

# A National Forum in Land Information, GI & RS in Hungary

## FLASHBACK

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### ACTIVITIES IN 1997



- Remote Sensing and GIS – tools for solving tasks in Agriculture and Forestry. International Conference organised by the Czech Ministry of Agriculture was attended by *Gábor Remetey-Fülöpp* providing presentation and session chairmanship in Sec, Czech Republic, February, 1997

*Member of the Bureau of the European Association of Remote Sensing Laboratories, Dr. Benes(r.) one of the Conference organiser, with the Hungarian guest.*

- Participation in the preparation of the **7th Földfoto Conference** on Earth Observation organised by the Hungarian Astronautical Society at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest (March)
- □ Providing session chairmanship, active participation of the International Meeting on "**Administrative Boundary Data Service in the CEE Countries**" organised jointly by OMFB, Budapest and the European Commission EUROSTAT (*Ms. Oberhausen*) DG III, XIII (*Martin Littlejohn*) and DG XVI as well as CERCO (*J. Ratia*) and others. Issuing supportive *Letter of Intent* for the ABDS Project Proposal.
- □ Support of the **Frank-Meixner Report on Current GI Policy Issues** prepared for the European Commission by the kind invitation of Prof. David Rhind, Director General of the Ordnance survey (UK). Participation by submission of comments and suggestions of Hungarian GI market players.
- □ Participation of the **1997 EUROGI General Board Meeting** held at European Commission DGXIII.
- □ Introduction of HUNAGI at the **FAO High-level Technical Seminar** devoted to "**Private and Public sector Co-operation in National Land Tenure Development**" held in Bertinoro (Forli), Italy, (April)
- □ Presentation entitled *National GI association in a transient country: the Hungarian case* in the Session Education and Awareness at the **JEC-GI Conference** held in Vienna organised by EGIS
- □ Sharing HUNAGI's experiences with participants of the **GISIG General Board Meeting** (in Vienna), delivering a lecture.

- □ Participation of **OLLO 2000 Tempus Project Proposal Meeting** with SE FFFK, University of East London, UNIGIS, Technical University Bucarest on Know-how Transfer in Land Management in Székesfehérvár (April)



*UNIGIS President Prof. Jim Petch (center) with Profs. M. Ágfalvi (l.) and B. Márkus (r.) of the College of Surveying and Mapping of the University of West-Hungary at Székesfehérvár*

- □ Participation, **EURISY Colloquium** on the theme "**Earth Observation and the Environment: Benefits for Central and Eastern European Countries**" with presence of Prof. Herbert Curien former Minister of Science and Technology, France and *Károly Lotz* Minister for Transportation, Communication and Water Management, Hungary held in Budapest (May)
- Organisational support of the **25th International Symposium on Land Use Policy for Specific Applications** organised by the European Faculty of Land Use and Development (Strasbourg) hosted by SE FFFK, Székesfehérvár (May)
- □ HUNAGI paper on "**Recent developments in promotion and use of GI in Hungary**" accepted for the Session "**GIS in Central and Eastern Europe**" by the **3rd EC-GIS Workshop** in Leuven (June). HUNAGI officer was invited to chair a session devoted to "**Future of GIS Research and Technology Development**" as well as to take part in the panel discussion of the closing session.
- Data provision for the **GEOWEB project** lead by Scott Conseil (Toulouse) under the INFO2000 programme (EC DGXIII) (Later published and circulated Europe-wide)
- □ Study completed for GISIG on "**GI Networking in Hungary**" in frame of the **EU Copernicus Programme**
- **HUNAGI was accepted to host the 4th EC-GIS Workshop in Budapest** (June 24-26, 1998) Preparation has been started in co-operation with the EC Joint Research Centre, Ispra. Announcement was made at the Plenary Session of the 3rd EC GIS Workshop held in Leuven, Belgium
- Commissioned by the Mapping Agency of the Hungarian Home Defence Forces, a preparatory study on the **Hungarian Topographic Programme** was completed by a HUNGIS Foundation team chaired by *Prof. Ákos Detrekői*, with members representing the home defence and civil mapping agencies, the Hungarian Society of Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing as well as the Department of Photogrammetry, Budapest Technical University. Today, all these participating organisations/institutions are members of HUNAGI.
- Participating in the international "**Administrative Boundary Data Service**" Project Initiative of OMFB Hungary
- □ **2nd HUNAGI-DDGI Meeting at Presidential Level** (DDGI President *Klaus Barwinski* – accompanied by *Géza Apagyai*, Head of the Hungarian Mapping Agency, visited *Miklós*

