

Draft Agenda - UNRCC-PCGIAP Informal Geodetic Consultations

9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Friday 2 November 2012, United Nations (Bangkok)

Dr Shigeru Matsuzaka, Japan (Chair)

Background

At the Second Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), held at the United Nations (New York) from 13 - 15 August 2012, the importance of the global geodetic infrastructure was highlighted. In particular, it was recognised that:

- A consistent global approach to positioning is a key enabler of spatial data interoperability and that global and regional issues, such as climate change and regional hazard assessment, are best addressed using consistent technology and approaches to positioning and spatial data management; and
- Positioning is a global capability that can only be delivered through international cooperation, the collaborative use of global geodetic infrastructure, and the open availability of the collected data.

It was further recognised that the UN-GGIM would be able to:

- Facilitate international cooperation to ensure the interoperability of spatial data by encouraging the sharing of geodetic data between countries, including GNSS, gravity, tide gauge and heighting datasets;
- Assist with the co-ordination of ground infrastructure development, e.g. GNSS and other geodetic observatories, so as to minimise coverage gaps and excessive duplication;
- Assist with the development of mandates to assist national agencies in obtaining appropriate resourcing from their governments so as to ensure geodetic infrastructure is supported as a key component underpinning all spatial activities; and
- Provide a forum that supports inter-governmental technical cooperation and the sharing of expertise, particularly to developing countries.

As a consequence, a proposal to conduct an informal consultation in conjunction with the 19th UNRCC-AP in Bangkok was endorsed. The PCGIAP Geodesy Working Group, in collaboration with the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), will facilitate this informal consultation of geodetic experts from the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS) community.

Objectives

To bring geodetic experts together with senior managers and policy makers to:

- Emphasize the role of the government in adopting and maintaining the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF) and also supporting the infrastructures of the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS);
- Develop a roadmap for future action addressing global geodetic infrastructure, including identifying pathways for improved infrastructure development and geodetic data sharing; and
- Develop a questionnaire to be distributed to Member States to:
 - provide a status of existing in-country geodetic infrastructure;
 - provide an evidence base to support future decision making; and
 - expose for future discussion the impediments (legal, administrative, business, resourcing, etc) that currently limit data sharing and participation in the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS).

Discussion Leads

- Dr Shigeru Matsuzaka and Dr John Dawson, PCGIAP Geodesy Working Group.
- Prof Chris Rizos, President International Association of Geodesy (IAG).
- C. H. Teo, President International Federation of Surveyors (FIG).
- Regional geodetic experts from South America, Europe and Africa.

Attendees

- Open forum for all Member States and geodetic professionals.
- Senior managers and policy makers would be particularly welcome.

Draft Agenda

Item	Description	Responsible	Information or Decision	Allocated Time
1	Confirmation of agenda	Chair		5 min
2	Background to consultations	Chair	Information	5 min
3	Applications and the importance of geodetic infrastructure for society → presentation followed by discussion	FIG	Information	30 min
4	The Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS) and international services of the IAG → presentation followed by discussion	IAG	Information	30 min
5	Regional geodetic initiatives (AFREF, SIRGAS, EUREF...) → presentation followed by discussion	TBD	Information	30 min
	Break			20 min
6	The importance of improved data sharing → presentations followed by discussion	TBD	Information	20 min
7	Geodetic questionnaire → presentation of initial ideas for the questionnaire format followed by discussion and decision	All	Decision	20 min
8	Outreach, training and education needs → presentation followed by discussion	IAG	Information	20 min
9	Next Steps → roadmap development → future meetings	Chair	Decision	60 min
10	Close			