

FLASHBACK

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ACTIVITIES IN 1999

Interview with HUNAGI officers *M.Havass* President, and re-elected Secretary General by *Miklós Varga*, Editor-in-Chief of the *Hungarian monthly Geomatika* (Geomatics) journal on January 5, 1999.

- HUNAGI member organisation **HUNGIS Foundation** plays a leading organisational role in the Aerial Survey of Hungary program initiated by the main data service providers and supported by the National Committee of Technological Development. The first overall professional debate of the Feasibility Study was held in Budapest on 7th January 1999.
- Co-organised by the *Czech Association for Geo-Information* (CAGI), the annual **GIS Conference** was held in Ostrava on 25-26 January, 1999. Invited HUNAGI paper on the evolution of the Hungarian Spatial Data Infrastructure was distributed among the participants. Due to multiple schedule conflict, the authors (*Zs.Sikolya, G.Remetey-Fülöpp*) were unable to participate the conference.
- □ Active participation of the **EUROGI Executive Committee Meeting** held in Marne-la-Vallée January 26, 1999.
- HUNAGI's Column on "European Connections": was published in the January Issue of *Térinformatika*
- □ HUNAGI member **Mapping Agency of the Hungarian Home Defence Forces** has celebrated its 80th anniversary. The ceremony was attended by State President Árpád Göncz. Managing Director of the HUNGIS Foundation dr.Rezső Berencei received a medal from the head of state.
- □ HUNAGI representatives *Pál Lévai* and *G.Remetey-Fülöpp* took part on the **Steering Committee meeting of the PANEL-GI project** attended by representatives of DG XIII, EUROGI, CNIG (P), Vienna Technical University, Masaryk University, MEGRIN, ICI (R), Sofia Technical University and GEOBID (PL) in Prague early March.
- □ The Steering Committee of the **Administrative Boundary Database Services** of the CEE countries (ABDS) project held its meeting in Prague hosted by the Czech Institute of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadaster participated by representatives of the co-operating international and national institutions such as MEGRIN, EUROSTAT, DG XIII, DG XVI, and many more. The project meeting, coordinated by FÖMI, was also attended by experts of the Central and Eastern European Countries. To ensure synergy, PANEL-GI experts were also invited.
- □ "**Land registration and cadaster - a fundament also for the Information Society**". The lecture was delivered by *G.Remetey-Fülöpp* at the UN ECE MOLA Workshop hosted by the NRW Vermessungsamt directed by *Mr.Klaus Barwinski*. The meeting held in Bad Godesberg was attended by over 80 experts of more than 20 countries.
- *Peter Winkler*, head of the FOMI Remote Sensing Centre has participated the **1st Meeting of the European Remote Sensing Association (ERSA)** in Florence, 5-6 March. The meeting participants agreed to submit a proposal for the EU 5FP entitled Associations Toward an European Network for Earth Observation Education and Training (ATENE0).
- □ HUNAGI took part the **Annual General Board Meeting of the European Umbrella Organisation for Geo-Information** in Luxembourg presenting the "Burning issues in Hungary" on the Member's Day, March 22, 1999. As treasurer, HUNAGI representative has presented the EUROGI 1998 financial report and 1999 budget on 23rd March.
- HUNAGI's member College on Surveying and Land Management, Sopron University organised the **Annual GIS OPEN'99** in Székesfehérvár on 8-9 April, 1999, where the most important Hungarian GI-related projects and applications were highlighted involving the public and private sector's representatives
- □ HUNAGI representatives took part on the Copernicus project **PANEL-GI technical meeting** at the Vienna Technical University hosted by *Prof.Andrew Frank* in mid April.
- □ "Cadastre and Land Registration – fundament also for the Information Society". Paper presented at the **Fifth Framework Programme (FP5) IST Open Day** organised by OMFB, Hotel Hyatt, Budapest on 23 April, 1999.
- □ **International Workshop on Metadata Standards and Services**. organised by HUNAGI and hosted by the Prime Minister's Office (*Zsolt Sikolya*). Welcomed by HUNAGI president *Miklós Havass*, the participants introduced the state of the art highlighting the status of the following developments and projects:
 - ISO TC211/15 Metadata
 - Addendum, narrated contributed slides: ISO TC211/15 Metadata and related STANAG developments (prepared by *Dave Danko*, NIMA) and FGDC: ISO Metadata Standard harmonisation and implementation (prepared by *Doug Nebert* and *Rick Pearsal*)
 - CEN TC287 (*Sz.Mihály*)
 - Metadata in OGC (*Maurits van der Vlugt*, TU Vienna)
 - GSDI Technical WG activities (*G.Remetey-Fülöpp*)
 - ESMI Project (*Marcus Wandinger*, MEGRIN)
 - The MEGRIN approach: La Clef (*Marcus Wandinger*)
 - The new Spanish GI exchange standard MIGRA (prepared by *Rodriguez Pascual Antonio Federico*. English summary: *Maria Tóth*)
 - The Spanish Metadata Project DIGA (prepared by *Rodriguez Pascual Antonio Federico*. English summary: *Maria Tóth*)
 - The GIPSIE project (*Maurits van der Vlugt*, TU Vienna)
 - Introduction of the Hungarian Metadata Project METATÉR of the major data providers (*Tamás Prajczner*)
 - FISH metadata services (*Prof.Béla Márkus*)
 - The Hungarian initiative on core spatial metadata and recommendations (*Sz.Mihály, V.Bognár*).
- *Fritz Rembold* desk officer, Land tenure and Rural Development of **FAO Subregional Center in Budapest** visited *dr.László Niklasz*, acting director general of DLM MARD. The Land tenure policy and Regional Development are subjects of future MARD-FAO cooperations *having GI content*.
- HUNAGI leaflets have been distributed for the participants of the **Preparatory Meeting of the Conference on Maintenance and Development of Property Rights** (MDPR) hosted by the World Bank under the chairmanship of *Jaime Vazquez-Caro* in Budapest in April. Feedback from Albania was received so far. The MDPR program is a joint 3-year action of the UN ECE MOLA and World Bank, supported by the EU as well.