Havass in Budapest). The German Umbrella Organisation for Geo-Information is one of the strongest National GI Associations in the World. (July)

- Based on HUNAGI initiative, heads of the civil and home defence mapping agencies as well as HUNGIS Foundation and HUNAGI hold their first discussion meeting hosted by M. Havass on the subject "**Copyright and Commercialisation issues in GIS Data, Products and Services**" on 1st September. The setup of the strategy and workplan principles was agreed, and a comprehensive listing of relevant CERCO, EUROGI and other documents have been recommended for analysis.
- HUNAGI flyer was distributed in **International Advisory Board Meeting of the EC DG I** on the PHARE Project "Computerisation of the Land Offices" chaired by Prof. Theo Bogaerts at MoA, Budapest.
- HUNAGI member SE FFFK participates the **PRONET/CCE project on Multimedia Computer Based On-line Training and Support Service for Professionals in Countries of Central Europe** - lead by ITC, Enschede, The Netherlands (since June, 1997)
- □ Prof. Béla Márkus and the Secretary General of HUNAGI have been invited by the European Science Foundation to Strasbourg between 14-17 September 1997, to actively take part in the **GISDATA Final Conference "Geographic Information Research at the Millennium"** attended by 100 selected experts (four of them from the CEE countries) and also by some Members of the European Parliament.
- Recommended by EUROGI President Mike Brand, HUNAGI was selected as one of the 100 invited experts and organisations of about 40 countries representing the worldwide GI community at the **Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Conference for a Sustainable Development**. This will be held at the oldest US public university in Chapel Hill, hosted by Governor Gary K. Hunt (NC) under the auspices of Secretary Bruce Babbitt (US Department of Interior ) and EU Commissioner Martin Bangemann. The participation fee is sponsored generously by *Geometria GIS Systems House Ltd.*
- HUNAGI reviewed regularly the content of the Journal for Spatial Information and Decision Making entitled **GIS (Wichmann, Karlsruhe)** for the readers of the Hungarian Monthly **GEOMATIKA**
- HUNAGI has updated its records in the **CORDIS database (COmmunity Research and Development Information System of the European Commission)**
- HUNAGI members FÖMI and SE FFFK took part in the elaboration of the European GIS-related project proposals entitled **Administrative Boundary Data Services (ABDS) for the CEE Countries** as well as **Water GIS** and **PANEL-GIS** orchestrated by OMFB, Hungary and GISIG, Italy respectively.
- On behalf of HUNAGI, Deputy Head of the MH TEHI (Mapping Agency of the Home Defence Forces) participated the **GEOINFO SLOVAKIA'97** International Conference and Exhibition held in Bratislava, 24-26 September 1997.
- □ As "**Public-Private Partnership in Spatial Data Infrastructure Development**" HUNAGI was introduced to member country delegations via leaflets at the Plenary Assembly of MEGRIN and CERCO in Nicosia, 22-24 September, as well as at the Domestic **GIS Conference held in Szolnok**, September 24-26, 1997
- HUNAGI member HUNGIS Foundation, took part in the elaboration of the document "**GI development and use in the Public Administration**" for the Working Group for GI of the Coordination Office of the Prime Minister's Office.
- Participation of the Joint Meeting of ISPRS Council and TCPs in Rio de Janeiro, September, 1997



**Participants of the ISPRS Joint Council and Technical Presidents Meeting held in Rio de Janeiro participants include K.Beek, H.Chikatsu, G.Remetey-Fülöpp, G.Konecny and E. Baltsavias**

