

# **FIG Policy on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications**

**Prof. Stig ENEMARK, Denmark and Dr. Frances PLIMMER, United Kingdom**

**Key words:** Mutual Recognition, Surveying Profession, FIG.

## **ABSTRACT**

Mutual recognition is a process that allows the qualifications gained in one country (the home country) to be recognised in another country (the host country). It is argued that mutual recognition of qualifications is the best process to be adopted if the free movement of professionals is to be achieved efficiently and effectively. The paper seeks to develop a general understanding of the concept of Mutual Recognition based on the agenda identified by the WTO. Benefits and barriers are discussed. The paper also presents a model tailored for implementation in the surveying profession. The role of the professional organisations is highlighted in this regard.

FIG has adopted a policy statement for Mutual Recognition:

“The International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) recognises the importance of free movement of surveyors in a global marketplace. The mutual recognition of professional qualifications provides a means whereby professional qualifications held by individual surveyors can be recognised by individual professional organisations as comparable to those acquired by their own national surveyors. FIG will promote the principle of mutual recognition of professional qualifications by:

- Encouraging communication between professional organisations to ensure a better understanding of how surveyors acquire their professional qualifications in different countries;
- Developing with professional organisations a methodology for implementing mutual recognition for surveyors;
- Supporting professional organisations where difficulties are identified in achieving mutual recognition, and encouraging debate at national government level in order to remove such difficulties;
- Working with external organisations (such as the WTO) in order to achieve mutual recognition in both principle and practice of professional qualifications for surveyors world-wide.”

## CONTACT

Prof. Stig Enemark  
Aalborg University  
Fibigerstrede 11  
DK-9220 Aalborg  
DENMARK  
Tel. + 45 9635 8344  
Fax + 45 9815 6541  
Email: enemark@i4.auc.dk  
Web site: [www.i4.auc.dk/enemark/](http://www.i4.auc.dk/enemark/)

Dr. Frances Plimmer, Dip Est Man, MPhil, PhD, FRICS, IRRV  
Senior Researcher  
School of Surveying  
Kingston University  
Knights Park, Kingston-upon-Thames  
Surrey, KT1 2QJ  
ENGLAND  
Tel. + 44 29 2051 5448  
Fax: + 44 208 547 7087  
E-mail: [fplimmer@hotmail.com](mailto:fplimmer@hotmail.com)  
Web site: [www.kingston.ac.uk/surveying](http://www.kingston.ac.uk/surveying)

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