



NEWSLETTER

GLOBAL MAPPING

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GEO: Group on Earth Observations Report on the Tenth Plenary Session and 2014 GEO Geneva Ministerial Summit

Taro Ubukawa

*Deputy Director, Environmental Geography Div.
Geocartographic Dept., GSI / Secretariat of ISCGM*



Tenth Plenary Session of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and Geneva Ministerial Summit was held in Geneva, Switzerland from 15 to 17, January 2014. The meeting was organized by the Swiss Confederations and brought together approximately 500 people of more than 90 countries and organizations.

GEO was established in 2005 to advance earth observations and data sharing, and will mark a decade in 2015. This time's meeting was an important one as it evaluated the works of these 10 years and discussed the works of 10 years from now towards 2025. The development of Global Map is included in the GEO 2012-2015 Work Plan as one of its tasks. In this connection, the author took part in this meeting to report the progress of the Global Mapping Project and promote the use of Global Map in the GEO community.

At the Plenary, the Work Plan from 2012-2015 was revised, in which Global Map continues to be registered as a part of GEO Tasks (IN-02-C2: Earth Data Set), and making synergies with UN-GGIM was explicitly stated. It was also decided that newly

created components, such as "Land Cover for Africa," and a data verification project on global land cover were included in the plan. Thus, many activities, with which ISCGM could possibly cooperate, are underway.

Ministerial Summit positively evaluated the progress and achievement of GEO to date and unanimously endorsed the updated mandate for another 10 years. As a result, it was decided that the next GEO Ministerial Summit will discuss a new GEO Implementation Plan towards 2025 in consideration of contributions to the sustainable development agenda discussed in the United Nations. On the final day, GEO Geneva Declaration by the Ministerial Summit participants was adopted, and the meeting was concluded successfully.

Throughout the sessions, exhibitions pertinent to GEO's activities were given, in which activities on Global Map development and its use were introduced at the Japan GEO booth. In the Japan GEO Special Program, which was held during the lunch time, a short lecture introducing the recent trend of Global Mapping Project was given. The lecture included the topics such as the release of Global Map Land Cover Version 2 data and coordination with GGIM/GM4SD. The participants showed their interest in Global Map Land Cover data and future contributions to sustainable development areas.

The ISCGM continues to be involved in the GEO framework and to facilitate coordination with the Global Observation community.

Deepening of Common Understanding of Our Roles against Disasters -Report of the Second Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP-

Shinichi Sakabe

Director, International Affairs Div., Planning Department, GSI



At the “Latest of Spatial Web Services Provided by NGIAs” session, the concept of the Map World of China and its high-speed update cycle were impressive.

For the work plan of Working Group 1, it was resolved to support the development of a resolution to be tabled at the 2013-14 Session of the UN General Assembly to seek

support and commitment at the highest level for the global geodetic reference frame. It was also resolved to create and maintain a densely realized and accurate geodetic framework, based on continuous observation and analysis of Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) data under the banner of the Asia Pacific Reference Frame (APREF), and to facilitate data sharing and facilitate technical exchange towards height system development under the banner of the Asia-Pacific Regional Height System Unification (APRHSU) Project.

In regard to the work plan of Working Group 2, successful development and operation of disaster management Geoportals and to identify and share technical and non-technical ingredients and standards for such activities were resolved.

With respect to the work plan of Working Group 3, in connection with strengthening the regional capacity on place-based information, it was resolved to continue the pilot study on rapid data acquisition, update of geospatial information and web/cloud-based services; and to organize trainings and tutorials on these activities.

- **Schedule**

It was decided that the next plenary meeting will be held in Bali, Indonesia in November 2014. The secretariat of the UN-GGIM-AP looks forward to the participation of many people.

The Second Plenary Meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) was held in Tehran, the capital city of Iran, from 28 to 30 October, 2013.

The meeting was attended by 54 people from 12 countries. The participants shared their mutual situation about their roles in disaster response activities and about web map service. They also discussed future work plans of three working groups on geodetic, disaster prevention and place-based information.

- **Report on the plenary meeting (28-29 October)**
At the presentation sessions, 10 countries reported their respective situations on two themes.

“NGIA’s Roles in Successful Disaster Response,” in relation to the roles we should play at the time of disasters, various examples of the Great East Japan Earthquake were reported by Japan. The present status of disaster response activities of respective countries, such as the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) to understand the status of disaster-affected areas and the use of web map to share disaster information, were also reported.

“Americas Global Map” Workgroup Pan-American Institute for Geography and History (PAIGH)

Susana Arciniegas
Pan-American Workgroup Coordinator 2011 - 2013
susana.arciniegas@mail.igm.gob.ec



Members by country: S. Arciniegas, Instituto Geográfico Militar – Ecuador, G. Barrantes, Heredia University – Costa Rica, C. Morera, IGAC – Colombia. F. Deniz, Servicio Geográfico Militar – Uruguay. F. Kellner, Servicio Geográfico Militar – Uruguay. J. Sánchez, ESPE University – Ecuador. Y. Fukushima, ISCGM – Japan.

