

NEWSLETTER GLOBAL MAPPING 28

PCGIAP EB Meeting was held in Manila in Oct. 2002

Yasushi Shimoyama

PCGIAP Secretariat



PCGIAP Executive Board Meeting was held in Metro Manila, Philippines, on October 29, 2002. Twenty two participants from eight board member countries attended the meeting. Russian Federation and Cook Islands did not attend the meeting. Main topics of the discussion were working group reports, reports from liaison bodies, and the preparations for 16th UNRCC-AP/9th P CGIAP in 2003.

PCGIAP has 4 working groups; Regional Geodesy (WG1), Fundamental Data (WG2), Cadastre (WG3), and Institutional Strengthening (WG4). WG1 reported the major recent activities; Presentation of combined solutions at Western Pacific Geophysical Campaign, Wellington NZ, July 2002, and Regional Geodetic Observation Campaign in October 2002. WG2 reported that WG2 should cooperate with other international organizations such as UN, ISCGM for more constructive approach to RSDI. WG3 suggested an establishment of cadastral template, for which it will hold a workshop just before the next UNRCC-AP. In the discussion of WG4, the feasibility study of the several trainings in some member countries is regarded as important.

Reports from liaison bodies include ones of ISO/TC211, ISCGM, GSDI, and PC-IDEA. Concerning the Report from ISCGM, Mr. Peter HOLLAND, the Vice-Chair of ISCGM reported the recent progress of Global Mapping Project. Highlighted in the report were its steady growth,

currently with 126 countries participating, election of the new chairperson, past and future meetings, achievement at WSSD, and the activities in capacity building. The efforts of Japan especially at WSSD were acknowledged.

The discussion of 16th UNRCC was the key topic of this meeting. Secretary of P CGIAP, Mr. HOSHINO Yoshihisa, introduced the venue of the Conference, the preparatory arrangements in logistics etc. Secretary commented that Okinawa with its unique cultural and historical features should offer an interesting and excellent environment for prospective participants. Following was the program framework of the conference. The next draft is prepared;

July 14 (Mon):

Morning: Registration, Executive Board meeting

Afternoon: Opening/Welcome, Election of President

July 15 (Tue) through July 17 (Thu)

Keynote address, UNRCC-AP report, P CGIAP report, Technical Committee 1,2,3, Drafting of resolutions, etc.

July 18 (Fri)

Morning: Final Plenary

Afternoon: Executive Board meeting

It is also suggested that WG3 (Cadastre) workshop should be held from July 12 to July 13 and Global Mapping Forum should be set on the same dates as WG3.

Each technical committee could invite someone outside of P CGIAP as Chair and also invite appropriate speakers. Introduction of ISCGM is possibly considered at an appropriate technical committee.

Including the items agreed upon in the Executive Board meeting, outcomes of the conference should be informed or recommended to UN Statistics Division as necessary.

Second Announcement of Global Mapping Forum 2003 in Okinawa (GMF03)

An announcement of "Global Mapping Forum 2003 in Okinawa (GMF03)" to be held in Okinawa, Japan from 12 - 14 July, 2003 was made in the 27th issue of this newsletter. Following the previous announcement, the outline of the Forum is reported in this issue. Application of participation in the GMF03 shall be sent to the secretariat by using the form attached to this newsletter by e-mail, fax or postal mail no later than May 31. The form is also found at the Web site of ISCGM. Admission without previous application will be permissible, however, earlier application is recommended so that the participants can receive full documents and materials of the forum.

1. Forum schedule (draft)

July 11 (Fri)	16:00 - 18:00	Registration
12 (Sat)	9:00 -	Registration
	10:00 - 12:00	Opening/Keynote Address
	12:00 - 13:30	Lunch break
	13:30 - 16:00	Session (I)
	18:00 - 20:00	Reception
13 (Sun)	10:00 - 12:00	Session (II)
	12:00 - 13:30	Lunch break
	13:30 - 16:00	Session (III)
14 (Mon)	10:00 - 12:00	Session (IV), Closing
15 (Tue)	10:00 - 16:00	Technical Tour

(Poster session is planned to be held simultaneously from 12 - 14, July.)

