



## **REPORT OF THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMISSION TO THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS COUNCIL MEETING 17 AND 18 JANUARY 2010**

### **2009 COMMISSION MEETING**

The 2009 Meeting of the UIA Professional Practice Commission was held in New Delhi, India 23-25 September 2009, hosted by the Institute of Indian Architects. The Agenda, Minutes and Appendices are posted on the PPC Website at [www.aia.org/about\\_uia](http://www.aia.org/about_uia).

This meeting was the second in the triennium and placed its emphasis on reviewing the on-going work of drafting panels and addressing the work program issues, so that adoption of the items in the work program can be concluded by the 2010 meeting. This will allow for distribution and presentation of these topics before and at the 2011 Assembly and Congress. It will also allow an updated agenda to begin in 2011 with the new triennium.

**Commission goals** were established at the 2008 PPC Meeting in Marrakesh, Morocco and are enumerated as follow:

- Development of Aspirational Standards
- Implementation of Standards
- Architect Mobility
- Equity Issues

**2008 Continuing Actions:** Two items were adopted by the UIA Council at its meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica in the Spring of 2009 and assigned to the UIA Secretariat for execution. The PPC reviewed the work to date on these two items.

- The Practice Survey previously conducted by the COAC is currently being taken over in-house at the UIA Secretariat. The Secretary General provided a plan for implementation and updating of the website. The PPC reviewed the data to be collected through member-section questionnaires and has provided the Secretary General with an updated list of data that should be included. The PPC also authorized the Implementation Task Group to submit to the Secretary General its specific questions related to Accord acceptance by member sections that they wish included.
- The Standard form of Client/Architect Agreement was completed by the PPC in 2008 and forwarded to the Secretariat for final negotiations with FIDIC. Those negotiations were nearing completion in September 2009, but had not yet been finalized. We continue to monitor this issue and urge finalization of the contract.

**Drafting Teams** continue to work on the following topics:

- Revisiting the Existing Policy and Recommended Guideline on Roles of Professional Bodies and the Relationships between National Professional Bodies and Regulatory Bodies.
- Revisiting the Existing Recommended Guideline on Codes and Ethics



- Guideline for the Development of Architect Fees
- Guideline on the Role of Architects in Public/Private Partnerships
  
- A new drafting panel was established to review the Policy and Recommended Guideline on Practical Experience/Training/Internship.

**The Implementation Task Group** established in mid-2009 reported on its efforts and presented an approach for its future effectiveness. The approach to implementation was approved with numerous additional suggestions for consideration. The Task Group is chaired by Alain Sagne (ACE).

In connection with the Implementation Task Group discussion, the Commission authorized Balbir Verma in cooperation with the Indian Institute of Architects to develop a questionnaire regarding offers of trade in services (favored nation status-both as offered to and received from each member-section) to be distributed through the UIA Secretariat, at an appropriate time.

**Professional Practice Notes** are documents that do not specifically fit into the Accord, but have value to practitioners and/or architectural associations. At this meeting three documents were approved for posting on the PPC website as practice notes 3, 4 and 5.

- Practice Note 3: Integrated Practice and Building Information Modeling
- Practice Note 4: Negotiation/Mediation/Arbitration
- Practice Note 5: Compilation of Practice Handbooks

**Ongoing Discussion Topics.** The following actions were taken on discussion topics reported at the last UIA Council Meeting:

- Follow-up to the Internship Roundtable-Established a Drafting Panel to review the Policy and the Guideline. (see above)
- Liability/Responsibility in the Context of Increased Construction Complexity-Received the second document in this series and referred it to the UIA Council for discussion and appropriate distribution. (see below). This is the final action of the PPC on this item.
- Integrated Practice and Building Information Management-Approved the documents as Practice Note 3. (see above). This item will continue to be monitored.
- Negotiation/Mediation/Arbitration-Approved the documents as Practice Note 4. (see above). This concludes work on this item.
- Practice Handbooks-Approved the "Compilation of Practice Handbooks" as Practice Note 5 to be updated annually. (see above)
- Sustainability-Directed that both the presentation on Sustainability and on Green Labels for Real Estate Marketing, along with the written materials on Green Labels be forwarded to the Sustainability Work Group. This is the final action by the PPC on this item.

