The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors
Comité de Liaison des Géomètres Européens

The President

18. January 2010

To the CLGE members

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

After meetings in Villars on January 7-9 of Geometer Europas (Extraordinary General Assembly) and CLGE (Executive Board), I would like to give you a short summary report about the most important item for these meetings: The merging of CLGE and GE.

The schedule and timetable set up and reported on in Rome has been followed and the merging Group finished its work shortly before Christmas by presenting a proposal for the statutes of the new CLGE.

The proposal from the merging Group followed the principle decided upon by the General Assemblies of CLGE and GE to 'Keep it Simple'.

All comments have been dealt with and the proposal is now ready for a final decision to be made by both organisations.

On behalf of the Merging Group, I would like to thank you for the comments and views made about the merging of CLGE and GE. One view shared by all was to produce a stronger organisation for the benefit of our members, and this is at the forefront of the proposal being presented.

There are some legal technicalities about the best and cheapest way to reach one of the goals – an official registered organisation in Belgium – but this is in the hands of our Secretary General Jean-Yves Pirlot and the Belgian Notary.

I am very happy to be able to announce that the proposal was subject to very positive decisions and recommendations in both organisations, bringing the process an important step further:

- For GE, the draft statutes of Villars will be recommended to the Ordinary General Assembly in June as background for implementation in September, in Varna (Bulgaria);
- For CLGE, the Executive Board will recommend the adoption of the draft statutes of Villars by the Ordinary General Assembly in May, as background for implementation at the General Assembly in September in Varna.

Before this, the draft statutes of Villars will soon be sent to all members, to ensure that they are fully aware of the contents of the proposal. Please study these draft statutes carefully and if there are any comments, they must be sent to our Secretary General, Jean-Yves Pirlot, before March 12th.

The Merging Group is naturally prepared to take into consideration any comments before a final proposal is tabled to the General Assemblies of GE and CLGE. However, before proposing any changes, please take into account the fact that all words and sentences in the draft have been subject to considerable debate and discussion and indeed reflect the kind of compromises that are necessary in every merging process, if it is to be successful. The Villars decision represents a historic step on our way to a stronger representation of the surveyors in Europe.

The CLGE Conference in Bucharest on the 6-7 May is under final preparation and the invitations will be sent out soon. Please mark your calendar and please encourage your colleagues to attend the Conference. The theme: “The Cadastral Surveyor – paving the way to the future” – should be interesting for all Surveyors.

The General Assembly is combined with the Conference and takes place on Friday May 7. It will be a rather short one but anyhow very important.

I am looking forward to our meetings in Bucharest – not only do we have an interesting Conference but historic decisions in CLGE are to be made.

Henning Elmstroem

President CLGE