Introduction of Places to be visited in the Technical Tour:

a) Okinawa Subtropical Environment Remote Sensing Center, Communication Research Laboratory

The Okinawa Subtropical Environment Remote Sensing Center is currently conducting research and development into three types of radio sensors. The objective of the research and development is to investigate the mechanisms of interaction between the ocean and the atmosphere, as this mechanism significantly affects global-scale climate change such as global warming. They are also conducting additional atmospheric and oceanic observations, mainly in the maritime subtropical climate zone.

b) Okinawa Commemorative National Government Park/Ocean Expo Park

Okinawa Commemorative National Government Park/Ocean Expo Park is a national park established in August 1976 in commemoration of Okinawa Ocean Expo held in 1975. The park located at the site of the Expo boasts "Tropical Dream Center" in which visitors enjoy orchid over 1700 species and exotic plants, and "Oceanic Culture Museum" where people can study history and culture of the tribes living in the countries of the Pacific rim. The site is adjacent to a coral beach called "Emerald Beach" of 60,000 square meters where a good contrast is made between white sand beach and illimitable emerald green ocean.

c) Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium

Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium is a new aquarium opened on November 1, 2002. It is one of the biggest aquariums in the world, in which rich ocean of Okinawa is realized in an elevated coral reef themed as "Encounter with Okinawan sea" in a huge water tank that stores 7,500 tons water with sharks and mantas swimming leisurely. At a water tank called "Travel in the Coral Reef," visitors can observe live coral being almost unprecedentedly kept before their eyes.

2. Introduction of/around the Convention Center

a) Convention Center

A variety of event including international conferences, symposia, trade fairs are held. A large exhibition hall, conference rooms and a theater can meet all kinds of needs as a facility with multi-purpose and flexible functions.

b) Tropical Beach

Tropical Beach is a man-made beach adjacent to the convention facility flourishing with tourists, foreign visitors and local people. A wood terrace and shops are equipped.

3. Introduction of Okinawa

Okinawa Prefecture, Japan's southwesternmost prefecture, consists of 49 inhabited and 110 uninhabited islands scattered over an area 1,000 km from east to west

and 400 km from north to south. The islands are divided into three major groups: the Okinawa island group, the Miyako island group, and the Yaeyama island group. Okinawa island is by far the largest, followed in turn by Iriomote island, Isigaki island and Miyako island.

Okinawa Prefecture is located between Kyushu and Taiwan. Major Asian cities such as Taipei, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Seoul, Manila and Tokyo are all located within a 1,500 km radius of Okinawa. Because of its close proximity to the major Asian cities, Okinawa represents the southern gate of Japan to China, South-east Asia and Oceania.

With this geographic advantage, Okinawa engaged in a prosperous overseas trade with China and South-east Asian countries during the fourteenth and the sixteenth century. Okinawa established its unique cultural characteristics through overseas trade and these

