The Global Forum on Maintenance and Asset Management (GFMAM) held its ninth face-to-face meeting from the 3rd to 9th of May 2014 in conjunction with the European Federation of National Maintenance Societies (EFNMS) in Helsinki, Finland. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to EFNMS for their hospitality.

At this meeting the associations that had been part of the GFMAM prior to the Helsinki meeting were delighted to welcome a new member organization, the Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance (JIPM), the first organization from Southeast Asia to join our ranks. The JIPM brings a prestigious history and a distinct perspective to further the development of a shared understanding of Asset Management within the GFMAM going forward.

Arriving in Helsinki working groups of the GFMAM had recently published two important documents: 1) Second Edition of the “Asset Management Landscape” which added significant detail to each of the 39 subjects of Asset Management that had been introduced in the first Landscape document and 2) the “Auditor Assessor Specification”, a document which recommends a baseline for the Asset Management knowledge and understanding requirements that an ISO 55001 assessor or auditor should have. GFMAM members will be recommending to asset owners that they apply this specification for Internal assessors and require any external auditors to provide demonstrable evidence of this knowledge and understanding. Both of these documents are now freely available at www.gfmam.org

Now that we have established a clear pattern of working together productively, we are anxious to ensure that the worldwide community is aware of our joint work. We intend the products of our projects to be useful to asset owning organizations, asset management practitioners, and every kind of organization that serves them to reach their aims. Not surprisingly, then, the marketing team was very active in Helsinki producing a marketing plan both for these documents and for the GFMAM as a whole.

The group working towards the development of a Maintenance Framework was also active. The Maintenance Framework will supplement detail of the maintenance-related subject areas of the
Asset Management Landscape. This will enable alignment of existing subject matter and certifications for those member organizations that have products and services specifically related to maintenance.

There was also a new project launched, the “asset management maturity” project. This project aims to align the different approaches for assessing asset management maturity that are being developed in different parts of the world. One of the early tasks was to agree what was meant by asset management maturity and the following was agreed as a statement to start from:

- Organizational asset management maturity is the ability to demonstrate that capability across the 39 subjects (as defined by the Asset Management Landscape) is fit for purpose for its stakeholder’s goals and outcomes
- A mature organization ensures there are cycles of improvement that enable it to respond to changes in both the internal and external environments
- Asset Management maturity includes the assessment of outputs / results

Guidelines for assessing asset management maturity will continue to be developed over the next 12 months.

The GFMAM members are confident that collaboration has been beneficial to each of us as member organizations. More exciting, perhaps, is that we are growing in confidence that our collaboration through the GFMAM will be beneficial to the asset management community as a whole. We invite the participation of practitioners and service providers through feedback on our existing work as well as ideas and suggestions for future work that might be beneficial if carried out in a common forum.

Member Associations of the GFMAM include: Abraman (Brazil), AM Council (Australia), EFNMS (Europe), FIM (Latin America), GSMP (Arabian Gulf region), IAM (UK), IFRAMI (France), JIPM (Japan), PEMAC (Canada), SAAMA (South Africa), SMRP (United States)