



NEWSLETTER

GLOBAL MAPPING

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The Thirteenth Meeting of ISCGM

*Dr. Karen D. Kline**Assistant Secretary General of ISCGM*

On Saturday, 11 November 2006, the ISCGM held its 13th meeting, immediately following the GSDI-9 conference in Santiago, Chile. Col. Juan Vidal of the Military Geographic Institute of Chile welcomed the ISCGM. Prof. Taylor then opened the meeting by noting the continuing efforts of the Secretariat to increase the use of Global Map, highlighting the Global Map School Pilot Project. He also noted the continuing efforts on capacity building, which featured workshops held in Africa. Prof. Taylor was then nominated and re-elected for a three year term as Chair of the ISCGM. Mr. Peter Holland was re-appointed as the Vice Chair, Mr. Hiromichi Maruyama was re-appointed as the Secretary General, and Dr. Karen Kline was re-appointed as the Assistant Secretary General.

Following the report from the Secretariat during the meeting, discussion centered on the need for metrics to measure the use of Global Map data. Data policy, and the need to update it to meet current practices and policies, were also discussed. Also covered was the plan to make data available even if it had not been fully verified yet. This is also hoped to provide leverage in persuading non-participating countries to produce their contribution.

A report from Working Group 1 was also presented. Due to the untimely loss of Dr. John (Jay) Feuquay, Prof. Taylor and Mr. Maruyama will co-chair this group for now. Working Group 1 is focused on the action plan (speeding up production of Version 1 with completion by 2007) and Phase 3 plans (identifying new layers and associated data). Capacity building was

mentioned as one possible method for assisting currently non-participating countries. Also mentioned was the timeline presented by Mr. Maruyama in a GSDI session that pointed out some of the difficulties in communicating with the various organizations participating in Global Mapping project. Frequently, personnel changes at either the Secretariat or the participating organization meant a significant delay in processing or developing the data.

Reports from Working Group 2 (Specifications) and Working Group 4 (Raster Data) were also presented. Other topics covered included an amendment to the data release policy (establishes a deadline for contributions and allows a minimum amount of information), establishing a multilingual website using the UN languages as a start, and activities for disaster mitigation, management, and prevention.

The offer of the UK Ordnance Survey to hold the 14th Meeting of the ISCGM immediately preceding the Cambridge Conference, an invitation only meeting for the heads of national mapping agencies, was accepted. The next meeting is scheduled for the 14th of July, 2007.



Meeting

Resolutions of the Thirteenth Meeting of the ISCGM

*Santiago, Chile
11 November 2006*

1. Participation and data release

- a) ISCGM acknowledges the continuing efforts of participating NMOs and the assistance of the Secretariat in developing Global Map data.
- b) While there has been an encouraging steady increase in the number of countries participating in the Global Mapping Project since the Twelfth ISCGM Meeting, further efforts should be made to encourage those countries not yet participating to become involved. In this respect, encouragements to these countries by Members, Advisors, Liaison organizations and other related organizations are suggested.
- c) While there has been significant progress in developing Global Map data version 1 since the Twelfth ISCGM Meeting, those participating countries that have not yet completed their contribution are strongly encouraged to submit these to the Secretariat by June, 2007 at the latest.
- d) ISCGM encourages the Secretariat to accelerate its efforts to release Global Map data. Remembering the resolution of the Tenth ISCGM meeting, to assist in this process ISCGM will accept and release data even though they do not fully comply with Global Map specifications as long as information is available on datum, spheroid, location (latitude and longitude), f-code, necessary attribute items and metadata. These data will be considered as non-official Global Map data. ISCGM shall encourage the concerned NMOs to produce official GM data without delay.

2. Strategic Plan

- a) ISCGM acknowledges the continuing efforts of

WG1.

- b) ISCGM agrees the proposal on Acceleration Plan of Global Map Version 1 Data Development and strategy of Global Mapping Project Phase 3 from WG1.
- c) ISCGM encourages Members to support WG1 Activities.

3. Specification

- a) ISCGM acknowledges the continuing efforts of WG2.
- b) ISCGM accepts the revised Global Map Data Specifications (version 1.2.1) which is proposed from WG2.
- c) ISCGM encourages Members to support WG2 Activities.

4. Global raster data

- a) ISCGM celebrates the significant progress of global land cover data and global percent tree cover data development by WG4.
- b) ISCGM supports the work arrangements proposed by WG4 in its report towards the completion of Global Map version 1 data development.
- c) ISCGM encourages Members to support WG4 Activities.