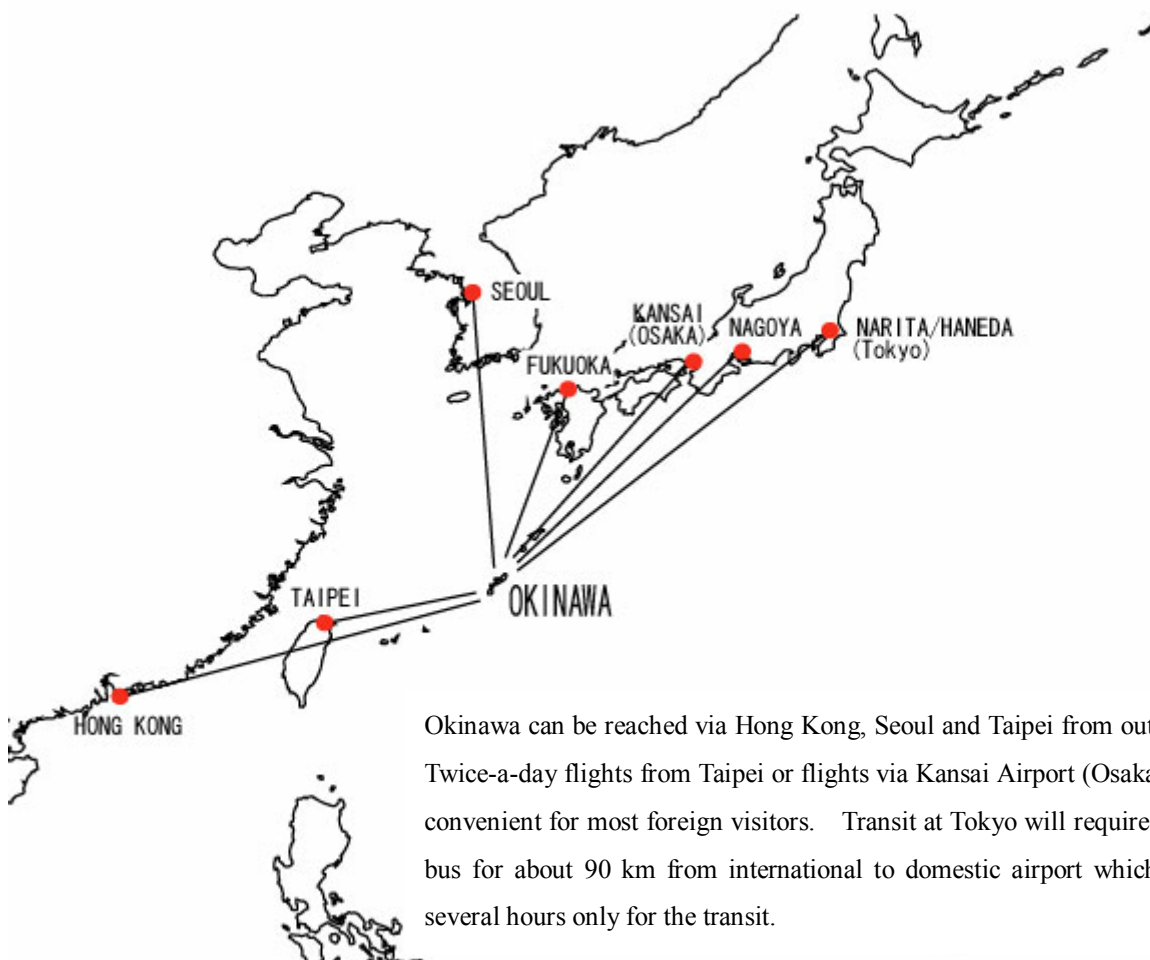
characteristics are seen in its textiles, lacquerware, potteries, performing arts and customs.

Okinawa Prefecture is Japan's only subtropical climate within 24° N to 28° N latitude, and has an average temperature of 23° C blessed with beautiful natural surroundings, emerald green seas, precious wildlife such as the Iriomote wild cat and the Okinawan woodpecker, and seasonal plants.

Okinawa Prefecture is developing Japan's southernmost foothold in Asia by taking advantage of its geographic and historical advantages and promoting economic, cultural and international educational exchange with neighboring Asian and Oceanic countries. (*Okiwana Prefecture Web site*)

Preparation for strong ultraviolet rays would be necessary in July in Okinawa.

Access to Okinawa



Okinawa can be reached via Hong Kong, Seoul and Taipei from outside Japan. Twice-a-day flights from Taipei or flights via Kansai Airport (Osaka) would be convenient for most foreign visitors. Transit at Tokyo will require transfer by bus for about 90 km from international to domestic airport which will need several hours only for the transit.

