

NEWSLETTER GLOBAL MAPPING 22

The Eighth Meeting of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping



The Eighth Meeting of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM8) was held on 25 May 2001 following the Fifth Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Conference (GSDI5) at the Hotel Las Americas, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. The meeting was hosted by the Agustin Codazzi Geographic Institute of Colombia.

It was the first ISCGM meeting held in Latin America. Therefore, taking advantage of the opportunity to enhance the understanding of Global Mapping Project, especially among organizations in Latin American countries, the meeting was set open to all the participants of GSDI5. Consequently, 80 persons from 31 countries attended, whose number was the largest among past ISCGM meetings.

Since it was the first meeting without Prof. John E. Estes, founding Chairperson of ISCGM and the great leader of Global Mapping Project, who passed away suddenly in 9 March 2001, the meeting was specially chaired by Mr. Peter Holland of AUSLIG, Vice-Chairperson. Instead of normal appointment by the Chair, Mr. Minoru Akiyama, Secretary General, proposed the continuation of Mr. Peter Holland as Vice Chair and himself as Secretary General, and was approved. Election of new Chairperson was not made and Mr. Holland would act as the Interim Chairperson till the new Chairperson will be elected. Dr. Hiroshi Murakami, former Assistant

Secretary General, who recently moved to UN Cartographic Section, was invited as a new Advisor and Ms. Karen Kline, University of California, Santa Barbara, was appointed as new Assistant Secretary General. New Members introduced were Mr. John Manning representing SCAR-GGI who replaced Mr. Drew Clarke, Mr. Saeid Noori Bushehri of Iran replacing Mr. Abbas Rajabifard, Mr. Yoshiaki Yano of Japan replacing Mr. Motoyuki Kidokoro, Mr. Tae-Jung Min of Rep. of Korea replacing Mr. Jae Joon Huh, Mr. Hamid Ali of Malaysia replacing Dato' Abdul Majid, Dr. Nick Land of UK replacing Dr. Geoffrey Robinson, Dr. John Kelmelis of USA replacing Dr. Richard Witmer and Mr. Santiago Borrero-Mutis of Colombia who hosted the meeting.

An amendment to Article 8 of the Rules of ISCGM was made to allow the election of the Chairperson of the Committee between Committee Meetings.

Taking the successful completion of the First Phase of the Global Mapping Project into account, celebrated with the great number of participating countries and the release of Global Map version 1.0 at the Global Mapping Forum 2000, the discussion was focused on the strategic plan of the Phase 2 of the Project and the policy for commercial use of Global Map data. Dr. Kelmelis of USA gave a brief presentation and led the discussion on Phase 2 plan representing Working

Group 1. He proposed: 1) to prepare answers to the questions raised in existing documents on Phase 2 plan; 2) to conduct an inventory of the existing global and regional data sets; 3) to identify the research needs and potential research partners; 4) to hold an ad hoc Working Group Meeting in Beijing in August 2001. Mr. Luzet of EuroGeographics gave a brief presentation and led the discussion on data policy representing Working Group 3. He proposed: 1) to set the free distribution for non commercial use via the Internet and acknowledgement of copyright as default and recommended option; 2) to establish mechanisms to record and report the use of Global Map data and report any improper use; 3) to assess possible media other than Internet; 4) to assess options of market potential of Global Map, global survey on NMOs' positions on data policy issues and evaluate the effectiveness of current data policy. It was concluded that further discussions on these themes should be contin-

ued within Working Group 1 and 3 respectively.

Prior to this Meeting, at GSDI5 Mr. Jack Dangermond of ESRI announced the offer of International Spatial Data Infrastructure/Global Map Grant Program on behalf of the memory of Prof. John E. Estes. The offer would include software, training, and support, with the caveat that data produced must be made available over Internet. Since this offer seems to help facilitate the creation of Global Map data, ISCGM resolved to establish a small group composed of members from ISCGM and GSDI to provide a joint response to this Program.

The discussion of the Meeting was concluded into seventeen resolutions.

The 9th ISCGM Meeting will be held in Budapest, Hungary in September 2002 in conjunction with the 6th GSDI Conference hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development, Department of Lands and Mapping, Hungary.

GSDI 5 Conference, held in Cartagena, Colombia a Great Success!

Santiago Borrero

Chair GSDI Steering Committee

More than 250 participants from 49 nationalities attended GSDI 5. The Conference was held in Cartagena, Colombia during May 22-24, 2001. Organized under the theme "Sustainable Development: GSDI for Improved Decision-Making", the event was an exciting and informative opportunity for geodata producers and SDI technology developers to share with decision-makers from public and private sectors.

GSDI 5 highlights include:

- GSDI to produce a statement on the need for global data sets for sustainable development, to be tabled at the forthcoming UN Rio+10 Summit taking place at Johannesburg, South Africa in 2002
- To better achieve its goal and objectives, GSDI resolved that in the short term intends to evolve into a public/private not-for-profit organization.
- Industry participation increases, moving from conventional conference sponsorship to a direct involvement in GSDI activities.
- In memory of the late John Estes, Chair, International Steering Committee on Global Mapping -ISCGM. Jack Dangermond, ESRI President

launched a five million dollars grant for GSDI and Global Mapping.

- GSDI 5 Conference incorporated the 3rd Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Spatial Data Infrastructures for the Americas -PC IDEA and the 8th ISCGM Meeting.
- PC IDEA and its sister committee for Asia and the Pacific -PCGIAP, signed a Memorandum of Understanding, addressed to promote common ground areas for SDI development at the regional level
- The next GSDI Conference will be held in Budapest, Hungary, September 2002.

