

**Hangzhou Forum on
United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management
Zhejiang Xizi Hotel, Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China
24 - 25 May 2012**

Annotated Agenda

Background:

The United Nations initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), established through ECOSOC in July 2011, aims at playing a leading role in setting the agenda for the development of global geospatial information and to promote its use to address key global challenges. It provides a forum for coordination and dialogue among Member States, and between Member States and relevant international organizations, including the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences and their permanent committees on spatial data infrastructures, such as the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP).

PCGIAP and the Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asia and the Pacific constitute an important regional consultation mechanism to exchange information and address common and critical issues among national mapping and surveying authorities, and the international scientific organizations active in geospatial information.

The Secretariat of the UN-GGIM and the National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation (NASG) of China, are jointly organizing a Global Geospatial Information Management Forum to be held at the Zhejiang Xizi Hotel from 24 to 25 May 2012 in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China. As a regional consultation mechanism, the Hangzhou Forum will discuss priority issues for the regional implementation strategy of the UN-GGIM initiative. It is substantively supported by PCGIAP, and will be held back to back with the PCGIAP Executive Board meeting.

Forum Outcomes:

The Forum will provide a platform for an exchange of views on key policy and technology issues and the need for improved regional cooperation in global geospatial information management. Therefore, the following outcomes are envisaged:

- A recognition that, in order to set an agenda for a sustainable global geospatial information management mechanism, national and regional consultations and implementation strategies are required and must be pursued;
- An emerging understanding of the key issues and directions that UN-GGIM and the international organizations will need to focus on in their program of work; and
- Initial agreement on the critical issues and the development of a roadmap that will support the directions and implementation strategy of UN-GGIM.

Thursday, 24 May

Opening Ceremony:

The Forum will be opened by Mr. Xu Deming, Vice Minister, Ministry of Land and Resources; Director General, National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation (NASG) of China. Welcoming addresses will be delivered by Dr Paul Cheung, Director, United Nations Statistics Division, and Dr. Xia Baolong, Governor, People's Government of Zhejiang Province of China.

Dr Li Pengde, Deputy Director General, NASG of China, will Chair the Opening Ceremony.

Keynote Address: Development of China's Geospatial Information

The National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation (NASG) of China is on a rapid geospatial development program to meet its expanded requirements within China and the region. This keynote presentation will focus on the national policy drivers and strategies, along with the motivations behind the Hangzhou Forum as a mechanism to improve regional and global cooperation in geospatial information management.

This keynote address will be delivered by Dr Li Pengde, Deputy Director General, NASG of China. The session will be chaired by Dr Paul Cheung, Director GGIM Secretariat.

Session 1: Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management

At its first formal session in October 2011, the UN Committee of Experts on GGIM decided that there was a need to document the thoughts of leaders in the geospatial world as to the future development and emerging trends over the next 5 years, and looking out over the next 10 years. Invitations to provide statements on the future trends were sent out to geospatial leaders and the responses are now being collated.

Dr Vanessa Lawrence, Director General and Chief Executive of the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain, and Co-Chair of the UN Committee of Experts on GGIM, will provide an overview of this process, the responses, and some early indicators as to the future trends in the geospatial world. Chaired by Dr Li Pengde, China, a facilitated general discussion will follow.

Session 2: Emerging Trends in Institutional Arrangements

This session will discuss elements of best practices that exist within the region, and address the emerging and necessary institutional arrangements at a national level with an emphasis on how to promote greater coordination within and across governments. The ability for nations to have access to and an understanding of institutional guidelines, standards, and methodologies is being seen as vital, particularly for developing nations.

Mr. Wong Chung Hang, Hong Kong, China and Mr. Arvo Kokkonen, Finland will present the topic as expert speakers. Chaired by Dr Hiroshi, Murakami, Japan a facilitated general discussion will follow.

Session 3: Evolving a new Geodetic Positioning Framework

This session will discuss the growing demand for and use of positioning technology, and the importance of consistent geodetic reference frameworks and positioning, including enabling infrastructure such as CORS, GNSS and GPS. In the Asia-Pacific region the infrastructure is comparatively sparse, inaccurate, and difficult to access when compared to other parts of the world such as Europe and the Americas. In general, the networks are not linked together, or to the global reference frame, while the lack of data sharing impacts on the accuracy and type of geodetic analysis that can be performed.

Mr. Gary Johnston, Australia and Mr. Shigeru Matsuzaka, Japan will present the topic as expert speakers. Chaired by Dr Bernd Richter, Germany a facilitated general discussion will follow.

Welcome Reception

A welcome reception for participants will be hosted by the National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation (NASG) of China.

Friday, 25 May

Session 4: Considerations of Data Quality Assurance Framework

This session will discuss the use of quality, current and authoritative national geospatial information as a valuable and critical enabler for effective decision-making for national Governments. Assuring this data, and its quality, with consistent practices not only creates challenges, the efforts to standardise and harmonise it are not well understood by many politicians and decision-makers. Given the recent emergence of crowd sourcing, open street map, and volunteer geographic information, communicating that understanding, and the limitations of some data, has become more important.

Ms. Sue Gordon, New Zealand and Prof Woosug Cho, Korea will present the topic as expert speakers. Chaired by Mr. Teo Chee Hai, Malaysia a facilitated general discussion will follow.

Session 5: New Models in Data Sharing and Dissemination

This session will discuss data integration, sharing and dissemination, and will consider issues related to: the increasing emergence and expectation for data to be available free at the point of use; the provision of effective and useable metadata beyond national borders; how geospatial information and thematic data can be effectively integrated and accessed in a structured manner; and how information can best be shared between national organizations. This has particular relevance and application to disaster management and response.

Ms. Linda Papa, Philippines, Mr. Peter ter Haar, UK, and Mr. Neil Ackroyd, UK will present the topic as expert speakers. Chaired by Mr. Soh Kheng Peng, Singapore a facilitated general discussion will follow.

Session 6: Statement of Ethics on Global Geospatial Information

This session will discuss the desirability of a Statement of Ethics and supporting code of conduct for the global geospatial information profession. This is especially important as crowd sourcing becomes a growing source of geospatial information. A Statement of Ethics should help guide the behavior of all entities engaging in the acquisition, production, management, and dissemination of geospatial information.

Dr Paul Cheung, Director of the GGIM Secretariat, will present the topic and a facilitated general discussion will follow.

Summary Panel and Closing Remarks

This closing session will review the discussions that have taken place, with a view to summarizing the priority issues and potential next steps for consideration at the 2nd Session of the UN Committee of Experts on GGIM and the 19th UNRCC-AP, and directions that UN-GGIM and the international organizations will need to focus on in their program of work.

The panel will be chaired by Dr Vanessa Lawrence and include a distinguished panel of experts.

Dinner

A dinner for participants will be hosted by the People's Government of Zhejiang Province of China.

Saturday, 26 May

PCGIAP Executive Board Meeting and Technical Tours