

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING PARTY ON LAND ADMINISTRATION

As adopted by the Committee on Housing and Land Management on 20 September 2006

1. The Working Party on Land Administration operates under the auspices of the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management. Members of the Working Party are the national land administration authorities and related authorities of member countries of the UNECE.

2. The overall goals of the Working Party are the promotion and improvement of land administration and land management in the UNECE region. The Working Party aims at supporting security of tenure, the introduction and improvement of cadastre and land registry, and the development of real estate markets.

3. The activities of Working Party are based on cooperation and the exchange of experience among all countries of the UNECE region through seminars and workshops organized in UNECE member countries, land administration reviews (LAR), publication of studies and guidelines on specific land management topics, and the provision of policy advice and expert assistance. In particular, the Working Party deals with:

(a) Land administration

General task: Acquisition, registration, storing, maintenance and dissemination of information on real property rights, as well as the geometric and physical characteristics of land.

Activities: Documentation of ownership rights, leases and mortgages, land cover, land-use and land-use restrictions, geo-referenced addresses; transfer of ownership rights; adjudication of land rights; solving of land disputes; cadastral mapping; database activities; real property valuation; personal data protection; other related activities. Pricing of services; cost-recovery requirements; development of professional skills; taxation of land and real properties; development of e-services.

(b) Land management

General task: Contribution to the formulation, implementation and monitoring of land policy and geo-data policy (including financial matters).

Activities: Geo-spatial data policy; sustainable development of urban and rural areas; land consolidation; protection of natural resources; other related activities.

4. The Working Party shall review its programme of work to ensure coherence of its activities with the work of the Committee on Housing and Land Management and within the overall objectives of UNECE.

5. The Working Party coordinates its activities in close contact with other international governmental and non-governmental organizations active in related fields, such as the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements (UN-

HABITAT) and other United Nations regional commissions, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the European Union institutions concerned with land management activities (e.g. the INSPIRE Initiative, the EULIS Project), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the Permanent Committee on Cadastre (PCC), the International Centre of Registration Law (CINDER), the European Umbrella Organisation for Geographic Information (EUROGI), EuroGeographics and the European Land Registry Association (ELRA).

6. The Working Party cooperates with international financial and donor organizations that fund programmes and projects related to land administration in countries of the UNECE region, such as programmes of the European Union, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the World Bank.

7. The Working Party encourages partnership among the public and private sectors and their involvement in managing land resources and capacity-building for sustainable development. The Working Party encourages cooperation with educational institutions for enhancing capacity-building activities.