

**Prof. Emi Balodimou**

**President of the Department of Rural and Surveying Engineers of the National  
Technical University of Athens**

Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

On behalf of the Department of the Rural and Surveying Engineering (DRSE) of the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), I am very happy to address this meeting and workshop on "Spatial Data Management", a topic that has become very trendy nowadays, and owes of course its development to the rapid evolution of technology and informatics.

But also, a subject of great interest especially for Greece that is in the process of establishing and developing its Cadastre.

The graduates from the Departments of Rural and Surveying Engineers of the National Technical University of Athens and the Aristotele University of Thessaloniki, may be considered as the Engineers, the closest to this subject and the main components for the establishment and development of our Cadastre.

Our Undergraduate Curriculum which we revise from time to time according to the progress in Science and Technology and also to the demands of our society provides our students with:

- a strong theoretical background - we have courses on Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science, Humanitism.
- a good knowledge of the procedures for Data Acquisition processing and representation - we have courses on Geodesy, Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, Cartography.
- and nowadays a good knowledge of the procedures for data analysis and management - we have courses on: Geographic Information Systems, Land Information Systems, Land Management, Cadastre, etc.

I do not mention our courses on other technical subjects that cover our Department, I mention only the ones that are related to the topic of this meeting.

Since 1998, we run the interdisciplinary Post Graduate Program under the title "Geoinformatics", that our Department is responsible, in collaboration with the Department of Electrical and Computer Science Engineering and Mining and Metallurgical Engineering. We also have a lot of research activities on this subject.

Our Department is very interested in the work carried out by the Com 3 of the FIG and is looking forward to the resolutions of this meetings.

I would like to congratulate the organizing committee for this excellent organization and wish you all to have fruitful discussions and to those of you who come from other countries to have a pleasant stay in our country.

Thank you.