



# GLOBAL MAPPING NEWSLETTER 35

## PCGIAP Workshop on APSDI and Executive Board Meeting

*Dr. Wang Chunfeng*

*Dputy Director General, State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping of China*

*Vice President of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific*



**Dr. Wang Chunfeng**

### 1. Overview

The PCGIAP Workshop on Asia Pacific Spatial Data Infrastructure jointly organized by WG1 (Regional Geodesy) and WG2 (Fundamental Data) was held on 7-8 September, 2004 in Chengdu, China, followed by Executive Board Meeting on 8-9 September. The objective of the Workshop was to promote the development efforts for the APSDI, ultimate goal of PCGIAP, and to address specific and technical issues.

### 2. Workshop

The two-day workshop started with Plenary Session of APSDI Initiatives and International experiences chaired by Prof. Yang Kai, President of Chinese Society of Geodesy, Photogrammetry and Cartography, where experts

on SDI development introduced their efforts and challenges. As a successful global initiative an overview and data modeling of Global Mapping was presented. Later in the split sessions, WG1 members discussed on Geodetic Datum, APGRP and WG1 Working Plan and WG2 members discussed on Specification of Pan-AP Framework Dataset and APSDI Clearinghouse Development. It was agreed that a key to its implementation is close collaboration and commitment of the member countries. 8 resolutions were adopted, based on which WG1 and WG2 are to formulate their work plans and further promote their efforts. It was attended by about 45 people from 10 countries. The workshop was concluded by a technical tour to Sichuan Bureau of Surveying and Mapping.

### 3. Executive Board Meeting

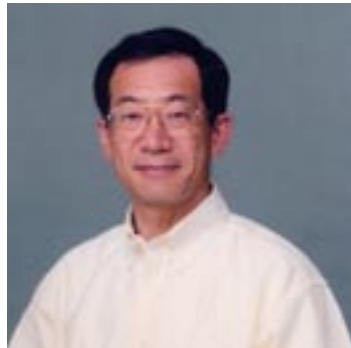
The objective of the meeting was to confirm the activities both at the executive and WG levels since the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting in Bangalore, India. The outcomes of the Workshop on Marine Environment held in May, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and the one on APSDI immediately before the Executive Board meeting were presented. Several papers were contributed from the liaison organizations such as ISCGM, GSDI, PCIDEA and ISO/TC211, cooperation with which are being materialized in various ways.

## ISPRS Congress at Istanbul

*Prof. Ryutaro Tateishi (CEReS, Chiba University)*

*Chairman, ISCGM WG 4*

*Chairman, ISPRS IV/8 (2000-2004)*



**Prof. Ryutaro Tateishi**

The 20th Congress of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) was held at Istanbul, Turkey during 12 – 23 July 2004. The

ISPRS Congress is held every four years at the Olympic year. As the following statistics shows, the ISPRS Congress is a big academic event in the field of photogrammetry, remote sensing and GIS. There were 1801 participants including 1252 full participants, 327 discount participants, 122 accompany persons, and 100 one-day participants. 116 oral sessions and 61 poster sessions cover 567 oral papers and 1151 poster papers respectively. The ISPRS consists of seven (eight for 2004-2008) Commissions. Each Commission has about seven Working Group(WG)s, totally about 50 WGs. A chairperson of each WG has a responsibility to chair the corresponding sessions. In the oral session titled "Global Environmental Databases," Prof. D.R. Fraser Taylor, Chair of ISCGM, presented his invited paper on "Global Map: The challenge and opportunities international cooperation to provide a spatial data infrastructure for sustainable developments." Prof. Taylor expressed the importance of Global Map and appeal to the audience for more use of Global Map.

During the Congress, General Assembly was held four times. In the General Assembly,

representative organization from each country (Ordinary Member) vote for the decision of various matters for the ISPRS activities of the coming four years, 2004-2008. Prof. Ian Dowman of University College London was designated as a new president of ISPRS. The Commission VII on Resource and Environmental Monitoring was split into two new Commissions; Commission VII on Thematic Processing, Modeling and Analyses of Remotely Sensed Data, and Commission VIII on Remote Sensing Applications and Policies. This is due to the rapid development of remote sensing technology.

In the General Assembly, Resolutions were also decided. The Resolution describes academic directions or activities which should be developed for the coming four years. About sixty resolutions were decided for eight Commissions. Within these, the related parts with the ISCGM are as follows.

Resolution IV.6 National and Regional Spatial Databases: "The congress recommends cooperation with the global spatial initiatives



**A View from Gala Tower toward the old town of Istanbul (Constantinople)**

such as with GSDI, the Global Mapping project and CEOS WGISS."

