



NEWSLETTER 33

11th Meeting of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping

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Assistant Secretary General of ISCGM



Meeting

On 7 February 2004, the 11th Meeting of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping was held, immediately following the GSDI 7 Conference in Bangalore, India. Thirteen members, including Dr. D. R. Fraser Taylor, Professor of Carleton University, Canada, from 11 countries, representatives from 13 international organizations and observers, in total 40 people participated in this meeting. This was a very successful meeting, and several topics were reported on and discussed, with others to be more fully discussed at the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for Cairo, Egypt in conjunction with the GSDI 8 and FIG Working Week meetings.

One of the main topics of interest covered was encouraging currently non-participating countries to join the Global Map project. To this point, Prof. Taylor, Chair of the ISCGM, asked the representatives of regional organizations and liaison member organizations if they would support the Global Map project by promoting participation to their constituent members. There was unanimous agreement to assist in promoting Global Map.

A second major focus was on the specifications for Global Map Version 2.0. To this end, an ad hoc meeting

was convened during the week to discuss some of the issues that need to be addressed while developing the new specifications. One conclusion was that any specifications developed should be ISO compliant. Also, Working Group 2, Specifications, will work closely with Working Group 4, Raster Data, to ensure compatibility between the raster and vector data layers.

The third main issue was that of a web portal to provide access to the Global Map data. The members unanimously approved moving forward with developing web portal access to Global Map data. This will provide easier access to Global Map, thereby encouraging its use.

Another topic covered was that of the work to date by Working Group 4, chaired by Prof. Ryutaro Tateishi of Chiba University. The current proposal for raster data layers for Global Map for Version 2.0 are to keep the land cover layer, but with some slight modifications to the classification scheme (legend), and retain a vegetation layer, but change it to reflect per cent tree cover.

Working Group 3 has been tasked with defining commercial use, and has been requested to provide a report on this at the next ISCGM meeting.

Also announced during this meeting was the fact that the ISCGM is now a member of the Joint Board of the Geospatial Information Societies, a “one-stop shop” for those looking for information on geospatial organizations.

Next meeting, which will be the twelfth meeting, will be held in April 2005 in Cairo, Egypt or La Coruña, Spain.

Resolutions of the Eleventh Meeting of the ISCGM*Bangalore, India**7 February 2004***1. Global Map data release and participation:**

- a. The ISCGM acknowledges the continuous efforts of the participating organizations and the assistance of the Secretariat to develop the Global Map data.
- b. The ISCGM encourages the Secretariat to accelerate its action for releasing Global Map data that are not fully compliant with the Global Map specifications or that do not have all the data layers, with appropriate metadata so as to enhance data availability as soon as possible.
- c. While there has been significant progress in developing Global Map version 1.0 since the Tenth ISCGM Meeting, those participating countries that have not yet completed their contribution are strongly encouraged to do so.
- d. While there has been a steady increase in the number of countries participating in Global Mapping since the Tenth ISCGM Meeting, further efforts should be made to encourage nations not yet participating to join. In this respect, an approach from Members, Advisors, Liaison organizations and other related organizations are encouraged.

2. World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)

- a. ISCGM, as an implementation agency under the Type II Partnership/Initiative of WSSD, resolves to utilize this status to search for funding, to establish partnerships with the appropriate organizations, and to encourage participation in, and contribution to, the Global Map project.
- b. Recognizing the continued opportunities provided by being a WSSD implementing agency, the ISCGM resolves to continue participating in WSSD follow-up activities, such as the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and other appropriate activities as identified by the Secretariat.

3. Global Mapping portal development

- a. The ISCGM resolves that Global Map data shall be made available via web mapping technology in order to enhance the accessibility and usability of Global Map data.
- b. The ISCGM gratefully acknowledges the offer by ESRI to assist in implementing web mapping through the creation of a portal as an extension of the existing grant program.

4. Specifications

- a. The ISCGM gratefully acknowledges the work done to date by Working Group 2 chaired by India, and continues to encourage WG 2 to continue the discussion on the revision of the Global Map specifications. The ISCGM encourages WG2 to include in future discussions those issues raised during this meeting.
- b. The ISCGM also resolves that WG 4, raster data development, will take the lead in developing the specifications for raster data within the overall framework of the Global Map specifications determined by WG 2.

5. Global raster data development

The ISCGM gratefully acknowledges to work completed to date by Working Group 4 chaired by Prof. Ryutaro Tateishi of Chiba University and continues to support the WG4 activities on the development of raster data.

