Feedback on the GGIM initiative from various International Meetings¹

The GGIM initiative has been taken by some country and professional organizations representatives to various International Meetings, such as the INSPIRE Conference 2010 in Poland, the PAIGH meetings in Lima, Peru, GSDI-12 Conference and the ISCGM-17 in Singapore, and more recently the Geospatial World Forum 2011 in Hyderabad, India. This background paper provides a brief overview of the presentations on the GGIM initiative at these meetings and report on the feedback voiced in support of this initiative, building further on the work to be done in New York in April at the Third Preparatory Meeting, to help development of a high level global consensus ahead of the GGIM Forum in Seoul in October 2011.

1. INSPIRE Conference 2010, Kraków, Poland

On the basis of the activities performed by the UN regarding to GGIM, Mauro Salvemini, EUROGI President, presented and discussed a paper at the INSPIRE 2010 International Conference, held in Krakow, Poland, 22-25 June 2010. The presentation, titled "What is exportable of INSPIRE? How to contribute to a global management of GI", highlighted the main aspects of the UN initiative on GGIM and discussed some of the key issues of INSPIRE Directive model, methodology and technical results in order to evaluate how they may be considered in the global context.

2. Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) Meeting, 8-12 Nov., 2010, Lima, Peru

Luiz Paulo S. Fortes, PC-IDEA President and Director of Geosciences of IBGE-Brazil, had the opportunity to attend the following meetings, where he presented to the corresponding audiences the PC-IDEA current status and the UNSD initiative on GGIM: - International Congress on "Desastres y Ordenamiento Territorial em las Américas": as a invited speaker, presenting the topic "The Importance of Geospatial Information in the Past, Present and Future of the Americas", when he pointed out future trends in terms of geospatial information integration based on Regional (PC-IDEA) and Global (GGIM) initiatives;

- Third Meeting of the GeoSUR Program;

- Geocentric Reference System for the Americas (SIRGAS) 2010 Meeting;

- 42nd Meeting of the Pan-Aamerican Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) Steering Council.

17 Directors of National Mapping Organizations of the Americas attended the meetings and they took a note on the dates of the coming GGIM Forum in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

¹ Prepared by UNSD.

3. GSDI-12 Conference , 18-22 October 2010, Singapore

At GSDI-12 Conference, held in Singapore, October 2010, Hiroshi Murakami, Vice-President, PCGIAP, from GSI of Japan, delivered a featured keynote titled "A Global Vision for Spatially Enabling Society". The presentation provided an overview on the GGIM initiative, stating that it is an intergovernmental process which its main focus is to discuss geospatial policy issues confronting the member states (see details at: http://ggim.un.org/docs/UN%20Initiative%20on%20GGIM.ppt).

At the same meeting, Greg Scott, Chair of PCGIAP WG3 and Group Leader, National Geographic Information, Geoscience Australia, provided a presentation at the closing session that was titled "Realising Spatially Enabled Societies: Reflections on the Conference Sessions and Vision" where he mentioned the GGIM initiative as an example of an enabler towards realising spatially enabled societies.

4. ISCGM-17 Conference 2010, Singapore

The Seventeenth Meeting of ISCGM, held on 17 October, 2010 in Singapore, endorsed a Resolution with an item stating that "ISCGM welcomes the new framework on Global Geospatial Information Management under the leadership of the United Nations. ISCGM will actively participate in the framework to promote the use of Global Map for addressing global issues".

UNSD Director invited the participating NMAs to a short consultation meeting on the UN initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM) on the side of GSDI Conference, which was held on Sunday afternoon 17 October 2010, from 15.00-17.00, following immediately the 17th ISCGM formal meeting which took place in the same venue.

5. Geospatial World Forum 2011, Hyderabad, 18-21 January 2011

During the period of January 16 to 21, 2011, Hyderabad, India Luiz Paulo Fortes participated in the following meetings:

- National Mapping Organizations-Industry Exchange Forum, where he presented the topic "Status and Perspectives of IBGE's Geosciences Production", and pointed out future trends in terms of geospatial information integration based on Regional (PC-IDEA) and Global (GGIM) initiatives;

- Seminar OGC Global Advisory Council: International, Regional and National Requirements; Globalising the OGC Process, in the scope of the Geospatial World Forum – where he presented the theme "National Mapping Organisations and OGC standards", and gave PC-IDEA and GGIM initiatives as examples of institutional arrangements for cooperation.

During the same meeting, Canada representatives, Prashant Shukle and Fraser Taylor, also helped made the announcement of the High-level Forum on GGIM, to be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea.