



## CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation  
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

September 2007

### Around the Task Groups and Working Commissions

#### W113 – Law and Dispute Resolution

### Report of W113 Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa

by

Paul Chynoweth

The meeting of W113 took place on 13 May 2007 in Cape Town, South Africa in conjunction with the CIB World Building Congress.

#### **Background & Purpose of the New Working Commission**

W113 established in September 2006 is a amalgamation of W087 (Post Construction Liability and Insurance) and W103 (Construction Conflict: Avoidance and Resolution) in conjunction with BEL-NET (Built Environment Law Network).

The main purpose of the commission is to establish legal research as a mainstream aspect of CIB activities.

The objectives of W113 are:

- to establish a thriving international research community within the fields of building law and dispute resolution.
- to contribute to the wider building and construction research agendas through encouraging the active engagement of legal scholars with other specialists in the field.
- to coordinate efforts to identify and address emerging legal challenges faced by the global construction and property industries through building a coalition of stakeholders from industry, the professions and academia.
- to generate interest in the application of law in an international construction and property context amongst legal subject specialists in the legal professions and law faculties throughout the world.
- to increase understanding of the obstacles to effective trans-national construction operations and building performance management by facilitating the development of comparative legal methodologies and research projects in the field.

#### **New CIB Law related Task Groups**

On the initiative of CIB W113 the following Task Groups have been established.

- TG67 – Statutory Adjudication in Construction, coordinated by Peter Kennedy, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK & Michael Brand, University of New South Wales, Australia. The introduction of this Task Group in a former issue of our Newsletter can be downloaded [here](#).
- TG68 – Construction Mediation, under the leadership of Dr Penny Brooker, University of Wolverhampton, UK & Prof Suzanne Wilkinson, University of Auckland, New Zealand. The introduction of this Task Group in a former issue of our Newsletter can be downloaded [here](#).
- TG69 – Green Buildings and the Law with the Coordinators Julie Adshead, University of Salford, UK & Dr Joseph Chun, National University of Singapore. The introduction of this Task Group in a former issue of our Newsletter can be downloaded [here](#).

#### **W113 Study Groups established**

At the meeting the following two commission study groups were established

- COPA – Comparative Study on Enforcement of Payment & Adjudication in construction contracts in Singapore, Hong Kong & Mainland China (Philip Chan, National University of Singapore)
- LARC – Legal Aspects of Relational Contracting (Jim Mason, University of West of England)

A separate article on COPA and LARC can be found [here](#)

**Future Conference Events**

- February 2008, BEAR W89, Sri Lanka  
A Law & Regulatory System conference stream has been incorporated
- September 2008, COBRA, Dublin  
A Law stream has been incorporated, which W113 will coordinate.

In addition W113 will aim to have events in conjunction with the W055/W065 Symposium in 2009 in Croatia and the next World Building Congress in 2010 in the UK.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next regular commission meeting of W113 would take place during the RICS COBRA 2007 conference in Atlanta, USA on 6 or 7 September 2007.

**Additional Information**

For additional information about CIB W113 please contact the Coordinators:  
Paul Chynoweth  
[P.Chynoweth@salford.ac.uk](mailto:P.Chynoweth@salford.ac.uk) and  
Ron Craig [R.W.Craig@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:R.W.Craig@lboro.ac.uk)



You can find more information on the activities of CIB W113 at [www.cibworld.nl](http://www.cibworld.nl)  
Search under Databases/CIB Commissions.  
Click on Commissions and type W113 in the search field.