**Professional Practice Commission Website:** It is the intent of the Professional Practice Commission to transfer the hosting of the PPC website to the UIA Secretariat during 2010. Maintenance of the website would still be performed by AIA staff. It is also the intent to have a share-point location operating prior to the 2010 meeting of the Commission to facilitate distribution of materials.



### **Recommendation to the UIA Council:**

**Two papers prepared by the drafting panel on Liability/Responsibility in the Context of Increased Construction Complexity are attached to this report, as Attachments 1 and 2. They are forwarded for discussion by the Council and for potential distribution as Council deems appropriate, including Commissions, Work Groups and Member-Sections.**

### **PRESENTATION TO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION, COUNCIL ON TRADE IN SERVICES**

At the invitation of the WTO, the Professional Practice Commission, representing the Union of International Architects, made a presentation to the Council on Trade in Services regarding sector specific services (Architectural Services). The work of the UIA has provided, through the Accord on Recommended International Standards of Professionalism in Architectural Practice, the UNESCO-UIA Charter on Architectural Education and the Draft Disciplines on Domestic Regulation of the Architectural Profession, the basis for unified global standards of regulation and practice in architecture. This effort has placed architects in the forefront of the professions. Consequently the WTO asked that we present what we have accomplished to the Council on Trade in Services to stimulate discussion of sector specific versus horizontal trade standards in professional services.

This presentation was coordinated with the leadership of the UIA. Mr. Russell Keune, the previous Co-Director and Secretary of the Professional Practice Commission made the presentation through a written document and a speech, vetted through the PPC Commission and the UIA President. Mr. Alain Sagne accompanied Mr. Keune as an observer. The Commission is thankful to the AIA and the ACE for funding these individuals' travel.

This was a tremendous opportunity for the architects of the world, and was well accepted by the delegates as noted by the follow-up discussion.

Mr. Keune's report is submitted with this report as Attachment 3. Recommendation Number 1 has been fulfilled by Mr. Nicolas Jelansky. The Implementation Task Group has reviewed the report and determined that they as part of their implementation work should address items 2, 3, 4, and 6.

### **Recommendation to Council:**

**That Council address items 5, 7, and 8 through the following actions:**

- A. Item 5-Direct the Secretariat to obtain member section views regarding GATS and forward those views to the PPC for compilation into a UIA Document per the recommendation.**
- B. Item 7-After receipt of the materials in Item 5 and development of a UIA press release by the PPC describing and summarizing the current status of the GATS provisions and what the individual member**



**sections can do to act as advocates to their WTO delegates, direct the Secretariat to give the press release wide circulation to the leading architectural press in the UIA member sections.**

- C. Item 8-Invitations be issued to the World Trade Organization to address both the UIA Council at one of its future meetings and to speak at the UIA 2011 Congress in Tokyo.**

### **2010 MEETING.**

It is the plan of the Professional Practice Commission to meet for a portion of its 2010 meeting in conjunction with the Education Commission. This will allow better cross fertilization of the work of the two commissions and provide opportunity to coordinate efforts. The proposed meeting is anticipated for November in Paris, but confirmation of location, time and dates has not yet been finalized.

By:

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Co-Director and Secretary

Zhuang Weimin, ASC  
Co-Director

### Attachments:

1. 2008 Paper on Liability/Responsibility of Architects in the Context of Increased Construction Complexity.
2. 2009 Paper on Liability/Responsibility of Architects in the Context of Increased Construction Complexity.
3. Trip Report – International Union of Architects to the World Trade Organization