

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Tenth session

New York, 26- 27 August 2020 and 4 September 2020

Item 6 of the agenda

Global geodetic reference frame (for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

Myanmar

Statement:

Myanmar is the largest country in mainland Southeast Asia. It shares borders with Thailand, Laos, China, India and Bangladesh, and has a coastline on the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal. The climate is tropical, with monsoonal rains making flooding and landslides common during the rainy season (June to September). Forests cover almost half the country, making forestry a major source of export earnings. However, excessive logging has resulted in deforestation in both rural and urban areas.

Since 1905, under the British rule, all the surveying works have been undertaken by the Survey of India. At the end of World War II, the British government separated surveying works of Myanmar from Survey of India. On 1st November 1946, Burma Survey Department was formed under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue by the British government. The main duties and responsibilities of the Survey Department of Myanmar are: (a) All Geodetic Control (Horizontal and Vertical) and Geodetic and Geophysical surveys. (b) All Ground Control Point Surveys and Mapping for the whole country of Myanmar. (c) Mapping and Production of Topographic Maps. (d) Large scale map for other governmental Department and Agency, guide maps etc. (e) Demarcation of the External Boundaries of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and also advice on the demarcation of inter-state boundaries.

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Topographic Maps that have been used since pre World War II time were based on Lambert Projection. Myanmar is a State where extent of North- South direction is larger than that of East-West direction. In such condition, UTM mapping system is suitable for Myanmar. In year 2000, Myanmar survey department had created Myanmar datum 2000 by the technical supporting Finnmap Co. Ltd.. Nine Primary reference station were established and observed connect with ITRF 1996 base on Everest 1830 Ellipsoid. For nationwide coverage, (1134) map sheets at 1: 50,000 scale, (322) map sheets at 1: 100,000 scale and (93)map sheets at 1:250,000 scale were completely published. Earthquakes pose a hazard for many locations throughout the country as Myanmar is located on one of the two main earthquake belts in the world. After year 2000, at least 7 earthquakes occurred along the Central Lowland where the Sagaing Fault passes. That is why, Myanmar survey department need to re-observation on the nine primary Pillars for their movement. Recently, Myanmar survey department already established (10) CORS in Myanmar for National Geodetic Reference Frame and RTK network in 2019. Out of them, (3) CORS are constructed as a standards guide line of IGS stations.

The Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) is the foundation for evidence-based policies, decisions and program delivery. The GGRF underpins the collection and management of nationally integrated geospatial information and is used to monitor our dynamic Earth. Survey department of Myanmar also would like to share CORS data to support nationally integrated geospatial information and deformation of cluster plate in surround region of Myanmar after properly administration of CORS and data management.

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