbourg

Minutes are adopted as written by Jean-Yves Pirlot, Secretary General, and circulated on 1st of December 2008.

DECISION [D GA 09-I/2]:

The CLGE GA unanimously approves the minutes of the Strasbourg General Assembly held on 19 September 2008.

5. Report by the Treasurer

The Treasurer gives a report of the financial situation at hands. It is very sound and he is happy to announce that all the members have paid their contribution for 2008.

He underlines the two different payment modes of incoming members.

He gives a presentation of the accounts of 2008 as circulated with the financial estate on 17 February 2009.

6. Auditors Report and Approval of the Accounts 2008

Remy Dhur and Ulf Sandgren were not able to attend the GA in Krakow. However, they've reported about their scrutiny of the accounts and the content of their report is presented to the GA.

The auditors have no remarks to formulate and propose to approve the accounts 2008 without remarks.

DECISION [D GA 09-I/3]:

The CLGE GA unanimously adopts the report of the Auditors and approves the accounts 2008 as circulated and presented by the Treasurer, René Sonney.

7. New applicants for Membership – Enlargement Policy

Slovenia and Hungary have asked to become principal member of CLGE.

DECISION [D GA 09-I/4]:

The CLGE GA unanimously accepts the two applications. Slovenia and Hungary therefore receive the status of principal member from now on.

The President insists that Iceland should become member soon.

The same applies for Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey.

Our aim must be to welcome three new members in the following year.

8. Report of the Ex-Board, WP 07 - 09

- Editorial Policy (Website, Brochure, Newsletter, ...)

The evolution of the new Website is commented in presence of one of its builders Ondrej Böhm who's working hand in hand with Milan Talich, who unfortunately was not able to attend the meeting.

The President warmly thanks Ondrej Böhm and through him his colleagues involved in this new youth of the website. It is the major part of our communication strategy, and we will to keep high standards and even increase our efforts for its professional maintenance.

Vaidotas Sankalas has accepted the task of editor of the newsletter.

The first issue will be circulated after the GA. We will only have a good newsletter if everybody contributes to it. Rob Mahoney stresses that 30 or 40 words and a url are enough. Everybody should be able to help the newsletter editor.

The new style was created by Esben Clemens in close cooperation with Jean-Yves Pirlot. It was used for the newsletter and the brochure, which is presented to the GA.

After correcting a minor typo it is ready for release.

All the people involved by the new editorial policy are congratulated by the GA, especially Rob Mahoney and Jean-Yves Pirlot, for their coordinating role, as well as Ondrej Böhm, Milan Talich, Vaidotas Sankalas and Esben Clemens for their special commitment.

- Surveyor Placement (First STEP – Students & Trainee Exchange Programme)

Michelle Camilleri gives a presentation about the new programme.

It is widely accepted and the GA asks her to go on with the preparations. She will do this together with the webmaster as well as the secretary general.

The name proposed by Jean-Yves Pirlot is accepted.

- Report about the Merging Process with Geometer Europas and the resulting prolongation of the CLGE election period until Autumn 2010

The Ex-Board explains the Merging Process at hands which is well on track.

It is clear now that CLGE and Geometer Europas will merge, becoming a new CLGE with revised statutes. Therefore, the election period of CLGE and Geometer Europas have to be harmonised. As Alain Gaudet's mandate as president of Geometer Europas lasts until mid 2010, it is quite normal to organize the appointment of the new president of CLGE on the same occasion. The best moment to do this is the Autumn General Assembly of CLGE in 2010.

- Inspire

Vaidotas Sankalas is a bit involved and underlines the importance of the whole directive. Jürg Kaufmann is working on this topic in Lichtenstein.

A few other delegates are well placed in these discussions as well.

As CLGE is an SDIC we can intervene in the whole process. Therefore we should share information that we are able to get on the national level.

Muriel Hiernaux reviewed the part about the cadastre and we were able to introduce it in due time.

It is important to notice that INSPIRE is written by geographers and not by surveyors!

CLGE will try to find a balance with the important aspects and our modest means.

We should make an assessment of the situation with a few delegates.

Brendan Sweeny asks if the cadastral precision of 1m is enough. This is indeed an important question and in most cases it is not enough. However, in some contexts the 1m precision is not achieved and that's why the directive does not impose more stringent rules.

Periklis Karaiskos thinks that it would be a good idea to have a POC in each country.

Muriel Hiernaux underlines that the ISO norms should also be mentioned.

Everybody feels that there is a huge task at hands. First of all CLGE has to make a selection of the important chapters.

Muriel Hiernaux is appointed to follow up the Inspire directive with a group of delegates that could form the team needed for the above mentioned assessment.

DECISION [D GA 09-I/5]:

The CLGE GA unanimously appoints Muriel Hiernaux to follow up the Inspire directive and head a working party that has to be created for the needed assessment.

