GLOBAL MAPPING NEWSLETTER ⑳

Global Map Version 1.0 Started its Release
at the Global Mapping Forum 2000 in Hiroshima

"Global Mapping Forum 2000" was held at the International Conference Center Hiroshima in Hiroshima City, Japan from 28 to 30 November 2000. Two hundred and fifty people from 33 countries participated in the Forum and 50 papers were presented in six oral sessions and one poster session. The highlight of the Forum was a declaration of release of the Global Map version 1.0. Eighty-one countries currently participated in the Global Mapping are now in the process of developing Global Map of their countries. As top runners among them, Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Japan have completed and officially released the data from ISCGM's new Web site <http://www.iscgm.org/> from 28 November 2000. The data are now downloadable for non-commercial use.

The Forum is the third of this kind following Gifu in 1997 and Sioux Falls in 1998. The topics of the Forum this time are more focused on applications of global geographic datasets.

The Forum was opened by Opening Address of Prof. John E. Estes, the Chairperson of ISCGM and the Welcome Address of Mr. Yuzan Fujita, the Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture was read. Dr. Jiro Kondo, professor emeritus of University of Tokyo and Dr. Tadatoshi Akiba, the Mayor of Hiroshima City made

Keynote Addresses. Dr. Kondo reviewed the history of Global Mapping initiative and stressed the importance of global geographic data for global environmental researches. While Mayor Akiba introduced the history of Hiroshima and stated how significant it was that this Forum was held in Hiroshima referring to the fact that life of vegetation is a symbol of survival of Hiroshima and also symbol of global environment.

Through the presentations of technical papers, it became clear that many countries are very close to completing development of GM of their countries following leading countries. It also became clear that user societies have big expectations to GM data for regional development planning, disaster mitigation, resources management and global environmental researches.

Finally, the Forum was wrapped up with adoption of the Hiroshima Statement for Global Map.

Preceding the opening of the Forum, an excursion to the Hiroshima Institute of Technology and Miyajima, a world cultural heritage was held on Monday 27 November. On November 30 afternoon, after closing the Forum, a meeting for Working Group 3 on data policy was held.

HIROSHIMA STATEMENT FOR GLOBAL MAP

We, the participants at the Global Mapping Forum 2000, being held in Hiroshima, Japan, adopt this statement, the Hiroshima Statement for Global Map, during the closing session of the Forum on 30 November 2000, to celebrate the release of Version 1.0 of the Global Map. This tangible product will enable nations of the world to join together in a common understanding of the actions needed to care for our fragile earth.

Recalling that in 1992, the nations of the world committed to the vision of globally sustainable development and a plan of action - Agenda 21.

Recalling also that in 1994, soon after the Rio Summit, the concept of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping was formulated in Izumo, Japan, to create, through technical cooperation, a digital map of the world, a Global Map, by the year 2000, to support the achievement of Agenda 21.

We acknowledge the achievement and success of the ISCGM and note the significance of this statement being made in the beautiful city of Hiroshima, a symbol of peace and harmony to the people of the world.

We thank the 81 countries who have committed to validate and maintain their component of the Global Map.

We encourage those countries not yet committed to join the Global Map community. Your participation is crucial to the achievement of the global sustainable development vision.

The challenge for us now is to maintain and enhance the Global Map; to implement policies that result in the widest possible access and use of the product; and to continue to work together with individuals and groups dedicated to the cause of improved Global Map products.

We greatly appreciate the hospitality of the citizens of Hiroshima. Their tireless pursuit for peace reminded us of the importance of local actions for global issues, and the ISCGM Chairperson proposed that the school children of Hiroshima plant trees to spread their message to the whole world. Their commitment to harmonious global existence also encouraged us as we recommit to the vision of a better, more sustainable, and truly peaceful world through cooperation in global mapping for the new millennium.

For Downloading Global Map Data ☞Access !!   http://www.iscgm.org

ISCGM WG3 : Make the Concept Become a Product
Mr. Claude Luzet
EuroGeographics Executive Director, ISCGM WG3 Chair

The Global Map has become much more than a wonderful concept: it has become a reality at the Hiroshima Global Mapping 2000 Forum, with the inauguration of the distribution of the Global Map data through the Internet. This coming to actuality has made clearer some issues that have been kept up to now in the shadow of the then more acute problems of project planning and product specifications.

Actors in Global Map are of three main categories: the data providers – the National Mapping Agencies, the

Project management – the ISCGM and the Secretariat, and the users – that may comprise the end-users as well as Value-Adders. The continuing success of Global Map will require that the requirements of all three types of actors are adequately satisfied.

Work Group 3 of ISCGM – data policy – has been created in order to deal with all these issues that are not in essence technical but nevertheless essential for the future of the Project. ISCGM has given the following objectives to WG 3:

- Develop a framework policy for provision of Global Map data to the Project by the NMAs
- Re-assess the potential and actual users and uses of Global Map data
- Develop a framework policy for access to Global Map data.

Although the decision to create WG 3 dates back to the Sioux Falls Forum of 1998, and while proposals have already been exchanged and discussed within the virtual forum of the Internet, the first working meeting fully devoted to WG 3 issues was held at Hiroshima on November, 30th. It took full advantage of the lessons learned from the Forum presentations and formal or informal discussions, and of the presence of the main actors in Global Map. The meeting was attended by key members of ISCGM, as well as by invited experts, including representation from the UN Cartographic section – a main potential user and partner of Global Map.

