Hosted by CIB Board Member Dr. Peter Wouters – Belgian Building Research Institute (CSTC / WTCB) the CIB Board and Committee meetings were held on 12th and 13th October 2009 in Brussels, Belgium.

During these two days, the current and future operations of CIB were discussed in open lively discussions.

In conjunction with these meetings, two other events took place:
1. Research Managers Meeting
2. International seminar “The implementation of energy efficient buildings policies in 5 continents”

Research Managers Meeting

The Research Managers Meeting was held on 10th October 2009 in Ghent, Belgium.

During the past two years, the global economy has gone from all time high to a record low. Simultaneously, the need for energy efficient or more broadly eco-efficient solutions has been dramatically increasing. These changes have had an impact to building research markets, too.

It was, therefore, a good time to take a new look at the business environment: how have research organisations reacted and how have the research funding agencies around them reacted?

The objectives of this meeting were:
• to learn to know the latest developments in research organisations and their environment;
• to support colleagues in their future management role by providing information of the development of our research markets and insights into the future needs.

Concentrating on the issues of strategic significance, presentations were given on topics as:
• recent research achievements;
• current main topics of research and the topics expected in the near future;
• major positive or negative changes in funding / funding opportunities;
• managerial challenges within the organization.
International seminar “The implementation of energy efficient buildings policies in 5 continents”

An initiative of CIB Task Group 66 “Energy and the Built Environment”, this international seminar was held on 14th October 2009.

The seminar focused on the implementation of energy efficient buildings policies in 5 continents, with well-known objectives (decreasing energy consumption, diminishing Green House Gases emissions, increasing renewable energy).

The seminar attempted to bring some answers, dealing with the implementation of energy efficient buildings policies in Europe, the USA, China, Brazil and South Africa.


A separate News article about the seminar and its outcomes will follow in a next CIB Newsletter.

CIB Board and Committees

Programme Committee (PC)

As usual the half-year review of all Task Groups and Working Commissions took place. The meeting was happy to conclude from the ‘traffic light’ monitoring tool overview, that with only one exception – which is a very good sign - all of the in total approximately 60 groups are functioning well.

Moreover, the meeting was happy to see that since April 2009 three new Task Groups were established: TG74 – New Production and Business Models in Construction
TG75 – Engineering Studies on Traditional Construction
TG76 – Recognising Innovation in Construction

Worthwhile mentioning is that a proposal was submitted and in principle accepted to establish a new CIB Task Group on “Health and the Built Environment”. CIB’s contacts for this in the WHO – World Health Organisation - has been involved in making the proposal in some detail and the Task Group is envisaged to work in close cooperation with a WHO Programme on this topic.

Marketing and Communications Committee (MCC)

Several regular operational issues were discussed, such as:

- Website, CD-Rom Presentation and Newsletter;
- Encouraged Journals and Co-sponsored Conferences; and
- Publications.

Another MCC agenda point was the outcome of the 2009 Online Member Satisfaction Survey amongst the Associate – and Individual members. An average score of 3.95 (out of the maximum of 5) and a score of 4.02 for the level of satisfaction with CIB in general were positive, although slightly lower than the respective scores in the 2008 Full Member Satisfaction Survey. As with the 2008 FM survey now also the highest levels of satisfaction were expressed for the CIB Secretariat and the CIB Newsletter.

Investments for Growth (IfG)

Per item progress was discussed and it was concluded that all is progressing well and that the exercise is raising CIB’s profile.

Next the IfG - 2009 Initiatives new items were discussed, including:

- follow through on C&U (Client and Users) and IDDS (Integrated Design and Delivery Solutions) theme development;
- preparation for a CIB series of Virtual Outlook Seminars.

A series of five pilot - CIB Commissions’ related - CIB virtual intercontinental outlook seminars for built environment stakeholder’s are envisaged.

The former CIB Gyula Sebestyen Student Chapter Award is now called CIB Sebestyén Future Leaders Award. The proposal assessment panel, consisting of Profs Frits Scheublin and Vahan Agopyan, announced the 2008 – 2009 winner: Texas A&M University. See separate News article.

Administrative Committee

Several financial issues were discussed including:

- Membership Fee Payment Behaviour;
- Investment Portfolio – Value Development Shares and Bonds; and
Also the Proposal Provisional Budget 2010 and Financial Scenario 2011-2013 were presented and discussed.

In the context of the 2009 and 2010 budgets and the current global economic situation, it was said that close monitoring of CIB’s financial position will continue and that when looking at the future a modest and prudent approach is required.

Board General

CIB World Building Congress 2010

May 10th - 13th, The Lowry, Salford Quays, United Kingdom

In May 2010 this Triennium will come to an end and this will coincide with the next CIB World Congress to be hosted in Salford in the UK.

The Congress will be THE place to be to learn about the state of the art in markets, research and innovation linked to construction and the built environment.

Hundreds of researchers from around the world will be meeting at the Congress, representing a strong multi-disciplinary mix of over forty CIB Working Commissions and Task Groups and, as well as running their own academic streams, they will be supporting a range of other activities, including responding to global challenges from bodies such as the UN, OECD, WHO and EC and engaging in a busy social programme.

CIB President Prof. Peter Barrett is looking forward to welcoming you to what promises to be a wonderful scientific and social occasion ... and invites you to be part of Building a Better World.

Congress website at www.cib2010.com

New Officers and Board 2010 - 2013

The overview of the so far received official nominations for election into the position of CIB President or Board member for the 2010 – 2013 term was reviewed.

The Board subsequently defined its preference as to be proposed to the Membership at large for election at the CIB General Assembly coming May in Salford, UK.