

# Bergen 10-11. April 2008

## Norway

NORWEGIAN  
MAPPING  
AND CADASTRE  
AUTHORITY



WPLA



Workshop on

## Legal Empowerment of the poor in the UNECE region

- in a land administration perspective



# High Level Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor

- The formalisation agenda and the work of the Commission is inspired by the contributions made by the Peruvian economist Hernando de Soto (1989, 2000) and the growing body of analysis in their wake.





# High Level Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor

- The outcome of formalisation should be to make the informal activities part of the growing formal sector that provides decent jobs, access to markets, incomes, social protection and security, and gives access to the international trade system





# High Level Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor

- Co-chaired by Madeline Albright and Hernando de Soto
  - Fernando Cardoso, Brasil
  - Soledad Alvear, Chile
  - Shirin Ebadi, Iran
  - Benjamin Mkapa, Tanzania
  - Mary Robinson, Irland
  - Erneste Zedillo, Mexico
  - Gordon Brown + 20 more



# High Level Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor

- Why a Commission;
  - To get political support for reforms
  - To examine ways to secure broader access to legal rights
  - To draw up an inventory of reforms that have worked
  - To produce a tool kit for policy makers



# High Level Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor

## Working groups

- Rule of Law and Access to Justice
- Property Rights
- Labor Rights
- Entrepreneurship
- Road Maps for Implementation of Reforms



# High Level Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor

## Organisation





# High Level Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor

- Commission shall work for 2 ½ years
  - Independent members in their personal capacity
  - First meeting 20 January 2006
  - Expected to present a report in 2008
- Secretariat at UNDP in New York and UN ECE in Geneva





Pointer 60°20'47.30" N 4°42'00.23" E

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# Bergen 10-11. April 2008

- Venue: SAS Radisson in downtown Bergen (many direct flights from airports in Europe)
- The conference is a follow up to the work of The Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, hosted by UNDP. Norwegian commissioner is Mrs. Hilde Frafjord Johnsen, previous Norwegian Minister of International Development
- The conference will focus on the property part of this agenda
- Taking a closer look at the Commissions' toolbox for legal empowerment
- Key questions:  
How can states and private institutions work with the outcome of the commission? How can the results of the commission be implemented in a practical way that helps poor people in the southern and eastern part of Europe?

# Bergen 10-11. April 2008

- Sessions
  - Outcomes of the Commission
  - Strategies and measures to include the poor in the formal land sector
    - Property rights as a human right
    - Mobilising the poor
    - Good practises and projects
  - Strategies and measures to include vulnerable groups
    - Empowering women
    - Minorities and their access to land (Sámi, Romany, other indigenous people)
    - Refugees' land rights
    - Muslim law
  - Legal aid and conflict resolution
    - Different way of organising Legal aid
    - Presentations of experiences on conflict resolution

# About Bergen

Bergen grew up around its colourful harbour - a hub of commerce, seafaring and crafts-man-ship. Bergen became the north's largest city, and Norway's first capital city and the seat of royalty. So important was Bergen by the 13th century that the Hansas - the German medieval guild of merchants - opened one of their four European offices on the wharf called Bryggen.

Bryggen has gained a place on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

Bergen is surrounded by one of the world's most spectacular tourist attractions - The Norwegian Fjords, which have now been included on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Bergen is the gateway to the fjords - it's the fjords' "capital city". The fjords around Bergen are many and varied. Whether you have only time for a short sightseeing trip, whether you want to see the area in more detail, there are plenty of tours in and around Bergen to provide you with unforgettable memories. This makes Bergen the ideal stepping stone to a Kingdom of Fjords.