Resolution IV.7 Global Databases and Environmental Infrastructures: "The Congress recommends that cooperation with related global spatial initiatives, such as the ISCGM, CEOS WGISS, the ICA Commission on Spatial Data Standards, etc. be continued."

Resolution VII.6 Generation and Use of Global

Databases: "The Congress recommends that the development of methodologies for generation and quality evaluation of global databases for global studies in cooperation with Commission IV and IGBP be continued." and "The Congress recommends that algorithms for monitoring aspects of global change such as land use, land cover, and land change be developed."

### **JICA Group Training 04: Global Mapping Course Started**

Geographical Survey Institute (GSI) accepts training participants from various countries every year. It is implemented in a JICA scheme for technological transfer to developing countries to contribute to international cooperation in surveying and mapping field. A three-month-long "Global Mapping-Contribution to Global Mapping Development by GIS (2004)" for this year was started on July 27 till October 7. It aims for capacity building to promote Global Mapping project through transferring technologies of remote sensing and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

Nine participants from 8 countries: Bangladesh,

Cambodia, China, Guatemala, India, Samoa, Thailand and Tunisia (2 persons) take part in this training course. This is the eleventh year since the training course was started in 1994. To date 67 participants from 36 countries have attended this course.

The participants acquire technologies for developing Global Map through lectures by GSI staff and practice works as well as visiting relevant organizations and through field trips. They also deepen exchange with many technical experts and experience the nature and culture of Japan.

### **Global Mapping Group Training Course -2004**

*Mahmudun Nabi*

*Participant of Individual Course affiliated to Global Mapping Course*

*Director, Survey of Bangladesh*

Living beings are inseparable from the global environment. Human beings have felt increasingly that any degradation in this valuable environment will take a toll on us. As such, many international forums viz. UN Human Environment Conference (1972), Evian G8 Summit, Earth Observation Summit, World Summit on the Information Society, International Cartographic Conference, Integrated Global Observation Strategy, Cambridge Conference and so on gave high emphasis on environment

preservation through environment governance. The basic issues of human survival, sustainable development and welfare are at the core of the theme in today's thoughts and minds.

Burning environmental challenges are green house effects (sea water rise, ozone hole, climatic change, desertification, temperature rise, acid rains, etc), drinking water crisis, air pollution, water contamination, industrial waste management, disaster management and so on. It

has been strongly felt by the world community that these challenges need to be dealt with the global scale which gives rise to the requirement of unified spatial database infrastructure in today's technological perspective. Japan perceived it and took the lead in 1992 to address those issues through the concept of Global Mapping and accordingly GSI proposed the first draft map specifications in 1994.

Global Mapping is both a project and process for developing a group of digital geographical information datasets covering the whole land of the planet in 1 km ground resolution with consistent specifications and are made available to everyone at marginal cost, through cooperation and voluntary participation of National Mapping Organizations. The primary objective of this project is to contribute to the sustainable development of whole the world by the provision of the Global Map dataset. This dataset once accomplished will be a valuable asset and may be considered as homogeneous global spatial database infrastructure that may be utilized for multifarious welfare of humanity as well as bio-diversified nature.

Since the initiation of this project, significant progress has been made. There still remains some challenges like further participation of remaining countries, more effective dissemination and application of Global Map data, revision of Global Map specifications, promoting effective partnership, capability building and so on.

As a capacity building, GSI has been conducting a group training course on Global Mapping every year sponsored by JICA for technology transfer to developing nations. By the end of this program, participants are expected to acquire the skill and the procedure to develop

Global Map data, understand the importance of Global Mapping in policy making especially to cope with global environmental problems, enhance the knowledge of the latest technologies in related field, become to be able to fully coordinate the Global Mapping project in their countries, acquire the technique of Global Map data revision and understand the application of Global Map. This course has accepted 67 students from 36 countries including 9 students (as shown in the picture) in this course.

It is worth mentioning that the course was well designed with valuable lectures, relevant practices and visits to subject related facilities. As the name goes, all participants had to produce a replica of Global Map following all steps of the latest technology as used by GSI. Visits were conducted at Remote Sensing Technology Centre, Chiba University Remote Sensing cell, Silicon Studio, JAXA (EORC), Biodiversity Centre of Japan, Tokyo Denki University and Hokkaido Regional Survey department. These visits gave us an insight about the latest research efforts to environment governance especially using GIS and Remote Sensing for the welfare of the mankind and nature. We are certainly more knowledgeable than ever before about the concept, preparation and utility of Global Map as well as environmental awareness. We are amazed to observe the Japanese professionals and scientists putting their relentless efforts in the field of research to turn this world more beautiful and more prosperous for the living beings. Bravo, we adore them and their noble efforts. We sincerely hope that Japan excel further to her hopes and aspirations and keep up as a leader for welfare of mankind.