- Promotional activity is provided by HUNAGI on a continuous basis to call the attention of the international GI community on the **ECO-BP'98** which will be held in Budapest, September 1-4, 1998. This mid-term Symposium and Exhibition of the ISPRS Commission VII has the following topics: **Resource and Environment Monitoring - Local, Regional, Global**
- □ HUNAGI participates at the **Workshop on GIS**, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 8-10 October, 1997. Topics of the presentation: "Land consolidation and rural development - proposed model for collaboration of land offices and municipalities".
- □ HUNAGI flyer was distributed among the participants of the Expert Meeting of the European Commission ACE Project on the Land Market in the Central and Eastern European Countries lead by Richard Baldwin, hosted by the Czech Office for Surveying, Mapping and Cadastre in Prague, October 24-25, 1997.
- □ HUNAGI flyer was distributed in the United Nations European Economic Commission's **Meeting of Officials on Land Administration (ECE MOLA)** held in Warsaw with support of the European Commission, hosted by the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography. (October 24-29, 1997)
- □ As an action of HUNAGI, the **Hungarian GIS Market Survey'97** is foreworded by Martin Littlejohn of the European Commission, manager of the INFO2000 programme.
- David Schell, President of the **Open GIS Consortium** has invited one or more of HUNAGI's academic member(s) to join the OGC and participate the first OGIS European Conference, which will be held in Strasbourg. This message has been forwarded to the Chair of Photogrammetry, Budapest Technical University and the Sopron University's College on Surveying and Land Management for further actions.
- The just established **Hungarian Federation of Agroinformatics** and HUNAGI have decided to be member of each others organisation. HUNAGI is one of the 38 founder institution of the Federation.
- HUNAGI activities were presented for and discussed by the **Board of Trustees, HUNGIS Foundation** (October)
- Via EUROGI, some of HUNAGI's members got the opportunity to express their interest to participate as users in the ongoing or planned projects of **Telematics Programmes of the European Commission**.
- □ Information on HUNAGI was distributed during the **Expert Study Tour of the TEMPUS Joint Cooperation Project S-09459-95 (OLLO - Distance Learning Programme for the Land Offices in Hungary)** lead by B.Márkus of SE FFFK to

Background information for participants of the Kick-off Meeting of the RCoE LandNet Project Budapest, January 30-February 1, 2003

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the University East London, RICS and Ordnance Survey (November 12-16, 1997).

- EUROGI Vice President *Bas Kok* asked HUNAGI on November 17, 1997 to take part in *a European survey on existing legal environment in the context of commercialisation of GI*. The invited countries are as follows: United Kingdom, France, Germany, The Netherlands, the Nordic Countries and Hungary. The leader of the team of national coordinators is member of the Legal Advisory Board to the European Commission DG XIII.
- The top US GPS manufacturer Ashtech has formally expressed its interest to organise a *Seminar on Advances in Satellite Positioning* hosted by HUNAGI early next year.
- Initiated and arranged by the Geological Institute of Hungary (MÁFI), a member of HUNAGI, the International *Workshop on Aerial Remote Sensing* is supported by ISPRS Commission III (*Theory and Algorithms*) and VII (*Resource and Environmental Monitoring*). The date and venue: 19-20 February, 1997, Budapest, under the auspice of *J.Horváth*, Under State Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and *J.Nyíri*, President of the sponsoring organisation State Committee for Technological Development.
- HUNAGI held its 5th Plenary Assembly on 25th November 1997. 8 institutions have been unanimously accepted as member.
- HUNAGI was invited to take part in the elaboration of the *National Spatial Data Strategy* orchestrated by the Prime Minister's Bureau, Coordination Office for Informatics. Primary contractor is the HUNGIS Foundation, subcontractor is KPMG Hungary.
- HUNAGI flyer was distributed at the *Swiss-Hungarian Know-how transfer Seminar on Cadastral Reform* hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture, on December 11, 1997.



- Attended by HUNAGI representatives, flyer and other promotional materials were distributed at the *International Symposium of Spectral Sensing Research* held in San Diego CA on December 12-19, 1997.

### ***New membership applications in 1997***

*The Dennis Gabor Foundation, the Prime Minister's Bureau, Coordination Office for Informatics, the Chair of Physical Geography of the Szeged University of Sciences, the Institute of Geodesy, Cartography and Remote Sensing, the Geological Institute of Hungary, the Department of Photogrammetry, Budapest Technical University, the GRID Budapest of the*

*Ministry of Environment as well as the Capital Plant Health and Soil Protection Service and the Hungarian Federation for Agroinformatics* have successfully applied for membership.

*Giorgo Saio of GISIG, Ulrich Boes of EC DG III, dr.Szabolcs Mihály of FÖMI, dr.Raina Pavlova of University of Sofia and dr.*



*Robert J.Peckham of EC DG JRC at the JEC-GI conference in Vienna*