Reactivation of Working Group 2

The ninth meeting of ISCGM held in Budapest, Hungary on September 20, 2002 decided to reactivate the WG2 on the specifications of Global Map, because some items of Global Map specifications need amendments. The issues to be discussed in the WG2 include the followings. To incorporate recent progress in ISO/TC211 and to meet user requirements and their

needs for interoperability; and to establish specifications for the scale 1:250,000 Global Map to meet the needs of small-area countries and to meet wider applicability of the data where countries can supply more detailed data. At the Ninth ISCGM, China, EuroGeographics, Japan, ISO/TC211 and ESRI showed their will to participate in the Working Group.

Establishment of Working Group 4

Set up of a new working group, Working Group 4 (WG4) was decided at the ninth meeting of ISCGM. The objective of the WG4 is to find ways to develop raster data of Global Map for the second phase of Global Mapping. Dr. Ryutaro Tateishi, Associate Professor at Center for Environmental Remote Sensing of Chiba University, who has considerable insight in developing global land cover data and also largely contributes to the Global Mapping, was appointed to the chair of the WG4. In order to seek possibilities of

closer cooperation, Dr. Tateishi will be dispatched to JRC, FAO and NASA and call for the membership of these organizations in the WG4.

A meeting of Global Dataset Working Group chaired by Dr. Tateishi will be held at ESCAP in Bangkok from 3 - 6 July, 2003 and the first meeting of the WG4 is scheduled taking advantage of this occasion. A member list and work plan will be submitted to the tenth meeting of ISCGM to be held in Okinawa in July 2003.

Global Mapping Group Training Course - 2002

Ghulam Sarwar

Participant of Global Mapping Course 2002



Author at the center

It is general assumption that as a result of industrial revolution during the past decade, global environmental deterioration has become a serious social problem and has adversely affected the general condition of not only humans, but also the natural phenomenon, particularly in the developing countries. The issues like air pollution, water contamination, and industrial

waste caused by industrial units have emerged drastically. Not only environmental problems due to miserable vehicle mobilization, garbage and sanitation have posed threat to the nature and life on the local scale, but global environmental degradation due to these issues has also become a matter of concern.

There is general agreement that spatial data is crucial for environmental protection as well as different areas of sustainable development. As such, there has been a significant development in the approach to implement spatial data framework and the nations in the recent years have strived unprecedentedly to assemble, store, process, analyse and disseminate the environmental information. Global Mapping project is a result of global thinking on formulation of strategies as a counter measure and tackle with the environmental issue by

developing digital geographic information and investing in spatial data frame work, thus creating not only an imputed environmental management, but also for economic development, social stability and improvement in the land administration system.

The Global Mapping concept was proposed in 1992 and subsequently an International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) was established in 1996 with its secretariat at Geographical Survey Institute, Tsukuba, Japan. In 1998, ISCGM invited National Mapping Organizations around the world to participate actively through the Global Mapping Project by developing Global Map of their respective regions. This was, no doubt, a great breakthrough in the prevailing situation of environment, where, besides many other regional factors, the global warming, acid rain and production of gases in the atmosphere are responsible for polluting the environment and also greatest threats to preserve the nature. As such, with the collaboration of JICA and GSI, group training courses have been started since 1994, which are running successfully and most effectively as objective oriented, in which members of national mapping organization from different countries participate to learn the means of producing Global Map practically at GSI. In 2002, five participants from China, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Vietnam participated in two and a half months grouping training programme from October 1 to December 15, 2002.

It is worth mentioning that the course comprised of lectures/presentations on the latest techniques being used in Japan to minimize not only the environmental pollution, but to reduce/prevent natural disasters. During the course, besides lectures and practice sessions, study/observation tours were also organized for various places of interest, which remained very useful and knowledgeable. The last month of group training mostly comprised of practical training session.