5. Capacity building

- a) Recognizing the significant importance of capacity building in enhancing the development of Global Map, ISCGM gratefully acknowledges the contribution of

the organizers and supporters of the Global Mapping Seminars in Dakar, Senegal, including the Global Mapping Partnership Program of the Japanese Government, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Direction des Travaux Geographiques et Cartographiques (DTGC) in Senegal.

- b) ISCGM gratefully acknowledges the role of the JICA group training course on Global Mapping which has been held in Japan annually since 1994.
- c) ISCGM continues to gratefully acknowledge the Global Map/GSDI grant program by ESRI and the capacity building grant program by INTERGRAPH.
- d) ISCGM encourages Members to contribute positively to capacity building activities.

6. User outreach

ISCGM acknowledges the outreach activities of Japan and encourages Members to actively engage in the outreach activities in order to accelerate the use of Global Map.

7. ISCGM web site

- a) ISCGM thanks the Secretariat for its continuing efforts in publicity and dissemination activities through the ISCGM website.
- b) ISCGM encourages the Secretariat to develop a multilingual website and encourages Member to support these activities.

8. Partnership with related organizations

ISCGM commends the efforts of the countries in Asia & the Pacific, Africa, and the Americas regions in establishing their regional framework database on Global Map data, and encourages Members in these regions to strengthen their collaboration with these regional initiatives in order to enhance the sustainability of the Global Mapping Project.

9. Disaster

ISCGM encourages WG1 to prepare for the establishment of a new working group on data preparedness for disaster mitigation, management and prevention.

10. GEO

- a) Recognizing the importance of geo-information in the establishment of GEOSS, ISCGM encourages Members, Advisors, Liaison organizations and other related organizations to strengthen their involvement in activities related to the intergovernmental organization of earth observations (GEO).
- b) ISCGM encourages NMOs to participate in the Global Mapping Project to contribute to the survey on fundamental geographic data being conducted as one of the ISCGM activities in GEO.

11. Next meeting

ISCGM gratefully acknowledges the proposal from the Ordnance Survey to host the next meeting in Cambridge and resolves to hold the next meeting on July 14th, 2007 at Cambridge.

12. Vote of Thanks

The ISCGM gratefully acknowledges the Military Geographic Institute of Chile for hosting and supporting this meeting.



Military Geographic Institute of Chile

GSDI-9 Conference

Edwin Hunt
Military Geographic Institute of Chile



Mr. Edwin Hunt

The following is a report on the GSDI-9 conference held in Chile during November 2006. During the first two weeks of November a series of events were held in Chile, South America, hosted by the Military Geographic Institute of Chile (IGM), mainly the Ninth International Conference of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI-9). Around GSDI-9 there were several other parallel events run by other organizations, including ISCGM-13, and listed as follows :

Permanent Committee for the Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas – PC-IDEA

·SDI Training Workshop : 30th October to 3rd November

·Committee Meeting : 7th November

United Nations Geographic Information Working Group – UNGIWG

7th Plenary Meeting : 2nd to 4th November

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association

·Board Meetings : 4th and 10th November

·Council Meeting : 5th November

·GSDI-9 Conference : 6th to 10th November

Ninth Earth Sciences Congress – ESC : 6th to 10th November

Food and Agriculture Organisation – FAO (UN)

Workshops - Global Land Cover Network (GLCN): 3rd and 8th November

Americas Global Map - MGA : 10th November

International Steering Committee for Global Mapping - ISCGM : 11th November

Pan – American Institute for Geography and History - PAIGH

Council Meeting : 12th to 16th November

Most events took place either in the Military & Historic Museum (including GSDI-9) or in the IGM building (including MGA-2 and ISCGM-13), both in Santiago, the capital city of Chile. The PAIGH meeting was outside Santiago (in Vina del Mar).

The most important event, the GSDI-9 conference, included two 90-minute Global Mapping sessions. On Wednesday 8th at a well-attended technical session, four papers were presented : (1) Shinichi Sakabe of the GSI (Japan) discussed the “Global Mapping Project” as a general summary of the world situation for GM, (2) Anna Freitas of IBGE (Brazil) described the main SDI initiative of Brazil and its Global Map project (3) Alina del Rio Marceau of GeoCuba (Cuba) described the participation of Cuba in the Global Mapping project (4) Edwin Hunt outlined the issue of the applications of the Global Map.

