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FOREWORD

Italy applied for hosting TC VI in the period 1996-2000, according to a suggestion of the Council, which intended to modify and improve it strongly, as explained in the Bylaw XIII, and expected from Italy an extraordinary contribution, based on its previous experiences in ISPRS. It didn't work: the surprise hit Italy, as well as the Council. However, democracy is to accept voting procedures and their results and a very well philosophy is that "cooperation" is better than "competition" and assures bigger and more stable advantages. For this reasons, Italy is glad to cooperate with Indonesia as Chairpersonship of a Working Group.

The first meeting of ISPRS Council and TCP's, for the period 1996-2000, established the new WG VI/3 "International Cooperation and Technology Transfer" and appointed Luigi Mussio as Chairperson of it. He is very honoured they gave him the possibility to continue serving ISPRS, in the period 1996-2000, and he is glad to cooperate with the Co-Chairperson Eng. Moja Kosmatin Fras and with the secretary Prof. Bruno Crippa. Moreover because WG VI/3 needs to carry out a very intense program. The internal core of the Working Group Board is formed also by two Assistant Secretaries, Dr. Tamara Bellone and Eng. Katja Oven which help the officials to develop and to perform the activities.

The Terms of References of WG VI/3 should be suggestions and not boundaries, because it is impossible to cut science and related techniques. Therefore the activities are defined, but not restricted to the Terms of Reference; furthermore new arguments are riches and not uncertainty. A comparison between Middle Ages and Renaissance proofs that the first had a lot of constraints, but sciences and arts increased strongly in the second epoch. A second consideration recognizes that science and technique should grow together, exchanging theoretical contributions and practical experiences positively.

The following list provides some informal ideas in order to better focus the Terms of Reference of the WG VI/3:

- offer an open floor for people entering ISPRS;
- establish close contacts with Regional Member Organizations and, through them, Ordinary Members and Associated Members;
- collect real examples of knowledge sharing and technology transfer;
- promote the growth of basic knowledge and its circulation;
- encourage a peaceful use of mature and innovative technologies;
- establish contacts of ISPRS TC's and/or WG's, as well as Sister Societies, Regional Member Organizations and other International Institutions, which agree with the above mentioned sentences.

Notice that whatever the level of participation, nobody can change his/her interest, but focus his/her attention in a field wider than the traditional one. Cooperation imposes to exit from the everyday routine and to enter the world meeting new people, with the aim to exchange experiences and to transfer useful technologies positively. Indeed the most important emerging result realizes that the market, as well as some academic affairs, are able to transfer technologies, but often in conflict with the spirit of the international cooperation which implies co-generation of scientists, technicians and users, in a peaceful world, independently on their country of origin.

It is a big pleasure to note as WG VI/3 cooperates officially, or unofficially, with some Cooperating Members, so that it isn't a small, isolated and, maybe, useless Working Group. However it plays an important role among the Technical Commissions and their Working Groups, increasing their cooperation and emphasizing the topics of international cooperation and technology transfer. Furthermore a special attention to real examples should be given by every

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member, paying a lack of content unfortunately frequent in the university people; indeed WG VI/3 according to its Terms of Reference cannot neglect or dismiss contributions from industry, engineering firms, etc.

Consequently TC VI and, particularly WG VI/3, could play an important role with the aim to enlarge the participation and to have activities at a really important level. Indeed the bigger danger is to restrict the responsibility and participation to a few number of countries and/or groups. There are two possibilities to overcome these troubles: the foundation of democracy for an elite or to enlarge democracy and participation. The Working Group has chosen the second hypothesis. Its spirit, promoting the contributions of young people and people coming from developing countries and reaching 355 members between participants and correspondent members, involving 57 countries (more than 50% of the ISPRS Ordinary Members), proofs that WG VI/3 is going in the correct direction.

The volume of the proceedings collects the contributions of the technical sessions, poster session and tutorials, as well as the compte rendu of the meetings and the list of participants and correspondent members.

Prof. Luigi Mussio
Chairperson, ISPRS WG VI/3

Prof. Bruno Crippa
Secretary, ISPRS WG VI/3

September, 1999

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