



GLOBAL MAPPING NEWSLETTER 56

The Sixteenth Meeting of ISCGM

Secretariat of ISCGM



The Sixteenth Meeting of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) was held at Royal Princess Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand on October 25th, 2009 preceding the 18th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific. Thirty-six persons including Prof. D. R. Fraser Taylor, Chairperson of ISCGM and representatives from 12 National Mapping Organizations and related international organizations were in attendance.

At the meeting, Mr. Yoshikazu Fukushima, Secretary General of ISCGM reported on the activities of the ISCGM Secretariat such as:

- Status of Global Map at the project participating organizations and increase of the number of download and registered users pertinent to the data release
- Provision of Global Version of Global Map for commercial use started in November 2008
- ISCGM informal meetings in Kuala Lumpur in August 2008 and in Rotterdam in June 2009,

which were held after the ISCGM15 Meeting in June 2008.

Working Group 2 reported on:

- Outline of the result of the questionnaires on the revision of Global Map Specifications responded from 46 countries/regions and organizations
- Discussions on the revision of Global Map Specifications at the International Workshop on the Revision of Specifications for Global Map Version 2 held in Tsukuba in September 2009.

Following the report, active discussions were done on the revision of Global Map Specifications prepared at the workshop. As a result, Version 2 of the specifications was unanimously adopted.

Working Group 4 reported on the schedule of the next revision of global data (Land cover and Percent Tree Cover). An idea for future land use layer was also tabled and vigorously discussed.

Reports from Liaison Organizations including

ICA, JBGIS, ISO/TC 211, PC-IDEA, UN Cartographic Section and PCGIAP were presented orally.

Issues such as strategies for Phase 3 were vigorously discussed. Through these reports and discussions, resolutions were finalized.

It was proposed that the next ISCGM meeting be held in Singapore in conjunction with GSDI conference or in Sydney along with FIG conference. It will be decided through future adjustment.



Resolutions of the Sixteenth Meeting of ISCGM Bangkok, Thailand 25 October 2009

1.Strategic Plan

ISCGM welcomes the efforts related to a new framework under the leadership of the United Nations. Strengthening the cooperation with the United Nations is of great importance for ISCGM.

2.Participation and Data Development

- a) ISCGM appreciates the ongoing efforts of the NMOs participating in the preparation of Global Map.
- b) Data preparation and provision by the countries participating in Global Map have progressed steadily since ISCGM15. Participating countries, advisers, liaison organizations and related organizations should continue this support so that both data preparation and data provision will be accelerated.

3.Specifications and Their Applications

- a) ISCGM appreciates the input of many NMOs to the revision of Global Map Specifications.

- b) ISCGM adopts the Specification Version 2 submitted in response to the result of the “International Workshop on the Revision of Specifications for Global Map Version 2” held 8 to 10 September, Tsukuba, Japan.
- c) The preparation of manuals supporting the new specifications will be provided in consultation with Working Group 2. The importance of personnel training, quality evaluation, and management must be recognized, and data maintenance should be started in conformity with the adopted specifications.

4.Release of Global Map

ISCGM now offers data in user friendly format as well as in standard format. It is proposed that a similar approach be used for Version 2.

5.Global Map Outreach Activities

ISCGM supports the expansion of the use of Global Map in each country, for example the Framework Convention on Climate Change meeting.

6.Next Meeting

Possible venues for the next ISCGM meeting scheduled for 2010 were discussed, including GSDI 12 in Singapore and FIG in Sydney, and the Secretariat would take this under consideration once the budget has been established.

7.Vote of Thanks

Thank the Secretariat for the organization of this meeting, and commend the ongoing efforts of the Secretariat in the production of Global Map.



**18th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP)
&
15th Meeting of Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP)
Bangkok, Thailand, 26-29 October 2009**

*LI Weisen
PCGIAP President*



The Eighteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) was held from 26 through 29 October 2009 at the UN Conference Center in Bangkok, Thailand. The theme of the Conference was “Spatial Enablement and the Response to Climate Change and the Millennium Development Goals”.

The Conference was attended by 149 representatives of 37 countries and 12 specialized agencies and international scientific organizations. Mr. Li Weisen of China opened the Conference. Dr. Paul Cheung, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division, made an opening statement on behalf of the UN Secretary General.

At the plenary sessions, invited speakers reported on achievements and developments in geographical information in addressing national, regional and global issues. PCGIAP presented its executive report and Working Group activity reports, highlighting the challenges that national mapping organizations are facing due to rapid technological changes, and emphasizing the importance of applying these technologies to outstanding problems in the region. And a panel discussion on PCGIAP Future Direction was also held emphasizing the need for a global forum to

tackle outstanding global issues and coordinate more effectively by enhancing global geographic information management.

