

## Minutes of UNGIWG Task Group Managers Videoconference

Date: 5 December 2005 (15:30 – 16:38 Geneva Time)

### ATTENDED:

#### New York:

Kyoung-Soo Eom (DPKO)  
Helene Bray (DPKO) -Supported TG1  
Manager  
Suha Ulgen (OCHA) -TG5 Manager  
Amor Laaribi (UN/DESA/SD)

#### Geneva:

Steeve Ebener (WHO) - TG1 Manager  
Einar Bjorgo (UNOSAT) -TG3 rep.  
Kathy O'Neill (WHO)  
John Rawlinson (WHO)

#### Rome:

Jeff Tschirley (FAO)  
Ergin Ataman (FAO) - TG2 Manager  
Jeroen Ticheler (FAO) –TG4 rep.  
David Kaatrud (WFP)  
Michal Smolka (WFP) - TG6 rep.

### AGENDA:

- A. Task Group Membership List
- B. Review of 2006 Work Plan based on Addis
- C. Resource Mobilization (requirements & gaps)
- D. Update on Secretariat Activities
- E. AOB

### A. Task Group Membership List

#### 1. TG1: International and Administrative (SALB) Boundaries

##### International Boundaries Membership:

- Helen Bray (DPKO) – Manager
- Steeve Ebeners (WHO),
- Yaniss Guigoz (WHO),
- Brenda Brookes (UN/DPI),
- Sharon Chang (UN/DPI)

##### Other UNGIWG members contributing:

- FAO, DPA, OLA, IBRU, WFP, UNECA, ECLAC

In addition, a large number of Partners from the academia, Government & National Institutions, and private sector are involved and contributing.

##### SALB Membership:

- Steeve Ebener (WHO) -Manager
- Teshome Abebe (UNECA)
- Hélène Bray (UN cartographic Section, DPKO)
- Brenda Brookes (UN Map Library, DPI)
- Jessica Cardenas (UN Map Library, DPI)

- Chukwudozie Ezigbalike (UNECA)
- Yaniss Guigoz (WHO)
- Alejandra Silva (UN ECLAC)

Other UNGIWG members contributing to the effort (data, network,...):

- OCHA, UNDP, UNDESA, UNEP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WB, WFP, WHO, FAO

SALB Partners:

The National Mapping Agencies of the UN member countries, international (e.g. ISCGM) and regional (E.g. PCGIAP, PAIGH, PCIDEA,..) initiatives/committees/associations, Universities (e.g. Columbia University), NGOs (e.g. CGIAR), Private companies (e.g. ESRI, Macon), Donors (e.g. USAID).

2. TG2: Core geo-database Membership:

- Ergin Ataman (FAO) -Manager
- Kathy O'Neill (WHO) & Amor Laaribi (UN/DESA/SD) Deputy Managers
- Jean-Pierre Meert (WHO)
- Chukwudozie Ezigbalike (UNECA)
- Kais Zouabi (DPKO)
- Paola De Salvo (WFP)

3. TG3: Remote Sensing Membership:

- Alain Retiere (UNOSAT) Manager
- Einar Bjorgo (UNOSAT)
- WFP, OCHA, UNHCR, FAO, DPKO/UNCS, to mention a few.

4. TG4: Interoperable Services Membership:

- Mick Wilson (UNEP) Manager
- Jeroen Ticheler (FAO)
- WFP has shown interest.

5. TG5: GIS Map Production Guidelines Membership:

- Manager: Suha Ulgen (OCHA) assisted by Regis Bourgault (DPKO/ONUB)
- Timur Obukhov (UNDP/Mine Action)

Other UNGIWG members contributing to the effort (data, network,...):

- DPKO, FAO, UNHCR, WHO, OCHA

6. TG6: Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) Membership:

- Manger: Menghestab Haile (WFP) assisted by Michal Smolka (WFP)
- Chad Hendrix (DPKO/UNMEE),
- Timur Obukhov (UNDP/Mine Action),
- Kathryn O' Neill (WHO) - Toby Wicks as Focal Point
- Olivier Cottray (UNJLC)
- Suha Ulgen (OCHA)

Indicated and shown interest (not confirmed):

- Jenny Bredin + Karl Steinacker (UNHRC),
- Dong Joo Koh (DPKO/UNMIL),
- Regis Bourgault (DPKO/ONUB),
- Daniel Berhanu (UNECA)