Objectives

To provide support to the activities of the Spatial Data Infrastructure (IDE) Committee of the Pan-American Institute for Geography and History (PAIGH).

To determine the activities and methodology applicable to each member country in order to provide viable and practical solutions addressing issues of cartographic homologation and to create a consistent cartographic data base for the continent.

To promote the exchange of methodologies developed by the workgroup. This enables the strengthening of technical knowledge based on the experience and research on the usability of geographic data in the context of the IDE.

To demonstrate the interoperability in terms of data and geographic information in the context of “semantic dimension”

To improve the integration of Global Map based on the requirements the geo-spatial data infrastructures of individual countries.

2011 – 2013 Results

- Creation of the group’s webpage www.mapaglobaldelasamericas.org
- Methodology development about criteria of cartographic homologation corresponding to geographic layers – Objects Catalog – quality control of geographic data keeping in mind the needs of the end user accessing the geographic data.
- Application of the methodologies to the geographic data of Ecuador, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Uruguay.
- Test of interoperability of geographic data between Global Mapping Project and IGM (Instituto Geográfico Militar) Ecuador. In this case the ISCGM technical expert easily converted the attributes from Spanish to English demonstrating that work based on standards practically eliminate the barriers of interpretation and use (semantic dimension).
- Integration tests of geographic data through the services of each country’s WMS (usability).

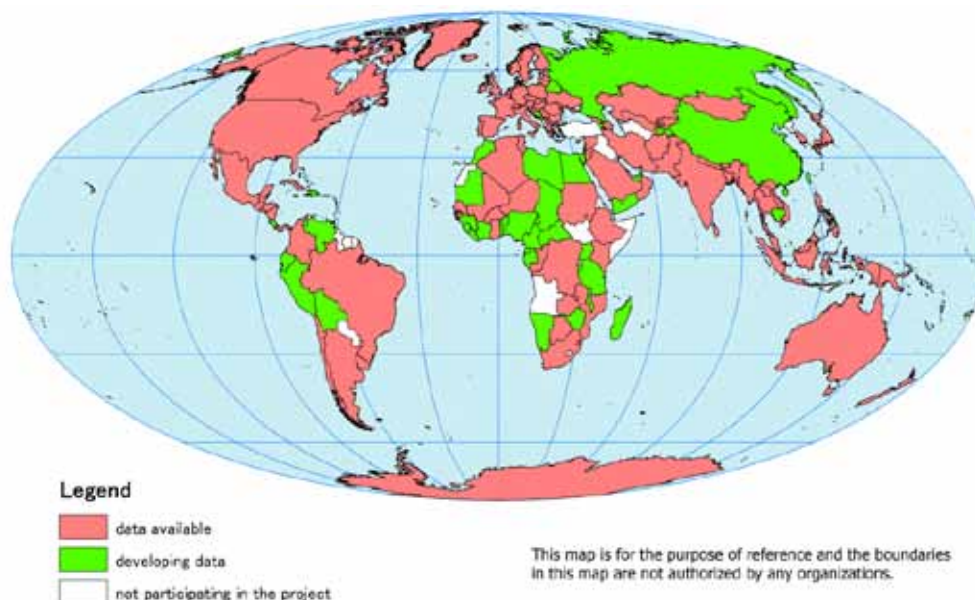
Achievements and Benefits

- To obtain a seamless regional map
- To have geographic information validated on norms and homologation criteria thereby guaranteeing data integrity
- To guarantee a decentralized management of geographic information generated by each member country to ensure the maintenance and updating by official channels
- To strengthen the regional IDE
- To encourage the publishing of work with IDE’s end user in mind.

From the Secretariat

Global Map Data Release and Participation in the Global Mapping Project

Burundi took part in the Global Mapping Project on February 25. With this participation, currently 167 countries/16 regions participate in the Project. Among them, data of 110 countries/8 regions have been released (Version 2 data are for 69 countries/4 regions.).



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Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2014

- June 2-6, Berlin, Germany
ISO/TC211 38th Plenary
- June 16-21, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
XXV FIG International Congress
- **August 5, New York, USA**
The 21st Meeting of ISCGM
- August 6-8, New York, USA
UNCE-GGIM Fourth Session

- November, Bali, Indonesia
Third Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP

2015

- May 17-21, Sofia, Bulgaria
FIG Working Week 2015
- August 23-28, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
27th International Cartographic Conference



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*c/o Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI)
1 Kitasato, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken, 305-0811 Japan
Phone : +81-29-864-6910 Fax : +81-29-864-8087
Homepage : <http://www.iscgm.org/>
E-mail : sec@iscgm.org*