11th CHRIS MEETING IHB, Monaco, 16-18 November 1999

Report on ISO/TC211 meetings in Kyoto, Sep. 27 – Oct. 1. 1999 by Per-A. JAKOBSEN, Norway

The work of this ISO technical committee is moving forward. Many of the standards and the technical reports had entered an editorial stage under the Kyoto meeting. This means that these documents are no longer worked on in the working groups, but comments from national standardisation bodies given under the voting processes are taken care of in small editing committees. The editorial groups prepare new drafts of the documents for the next stage in the process of moving to International standards.

At the plenary meeting, decision was made to establish a new and consistent number series for this family of standards, giving room also for International Standardised Profiles (of which the S57 may be one when defined in terms of ISO to 211 modules). The different parts of this Geodata Standard will use numbers between 19100 and 19200.

These are the old and new numbers for the different parts:

New number	Old number	Title
19101	15046-1	Geographic information – Reference model
19102	15046-2	Geographic information – Overview
19103	15046-3	Geographic information – Conceptual schema language
19104	15046-4	Geographic information – Terminology
19105	15046-5	Geographic information – Conformance and testing
19106	15046-6	Geographic information – Profiles
19107	15046-7	Geographic information – Spatial schema
19108	15046-8	Geographic information – Temporal schema
19109	15046-9	Geographic information – Rules for application schema
19110	15046-10	Geographic information – Feature cataloguing methodology
19111	15046-11	Geographic information – Spatial referencing by coordinates
19112	15046-12	Geographic information – Spatial referencing by geographic identifiers
19113	15046-13	Geographic information – Quality principles
19114	15046-14	Geographic information – Quality evaluation procedures
19115	15046-15	Geographic information – Metadata
19116	15046-16	Geographic information – Positioning services
19117	15046-17	Geographic information – Portrayal
19118	15046-18	Geographic information – Encoding
19119	15046-19	Geographic information – Services
19120	15854	Geographic information – Functional standards
19121	16569	Geographic information – Imagery and gridded data
19122	16822	Geographic information – Qualifications and certification of personnel
19123	17753	Geographic information – Schema for coverage geometry and functions
19124	17754	Geographic information - Imagery and gridded data components

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The working group 5 has been the group where "other standards" (as S57, DIGEST, SDTS and so on) met with TC211. The work item Profiles will now be the only work item in this group, and the project leader for this work item, Mr. Doug O'Brien, was appointed new convenor for that group. During the meeting in group 5, chaired by the chairman of ISO/TC211, Mr Olaf Østensen, the future of this group was discussed.

All of the representatives from the de facto standard organisations indicated the importance of having a technical forum to discuss and have advice from when starting work with defining the de facto standards in terms of Tc211 elements and standards. However, none of them had so far put forward any written proposals for co-operative agreements for such work which could be used as input for new work items that could be a more permanent fundament for such technical group than the existing work item will be.

The chairman and the project leader had met with ISO Central Secretariat in Geneva to discuss how registration of profiles could be dealt with. Previously this had been described as possibly done within a subgroup 5.1 which could be a permanent technical expert group, and this could be a forum for doing harmonisation between standards. This way of organising work is not in accordance with the rules of ISO where a technical working group is tasked with one or more development tasks (or work item), and the group is dismissed when all the work items have been moved up to a committee draft level.

Working group 5 asked the tc211 to establish a strategic group to look into this.

The TC211 plenary meeting made this decision:

Resolution 107 Advisory Group for the creation of strategic direction statement for ISO/TC 211

The ISO/TC 211 Secretariat will be required to develop a business plan for the committee. As a preparation for this work, ISO/TC 211 resolves that an Advisory Group shall be established to analyze strategic directions and to identify relevant policies and/or options for ISO/TC 211. ISO/TC 211 invites each P-member to provide one member for this group. The advisory group shall consult all appropriate parties.

ISO/TC 211 secretariat will as necessary distribute agendas and announce date and location for the meeting(s) of the advisory group. The chairman will convene the meeting(s).

The first draft of the strategic direction statement shall be presented at the 10th Plenary meeting 2000-03-09/10.

During the work in group 5 at Kyoto, the points in the IHB liaison report was not in reality discussed. The UML datamodel is in accordance with the ISO model except for a few minor things, which is due to a slight modification in the ISO feature model after the Vienna meeting in March. The consideration regarding S-57 requirements for the development of profiles, is something that must be discussed in the advisory group.

Of interest to IHO members are also those reports and standards that deal with raster, imagery and gridded data. These reports are under work in working group 1,2 and 5, short summary of status follows:

15854 19120	WG5	"Functional Standards"	•	Finalised as technical report in December this year. This report gives an overview over existing de facto standards and how their different parts are (or not) in agreement with corresponding parts of the ISO/TC211 family of standards and further work needed.
16569 19121	WG1	"Imagery and gridded data"	• •	Finalised as technical report in December this year. This report gives an overview over existing raster and gridded data standards and formats. Provided is also a list of work needed within ISO tc211 in order to properly address this kind of data structures.
17753 19123	WG2	"Schema for coverage geometry and functions"	•	Next meeting in January/February next year. From Hydrographic point of view, a swath coverage function is important.
17754 19124	WG1	"Imagery and gridded data components"	•	Work item is a "stage 0" work item and will be based on the "Imagery and gridded data" report. This means that the result will be a set of proposals for new work items within TC211 to deal with the standardisation work needed for the different kinds of important data components within the scope of this work item. (One of the candidates are HH-coding.) Meeting scheduled for 13-14 Dec. In Reston, USA. Input for this meeting will be a set of "white papers" that gives details about actual standards, formats and so on that may turn out to be identified as components in addition to those identified in "Imagery and gridded data" report.

I feel that the impact that IHO and the hydrographic world ought to have on the new geodata standard is much bigger than reflected in the participation in the ISO/TC211 work. Participants in the working groups from (or often working in relation to) hydrographic offices have been seldom more than 3 persons. In order to be a member of a working group, one has to be appointed as technical expert of the national standardisation organisation. For the meeting in Reston it will be of great value if hydrographic offices could have experts present. Also for further work with the technical report 19123 input from hydrographic world is requested.

Dr. Sinichi Kikuchi (Japan) represented IHB under the plenary meeting in Kyoto. These experts took part in the work of the working groups and provided input related to Hydrographic requirements: Mr. Per-A. Jakobsen (Norway), Mr. Herman Varma (Canada) and Mr. Doug 'OBrien (Canada)

Stavanger 16/11-99

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