## **B: Review of 2006 Work Plan based on Addis**

### 1. TG1: International and Administrative (SALB) Boundaries 2006 Work Plan

International Boundaries 2006 Work Plan (without extra resources):

- Development of 1:5 and 1:10m dataset
- Minimum guidance and support for international boundary representation

International Boundaries 2006 Work Plan (with extra resources):

- Creation of a base knowledge on international boundaries to convert official boundary text into precise geometric alignment.
- Correction of all the existing dataset according to the official documentation

SALB 2006 Work Plan:

Making SALB reach the present by the end of 2006 which means offering a full coverage in terms of:

- Historic changes going from 1990 to 2006 at the 1st administrative level and from 2000 to 2006 at the 2nd administrative level
- Administrative boundaries maps with one map for each period of representatively observed between 2000 and 2006
- National Mapping Agency contact information.

### 2. TG2: Core geo-database 2006 Work Plan:

- Review of the Global Core Database (CGDB) list adopted in the previous UNGIWG meetings.
- Selection of the core data layers based on the report prepared by the Task Group.
- Continue efforts for acquisition of VMAP 1.

Implicit: Estimation of resources needed and finding the funds

### 3. TG3: Remote Sensing 2006 Work Plan:

- Several TG3 activities have been successfully implemented during the last year. It is important to follow up and consolidate services.
- Identify/nominate Focal Points for each organization for updating the UNGIWG VHR meta-database in order to complete it and mainstream it.
- Based on successful successive pilot projects carried out so far, UNTG3 – RS will engage in Grid technologies applications in view of leveraging slow/instable connectivity problems faced by field users in access RS/GIS resources served through the Web.

- UNGIWG should endorse the establishment under TG3 – RS of a USER FOCUS GROUP (UFG) with key UN humanitarian agencies/partners to negotiate wider membership within the Charter “Space and Major Disasters” and increase weight in GMES (RESPOND) and GEOSS.
  - First meeting of UFG proposed to be held in Geneva, mid December back-to-back to GEOSS Summit
4. TG4: Interoperable Services 2006 Work Plan:
- Develop guidelines to advocate for greater interoperability;
  - Encourage use of GNOS and the related Community website as appropriate tool for achieving the above
  - Develop a standardised spatial data framework model related to transport infrastructure, in collaboration with TG 2, TG 5 and TG 6;

## Specific Issues:

- Identify means for promoting the principle of **standards based**, open web service design in upcoming system developments being undertaken by UNGIWG members in reference to for example image repository services;
  - Means for encouraging evaluation and use of viable tools for addressing many of the interoperability issues, that have been developed through UNEP and FAO, that has not been actively promoted by UNGIWG;
  - Standard reference services and the institutional context of services and their sustainability
5. TG5: GIS Map Production Guidelines 2006 Work Plan:
- Combine FAO and DPKO documents with two annexes for large and small scales.
  - Solicit and collate suggestions and initiate discussion.
  - Incorporate feedback into the final document.
  - Develop map templates\* and release the guidelines document and the templates.
  - Support production of *International and Administrative Boundaries* (TG-1), *Core Geo-database* (TG-2) and *Space* (TG-3) maps using the templates.
- \* In addition to creating software-specific map templates, explore implementing OGC’s Styled Layer Descriptors (SLD) specification for WMS in consultation with TG-4 (Interoperability)
6. TG6: Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) 2006 Work Plan:
- Increasing Membership participation as well as identifying and targeting specific individuals, organizations or/and divisions within agencies that are actively involved in many of these issues
  - Take stock and undertake an inventory of:
    - Types and categories of GPS devices that are being used in the field
      - Limitation and strengthens and how they are being used

- Best practices, methodologies, and standards already adopted or being developed
- Challenges and issues confronted by different organizations and divisions/sections within organizations including success stories
- Training material already developed

### C. Resource Mobilization (requirements & gaps)

1. TG1 indicated that more resources will be required if 2006 work plan is to be accomplished fully. A project plan has been developed which is currently being finalised outlining resource requirements. Some funding may be received from UNEP to support 2006 activities of UNECA in order to speed up the process in Africa.
2. TG2 2006 work plan doesn't require too much funding
3. TG3 2006 work plan does not require substantial product development, so TG will not require large amounts of funding.
4. TG4 2006 work plan will require additional resources particularly related to the transportation infrastructure spatial data model.
5. TG5 has indicated that not much additional resource will be required trying to align TG5 work plan with some of OCHA's internal work plans. Small resources is needed for TG5
6. TG6 resources will mostly revolve around staff time using existing staff resources and structures. Small amounts of resources will be required.