Last but not the least, we all the course participants would like to express our profound gratitude and heart felt thanks to the government



of Japan, GSI, JICA, TBIC and wonderful Japanese people to present us with the latest knowledge of profession, rich culture & heritage, hard working society, beautiful nature, well calculated system and memorable affection & love.

Above all, providing a launching pad for interacting among the participants from different cultures thereby strengthening unity and harmony was also an unforgettable experience for all of us. Long live friendship among Japan

and peace loving nations in the world.



**Participants on a visit**

### **President of ICA visits GSI**

On September 6th, 2004 Prof. Milan Konecny, president of International Cartographic Association (ICA) and Mr. Shigeki Watanabe, Director General of Geographical Survey Institute in Tsukuba, Japan, accompanied by Mr. Hiromichi Maruyama, secretary general of Global Mapping project, met and discussed topics of common interest. ICA fully supports Japanese efforts to continue and create Global Map with basic scale 1:1 mil. in cooperation with National Mapping Organizations in the world. GSI will support ICA in their effort to train users in using digital maps, GPS, GIS and

other technologies, especially in developing countries of Africa, Latin and South America and Asia. Prof. Konecny from Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic arrived in Japan to participate in the common meetings of the ICA Commission on Ubiquitous Mapping, chaired by Prof. Takashi Morita from Hosei University, Tokyo and Commission on Maps and the Internet, chaired by Prof. Michael Peterson from University of Nebraska- Omaha, USA. These meetings are linked with SVG Open conference held simultaneously at Keio University, Tokyo.

### **ISCGM12 will be held in April 2005 in Cairo, Egypt**

The Twelfth Meeting of ISCGM will be held on 17 and 21 April 2005 in Cairo, Egypt in conjunction with "FIG Working Week 2005 and GSDI8." Meeting on 17 April is a usual annual meeting of ISCGM. On the other hand, meeting on 21 is held as one of sessions in FIG/GSDI conference, and open to anybody attending this conference. The latter meeting is planned to enhance the

participation of Arabic Countries in the Global Mapping project. Papers on Global Mapping and related topics are welcome to make this session fruitful.

The detail of "FIG Working Week 2005 and GSDI8" including schedule of ISCGM's meetings and "Call for Papers" are posted at <http://www.fig.net/cairo/>.

### **Announcement on 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Mapping Seminar in Nairobi**

Global Mapping Seminar will be held at Regional Center for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) in Nairobi, Kenya

from Monday, 8 to Thursday, 11, November 2004. It was organized to have the participants acquire knowledge of policy purpose and

technological significance as well as instances of application.

The seminar is implemented in a scheme of Global Mapping Partnership Program (GMPP) by Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Japan (MLIT). It is organized by MLIT, International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) and RCMRD sponsored by Survey of Kenya (SOK), Kenya Institute of Surveying and Mapping (KISM),

and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Staff of National Mapping Organizations in African Region will be invited to this seminar. Panel discussions by the persons concerned, activity reports of relevant organizations and country-specific activity reports by the participants are included in the schedule. Details of the seminar will be reported in the next issue.

### Lebanon and Montserrat Participated in Global Mapping

National Center for Remote Sensing and Lebanese Army Geographic Affairs (LAGA), Lebanese Ministry of Defense participated in Global Mapping on July 14.

Physical Planning Unit and Department of Lands and Survey of Montserrat joined the project on

July 20.

With the participation of Lebanon and Montserrat, the number of project participating countries/regions totals 135 as of September 22, 2004.

### Global Map Data Released

Data Released: Swaziland on June 23rd

### Global Map and Related Meetings

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

#### 2004

- **3 - 7 October 2004 Jakarta, Indonesia**  
FIG Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
- **18 - 22 October 2004 Munich, Germany**  
UN International Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management
- **29 October 2004 Aguascalientes, Mexico**  
5th Meeting of PC IDEA
- **7 - 10 November, Berlin, Germany**  
19th International CODATA Conference
- **29-30 November 2004 Ottawa, Canada**  
5th Meeting of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO)

#### 2005

- **14 -16 February 2005 Brussels, Belgium**  
Earth Observation Summit III & GEO-6
- **21-23 March 2005 Delft, the Netherlands**  
The First International Symposium on Geo-information for Disaster Management
- **16 - 21 April, Cairo, Egypt**  
FIG Working Week 2005 and GSDI8
- **17, 21 April, Cairo, Egypt**  
12th Meeting of ISCGM
- **9 - 16 July, A Coruna, Spain**  
XXII ICA International Cartographic Conference

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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](mailto:sec@iscgm.org)*