

W092 - Procurement Systems

Joint Coordinator Professor David Jaggar expressed himself as very satisfied with the turnout of 34 participants for the Meeting of W092 on 27th April 2000 at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, Santiago. This meeting took place within the framework of the Symposium on Information and Management Systems in Procurement Systems. We are indebted to Dr. T.M. Lewis for his Report on what transpired from which the following salient points have been extracted.

Deliverables

In terms of deliverables, it was reported that there was a growing body of written work in the form of proceedings of symposia and workshops, which had received a worthwhile addition in the form of the excellent document produced by Prof. Alfredo Serpell for the Symposium. It was felt that there could be much benefit from having the proceedings put onto a CD for easier carrying and access - in the future. A hard copy would always be required as well as the CD. It was suggested that for future symposia it would also be beneficial to give participants early access to papers on a dedicated website - this could be password protected, with access given only once registration fees had been paid.

The book on "Best Practice" which had been produced in 1999 and authored by Dr Steve Rowlinson and Dr Peter McDermott had been very well received.

The Journal of Construction Procurement which is a CIB Encouraged Journal is produced and published regularly with good quality papers, and two Special Issues on areas of topical interest have been produced.

Special Projects

A number of areas had been highlighted by the Commission as priority areas and groups had been formed to address them. Specifically there are currently special focus groups for:

- Procurement for Performance Based Building (a compendium of models is being assembled)
- Sustainability Issues (Dr Steve Rowlinson - Hong Kong and Prof. Keizo Baba - Japan)
- Organisational Learning (Prof. Derek Walker - Australia / Robert Newcombe - UK)
- Impact of IT on Procurement (Dr. Gussan Ahoud - UK)
- Culture (Dr Richard Fellows - Hong Kong / Dr. Seymore - UK and Dr Wilco Tijhuis - Netherlands)
- Research Agenda (Stuart Green - UK)
- Appropriate Procurement Strategies (Dr P.D. Rwelamila - South Africa / Dr Mike Lewis Trinidad and Tobago)

It is planned to feature these projects in more detail in the next issue of CIB Information.

Future Meeting(s)

2001

The next meeting of W092 will be as part of the World Building Congress in New Zealand 2nd -6th April 2001. W092 will not have a separate Symposium but will hold a break-out group session in parallel.

2002

It has also been decided that the 2002 Symposium will be held in Trinidad & Tobago during the third week of January. Dr T.M. Lewis will be responsible for organising the Symposium, and will provide information as soon as possible. A preliminary announcement was tabled by Dr Lewis, but a response from W078 (IT in Construction) is awaited concerning a Joint Symposium. TG23 - Culture and W063 - Affordable Housing had already indicated their intention to join with W092 in the 2002 Symposium. The Theme of the Symposium will be "To report, review and speculate on construction procurement as a mechanism to both provide and facilitate technology transfer especially between Nations of different economic, political and social status", but will not be limited to this, particularly in the light of a number of issues that have arisen of widespread concern - such as the use of appropriate procurement strategies particularly BOT and PPP type strategies.

2003

A preliminary proposal has been received that the 2003 Symposium should be held in India and a brief presentation was made by Dr Amarjit Singh. It was the feeling of the Commission that this proposal should be given provisional support and a more detailed proposal is awaited from Dr Goshi who has already made significant progress, like obtaining assurances of sponsorship.

Vote of Thanks

A special vote of thanks was passed to Professor Alfredo Serpell and his excellent young team of assistants for their handling of the whole Symposium. The beautiful city of Santiago had proved a fine setting and everyone had been helpful and charming throughout. W092 members expressed the hope that they would see more of Alfredo and his team at future events.