(after the meeting the following delegates were willing to join the WP: Jürg Kaufmann, René Sonney and Ewa Swenson).

- CEPLIS

Rudolf Kolbe reports about CEPLIS which is working on the Small Business Act (SBA). This legislation must make it easier for the SME to be active and efficient in the European economy.

CEPLIS has written a first position paper, this position paper will be transmitted to the EU commission in the beginning of April.

CEPLIS welcomes many of the initiatives but draws the attention on the special aspects of liberal professionals.

Example honest bankruptcies should be allowed to give second chances. This is a fair approach but for liberal professions, the period should be longer.

Rudolf Kolbe also reports about the professional cards (the Engcard project of Feani and EuroCadres) but these project is halted, due to the Internal Market Information System (IMI).

The next CEPLIS GA is planned on the 29th of May in Malta.

The president thanks Rudolf Kolbe and Alain Gaudet for their presence in CEPLIS and this report. He points out that many Surveying companies are rather Micro Businesses and not Small ones and therefore deserve a special act or at least some specificities within the SBA.

- EGOS

Jean-Yves Pirlot and Randolph Camilleri (Vice President of the European Group of Surveyors) report about the contacts with this organisation.

Randolph Camilleri feels that they are complementary to CLGE. EGoS are surveyors, architects and engineers, all professionals in the building sector.

The contacts with EGOS are good but have to be strengthened with respect to the MoU.

- Eurogeographics

(see European affairs)

9. Bergen Seminar

The Norwegian delegation gives a last update about the coming seminar focussed on "The boundary". It is clear already that it's well organised and that success will be at the rendezvous.

CLGE will try to publish a declaration at the end of the seminar insisting on the important goals of CLGE and GE in the field of the professional education.

10. Autumn General Assembly, 11 – 12 September 2009

Fausto Savoldi, President of CNG, presents the preparations done so far.

They are amazing. A short programme is already available and distributed, as well as some tourist information.

With the help of a suggestive footage as well as some slides the venue is presented. The fact that we had to shift from Florence to Rome is quickly forgotten.

In any aspects Rome is a splendid place for the next GA and the draft programme that is prepared by CNG is very attractive.

The Bernini Hotel is well above the normal standard of CLGE. However, Fausto Savoldi insists on the fact that CNG will carry this burden. The room charges will remain under the maximum allowed by the GA regulations. The rooms will be charged at 140,-.

President Elmstroem thanks the Italian President and its delegation, as well as Maria Grazia Scorza, for this remarkable preparation as well as the whole applauding GA does.

11. European affairs

- Relations with the European Parliament

Rob Mahoney takes over the moderation part and introduces the Vice President of the European Parliament.

Marek Siwec presents its organisation and special topics related to the Profession.

He insists on the fact that the profession has to raise profile because, for the moment, his feeling is that it is far below the European radar.

Asked if there should be a European cadastre, he thinks that it would be a good aim on the long run but that such evolutions should be gradual and start with a kind of harmonization. The usual question will be: how much will it cost?

As a socialist, he feels that the state should keep a strong role in maintaining the cadastre.

His main advice is that CLGE should explain and promote the profession towards the European bodies and that it could start with asking a public hearing by the European Parliament. This of course must be well prepared.

Henning Elmstroem thanks the important politician for his advices and his participation in the CLGE GA, in Krakow. CLGE will try to follow his recommendations and is of course very grateful for this kind invitation by the European Parliament.

Volkmar Teetzmann then reports about the activities of CTF-EU. For him, we absolutely have to enhance the profile of our profession or it will disappear.

- CLGE, together with GE works a lot on this.

Juridical background was needed and therefore a study was funded by GE about the impact of the EU directives on the profession.

The first Henssler Study was about Article 45, with respect to the German ÖbVI. The second study (see Henssler II) is broader and concerns the impact of the services and the mutual recognition directives on the profession as a whole, all over Europe.

The European administration does not see professions, it focuses on activities.

We cannot start with our national views. It is the other way around. We have to respect the EU freedoms and we have to find out if we are in accordance to the European legal framework.

We must use the European Frame to define the European Surveyor.

CLGE / GE and EuroGeographics have started a new working party considering the impact of the directives on the profession as a whole. A first meeting was organized in Brussels. CLGE / GE were represented by Jean-Yves Pirlot, Volkmar Teetzmann and Rob Mahoney. A next meeting is scheduled for June 2009.

- Henssler study II

As we are not fully able to measure the impact of the directives on our profession we've asked Prof. Dr. Henssler from the Cologne University to make a study.

He's written an expertise of about 100 pages.

This expertise could be a tool for each national organisation and to reflect on the situation in their country.

We will study this paper in CTF-EU and then ask the final version of the paper.