A group of experts of the Vienna Initiative in Budapest hosted by the World Bank

- □ HUNAGI leaflets and copy of the IST Open Day presentation were distributed on the **International Conference MDPR** in Vienna, referred as the “Vienna Initiative” hosted by the Austrian Government, organised by the World Bank, UNECE MOLA and FAO. The conference paid attention to the topics Green paper “Access to public information” in the session devoted to the Information Society moderated by *Ola-Kristian Hoff* of the European Commission (DG XIII/E2). The ABDS Project was referred and introduced in the Hungarian presentation.
- The ABDS and PANEL-GI Projects were referenced in the Hungarian presentation of the HCSO-MARD presentation delivered by *K.Szép* and *G.Remetey-Fülöpp* at the **Workshop on Land use statistics for the CEC countries** hosted by EUROSTAT under the chairmanship of Rainer Muthman in Luxembourg on 2nd June, 1999
 - **5th EC GIS Workshop** Stresa, June 26-29. With contribution paper – among others - entitled “Modern Land registration and cadastre – infrastructural basis for applications in agriculture, rural and regional developments” written by *L.Niklasz* acting director of DLM MARD and *G.Remetey-Fülöpp* of HUNAGI, delivered by *P.Zalaba* of MARD. *Distribution of leaflets on HUNAGI for the participants.*
 - □ **2nd EU Accession Workshop in the Rural Sector.** Participating the World Bank-FAO high-level conference devoted to the Structural Change in the Farming Sectors of Central and Eastern Europe: Lessons and Implications for EU Accession. GI-related issues were handled and referenced in the Hungarian presentation given by *G.Remetey-Fülöpp*, with distribution of leaflets on HUNAGI for the EU candidate countries’ representatives. DG VI was represented by Mr.*Angelo Carro-Castrillo*, WB HQ by *Csaba Csáki* and *Kevin Cleaver*, FAO HQ by *James Riddel*, FAO SEUR by *J.Suchman* and *F.Rembold*. Warsaw, 26-29 June, 1999
 - Active participation on the **Bi-annual Meeting of the Hungarian Society of Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing** held in Pécs, introducing the tasks to be solved in the EU accession preparation framework called National Programme for the Adoption of Acquis Communautaire. HUNAGI and Land Consolidation-related leaflets were also distributed.
 - □ **PRONET CE Workshop** was organised by the SE FFFK (*Prof.B.Márkus*) for senior decision makers of the sector Agriculture and Rural Development including forestry, soil, rural development and agri-environment hosted by the Department of Lands and Mapping of MARD on 12 July, 1999. The subject was how to disseminate GIS knowledge in lifelong learning basis for the civil servants. HUNAGI viewpoint was also highlighted and leaflet was submitted to project manager *Prof.Wolfgang Kainz* of ITC.
- **Taking part on the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Steering Committee Meeting**, hosted by the St.John’s College, University of Cambridge on July 18,1999

