



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

INFORMATION

June 2005

From the General Secretariat

An Update on the Activities of the International Construction Clients Forum (ICCF)

Background

After a number of years of discussions and efforts to associate clients in the development of the Revaluing Construction (RC) Agenda, the Dutch VROM-RGD (Governmental Building Agency) and the CIB Secretary General finally could jointly organise a meeting of an International Construction Clients Forum (ICCF) that took place in September 2004, in The Hague, the Netherlands.

During his opening speech, Mr. Peter Jägers, Director-General of the Dutch Government Building Agency (Rijksgebouwendienst) referred to the position of the Dutch GBA in this process and the role of the government in the sector. Mr. Jägers mentioned a four years ambitious programme aiming at a reform transition towards a sound, transparent, and innovative sector, stressed by three Ministers of the Dutch government.

The meeting gathered some 25 representatives of construction client organisations, from 10 countries. One of the outcomes of the meeting was to agree on a common agenda, the development of an Information Service and annual meetings to be hosted by a Forum member.

With Dr. Wim Bakens acting as the ICCF Secretary, several members have subsequently indicated that they would be willing to provide some resource for the production of an Information Service for the Forum.

The ICCF Members

The participants to the meeting in The Hague were all welcome as de facto members of the ICCF. For a list of

members present at that meeting, see the report downloadable from [here](#).

At the meeting, it was also agreed that new ICCF members should only be big clients in construction or otherwise organisations or persons essentially working in the direct interest of major construction clients.

The ICCF Agenda

Activities so far

The main achievement of the ICCF to date is the meeting that took place in The Hague and its outcome. The meeting report is downloadable from [here](#). A number of issues were addressed through the following speeches:

1. "The Need for Reform in Building & Construction" by Ms. Ryan van de Ven, Director of the Front-office in the Dutch Government Building Agency
2. "Queensland Perspectives on Procurement Policies and Industry Reform from a Client's View" by Mr. Selwyn Clark, Director Portfolio and Housing Unit, Dept. of Queensland Public Works, Australia
3. "A New Client Role - Balancing between User Requirements and the Construction Process" by Mr. Henrik Bang, Secretary-General of the Danish Association of Construction Clients, Denmark
4. "The Client as the Independent Variable" by Mr. John Carlisle, Chairman of Cooperation Works Ltd, Sheffield, England.
5. "The Swedish Approach: The Client as a Change Agent" by Mr. Stefan Sandesten, CEO of the



Swedish Association of Building and Construction Clients, Sweden.

6. "Centrality of Procurement to South Africa's Industry Development Strategy" by Mr. Spencer Hodgson, CEO Construction Industry Development Board, Director Reform Programme in Building and Construction, South Africa.
7. "Partnering, the Danish Approach by Mr. Ib Steen Olsen, Head of Division National Agency for Enterprise and Housing, Denmark.
8. "Design and Construction Excellence: Building a Legacy" by Mr. Stan Kaczmarczyk, Deputy Associate Administrator for Real Property, USA
9. "Implementing a Standard Performance Based Management Approach for Capital Assets and Logistics" by Ms. Francoise Szigeti, President of International Centre for Facilities, Canada

Planned activities

During The Hague meeting, the following themes were selected as the agenda of the next ICCF meeting:

1. Long-term partnering, including partnering for repetition projects
2. Negotiations and contracts for partnering
3. Performance issues (definition, measurement, contracts and performance tendering)

Spencer Hodgson, CEO of the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) agreed to host the 2nd Meeting of the Forum in October 2005, in South Africa, in collaborating with the Department of Public Works.

Regarding the Information Service, CIDB agreed to resource CIB who will develop the facility consisting in a ICCF website and regular Newsletters. Technical support for the Information Service would come from the CIB Secretariat, who would be responsible for:

- The provision of the Website and its capabilities, including registering new members, routine upgrades etc....
- The actual production of the Newsletter, and its maintenance

Although part of the website will be accessible to the public, it has not yet been decided whether the Newsletter will exclusively be distributed to ICCF members.

ICCF Website and Newsletter

The Website and the Newsletter will support the networking activities of the Forum and will:

- Be a means of providing information to Forum members, on developments, initiatives and

research outputs relevant to their interests and concerns

- Facilitate the exchange of information and experience within the Forum, by enabling members to seek information relevant to their individual concerns from other members of the network
- Provide information about member organisations, their responsibilities, challenges and successes, in order to strengthen understanding of mutual concerns
- Provide a platform for views and debate Facilitate the development of consensus and the expression of collective experience (eg on 'Best Practices')

Overall, the Information Service would assist the development of an international community of construction clients, now given a global focus through the creation of the Forum.

The Service could also establish and facilitate occasional 'on-line' debates if Members considered these useful.

Additional Info

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