

31 May 2005

Original: English

**Eighth United Nations Regional Cartographic
Conference for the Americas**

New York, 27 June-1 July 2005

Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda*

**Reports on achievements in geographic information
in addressing national, regional and global issues, including
strategy, policy, economic and institutional issues**

**Global mapping and spatial data infrastructure:
development and challenges for dissemination
of geospatial data****

* E/CONF.96/1.

** Submitted by the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping.

D.R. FRASER TAYLOR, Carleton University, CANADA
HIROMICHI MARUYAMA, HISAKAZU SASAKI, TAKAKI OKATANI, Geographical
Survey Institute
Kitazato-1, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, JAPAN 305

SUMMARY:

The Global Map Project is a project to prepare Global Map, a basic digital map at the scale of 1:1 million covering the whole land area of the globe with consistent specifications, in international cooperation with the national mapping organizations of the world. As Global Map can be regarded as an initial form of framework data for an NSDI and a RSDI, the development of Global Map can be a first step in establishing an NSDI and RSDI. The Global Map Project has already triggered several initiatives to prepare regional framework data such as the Americas Global Map. The future sustainability of Global Map relies heavily on the NSDI and RSDI of respective countries and regions many of which are under development. The interaction between Global Map and both NSDIs and RSDIs is both mutually beneficial and required for the sound development of a Spatial Data Infrastructure at any scale.