Steering Committee members are: *P.Holland* (Australia), *D.Clarke* (South Africa), *Jane Patterson* (USA), *S.Borrero-Mutis* (Columbia), *M.Brand* (Northern Ireland), *D.Clarke* (Australia), *D.Coleman* (Canada) *J.Estes* (USA), *Yang Kai* (China), *M.Kidokoro* (Japan), *B.Kok* (Netherlands), *I.Masser* (UK), *R.McLaren* (UK), *McLaughlin* (Canada), *D.McKellar* (Canada), *J.Moeller* (USA), *G.Remetey-Fülöpp* (Hungary), *D.Rhind* (UK), *F.Salgé* (France), *J.Wächter* (Germany), *D.Robertson* (Australia)

 - Participation of the **Cambridge Conference** by HUNAGI member *FÖMI (Sz.Mihály)*, leading the
 - “Workshop on Training” by HUNAGI core representative *Prof.B.Márkus* on July 22, 1999
- □ **Participation of the UNISPACE III Conference** sessions devoted to Earth Observations in Vienna, July 22-24,1999
 - Support and active participation of the **Conference on Agricultural Informatics**, Debrecen, 26 August, 1999 hosted by DATE, member of HUNAGI. Lectures were delivered on CAP IACS and the NPAA's (National Programme for the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire) Lands and Mapping related tasks by experts of FÖMI RSC and MARD DLM. A special session was devoted to GIS chaired by *Prof.L.Kiss Pap*.
 - **EUROGI Executive Committee Meeting** held in Marne la Vallée on September 6, 1999
 - **Panel GI Workshop on National GI Infrastructure** at the 9th National GIS Conference in Szolnok, September, 24-26, 1999. The workshop was attended by the majority of the 340 overall registered participants. At the Conference six ministries and other governmental agencies were represented by Under-secretary level or higher.
 - The Panel GI Workshop was chaired by director *Emanuele Roccatagliata* (GISIG) and Secretary General *Christian Chenez* (EUROGI). The following invited papers were represented:
 - *Ch.Chenez (EUROGI)*: The EGII
 - *Zs.Sikolya* (PMO): Basic elements of the Hungarian Spatial Data Information
 - *L.Niklasz*: Role of the Hungarian Land Administration in the National Spatial Data Infrastructure
 - *Gyula Szabó*: Role and tasks of the Mapping Agency of the Military Mapping Agency
 - *Szabolcs Mihály*: FÖMI's role and tasks in the National Programme for the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire, Chapter Agriculture
 - *Tamás Palya et al.*: PANEL- GI projekt management
 - *Béla Márkus*: The role of PANEL-GI in the knowledge transfer
 - *Vilmos Bognár* ABDS CEEC as one of the base service of the Regional, cross-country infrastructure
 - *Gábor Remetey-Fülöpp*: GSDI from the Hungarian perspective
 - Promotion for GeoBIT - multimedia presentation given by the German organisers
 - The **Romanian National PANEL-GI Workshop** held in Sinaia was attended by *K.Tóth* of FÖMI. HUNAGI's contribution was introduced by *Ms.Angela Ionita*
 - Conference on “**GIS in Higher Education**”. Topics: **Panel GI Workpackage 2 promotion** with *Prof.B.Márkus.*, Budapest October 20-21 hosted by the University of Horticulture and Food Industry, Budapest organised by HUNAGI member HUNGIS Foundation (*R.Berencei*).
 - HUNAGI President *M.Havass* and HUNGIS managing director *R.Berencei* as well as *G.Apagyí* of MARD took part the **4th GIS Workshop** in Cluj, Romania organised by HUNAGI member Dennis Gabor Foundation, October, 1999
- **FIG Commission 3 Conference on Spatial Information Management** organised by HUNAGI members FÖMI and SE CSLM (Sz.Mihály and Prof.Béla Márkus) Oct. 22-23, 1999 Information: <http://geoinfo.cslm.hu/go/events/fig3/default.htm>
- **EUROGI Executive Committee Meeting** held in Marne la Vallée October 29, 1999
- HUNAGI leaflet was presented and submitted at the **International Symposium on Spectral Sensing Research**

