

MINUTES
2012-09-23

WG-meeting International Map Year

Place: Hotel Sheraton, Columbus, Ohio, USA

Attendance: Bengt Rystedt, Zentai Laszlo, Tim Trainor and Alexander Wolodschenko. Aileen Buckley was informed later.

Time: 2012-09-16 from 10 to 12

Agenda

1. Introduction.
2. Discussion on the textbook (content and writers).
3. Instructions to ICA National members to organize National Map Days in 2015.
4. Presentation at the UNRCC in Bangkok in the end of October perhaps by Georg Gartner who will attend.
5. Preparation of a resolution to be accepted in Bangkok.
6. Proposal for UN member states to send proposals to the UN.
7. WG meeting in Dresden 2013 (at least a poster).
8. Special session for ICA National Members in Dresden.

1. Introduction.

After a motion from the Swedish Cartographic Society to the ICA General Assembly in Paris 2011 to organize an International Map Year the General Assembly accepted the motion unanimously. The Executive Committee of ICA established the Working Group at a meeting in Vienna in November 2011 with Bengt Rystedt as chairperson and Ferjan Ormeling as deputy chairperson.

The WG members so far are:

- Aileen Buckley, ESRI, Redlands, USA
- Ayako Kagawa, UN Cartographic Division, New York, USA
- Serena Coetzee, Pretoria, South Africa.

The EC also accepted the following terms of references:

- Create a text book on Cartography and Geographic Information for the general public;
- Elaborate plans for national activities and establish national contacts;
- Involve the ICA commissions in the work;
- Find sponsors among the affiliate members;
- Establish contacts with the UN and the ICA sister organizations (through the EC of ICA and the JBGIS);
- Produce information that can be used at national Map Days;

- Follow up and update the working plan at the ICC in Dresden 2013.

A homepage www.bengtrystedt.se has been set up.

Information has been given in ICA News and in GIM (August 2012). A paper will be presented at AutoCarto on September 18, 2012.

2. Discussion on the textbook (content and writers).

The book is intended to be used by school children privately in their education and by the general public for increasing their knowledge about how maps and geographic information are produced and used. The first version of the book will be an electronic one that can be downloaded from the homepage of the ICA. Later on there might be a printed version that hopefully can be produced at small cost.

The content of the proposed textbook is as follows:

I Introduction:

1. Introduction to Cartography (Bengt Rystedt and Ferjan Ormeling).

2. Use of Maps (Corné Elzakker).

The chapter will describe how to read maps and also include way-finding on land and on sea.

3. Introduction to Geographic Information (Aileen Buckley).

The chapter will first describe the difference between data and information and shortly describe what geographic data is. More detailed information on how to get data will be given in chapter 14.

II How to make maps:

4. Map Projections and Reference Systems (Miljenko Lapaine or Lynn Usery).

The chapter will describe the principals of the cylindroid, the conical and the polar projections, and how you can combine data from different projections. Perhaps the chapter also may include tectonics and how the big mountains have been formed.

5. Topographic Maps (Bengt Rystedt and Lazlo Zentai).

Bengt will describe topographic maps and Lazlo orienteering maps.

6. Thematic Maps (Ferjan Ormeling).

The chapter must in addition to statistical maps also include geological maps.

7. Atlases (Ferjan Ormeling).

The chapter must also include how to find school atlases in different languages on the Internet.

8. Geographical Names (Ferjan Ormeling).

Geographical names are important to people. Spelling has special importance and also the translation to Roman letters. Perhaps UNGEGN can be involved in financing courses.

9. Map Design

10. Open Street Maps (Serena Coetzee).

The chapter will describe how to use Open Street Map and how to produce maps on a computer with data and software from ESRI (Aileen Buckley has forced the question in ESRI). The chapter will also describe how to use GPS and perhaps also geocaching.

III How to Present Maps

11. Print Maps.

12. Maps on the Internet.

13. Copyright

IV Geographic Information and Education

14. How to get Geographic Data (Aileen Buckley).

The chapter will get information on how to get geographic data and that many countries are working on how to receive geographic data without costs.

15. Education.

The chapter will give hints on further education. It is of importance that geomatics will have more students in the future. There are so many programs to compete with.

V Further Information

16. Further Information

The chapter (if necessary) will give examples of further private studies and where more information can be found.

References

A draft should be available before the next meeting in Dresden. The book shall be ready during 2014.

3. Instructions to ICA National Members to organize National Map Days in 2015.

The chapter will contain guidelines for National Map Days that should be organized at as many possible places as possible. In Sweden when the Swedish Cartographic Society in the year of 2008 organized the Map Days 64 municipalities organized Map Days. It could just be one day or a set of lectures that could be visited by everyone.

The national mapping organizations should provide examples of the national topographic map, geological maps and sea charts. Historical maps are also of interest. People are interested in how their community has developed. Local mapping should be demonstrated. Address finding, use of GPS and Open Street mapping should also be demonstrated. A poster with principles for the Map Days should be presented at the ICC in Dresden.

ICA has about 80 national members. Via the UNRCC and the EIS in Africa it should be possible to find other countries and also attract them as ICA members.

The target year is 2015. Discussions whether 2015 may be too early will be considered in Dresden.

4. Presentation at the UNRCC in Bangkok.

The closest UNRCC will be held in Bangkok from October 29 to November 1 will be held in Bangkok this year. The next UNRCC will be held in 2013 in New York. Georg Gartner will probably be present in Bangkok and can present the idea to the conference.

5. Preparation of a resolution to be taken in Bangkok.

All decisions are taken by resolutions. The resolution of organizing the International Map Days should contain a text that the conference asks ICA to organize the International Map Year with assistance of the other members of the JBGIS. With such a resolution ICA will get the input from the UN that is needed.

6. Proposal for UN member states to send proposals to the UN.

To go further than proposed above is to go to the UN and ask the ECOSOC to take a resolution as indicated above. That is more difficult and need a proposal from a member country. Such a request was prepared in Sweden. A draft was sent to the Government but the responsible minister said that the EU is not satisfied with the results from the UN and that the "years" tend to be costly. The minister refused to send the request to the UN. However, the GGIM has been informed but will possibly not take any action within the UN.

7. WG meeting in Dresden 2013 (at least a poster).

The WG should organize a WG meeting for further discussion on the textbook and the content of a session with ICA National Members to present the proposal and also give directions how to organize National Map Days during 2015.

8. Session for national members in Dresden.

We should organize a session of 1,5 hours for the ICA national members during the ICC where we explain the idea and what we want from them.

9. Information to Aileen Buckley.

Aileen Buckley could not participate in the meeting because of late return from a conference in New Zealand. She was given information later on during AutoCarto.