The meeting has been an intensive brain-storming session where a wide range of ideas were exposed and debated, which the size of this article does not allow to summarise here. The Working Group will be aiming in the coming month at preparing a Global Map data and distribution policy paper that will be presented at next ISCGM meeting , to be held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on May 26th, 2001.

PCGIAP Executive Board Meeting in Hiroshima
Secretariat of PCGIAP

The Global Mapping Forum 2000 provided an excellent opportunity for National Mapping Organizations (NMO) to exchange views and information on issues of mutual interest. The Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP), a regional forum of NMO in the region did not miss this chance and held its executive board meeting at Rihga Royal Hotel in Hiroshima on November 26, two days preceding the Global Mapping Forum.

Thanks to the concurrent opening of the Forum, the meeting was well represented by 8 board members from 7 countries, i.e. China, Australia, Japan, Brunei Darussalam, India, Iran, and Malaysia. Given this large attendance together with Mr. Minoru Akiyama, Secretary General of ISCGM, as well as an adviser from China and secretariat staff from Japan, the meeting proved to be very productive, continuing far beyond the closing time.

President Prof. Yang Kai, China, after an opening, reviewed PCGIAP's activities after the 6th meeting in Kuala Lumpur in April 2000 concurrently held with 15th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, noting, in particular, the successful changeover of the Secretariat from Australia to Japan and Mongolia Regional Geodetic Network Workshop.

Vice President Mr Peter Holland, Australia, Secretary Mr Motoyuki Kidokoro, Japan, and Secretariat jointly presented a secretariat changeover report. The collaboration between Australia and Japan enabled Japan to make a good head start as Secretary.

The works of PCGIAP are duly shared among four Working Groups, i.e. WG1: Regional Geodesy chaired by Australia, WG2: Fundamental Data by Iran, WG3: Cadastre by Malaysia, and WG4: Institutional Strengthening by the Philippines. Workplans of each WG were endorsed in general.

Mr Akiyama's report on Global Mapping was highly welcome and inspiring, in terms of Spatial Data Infrastructure development, where joint efforts of global and regional bodies are essential.

Next year the PCGIAP will meet in Tsukuba, Japan, on April 24-27. The draft agenda generally agreed upon includes a special seminar on GIS on the third day, inviting presentations from various sectors and regions.

The meeting, though officially closed at 18:00, further thrived at a Japanese style barbecue restaurant on strong Chinese wine donated from the President.

For more information on PCGIAP, please visit our new home page at http://www.pcgiap.org.

GSDI Steering Committee Meeting

A Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) Steering Committee meeting was held on December 1, 2000 in Hiroshima in conjunction with the Global Map Forum 2000. A total of 21 people from 12 countries and organizations participated in the meeting to discuss subjects including the status of GSDI activities, GSDI membership, agenda of GSDI5, and liaison with other related activities to further promote GSDI.

The GSDI Secretariat had been set up at the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) of the United States and has been actively working for the GSDI development. It will welcome generous contribution of human and financial resources from overseas countries to further strengthen its activities. FGDC has developed a clearinghouse gateway for GSDI and posted it on the Internet. It also welcomes the translation of GSDI Cookbook that was made downloadable from the Internet earlier this year by FGDC into different languages. The Secretariats of GSDI and ISCGM agreed to work closely together for the development of a mirror site of the Global Map version 1 on the GSDI web page.

The discussion of GSDI membership mainly focused on the membership of the Steering Committee that consists of Executive Committee and Advisory Committee. The details of the membership will be drafted by the Secretariat (FGDC) and finalized at the GSDI5 conference.

The participants congratulated Mr. Santiago Borrero, Chairman of the GSDI5, on his well thought-out plan and agenda of GSDI5 that specifies a detailed five-day program, starting on May 21, 2001, including the 8th ISCGM meeting.

The importance of promoting liaison with other related organizations and activities was also recognized by the participants, including ISCGM, UNGIWG, Digital Earth, PCGIAP, PCIDEA, OGC and international academic.

Next GSDI Steering Committee meeting will be held from 12:30 GMT on January 24, 2001 at the United Nations Headquarters in conjunction with the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas. For those who are unable to physically attend the Conference, teleconference facilities will be set up at the meeting venue.

Status of Participation in Global Mapping

Status of participation in Global Mapping   **As of December 25, 2000**

Number of countries/regions participated in Global Mapping   81 countries/regions
Number of countries/regions considering the participation   35 countries/regions

Recent participation in Global Mapping

Name of organization	Country name	Date of participation
Military Survey Department	United Arab Emirates	October 17th

Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2001

- **22-26 January, New York, USA**
  7th UN Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas

- **8-9 March, Lisbon, Portugal**
  12th Plenary Meeting of ISO/TC211

- **24-27 April, Tsukuba, Japan**
  7th PCGIAP Meeting

- **22-24 May, Cartagena, Colombia**
  5th GSDI Meeting

- **25 May, Cartagena, Colombia**
  8th Meeting of ISCGM

- **24-28 June, Fredericton, Canada**
  2nd International Symposium on Digital Earth
  http://www.digitalearth.ca