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FIG Working Week 2013, Abuja, Nigeria

The FIG 2013 Working Week will be held between 6 and 10 May 2013 in Abuja, Nigeria. The event is jointly organised by FIG and the Nigerian Institution of Surveyors (NIS).

NIS is being supported by the Government of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation - Nigeria (OSGOF), the Surveyors Council of Nigeria (SURCON), the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS) and the Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers (NIESV). This Working Week, with its theme 'Environment for Sustainability', is very appropriate at this juncture.

The profession recognises that we are operating within a complex and interconnected environment, where we need to engage societal, environmental, economic and political realities as the profession seeks to extend the use and usefulness of surveying towards the betterment of humanity. However, there is optimism as our professional community has the sciences, knowledge, technologies and practices to rely upon. And when this situation is operating in a synergistic manner, there can be an environment for sustainability, particularly for the profession.

In the belief that land still has the capacity to create opportunities which provide dignity and that good land rights infrastructures exist in only 35-50 countries according to one estimate, and considering that, according to another estimate, only three percent of Nigeria (along with very many other African countries) has cadastral coverage, participants at the Working Week will be urged to discuss and



Nigerian parliament building.

consider home-grown appropriate approaches and solutions which may well involve methodologies that are of lesser sophistication and accuracies, information from participatory and volunteered sources, technologies which are mobile and widely available, that may well be distinct from prevailing approaches and practices that are usually rigorous and could be outdated.

FIG will continue to provide the global forum for professionals, practitioners and partners as it seeks to serve the places, the policies and the people together. FIG's 2013 Working Week will once again bring together participants from different cultures, from diverse surveying traditions and varying professional experiences. The organisers have received more than 230 paper proposals, continuing the very successful formula with options for presenting peer-reviewed, academic, technical and practical papers, and thus should be of interest to participants from all over the world. As in previous Working Weeks, there will also be social

events, and the experiences in Abuja will undoubtedly be unique and memorable.

The Working Week will take place in the exciting new capital Abuja which is only around 30 years old. Designed by the Surveyor General Office, this is an interesting and marvellous example of how to build a new city. Capital security in Abuja is high on the agenda, which also applies for the Working Week. All efforts have been made to keep the fees as low as possible. Full registration includes admission to all technical sessions and exhibition, lunches, coffee breaks with refreshments, welcome reception, Opening Ceremony as well as the farewell reception.

Bode Adeaga (fnis), president Nigerian Institution of Surveyors, NISD CheeHai Teo, president of International Federation of Surveyors, FIG

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