



ORGANIZACION HIDROGRAFICA INTERNACIONAL

Dossier del BHI No. S1/5051- TA-005-3

**CIRCULAR No. 17/2013
27 de Febrero del 2013**

**SEGUNDO FORO DE CHENGDU SOBRE EL MAPA GLOBAL PARA
EL DESARROLLO SOSTENIDO DEL UN-GGIM: DESARROLLO Y
APLICACIONES PARA LA CARTOGRAFIA DE LOS RIESGOS URBANOS
CHENGDU, PROVINCIA DE SICHUAN, CHINA
24 - 26 de Abril del 2013**

Referencias:

- A. Carta Circular del BHI No. 66/2011 del 3 de Noviembre - *Participación de la OHI en el Comité de Expertos de las NU en la Gestión de Información Geoespacial Global;*
- B. Carta Circular del BHI No. 82/2012 del 22 de Agosto - *Informe sobre la Segunda Sesión del Comité de Expertos de las UN sobre la Gestión de Información Geoespacial Global;*
- C. Circular del BHI No. 88/2012 del 8 de Octubre – *Segundo Foro de Alto Nivel sobre la Gestión de Información Geoespacial Global, Doha, Qatar, 4-6 de Febrero del 2013.*

Estimado(a) Director(a),

1. La Carta Circular del BHI No. 66/2011 (Referencia A) informaba sobre la creación de un Comité de Expertos de las NU sobre la Gestión de Información Geoespacial Global (UN-GGIM) y sobre las oportunidades que la participación de la OHI y de los organismos de sus Estados Miembros les aporta, sensibilizando y fomentando el interés descendiente de los gobiernos y el apoyo a los programas hidrográficos. La participación en el UN-GGIM ayuda también a la coordinación al más alto nivel del programa de la OHI con los de otras organizaciones internacionales, corporaciones y organismos de normalización.
2. La CC. No. 82/2012 (Referencia B) y la CC. No. 88/2012 (Referencia C) informaban a los Estados Miembros sobre el progreso y la planificación de actividades relativas al UN-GGIM. Tras el Segundo Foro de Alto Nivel celebrado en Doha, Qatar, a principios de este mes, un Foro Técnico del UN-GGIM, que se celebrará en Chengdu, China, del 24 al 26 de Abril del 2013, ha sido anunciado por la Secretaría del UN-GGIM, que depende de la División de Estadística de las NU.
3. El Foro de Chengdu sobre el UN-GGIM está siendo organizado conjuntamente por la Secretaría del UN-GGIM y por la Administración Nacional de Topografía, Cartografía y Geoinformación (NASG) de China, con el apoyo del Comité Regional del UN-GGIM para Asia y el Pacífico. El tema del Foro es: “Desarrollo y Aplicaciones para la Cartografía de los Riesgos Urbanos”.
4. Según lo indicado en el proyecto de orden del día para el Foro, que se adjunta a la presente, el objetivo de la reunión es discutir sobre temas prioritarios relativos al desarrollo y al suministro de información geoespacial y técnicas de modelización coherentes, que permitirán a las naciones comprender e implementar mejor la cartografía y el análisis del impacto de los riesgos naturales en los medios urbanos. En particular, el Foro dialogará con los mejores expertos para compartir experiencias y metodologías en materia de producción, gestión, análisis, modelización y medios de difusión de la información geoespacial relativa a los riesgos.

5. La experiencia y los desarrollos relacionados con los riesgos marítimos como las olas de tormenta, los tsunamis y otras causas de elevación del nivel del mar, son de especial interés para la OHI y para sus Estados Miembros. Se anima pues a los Estados Miembros a considerar su participación en el Foro o sino a asegurarse de que sus delegaciones respectivas en el GGIM sean conscientes de la dimensión marítima del tema que será debatido.

6. Desgraciadamente, el BHI no estará en condiciones de participar en el Foro en calidad de Observador ya que el Foro de Chengdu coincide con acontecimientos previstos anteriormente. Sin embargo, el Comité Directivo proporcionará una contribución por correspondencia a través del Presidente del Grupo de Trabajo del UN-GGIM sobre Cartografía Global para el Desarrollo Sostenido (GM4SD) creado recientemente, que celebrará su reunión inaugural al final del Foro.

7. Se incluirá información adicional sobre el Foro de Chengdu en el sitio Web del UN-GGIM, en la siguiente dirección: <http://ggim.un.org/>.

En nombre del Comité Directivo
Atentamente,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gilles Bessero', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gilles BESSERO
Director

Anexo: Proyecto de Orden del Día anotado del Foro de Chengdu sobre el UN-GGIM
(*en Inglés únicamente*).

Chengdu Forum on UN-GGIM
Global Map for Sustainable Development:
Development and Applications in Urban Hazard Mapping
Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China
24 – 26 April 2013

Draft 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.

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) outcome document “The future we want” urged Governments and organizations to commit to disaster risk reduction in order to enhance the resilience of cities and communities to disasters. Further, in its 2012 report on Key Indicators for Asia and Pacific, the Asian Development Bank noted that Asia, home to almost half of the global urban population, is urbanizing faster than any other region, resulting in an unprecedented growth in densely populated megacities. It points out in particular the growing vulnerability to natural disasters, and the need for information and appropriate mitigation strategies.

The Doha Declaration (6 February 2013) affirmed the importance of having a stable, credible, and reliable national geospatial information infrastructure in each country built on internationally recognized standards that will integrate, manage, and deliver geospatial information for timely, evidence based and authoritative decision making and policy formulation on location-based development issues, including disasters and humanitarian needs.