On Thursday 9th a Global Mapping meeting was held, starting with presentations about Global Map development (Hiromichi Maruyama), Land Cover data (Ryutaro Tateishi) and the GM of Argentina (Amador Suarez), then continuing with a general discussion of the importance of collaboration among regional initiatives for GM.

Persons active in Global Mapping circulated among all the various events, taking the opportunity to participate and make contacts. For example, Ryutaro Tateishi (ISCGM WG-4

chair) gave his Land Cover presentation at the second FAO workshop. On Monday 6th members of ISCGM secretariat inspected progress on the development of the Chile Global Map at the IGM.

On the afternoon of Friday 10th, the executive committee of the Americas Global Map, the project run by PAIGH, held its second meeting, taking several major decisions which will reinforce Global Mapping in the region; the full minutes will be posted in the MGA web site soon at www.mgdelasamericas.org. On Saturday 11th the ISCGM held its 13th meeting; this is reported separately by ISCGM secretariat.

This major cycle of events, with the participation of many of the organizations critical to the success

of Global Mapping, presented a major opportunity that was fully made use of. However, the sequence of joint ISCGM - GSDI events, unbroken over the last five conferences, will not continue next year; as ISCGM-14 will be held, not at GSDI-10, but at a different location, the Cambridge Conference of 2007.



Military & Historic Museum

GEO-III Meeting held in Bonn Germany

Hiromichi Maruyama
Secretary General, ISCGM

Third Meeting of the Group on Earth Observation (GEO-III) was held at the international congress centre in the former German Federal Parliament in Bonn, Germany from 28-29 November 2006. About 250 participants from 67 member countries and 43 participating organizations reviewed the status of Work Plan 2006, activities of 4 committees and 1 working group, and discussed Work Plan 2007-2009. The author attended this meeting representing ISCGM.

Based on the experience of implementation of 96 tasks in Work Plan 2006, some tasks were abolished and others were merged. As a result, Work Plan 2007-2009 consisting of 73 tasks was approved as a living document. The Task DA-06-05 on basic geographic information, which is led by Japan and ISCGM, was planned to be completed in 2006 but decided to extend its implementation. In this regard, **“A Survey on Geographic Datasets”**, which is conducted by secretariat of ISCGM, extends its dead line from 30 September to the end of February 2007. Therefore, organizations which have not yet

answered please send your answers at an earliest possible convenience. We would appreciate it very much for your cooperation.

Next GEO meeting will be held with Ministerial meeting in Cape Town, South Africa in late November 2007.



Meeting

**“All people shall have the right to a general satisfactory environment favourable to their development.”
(African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights)**

***Gabriela Dragan
Head of Cartography Office, Geodesy and Cartography Department
National Agency for Cadastre and Land Registration, Romania***

Deteriorating environmental conditions represents a major contributory factor to poor health and a reduced quality of life. For understanding the changes of environment, we need reliable geographic information of the whole globe.

The purpose of Global Map is to describe with accuracy, the present status of the global environment in international cooperation of respective National Mapping Organizations of the world.

The Global Map Project is a challenge and opportunity to provide a spatial data infrastructure for sustainable developments.

Every year, Geographical Survey Institute accepts training participants from various countries, to promote Global Mapping Project through transferring technologies of Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System.

During 17th of August 2006 - 3rd of November 2006, 7 participants from: Bhutan, Cook Islands, Guatemala, Jordan, Macedonia, Romania and Swaziland, joined for the training course of Global Mapping, sponsored by JICA.

GSI provided us the skills and knowledge about Global Map and its generation through a series of lectures, consultations and practical works. We went to Chiba University and met with Prof. Ryutaro Tateishi, the Chair of Working Group 4 and the leader of the land cover development and validation part of the Global Map Project.

We visited National Institute for Environmental Studies, JAXA, Tokyo Denki University, Japan Meteorological Agency and Tokyo Cartographic Co., Ltd. The study trip to Western of Japan was a particular one taking into consideration the combined aspects of technical works and also social and cultural purposes.

Professor Takashi Kusaka from Kanazawa Institute of Technology presented us the

implications of Asian Dust from China and its impact of the environment. Professor Dr. Yuzo Suga, from Hiroshima Institute of Technology highlighted advantages, importance and utilization of satellite images.

During this training course we had the opportunity to see some details and achievements of Japanese specialists and we were impressed by the latest research efforts for environment policy, the Japanese culture, beautiful nature, hard working society and memorable attention for us.

At the end of this course all of us achieved the objectives of Global Mapping course, such as: 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 and become to be able to fully coordinate the Global Mapping Project in our countries.

