CIB Commission W104 will organise a Special Session in the CIB World Building Congress on 14-18 May 2007, Cape Town, South Africa. The Session theme will be: Construction for Change: “Lessons from the Field on Moving Beyond Functionalism”.

Also W104 together with W110 on Informal Settlements and Affordable Housing will organise a Pre-Congress Design Workshop.

W104 Congress Session

Who Should Attend

This Congress Session is of special importance to all members and friends of W104 and to all others involved in architectural practice, management, construction, product manufacturing, academia and government research who understand that the future of the built field includes our serious attention be given to:

- Escaping short-term functionalism in design and construction.
- Learning to design and build for and with both stability and change.
- Effective task partitioning and distributed design and construction.
- Working with levels of intervention and their inevitable dependencies.
- Activating the forces of both “individual good” and “common good” in building design and construction.

Please consider submitting an abstract to this special session at the CIB World Congress in Cape Town. Please note the deadline – **1 September 2006**. This deadline differs from the official congress deadline, but has been approved by the CIB World Congress.

Abstract and Important Dates

Deadline for Abstracts for the W104 session **1 September 2006**

Abstracts To Referees for the W104 session **2 October 2006**

Results of abstracts announced to authors **31 October 2006**

Deadline for Final paper draft **31 January 2007**

Results of review of papers announced to authors **15 March 2007**

Deadline For Final papers **31 March 2007**

Abstracts Are Invited Under The Following Sub Themes:

- Case studies in open building implementation, in both the “formal” and “informal” sectors
- Economic theory and analyses of open building in practice
- Architectural management principles in support of open building practice
- Organizing and supporting users in open building implementation
- Neighbourhood and building stock upgrading, activation and renewal using open building principles
- Infill services and technical systems for housing
- Base building technology and construction methods
- Open building for hospital design and procurement
- Open building for retail and office building design and procurement
- Teaching methods in support of open building
- Other topics related to the five basic points noted above

**Pre-Congress Design Workshop**

In cooperation with Dr. Amira Osman at the University of Pretoria, W104 in conjunction with W110 on Informal Settlements and Affordable Housing is organizing a pre-congress design workshop. The tentative dates are May 15-18, 2007.

The goal of the workshop is to explore the efficacy of open building principles and practices to problems faced in the transformation of the built field in the context of South Africa. The following is now envisaged.

**Keynote speakers**

- Frans van der Werf, pioneering architect of open building projects in the Netherlands
- John Habraken, Emeritus Professor, MIT, author of the seminal work on open building
- Jorge Andrade, Professor at the Autonomous University in Mexico City; long-time student of upgrading processes in informal settlement.

It is planned to organize teams combining both W104 and W110 members and local architects, developers, and community activists to work together on “design charrettes”, for example:

- Upgrading of an informal settlement or township
- Laying out a new urban tissue plan for the extension of an existing informal settlement or township
- Activation or renewal of an existing multifamily building following open building principles
- Design of a new mixed use building using open building principles

Please indicate if you are interested in taking part in this design workshop. Send questions or expression of interest to Dr. Stephen Kendall skendall@bsu.edu.