

### **31. IGU congress in Tunisia August 12-15 2008.**

Christian Matthiessen

1. September 2008

The congress venue was the KRAM palace, which turned out to be a large complex of exhibition halls pretty unusable for meetings of the nature of the congress. Badly air conditioned in the hot 40 C days, and laying all by itself in an industrial area to come. Organisation was substandard and pricing was high. Definitely not a good experience. But some 23 urban geography commission papers in series of sessions chaired by Yuji Murayama, Izack Schnell, Christian Matthiessen and others.

The General Assembly of the IGU constituted the next steering committee of the IGU as follows:

President Ronald F. Abler, USA  
Secretary General and Treasurer Woo-ik Yu, South Korea  
Vice President Irasema Alcantara-Ayala, Mexico  
Vice President Giuliano Bellezza, Italy  
Vice President Ruth Fincher, Australia  
Vice President Aaron Kellerman, Israel  
Vice President Vladimir Kolossov, Russia  
Vice President Markku Löytönen, Finland  
Vice President Michael Meadows, South Africa  
Vice President Dahe Qin, China-Beijing  
Vice President Dietrich Soye, Germany

Vice President Löytönen was selected by the outgoing executive committee to fulfil the function Adalberto Vallega would normally have assumed as the retiring president.

The general assembly also approved a series of proposed commissions and their chairmen including the proposition for: **IGU Urban Commission: Emerging Urban Transformations. Chairman: Christian Matthiessen**

I received many positive remarks on the hitherto work of our commission and also on our application.

The IGU 33. congress was decided to take place in Beijing 2016.

Christian Matthiessen