In a lot of international papers on the European and even on the international level, the surveyor is not even mentioned. The word surveyor is not in the dictionary and that's why we are under the radar.

- Code of conduct

Rudolf Kolbe, member of the special working party on the code of conduct gives a presentation of the work that was done so far.

Deregulation is not the solution and this was acknowledged before the financial crisis.

Consumer protection and quality control are cornerstones of the initiative.

Art 37 recital 114 gives a description of a code of conduct.

The guide of European codes of conducts was published by the European Commission in 2007.

The paragraph 2.2. is very interesting: CLGE represents all the EU-member states.

CEPLIS has drawn up a framework with the 8 common principles for liberal professionals.

Prof. Dr. Frances Plimmer gave her support for the academic part of our work.

Rudolf Kolbe thanks Volkmar Teetzmann for his initiating work.

The code is a framework, it is not binding for the members.

CLGE gives the recommendation and all the organisations have to accept this code voluntarily, in respect of their national regulations.

Volkmar Teetzmann thanks Rudolf Kolbe for the kind words but insists on the fact that the latter is too humble because he was one of the leading voices in the working party of CTF-EU.

If adopted in Rome, the code will be sent officially to the EU. Afterwards there will be a ratification process.

DECISION [D GA 09-I/6]:

The CLGE GA decides that the draft Code of Conduct at hands has to be circulated for final remarks (not later than 18 May 2009). The final text will be proposed for adoption during the Rome GA, in respect of the national legislations. After Rome there will be a ratification period until the GA Spring 2010 (maximum one year).

- Implementation of the Inspire Directive (OGE questionnaire)

Bénédicte Fournier gives a presentation about the OGE questionnaire on the implementation of the services directive amongst CLGE member states.

The presentation can be seen on www.clge.eu.

The results were used during a meeting with the French administration and it proves that little input from other members can have a great impact on domestic policies of one member state.

12. National presentations

In this section, several members give a short presentation about their national situation.

These presentations can be seen on the CLGE website.

There one can find the presentation of the incoming member Hungary. The Russian Federation's presentation shows that it is a very serious candidate for membership.

After this Svante Astermo, Jürg Kaufmann and Mairolt Kakko give a presentation respectively about Sweden (the new unified association Aspect), Switzerland and Estonia (see also www.xgis.maamet.ee).

13. Polish presentations

The polish delegation gives an outstanding series of presentations:

- The implementation of the Inspire Directive in Poland, by Jolanta Orlinska, Surveyor General in Poland.
- A GIS for underground installations in Krakow, by Kazimierz Bujakowski, Vice-President of Krakow, Responsible for geodesy, architecture and development (Project Design Documentation Approval Group's role in the investment process in Krakow).
- Geodetic Performance in Projects of the Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture, by Waldemar Klocek.

President Henning Elmstroem, once again thanks the Polish organizers, as well as those who presented the papers for their outstanding achievements.

14. Dates and Venues of the Following GA and Meetings

a. Statutory meetings

III EB 2009, Copenhagen, 26 – 27 June 2009;

II GA 2009, Rome / Italy, 11 – 12 Sep 2009;

I GA 2010, Bucharest / Romania 06 – 08 May 2010 (to be confirmed);

II GA 2010, Sofia / Bulgaria (to be confirmed);

I and II GA 2011, Call for Candidates;

I GA 2012, London / UK;

II GA 2012, Germany (together with Intergeo and the CLGE EU-Conference)

b. Non statutory meetings

Norway, Bergen seminar: 29, 30 April 2009;

Students meeting, Intergeo 2009, 22 – 24 September 2009;

Conference 2010 Romania [together with the Spring GA];

Seminar 2011 Sweden proposal "European Reference Systems" in Umeå University.

Conference 2012, Germany, in Hanover [together with the Intergeo and the Autumn GA as well as the 2nd Students meeting, Intergeo 2012 (CLGE-DVW)].

15. AOB

Klaus Rürup unfortunately could not attend the ceremony organized during the closing of the Strasbourg GA, awarding him the honorary membership. He therefore was invited to attend the GA in Krakow to receive his well deserved certificate.

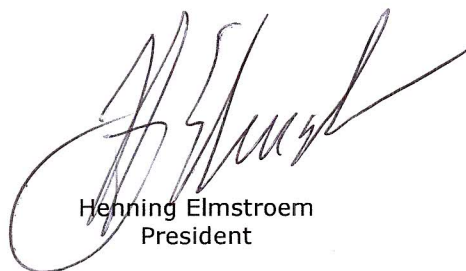
16. Closing

Henning Elmstroem once again thanks the participants and above all the organizers and closes the GA in due time, just before lunch.

* * *



Jean-Yves Pirlot
Secretary General



Henning Elmstroem
President

Enclosures: Financial Estate 2008
GA ppt presentations to be seen on the www.clge.eu
Extended Working Plan 2007 - 2010