Three parallel committees were held under the themes of "GIS, Remote Sensing and Geodesy for Disaster Management", "Spatial Data Infrastructure and Spatially Enabled Government", and "Geospatial Data collection, management and dissemination". Future activities to be conducted until the next UNRCC-AP and various topics were discussed. And the outcomes of discussions were reported back to the plenary meeting. The following resolutions were adopted by the Conference:

1. Regional Geodesy
2. Capacity building in disaster management
3. Data Access
4. Data Integration
5. Spatially Enabled Government and Society
6. Annual Forum on Land Administration
7. Global geographic information management
8. Nineteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific

The Fifteen Meeting of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) was held concurrently with the 18th UNRCC-AP. At the meeting, Mr. LI Weisen of China, Dr. Hiroshi Murakami of Japan and Dr. KIM Kyoung Soo of Korea were elected as 2009-2012 PCGIAP President, Vice President and Secretary respectively. Eight other countries were elected as 2009-2012 PCGIAP Executive Board members including Australia, Brunei, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Mongolia and Singapore. The next PCGIAP Meeting will be held in conjunction with GSDI 12 on 18-22 October 2010 in Singapore.

The 24th International Cartographic Conference

Mamoru Koarai

*Head of Geographic Information Analysis Research Div.
Geography and Crustal Dynamics Research Center, Geographical Survey Institute*



The International Cartographic Conference (ICC) organized biannually by the International Cartographic Association (ICA) is one of the largest conferences in cartography in the world. The 24th ICC was held at the Military School in Santiago, the Republic of Chile from 15-21 November 2009. Mamoru Koarai, Head of Geographic Information Analysis Research Division, Geography and Crustal Dynamics Research Center participated in the conference from GSI and gave presentations on: a study on the creation of landscape ecological map of Mt. Rausu in the Siretoko Peninsula; and the Global Mapping project.

There were about 300 oral and about 50 poster presentations. The number of the participants was about 700 from overseas, about 1,400 local, and about 150 local conference staff members.

The Opening Ceremony took place at the Aula Magna Hall (main hall) of the Military School. CRL. Juan Vidal Garcia-Huidobro, Director of Military Geographic Institute (IGM); Prof. William Cartwright, President of ICA; and an official of Chilean Army delivered speeches.

Every day, keynotes lectures are given firstly at

the main hall followed by technical sessions at six different places. The main keynote lectures include a report by Vice-Admiral Robert Murrett, Director of the U. S. National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency introducing U. S. Military's application of spatial information by using various acquisition technology of geospatial information, in national security and global environmental fields. Dr. Geoff Zeiss of Autodesk, Inc. clearly specified the same areas as the cutting-edge fields that cartography can contribute to. Ms. Vanessa Laurence of Ordnance Survey, U. K. reported on the present status and future prospect as a National Mapping Organization.

The author made an oral presentation on "Landscape Ecological Map using 3-Dimensional Vegetation Structure and Micro Landform Classification Detected by Lidar Survey" at the Satellite Imagery session on the morning of Wednesday. Also presented at the Poster Session was "Three dimensional vegetation structure map using lidar survey data." The author received questions from many people. Especially the questioners seemed to be interested in where the reflectance of laser pulse actually grasps.

An oral presentation on Global Mapping was made at the GIS session. This presentation also attracted the interest of the participants. They asked "Don't you deal with ocean data?," "What kind of strategies do you have in order to increase the number of participating organizations?," etc. A comment was also received mentioning that the project is expected to be furthered under the Japan's initiative as this is a wonderful undertaking.

Global Map Presentation at 15th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) of UNFCCC in Copenhagen, Denmark

Takayuki Nakamura

Assistant Director for Environmental Geographic Information, Geographic Dept., Geographical Survey Institute



Plenary Meeting

COP15 of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was held in Copenhagen, Denmark from 7 to 18 December 2009 to discuss international climate change policy framework beyond 2012.

The author of the Geographical Survey Institute which serves as the ISCGM Secretariat participated in the conference as a member of the Japanese delegation, made a presentation and exchanged opinions on Global Mapping Project to promote the utilization of Global Map for measures against climate change.