All our heartfelt gratitude for the efforts provided by Government of Japan, GSI and JICA in supporting all the activities related to this training course and for all lecturers for making the training exciting and worth learning.

I would like to thank the Government of Romania and National Agency for nominating me to attend this training. This experience was wonderful one, both professionally and personally.



Participants of 2006 JICA GM course

Global Map School

Hiroshi Ota Ph.D.
Chairperson of the Global Map School Project



Japan Side

On Saturday, 30th Sep. 2006, The 1st Global Map School was held between Japan and the Philippines, connected on an internet TV conference system. This project is using Global Map data as a base map. Students learned about countries and areas through a Global Map. Students shared ideas about the future world and the relationship between the two countries. The

Schools which participated were KEIO Futsubu School (Yokohama) in Japan and Silliman University, Middle School (Domagetty City) in the Philippines. The distance between the two Schools is about 3,300km. KEIO students showed a Modernization of Japan Map, the bullet train routes and the express highway system on the Global Map. Silliman students showed a Geography Map of the Philippines. A Q & A session and an energetic discussion were done in the classrooms through the Internet. Both groups of students had very fruitful experiences through the Global Map School. This project will be able to help students become future "Global Leaders." The Global Map School will be continued in the coming year. A network symposium "Education and Global Map in IT Era" by the participants of Japan and the Philippines was conducted after the Global Map School.

Map Works Created by Using Global Map Data and Their Exhibition

Junichi Kisanuki
Secretariat of ISCGM

Maps featuring certain themes created by students using "Global Map" data were exhibited.

An "Exhibition of Map Works by Pupils and Students" was held from 2-3 November 2006 in Tokushima, Japan organized by Tokushima Geographical Society. One hundred and four works from elementary school pupils and 37 from junior and senior high school students including two works created by using "Global Map data" were exhibited. This was the first time that maps produced by using Global Map data were contributed. Both works were excellent and were awarded "Global Map" Award from the Secretary General of ISCGM.

The work of the junior high school student featured the history of Thailand and Japan during the Siam Dynasty of Thailand, while the high

school student picked up a theme of landform and population, cow and sheep in Australia.

This program has been developed in coordination with existing map exhibitions and intends to be expanded to the whole Japan and further to the world in the future.



Distinguished Works

From the Secretariat

Request from ISCGM WG4 for cooperation

WG4 of ISCGM (Raster data) has been developing Global Land Cover by National Mapping Organizations (GLCNMO) data. The GLCNMO has about 20 land cover items in 1km pixel size being created by using MODIS data observed in 2003.

Ground truth data (land cover training data) of about 1000 sites have been collected in 2006 with the cooperation of National Mapping Organizations (NMOs) of the world. Based on these data, WG4 is currently finalizing the data.

The secretariat of ISCGM will send a prototype GLCNMO in January 2007 to respective NMOs of the world to ask for their cooperation to have an error check of the data and send the checked results to the ISCGM Secretariat by the end of June 2007. The ISCGM plans to complete the corrected version of the GLCNMO reflecting the checked results by the end of December 2007, and release the data from the ISCGM Home Page.

We will ask the NMOs of respective countries to check errors on the prototype GLCNMO which we will send soon. We would be grateful for their cooperation.

Data release

Global Map data of three countries/region are released recently. The released data and the date of the release are: Global Map Argentina on October 23, Global Map Antarctica on December 6, and Global Map Jordan on December 8. Totally Global Map data of 27 countries/regions are available now.

Project participation

Global Mapping project currently has 172 participating countries/regions. The newly participated organizations and the date of their participation are as follows.

Organization	Country	Date participated
General Directorate of Military Survey	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	October 3
Institut National de Cartographie	Gabon	October 20
Department of Survey and Land Records	Bhutan	October 27
Direction de la Topo, et Cartographie	Central African Republic	November 1
Direcção Geral de Geografia e Cadastro	Guinea Bissau	November 13
Institut Géographique National	Republic of Guinea	November 13
Direction Générale de la Cartographie et du Cadastre (DGCC)	Togo	November 13

Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2007

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31 May – 1 June, Rome, Italy
ISO/TC 211 24th Plenary • 12-15 June, Seoul, Rep. of Korea
13th PCGIAP Annual Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 July, Cambridge, England
14th Meeting of ISCGM • 15 – 20 July, Cambridge, England
Cambridge Conference • 1- 2 December, Xi'an, China (to be confirmed)
ISO/TC 211 25th Plenary |
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