6. Capacity building

- a. Recognizing the significant importance of capacity building in enhancing the development of Global Map, the ISCGM gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the organizers and the supporters of Global Mapping Seminars in Nairobi, Kenya, including the Global Mapping Partnership Program of the Japanese government, the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), the

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Survey of Kenya and the Kenya Institute of Surveying and Mapping. The ISCGM also acknowledges the contribution of ESRI and RCMRD for implementing a training program in Nairobi under the Global Map/Global Spatial Data Infrastructure grant program.

- b. The ISCGM continues to gratefully acknowledge the implementation of the Global Map/GSDI grant made in the memory of Prof. John E. "Jack" Estes by Mr. Jack Dangermond of ESRI.
- c. ISCGM will continue to engage in capacity building activities with the appropriate partners.

7. JICA Support

The ISCGM acknowledges the role of the JICA group training course on Global Mapping held in Japan annually since 1994. In this respect, the ISCGM greatly appreciates the decision of the Japanese Government and JICA to continue funding these courses to enable further contributions to Global Map.

8. Cooperation with the UN Geographic Database

The ISCGM encourages the Secretariat to discuss the potential for using the 1:1M UN Geographic Database as an alternative for those countries or regions that have not participated in Global Map.

9. Partnerships

- a. The ISCGM welcomes the promotion of partnerships with related organizations and initiatives.
- b. The ISCGM acknowledges the action by the Secretariat and the Government of Japan to seek opportunity to strengthen the relationship with the Integrated Global Observation Strategy Partnerships (IGOS-P), and encourages its members to communicate with their national focal points.

10. Promotion of Global Map

- a. The ISCGM greatly appreciates the efforts to raise awareness of Global Map in various international conferences by ISCGM members

and the ISCGM Secretariat on behalf of the ISCGM, including a poster exhibition and a workshop held at the United Nations University, Tokyo.

- b. The ISCGM also continues to encourage the promotion of Global Map at every opportunity.

11. Earth Observation Summit

Recognizing the development of an implementation plan for global observation advocated at the G8 Summit in June 2003, and recognizing the value of earth observation data and related activities, the ISCGM resolves to encourage its members to communicate with their national members of the Group on Earth Observation, especially the national delegations to the Second Earth Summit to be held in April 2004 on the value of Global Map as an implementation mechanism for earth observation data collection and distribution.

12. Cooperation in the utilization of remotely sensed data

- a. ALOS/JAXA

The ISCGM reiterates its desire to use remotely sensed data, in particular, data from the ALOS satellite, for Global Mapping purposes, and strongly supports the GSI and the Secretariat in their discussions with JAXA (formerly known as NASDA) to achieve this outcome.

- b. ISRO/IRS

The ISCGM will open a dialogue with ISRO in relation to accessing IRS data.

13. Future Meetings

The ISCGM resolves to hold its Twelfth meeting in conjunction with the FIG/GSDI meetings in Cairo, Egypt, 16-21 April 2005. In the event that Cairo is not an option, a second option is to hold the meeting in conjunction with the ICC meeting at La Coruña, Spain.

14. Vote of Thanks

The ISCGM gratefully acknowledges the support of the Survey of India for this meeting.

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure 7th Conference (GSDI 7)

Hiromichi Maruyama

Secretary General of ISCGM



Venue: Hotel Grand Ashok, Bangalore

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure 7th Conference (GSDI 7), hosted by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Department of Science and Technology of India (DST), was held in Bangalore, India on 2 – 6 February bringing together about 400 people from 37 countries. The GSDI conferences, aiming to build global spatial data infrastructure based on national and regional spatial data infrastructure, have been convened in various places in the world at intervals of one to two years since 1996.

The GSDI 7 was composed of plenary and four sessions: SDI Technologies, Policy and Regal perspective of SDI, SDI and Sustainable Development, and SDI-Business Opportunities and Potentials together with Poster Sessions and Spatial World Exposition, where more than 150 papers in total were presented. Prof. Taylor, chair of ISCGM presented "New Development in the Global Map: An operational GSDI for sustainable Development at the plenary and Mr. Hiromichi Maruyama, secretary general of ISCGM and Director, Geographic

Department, GSI, presented "Technical Issues to be solved for further Promoting Global Mapping" which described ongoing revisions of Global Map Specifications at the session of "SDI and sustainable Development." In addition three presentations were made with reference to Global Mapping. Five-day-long conference was concluded by 16 resolutions adopted on the final day which included "Support by Government," "Capacity Building for NSDI" and "Technical Issues of Data Access and Interoperability." Next meeting of GSDI was decided to be held in Cairo, Egypt in April 2005 jointly organized with International Federation of Surveyors (FIG).