Global Map presentation at the side event organized by the Government of Japan

At the side event “Japan's efforts for international cooperation on climate change” on 12 December organized by the Government of Japan and joined by around 150 people, the author made a presentation entitled “Utilization of Global Map for addressing climate change.” In the presentation the outline of Global Mapping Project was introduced. Also presented were application

examples of Global Map for addressing climate change such as a flood analysis system IFAS and Greenhouse Gas Inventories in Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector (see Global Mapping Newsletter Vol.55.).

Printed maps of Global Map Version 1 “Global Land Cover” and “Global Percent Tree Cover” published in 2008 were also displayed at the exhibition booth of the Government of Japan in the conference venue where the author introduced the project to a lot of conference participants.



Global Map presentation at exhibition booth of the Government of Japan (Global Map Percent Tree Cover and Land Cover are on the left side of the above picture)

Adaptation which deals with the response to adverse effects of climate change, and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD) are important topics in UNFCCC discussions. In order to cope with these issues appropriately, geospatial information technologies are indispensable, and many presentations and exhibitions were found on GIS and Remote Sensing.

For addressing climate change, expectations to and roles of National Mapping Organizations (NMOs) and Global Mapping Project which is a cooperation network of NMOs will further increase in the future.

From the Secretariat

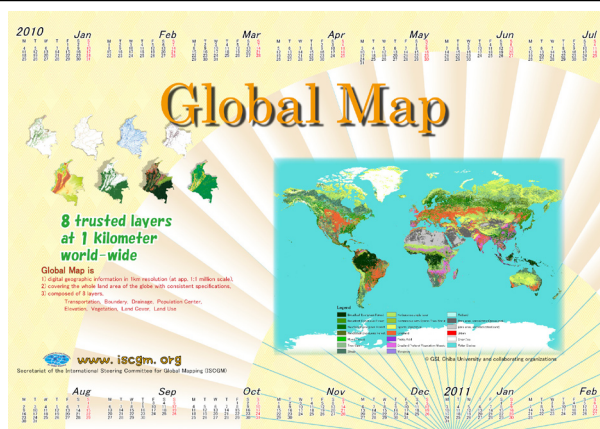
ISCGM Calender for the year 2010

The secretariat has prepared an ISCGM Calender for the year 2010 using the design of the poster provided by the USGS. It is available for your use by downloading from:

<http://www.iscgm.org>

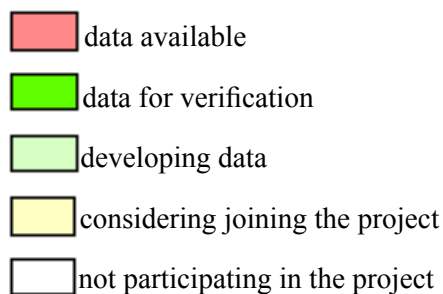
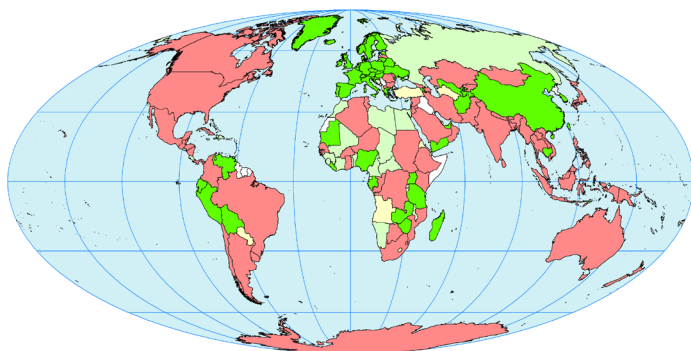
What's New

22-12-2009: Release of Global Map



Global Map Data Release and Participation in the Global Mapping Project

Since the last issue of the newsletter on September 25, 2009, Global Map Bulgaria was released on December 25, 2009. Currently 164 countries/16 regions participate in the Project. Among them, data of 71 countries/4 regions have been released.



Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2010

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 - 12 March, Bali, Indonesia
The 4th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium • 11 - 16 April, Sydney, Australia
XXIV FIG International Congress 2010 • 27-28 May, Southampton, United Kingdom
ISO/TC211 30th Plenary • 18-22 October (to be confirmed), Singapore
16th PCGIAP Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19-22 October, Singapore
GSDI 12 • October, Singapore
17th Meeting of ISCGM (tbd) • 3-5 November, China
GEO-VII • 9-10 December, Canberra, Australia
ISO/TC211 31th Plenary |
|---|--|



The Newsletter is distributed as information paper on Global Mapping to more than 1,200 people of NMOs, Global Map data users and other interested people of the world. Your contribution of articles, requests of subscription and provision of relevant information will be very much appreciated.

Published by : The Secretariat of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM)

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