### D. Update on Secretariat Activates

1. First **FAO/WFP Secretariat Meeting** was held on Wednesday, 16 November after Addis as part of regular meetings within the Secretariat. Issues discussed included:
  - Follow-up issues from Addis
  - Prepare for this meeting
  - Look forward to UNGIWG 7
2. **Web-Site** has been update to reflect the Addis meeting. Some of the updates include:
  - Brief summary of 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting,
  - Progress reports of the TG prior to Addis published
  - Final Agenda
  - Participants List
  - Case Study Abstracts
  - Group Photo
3. **SALB-GAUL Meeting** to be arranged in Rome was confirmed. Date still to be finalised but tentative date is mid-January. Meeting is expected to be 2-days.
4. **VMAP1:**

- David Kaatrud (WFP) to meet Kyoung-Soo Eom (DPKO) in mid-December in New York to discuss the follow-up with NATO-Partnership for Peace Programme on the VMAP1 issue.
  - Michal Smolka (WFP) will shortly initiate a survey to build an inventory of what is available within the UN system (what agency have, known, and accessible).
5. A **Newsletter** will be pursued aiming at two issues in 2006 in the March / September timeframe. This 2 page (1 page double) newsletter will be an advocacy tool produced by the Secretariat.
  6. **UN-SDI initiative.** Secretariat is pursuing the idea of an initial consultancy in order to get a baseline understanding of the state of the art in this area, provide direction on how we might move forward on UN-SDI.

Provisionally a three months consultancy possibly starting in mid-January is being planned. Candidate will have experienced in the field of SDI, and will have a good understanding of the workings of the UN, working under the guidance of the Secretariat linking with the different UNGIWG members. Consideration of the Strategic Plan, trends and innovations in the academia and related-industry will be reviewed in order to help sketch out how we might go forward. The idea would be to have one month's consultancy in Q1 2006 and 2 months in Q2/Q3 of 2006.

Secretariat looking to secure funding and welcomes and encourages other UNGIWG members to contribute to this consultancy for the benefit of all.

OCHA (Suha Ulgen) is currently developing a concept paper identify various technologies available including open source and open system solutions in the context of UN-SDI. This is provisionally planned to be completed by mid-January and is seen as useful and valuable input to the UN-SDI initiative planned in 2006.

7. **UN Chief Executive Board (CEB).** Secretariat has made a formal approach to the High Level Committee of Programme of the CEB to include an agenda item on UNGIWG during next meeting towards the end of February 2006.
8. **7<sup>th</sup> UNGIWG meeting.** The next plenary will be held in Santiago, Chile.

A formal approach and dialogue is underway between the UNGIWG Secretariat and GSDI Board to determine actual dates for the next UNGIWG Meeting either before or after the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual GSDI conference in early November 2006. The International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (Global Map Project) will also be holding their meeting during the same time period in Chile, possibly after GSDI.

9. **6<sup>th</sup> Plenary Report** progress is being made. First internal working draft should be completed mid-December to late December 2005. Final version will be completed late January 2006.
10. **SRTM (30m).** FAO to follow-up on this outstanding issue highlighted from the Geneva Plenary.

11. **Resource mobilization.** Preliminary contacts have been made to various donors including Japan, DFID, and Canada whereby various project outlines and concept papers have been submitted. These have emphasised various UNGIWG elements/activities including the UN-SDI strategy/concept and the Task Groups as an exploratory means of probing interest from these various donors.

Dialogue is continuing with Japan which has been positive thus far. DFID have shown interest in the workings of some of the Task Groups. Their interest lies in the interagency elements particularly relating to partnerships with NGOs and Government. A concept paper has been requested which is to be drafted. Follow-up with Canada will continue next year due to issue relating to Government and year-end.

Efforts will continue looking for potential funding for UNGIWG-related activities including informal consultation with donors (traditional donors and new opportunities). During David Kaatrud (WFP) visit to New York, David will follow-up on the submitted UN-Foundation concept paper for funding.

## **E. AOB**

The next videoconference will be held during the first quarter of 2006. Date to be confirmed.

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