Prior to the plenary, first meeting of the GSDI Association was held with a participation of 27 organizations, where election of first members of Board of Directors was conducted. This meeting gave GSDI conference a new start based on the GSDI Association. The ISCGM decided to participate in the GSDI association as one of the ex-officio members.



Plenary

The 10th Meeting of PCGIAP

Yasushi Shimoyama

Head of International Affairs Office, GSI

The 10th meeting of Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) was held in Bangalore, India on 30 – 31 January 2004. The objective of this meeting was to further promote the development of spatial data infrastructure, joint geodetic observation and other efforts in regional cooperation of respective countries of Asia and the Pacific. Approximately 70 people from 19 countries of Asia and the Pacific as well as other regions participated in this meeting.

• Ten years since the inception of the Committee

PCGIAP enters its tenth year since it started activities. To date strenuous efforts have been made in joint geodetic observation and creation of common spatial data prototype. These efforts have gained measurable world reputation from various sectors with an expectation for further progress.

• Election of New Secretary

The Geographical Survey Institute (GSI) was re-charged with the office of Secretary at the UN Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific held in Okinawa last year. Mr. YAGUCHI Akira, Deputy Director General of GSI, was elected as Secretary unanimously this time.

• Agenda

Following the reports from the major international organizations, notably by the president of GSDI and chairperson of ISCGM, the meeting was continued in three Working Groups, namely Regional Geodesy Fundamental Data Cadastre, Spatial Data Infrastructure and Cadastral, and future plans for the next three years were discussed.

• Resolutions – Promotion of Common Spatial Data Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific Region –

As the policies of future activities, it was resolved, among others, to: 1) promote the development of common regional data in Asia and the Pacific Region as well as enhancing coordination with other initiatives such as Global Mapping; 2) accelerate the development of clearing house. It was also resolved to join the after-mentioned GSDI Association activities as a liaison member. Building cooperative relationship with international organizations is one of the important themes of the PCGIAP and coordinated activities are crucial for effective decision-making and promotion.

• Board Meeting and Related Meetings

Following the conclusion of the plenary, the board meeting took place where it was agreed to: 1) hold the next board meeting in Lhasa, China in September; and 2) advance discussions among the board member states to promote the common spatial data development. A workshop was also held to discuss capacity building in developing countries, where GIS trainings conducted in India were introduced.



Plenary

Global Mapping Lecture Meeting

Mitsuo Iwase
Secretariat of ISCGM

The Geographical Survey Institute (GSI) gave "Global Mapping Lecture Meeting" at Elizabeth Rose Conference Hall of United Nations University (UNU) in Tokyo on 12 February jointly hosted with the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM).

The objectives of this meeting were to raise people's awareness on Global Mapping project and to make wider use of Global Map.

The meeting assembled about 100 participants to hear three presentations, i. e. "Overview of Global Mapping and Status of the Development," by Mr. Hiromichi Maruyama, Director of Geographic Department, GSI; "Application of Global Map" by Dr. Srikantha Herath, Senior Academic Programme Officer Environment and Sustainable Development of UNU; and "My Actions for the Global environment" by Atty. Kazuya Maruyama, representative of Maruyama International Law, Patent Office. After the presentations a lot of comments were sent from the participants, among others are "I could understand the significance of the Global Mapping." "I want to know more about applications." and "I expect further

promotion of the project in the future."

"Global Mapping Panel Exhibition" was conducted concurrently with the Lecture Meeting at Global Environmental Partnership Plaza of UNU from 15 January to 14 February. The Panel Exhibition was visited by many people, which provided them with a good opportunity to know the significance and role of the Global Mapping.

The GSI intends to continue activities for the completion of Global Mapping and for dissemination and enlightenment of the project.



Presentation by Mr. Maruyama

Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2004

- **22 - 27 May, Athens, Greece**
FIG Working Week 2004 "The Olympic Spirit in Surveying"
- **10 - 12 July, Istanbul, Turkey**
IC WG II / IV
5th Joint ICA/ISPRS/EuroGeographics Workshop
on Incremental Updating and Versioning of Spatial
Data Bases
- **12 - 23 July, Istanbul, Turkey**
20th ISPRS Congress

- **7 - 10 November, Berlin, Germany**
19th International CODATA Conference

2005

- **16 - 21 April, Cairo, Egypt**
FIG Working Week 2005 and XXVIII General Assembly
- **9 - 16 July, A Coruna, Spain**
XXII ICA International Cartographic Conference

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