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

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- (ISSSR) organised by the US Army TEC GIS/Remote Sensing Center and the ISPRS Working Group VII/1 in Las Vegas, November 1-4, 1999. TEC Director *Dr. William E. Roper* and ISPRS Commission VII President *G. Remetey-Fülöpp* opened the event.
- The Symposium was participated by 117 experts of 11 countries. By recommendation, two contributions of FÖMI (member of HUNAGI) submitted by *Gábor Csornai et al* have been accepted for the poster exhibition and will be included in the final Symposium document (available on CD later). The applications highlighted the Hungarian *operational countrywide crop monitoring and yield estimation*, as well as *the waterlog monitoring* featuring integrated use of remote sensing and GIS.
- □ In co-operation with DG JRC, a **Workshop on Data Policy** was organised and hosted by *Anton Wolfkamp*, Secretary General of EUROGI (former regional director of the Dutch Kadastre) in Amersfoort on 15th November 1999. For the closed-shop workshop the following experts were invited: DG XIII Unit for information dissemination and filtering (Martin Littlejohn), EUROGI (President *Ian Masser*), DG JRC (SAI Director *J. Meyer-Roux* and *A. Annoni*), EUROSTAT (GISCO- *D. Rase*), GEIXS (*Richard Annells*), CERCO WG1 (*Laila Aslesen*), Austria (AGEO-*Josef Strobl*), Belgium (CC- *J. de Smet*), United Kingdom (AGI-*Chris Corbin*), France (*Pascal Chambon*, *Bertrand du Marais*), Germany (DDGI-*J. Waechter*, *BZD-F. Hoffmann*), Hungary (HUNAGI-*G. Remetey-Fülöpp*), Ireland (IRLOGI-*Kryzia Rybaczuk*) Italy (TCC-*Luigi diBello*), The Netherlands (RAVI-*Bas Kok*, *J. Berends*) and Portugal (CNIG-*R. Goncalves Henriques*). As invited speaker, *G. Remetey* delivered a lecture on the Hungarian data policy situation prepared in co-authorship with *Zs. Sikolya* of the Office of the Prime Minister using references provided by *P. Kardevan* of the Geological Institute of Hungary.

The national report highlighted the following aspects as it was requested:

- Basic facts about the country: population, area, distribution of administrative responsibilities between central, regional and local government etc.
- Who are the main providers of geographic information: eg. role played by cadastre, national mapping agency, national statistical institute etc.
- The institutional context of national geographic information policy: eg. policies relating to access and dissemination, legal protection etc
- Elements of national spatial data infrastructure: eg. mechanism for coordinating national policy, provision of core data sets, development of national metadata services etc.
- Current burning issues under discussion: eg future of national mapping agency, freedom of information legislation.
- Participation of the **IST Conference** in Helsinki and the associated **PANEL-GI and ABDS meetings** *Dr. Sz. Mihály* of FÖMI represented HUNAGI in the discussions held in Helsinki between 22-24 November 1999.
- □ At 5th **Conference on the use of Remote Sensing in the control of agricultural area-based subsidies** (Stresa, June 25-26, 1999), the first time, a Hungarian delegation was invited by DG JRC SAI. The delegation, *Gábor Csornai* (project leader of CROPMON), *Csaba Winhardt* (both of FÖMI) and *G. Remetey-Fülöpp* of MARD DLM (responsible

for PARCELLA/LISARD project) have delivered three poster presentations.

- HUNAGI's 7th General Assembly was held in Budapest on December 1, 1999. Both the report on the 1999 activities and the Workplan for 2000 were accepted. After 5 years of presidency of *Mr. Miklós Havass*, as new President, *Zsolt Sikolya* of the Prime Minister's Office was nominated and voted unanimously. As 23rd member, the application of the **Environmental and Landscape Management Institute of the Gödöllő Agricultural University (GATE KTI)** was accepted.
- The GEIXS (Geological Electronic Information eXchange System) project held its 3rd Workshop in Budapest hosted by the Hungarian Geological Service between 2-3 December 1999. Supported by the European Commission, GEIXS project is participated by 24 institutions of 20 nations (15EU+Norway+8CEE). The aims, structure and activities of the European Umbrella Organisation of Geographical Information was presented by *G. Remetey-Fülöpp*, member of EUROGI's Executive Committee. www.mgsz.hu/geixs99, <http://geixs.eurogeosurveys.org/en/geodata.html>
- □ **International Workshop on Land Consolidation and Rural Development**. Organised by MARD-BML/TAMA-FAO Budapest, December 6-7, 1999. The event was attended by over 100 participants from 6 countries.
- **New address of EUROGI since December 8, 1999:**
Jean Monnetpark 1
7336 BA Apeldoorn
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 555285746
Fax: +31 553557362
E-mail: euromi@euronet.nl
Secretary General: Anton Wolfkamp
(awolfkamp@euronet.nl)
- **MAGISZ Forum on Challenges in Agriinformatics at the threshold of the EU accession** organised by the (Hungarian Association for Agriinformatics (MAGISZ, member of HUNAGI) on December 13. Visit MAGISZ webpage for details. <http://miau.gau.hu/magisz>
- A TEMPUS PHARE Institution Building Joint European Project called "SDILA - **Staff development in Land Administration**" has been launched in international co-operation co-ordinated by *Prof. B. Márkus* of CSLM of the University of West-Hungary, member of HUNAGI. The project is introduced on the rear page of the HUNAGI leaflet.