PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMISSION
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS

CASE STUDY IN THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE UIA ACCORD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN THE INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE

The Professional Practice Commission is compiling a series of case studies that document how the UIA Accord is being utilized by UIA member sections. It is hoped that these case studies will encourage other UIA member sections to make use of the UIA Accord in their countries.

1. UIA Member Section

Federation of Institutes of Korean Architects (FIKA)

2. Use and Application of the UIA Accord

The UIA Accord is being utilized as a reference and guideline in Korean international negotiations for trade in services for architectural services

3. Goal - Objective

To have the Korean government recognize and utilize the UIA Accord in matters related to their international trade in architectural services, primarily in their membership in the World Trade Organization.

4. Instigator/Organizer of the Use and Application of the UIA Accord

The Federation of Institutes of Korean Architects (FIKA) translated the UIA Accord into Korean so that it might be more effectively utilized by them within Korea, including their relations with the national government. The UIA Accord was posted on the FIKA web-site and a copy was shared with the Ministry of Construction and Transportation. In response, the Ministry invited the FIKA to participate in providing advice to the government on the requests and offers Korea was receiving as part of the WTO trade negotiations. They were also interested in having FIKA's input to Korea's participation in the ongoing negotiations related to the Asia Pacific Economic Council's (APEC) architect negotiations.

5. Government Ministry/Bureau/Agency

The two primary national government ministries and one commission of interest to FIKA are:

- Ministry of Construction and Transportation
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
- Commission for the Study of the Construction Industry

6. Description of the Process/Procedure

The Korean national government is fully engaged with the World Trade Organizations trade in services. In order to advance their participation in subjects related to international trade in professional architectural services, the national government recommended the formation of an ad hoc national committee, known as the World Trade Organization Strategy Committee, to serve as an interested and informed resource and advisory group.

The Committee membership consists of:

- The Committee Chair is the Urban and Architectural Officer, the Ministry of Construction and Transportation.

- Seven practicing architects and academics drawn from the membership of the Korean Institute of Architects, the Korean Institute of Registered Architects and Architectural Institute of Korea.
- Two representatives from the Ministry of Construction and Transportation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.
- The Committee also has two advisors:
  - One advisor from the Commission for the Study of the Construction Industry, a national government research organization.
  - One advisor from the International Contractors Association of Korea, a research organization of the Contractors Association of Korea.

This Committee meets as necessary to share current information, maintain an ongoing liaison function, formulate recommendations and provide advice to government agencies. It has met four times since being established. The Ministry of Construction and Transportation serves as the Committee's secretariat.

7. Results

FIKA has found the national government very receptive to the interests of architects, even though international trade in professional architectural services is only a small portion of the overall trade in services negotiated and conducted by the Korean government. The UIA Accord is recognized and referenced by the relevant government ministries and agencies both within Korea and within their WTO delegation.

8. Date Initiated

The Ad Hoc Committee was organized and had its first meeting in March 2002.

9. Date Concluded

Ongoing as of July 2003.

Prepared in July 2003 by:
Sungjung Chough
Architect, FIKA
Member UIA Council, Region IV
Member, Professional Practice Commission, UIA
800-4 Bangbae-Dong, Seocho-Ku
Seoul, Korea 137-060
Telephone: 82 2 596
Facsimile: 82 2 532 78 64
E-mail: sjchough@ilkun.com