GSDI Authorities

For the period 2001-2002 Santiago Borrero, Director General, IGAC was elected as Chair, GSDI Steering Committee, replacing Derek Clarke from South Africa. At the same time Ian Masser, President of the European Umbrella Organization for Geographic Information -EUROGI was appointed Vice Chair. The US Federal Geographic Data Committee continues hosting the Secretariat, with John Moeller as principal. As well, Bas Kok and Harlan Onsrud will remain

as co-chairs of the Legal and Economics Working Group and Doug Nebert Chair of the Technical Working Group.

GSDI 6 Conference – Budapest, Hungary

GSDI 6 will be held in Budapest, Hungary, in September 2002. The event will be organized by EUROGI and the Hungarian National Geographic Information Association – HunGAI, under the responsibility of Gabor Remetei. The Conference theme will be: "From Global to Local", will incorporate the 9th Meeting of the International Steering Committee on

Global Mapping –ISCGM and most probably the Plenary Assembly of EUROGI.

Conference Proceedings and Resolutions

Twelve resolutions were adopted at the conference dealing with aspects such as "GSDI and other relevant initiatives", "GSDI Organization", "GSDI Implementation Guide and common implementation practices". The set of resolutions and papers submitted to GSDI 5 will be available on 01 July 2001 at: <http://codazzi4.igac.gov.co/gsdi5> and at: <http://www.gsdi.org>

United Nations Recognizes the Importance of Global Mapping

John Kelmelis, USA

Tsuneo Tanaka, Japan

The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development held its 9th meeting at the UN headquarters in New York (CSD-9). The meeting, which took place in April this year, brought nations together to plan for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and identify topics of importance to the improvement of the environment and economy throughout the world.

The WSSD will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, during September, 2002, to document the accomplishments of the world in meeting the goals of Agenda 21, which was agreed to by many nations at the first World Summit on Sustainable Development which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992.

Among the topics discussed at CSD-9 was the importance of technology to reaching the goals of sustainable development. The Global Mapping project was specifically discussed and nations including the United States and Japan encouraged its inclusion in the documentation from the meeting. The United States delegation introduced the Global Mapping project and concepts for inclusion in the meeting report.

The Global Mapping project was not specifically described in meeting results because a number of nations felt that supporting a specific project was not appropriate. However, the nations agreed with the concepts of Global Mapping and included the following statement in the report from the meeting.

Commission could:

- (f) Call for the development and wider use by developing countries of innovative

technologies such as global mapping, geographical information systems, video transmission technology, and internet technology for dissemination of satellite data.

This statement clearly supports the Global Mapping activity without making the United Nations appear to support one project over another to meet its goals.

During the CSD-9 meeting there were a number of side events to provide greater understanding of specific topics, concepts, or projects. A side entitled Global Mapping for Sustainable Development was jointly organized by ISCGM and the Japanese Government with the participation of the United States. After the opening address by Kiyo AKASAKA, Ambassador for Permanent Mission of Japan to UN, three presentations were made: Global Mapping – Concept and Recent Progress, Applications of the Global Map, and Earth Observation – Experience Gained through the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) presented by Yoshikazu FUKUSHIMA, John KELMELIS, and Naomasa MURAKOSHI respectively.

Global Mapping for Sustainable Development was well attended with representatives from fifteen countries and a number of non-government organizations. Numerous questions by the audience reflected significant interest in the project.

ISCGM Won Special Award of Center for Environmental Information Science Award

Commendation ceremony of the First Center for Environmental Information Science Award for the fiscal year 2001 was held in Tokyo on May 17, 2001, where the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) received Special Award on account of "the Development of the Global Map." On behalf of the ISCGM, Mr. Yoshiaki Yano, Director-General of the Geographical Survey Institute attended the ceremony. He received the Certificate of Commendation with a token, and gave a lecture as an award winner on the history and present status of the Global Mapping.

Center for Environmental Information Science is a public-service corporation established in Japan that

implements scientific reserches of natural and social environment and disseminate environmental science aiming to contribute to conservation and creation of rich environment.

This award is designed to applause the efforts of academic papers, plan/design or technological development recognized as an excellent achievement contributed to the development of science and technology on environmental information.

The ISCGM received the award bacuse of the high evaluation given on its activities for resolving various environmental problems which can draw a big expectation in a global scale in the coming future.

Status of Participation in Global Mapping

Status of participation in Global Mapping

As of June 25, 2001

Number of countries/regions participated in Global Mapping

84 countries/regions

Number of countries/regions considering the participation

34 countries/regions

Recent participation in Global Mapping

Name of organization

Country name

Date of participation

The Federal Service of Geodesy and Cartogrphahy of Russia

Russia

May 25th.

Global Map Data Released

Data Released: Colombia on May 18th., Australia to be on June 28th.

Global Map and Related Meetings

Followings are Global Map and related meetings. Information on related meetings will be highly appreciated.

2001

- 24-28 June, Fredericton, Canada
2nd International Symposium on Digital Earth
<http://www.digitalearth.ca>
- 6-10 August, Beijing, China
20th International Cartographic Conference
- 4-7 September, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
UN CODI Meeting
- 25-26 October, Adelaide, Australia
13th ISO/TC211 Plenary Meeting

2002

- 23-24 May, Bangkok, Thailand
14th ISO/TC211 Plenary Meeting
- September, Budapest, Hungary
6th GSDI Conference
- 20 September, Budapest, Hungary
9th Meeting of ISCGM

Announcement from the Secretariat

E-mail address of the ISCGM Secretariat has been unified:

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