



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

# INFORMATION

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## Around the Task Groups and Working Commissions

### W092 – Procurement Systems

## Report Commission Meeting January 16, 2002, Trinidad

by

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The W092 Commission Meeting actually took place in conjunction with the joint W092/W063/TG36/TG23 symposium The International Symposium on Procurement Systems and Technology Transfer in Trinidad & Tobago, in January 2002.

### Commission Meeting

The meeting opened with a discussion of the role and objectives of the W092 Working Commission. Reference was made back to the original objectives of the Working Commission when it was set up in 1987. The Group came to the conclusion that these original objectives should be reviewed and, in order to effectively do this, it was agreed that a survey of all working commission members would be undertaken to ascertain their views on the current state of the Working Commission, progress that had been made over the years, and future directions that the Working Commission should take.

The Coordinators took on board this idea and agreed to undertake the survey in the early part of 2002. The survey would be reported as a working paper to be distributed to commission members and would incorporate also the outcome of the CIB strategy document on re-engineering procurement and construction.

### Outcome of the Meeting

The meeting went on to discuss specific issues and a number were raised and the Coordinators agree to deal with these issues as either Focus Areas or areas

which should be reviewed for future directions. One of the issues which came to the fore was the original objective of defining procurement systems. Given the work that had been presented at the very successful conference in Trinidad it was apparent that the issue of definitions was perhaps not as important now as it had been when the commission was first formed. However, it would seem that some form of Working Paper is necessary in order to clarify this position and the Coordinators agreed to take on this as an issue in a review of the way the commission is going forward. *Areas which have emerged which members felt needed to be addressed as focus areas are listed below:*

- The impact of procurement strategies on the environment and economics of individual countries and regions;
- Public policy and procurement issues;
- Local diversity in procurement practices; Impact of IT & Visualisation on Procurement; Performance based procurement systems; Culture;
- Trust.

In addition, the work of the Co-operative Research Centre (CRC) in Queensland, Australia was discussed. CSIRO and QUT are leading this initiative and much of the work being undertaken is central to the work of the W092 Commission.

Hence, the Coordinators had taken it upon themselves to liaise closely with the leaders of the CRC in order to ensure that W092 could feed its expertise into this particular initiative.

The issue of deliverables was discussed and the Working Commission has a sound reputation in terms of publication of conference proceedings, books and publications in the Journal of Construction Procurement that specifically focuses on the work of W092. Links with other Working Commissions, including W060 and the Task Group on Culture were also discussed.

The role and performance of the Coordinators was briefly discussed and the meeting was of the opinion that the Coordinators should continue in their role for the time being.



*CIB W092 Commission Meeting*

### **Future Meetings**

Another issue under discussion was where the Working Commission would meet next. An offer from Satya Kalidindi was on the table to meet in India, in Madras (or Channa as it is known), in the year 2004 and the meeting happily accepted this offer with the proviso that detailed arrangements would be undertaken in the coming months.

A second offer, for 2005, was made by the Arizona State University and a brief presentation was made on this by Dean Kashiwagi. However, the meeting was of the opinion that another commission meeting was needed before meeting in India and the University of Salford suggested that a North West regional meeting, including the Working Commission and local industrialists, should take place in either January 2003 or December 2002. This offer was accepted and Peter McDermott was left to make the detailed arrangements.