It was really a wonderful experience for all of us to observe the Japanese professionals and scientists put-

ting their untiring and unparalleled efforts in the field of research to make this world more beautiful, more prosperous and free from atmospheric pollution. The sincerity and commitment to their cause is, no doubt, an example for all of them, who wish to do something significant for the betterment of mankind. We are really thankful for staff of all the institutes and sites we visited and where we were presented/demonstrated about the latest research activities particularly in the fields of GIS and Remote Sensing in the perspective of monitoring the resources and addressing the issues relating to atmospheric degradation and its adverse effects upon biodiversity and living beings. The efforts of Japan in this field are appreciable and we hope that Japan will further excel in all the fields of facilitating the mankind and nature with same fervor and enthusiasm.

At the end, all the course participants extend their heartiest appreciation to the Government of Japan, JICA, GSI, TBIC and also the Japanese people, who provided us an opportunity to reinforce our existing knowledge and learn more not only in our related discipline, but about the history, life style, social setup and cultural heritage of Japan. Moreover, providing a platform for interacting among the participants from different cultures and strengthening unity and harmony was also an unforgettable experience for all of us.

GHULAMSARWAR

Deputy Director/Chief Instructor

Survey Training Institute

Land Survey Department

PAKISTAN



Participants and staff of the Global Mapping Training Course

Status of Participation in Global Mapping

Status of participation in Global Mapping

As of Decmeber 25, 2002

Number of countries/regions participated in Global Mapping

127 countries/regions

Number of countries/regions considering the participation

18 countries/regions

Recent participation in Global Mapping

(June 26 - December 25, 2002)

Name of organization	Country name	Date of participation
Land Information Centre - Ministry Natural Resources the Environment, Commerce and Industry	Belize	June 27, 2002
National Directorate of Geography and Cadastre, DINAGECA	Mozambique	July 11, 2002
Lands and Surveys Division, Min. of Agriculture	Dominica	July 29, 2002
Lands and Surveys	Grenada	July 29, 2002
Survey and Mapping Section	Saint Lucia	July 29, 2002
Lands and Surveys Department	St. Vincent and Grenadines	July 29, 2002
Lands and Surveys Division Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources	Trinidad and Tobago	July 29, 2002
Instituto Geográfico Nacional de Costa Rica	Costa Rica	August 20, 2002
Survey of India	India	September 20, 2002
Lands, Surveys and Environment Department	Samoa	November 21, 2002

Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2003

- **30-31 January, Brussels, Belgium**
Towards Sustainable Agriculture for Developing Countries: Options from Life Sciences and Biotechnologies
- **7-11 April, Freiburg, Germany**
2nd International Antarctic GIS Workshop
SCAR GI Technical Experts Meeting 2003
- **12-15 May, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**
3rd Meeting of the Committee on Development Information (CODI)
- **22-23 May, Switzerland**
16th ISO/TC211 Plenary
- **3-6 June, Bangkok, Thailand**
ISPRS WG IV/8 Workshop "Global Environmental Data-bases: Adaptation to Meet Current & Future Needs"

- **11 July, Okinawa, Japan**
10th Meeting of ISCGM
- **12-14 July, Okinawa, Japan**
Global Mapping Forum 2003 in Okinawa
- **14-18 July, Okinawa, Japan**
16th UNRCCAP
- **20-25 July, Cambridge, U. K.**
Cambridge Conference
- **10-16 August, Durban, South Africa**
21st International Cartographic Conference
- **October or November, Germany**
17th ISO/TC211 Plenary
- **4-8 November, Dakar, Senegal**
AfricaGIS '03 Conference/Exhibition

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Geographical Survey Institute (GSI)
1 Kitasato, Tsukuba-shi, 305-0811 Japan
Phone : +81-29-864-6910 Fax : +81-29-864-6923
Homepage: <http://www.iscgm.org/>
E-mail: sec@iscgm.org