

Program director

Univ.-Prof. Holger Magel

Presentation of Certificates at Graduation Ceremony

March 17th 2005

Dear senior and junior master students,

honorable president of TU München, dear dean of faculty, distinguished speakers and guests of international Centre of Land Management and Land Tenure,

welcome to this **outstanding** event today,

outstanding of course for our new 17 masters – it's a new record

outstanding for our Centre of Land Management and Land Tenure because of the first presence of President Herrmann

outstanding for our faculty and partner because we hope that we get today clearness about the future of this unique master program at TU München.

I'm very glad that we can celebrate this wonderful graduation ceremony with excellent students. That's the mission of each university to educate young people and to send them into the world – and related to you to send them back in so many and different parts and countries of the world. We are totally sure that you will go back not only as a new master of science in Land Management and Land Tenure of the famous TUM but will also return to your home countries as friends of TUM, Munich, Bavaria and Germany.

You could experience and hopefully even enjoy German and Bavarian grants, hospitality and competence by and at state and private organizations and companies, you especially could study a very modern and future oriented master program which gives an answer to the big needs of especially developing countries, post communist and countries in transition.

I would like to thank all of you that you have decided for our still very young postgraduate master program. We know very well that we do have strong international competitors and a very strong competition in this field. But we are convinced that we due to the contributions of well-known international and national lectures could offer you an excellent education. As an elite of your countries you now are obliged to implement your knowledge to the benefit of your people!

With regard to the following speech of president Herrmann and to the distributed welcome greetings of the president of the Bavarian parliament Alois Glück I don't want to start talking

about political, scientific and technical aspects. But let me briefly mention what Cairo, the next big FIG conference in April, – related to our master program – will once again very clearly underline: There is a big need for competence in governance, land policy, land administration, land and water management, Disaster prevention and Risk management, Geoinformatics and Geomatics to achieve sustainable and just urban and rural development. And if you have for example a look at the “Africa action plan”, which was presented publicly last week by Tony Blair you will find proposals and demands like

- improvement of governing by implementing good governance and institutional aspects
- better education
- Capacity building
- Controlling and monitoring
- rural development and urban infrastructure
- strengthening regional organizations, local authorities, NGO’s and civil society.

Our master program responds to these demands and our new masters have the unique possibility and chance – different to normal students – to now become deeply involved in hopefully successful national programs and actions to combat bad governance and bad land policies and management. These expectations are very satisfying for you and are very motivating for future master students as well.

I thank you all for having studied here and having enriched us culturally, technically and mentally. Thank you for having been excellent students (like the certifications will prove now), it was a pleasure for all of our centre and surely all other lecturers of TUM to work with you. You have come as excellent ambassadors of your home country and you will leave Munich as excellent ambassadors of your host country Germany and your host university TUM.

As responsible program director it’s my great pleasure to present all of the course now another and this time a very estimated certificate in your academic career: it’s the certificate about your successful study and your new academic master degree.