The Secretariat of UN-GGIM and the National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation (NASG) of China are jointly organizing the Chengdu Forum on UN-GGIM to be held in Chengdu, China from 24 to 26 April 2013. With the theme Development and Applications in Urban Hazard Mapping, the Forum will provide a platform for discussing priority issues related to the development and provision of consistent geospatial information and modeling techniques to enable nations to better understand and implement natural hazard impact mapping and analysis in urban environments. In particular, the forum will engage with leading experts to share experiences and methodologies in the production, management, analysis, modeling and dissemination capacity of hazard related geospatial information.

Forum Outcomes:

The forum will consider natural hazard impact analysis data requirements, integration techniques, and analytical modeling applications for a range of natural hazard phenomena. It will also consider the following types of fundamental geo-information as key inputs to the hazard and risk assessment process: framework geospatial datasets; natural hazards phenomena; exposure information; and vulnerability to particular hazards.

The following outcomes are envisaged:

1. A recognition that geospatial information has a vital role to play in all phases of hazard and disaster risk management and reduction, and that it extends the ability for nations to not only map their geography and topography, but also those areas that are vulnerable to natural hazards, particular in urban environments;
2. An emerging understanding of the key issues and means to develop data requirements (inputs) and modeling capabilities from multiple sources of information to meet end users needs for urban hazard and risk mapping; and
3. Agreement on urban hazard and disaster mapping as a key input into the development of a roadmap for a Global Map for Sustainable Development (GM4SD) by UN-GGIM.

Wednesday, 24 April

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 made by senior Chinese officials as well as the Under-Secretary-General for the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Wu Hongbo.

Keynote Address: Urban Development in Asia and Approaches to Urban Hazard Mapping

To set the context for the Forum, two invited keynote presentations will be delivered by recognized global experts. They will discuss the issues and challenges associated with rapid urban development and growth with particular regard to vulnerability from natural hazards that lead to disasters. In exploring some of the trends and requirements for sustainable disaster risk reduction the presenters will explore methodological approaches to urban hazard mitigation, including mapping, modeling and analysis.

Session 1: Understanding Urban Hazard and Risk Processes

This session will provide international perspectives and understanding of urban hazard and risk terminologies and processes, and how they may be applied. Although hazards are relatively easy to understand – earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, typhoons, and so on – the frequency, likelihood, or risk of them occurring and impacting on urban environments is much harder to understand and demonstrate. Disaster risk reduction programs aim to

reduce the vulnerability (and enhance the resilience) of communities to the adverse effects of natural hazards. A key step in reducing vulnerability is the development and delivery of natural hazard impact and risk information and mapping.

Session 2: Regional Hazard and Risk Modeling Applications

This session will provide presentations from several regional hazard and risk modeling applications and centers of excellence that are linking science, information, and technology to support evidence-based decision making for urban communities. The presentations will provide an emerging understanding of the key issues and means to develop timely data requirements (inputs) and modeling capabilities (outputs) from multiple sources of information to meet specific end user needs (including societal awareness) for urban hazard and risk mapping.

Thursday, 25 April

Sessions 3 and 4: Geospatial Challenges in Responding to Urban Disasters

Through recent real-world disaster events, presenters in these sessions will demonstrate the challenges for geospatial agencies when suddenly required to respond to large-scale urban disasters, and the impediments and expectations that were revealed during and following the events. A common thread is the importance of having consistent, reliable, and readily available fundamental geospatial information to support first responders and government agencies in providing an accurate and informative base-map and platform for situational awareness, response, and recovery operations. Examples of lessons learned, and mechanisms put in place to ensure that agencies are better prepared procedurally and institutionally for the future, are also discussed.

Sessions 5 and 6: Hazard and Risk Geospatial Information Requirements

These sessions will discuss in detail the geospatial information requirements for the urban hazard and risk assessment process. There are several phases (and terminologies) relating to any hazard or disaster event – planning, preparedness, prevention, response, assessment and recovery. Understanding, identifying and zoning specific hazards in urban environments is fundamental to generating and disseminating credible information on hazard risks in cities. Such information, when combined with early warning and command and coordination systems, is able to provide proactive planning and response strategies. The availability and accessibility of appropriate framework datasets (e.g. topography, imagery, buildings, infrastructure, and demographics) are critical to the development of a hazard map or any spatial extent of hazards and impact, irrespective of the hazard of interest. These sessions will demonstrate that national geospatial information authorities have an opportunity to not only map their geography and topography, but also those areas that are vulnerable to natural hazards, particular in urban environments. This information is then able to be dynamically maintained, integrated and delivered to urban planners, first responders, decision makers and responsible government agencies when and where required in a seamless and transparent manner.

Friday, 26 April

Session 7: Developing Geospatial Applications and Methods

This session will discuss a range of geospatial data, applications and methods that are being developed and applied in some Member States to augment disaster risk reduction policies and initiatives. Presenters will share experiences and methodologies in the integration, management, analysis, modeling and dissemination capacity of hazard related geospatial information and mapping that allows decision makers to better visualize and understand hazards and their impacts during exercises, as well as before, during, and after an event.

Session 8: Summary, Outcomes and Actions

This closing session consist of a moderated panel discussion with the Session Chairs that will review the discussions that have taken place, with a view to summarizing the priority issues and potential next steps in realizing the importance of providing accurate and reliable geospatial information, able to be integrated and disseminated on appropriate platforms to support urban hazard and disaster mapping.

The Forum will conclude at 12:30pm

Friday, 26 April – Afternoon Session

Global Map for Sustainable Development: Working Group Meeting

The inaugural meeting of the GM4SD Working Group will be convened from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. The meeting will be moderated by the Chair of the GM4SD Working Group.