

International Working Group on Satellite based Emergency Mapping (IWG-SEM)

Minutes of the teleconference held on Wednesday, 06.02.2013, 14-15 UTC

Participants: EC-JRC: Marco Broglia, Jan Kucera
EC-ENTR: Frederic Bastide
SERTIT: Stephen Clandillon
ITHACA: Fabio Giulio Tonolo, Andrea Ajmar
SENTINEL ASIA: Masahiko Nagai
DLR: Stephan Voigt
GEO: Francesco Gaetani
SERVIR: Nathan Smith

During the teleconference, following points were discussed.

1. Enlargement of the group

As agreed previously, the IWG-SEM should be enlarged of other organizations involved in emergency mapping and not yet part of the group. EC-JRC sent the invitation letter to the following organizations: NDRCC, NSRDA, DFRO, CONAE, PDC and OFDA. Several organizations already positively reacted with the statement that they would like to be involved in the group.

The TC participants were informed about the invitation process. All participants appreciated the enlargement, there was no suggestions on other organizations to be included in invitation.

2. IWG-SEM website

The IWG-SEM website was made publicly available. It was incorporated under GDACS portal (<http://portal.gdacs.org/data/IWGSEM/tabid/190/Default.aspx>). The group has also dedicated url (www.iwg-sem.org) which is redirected to the GDACS portal. This dedicated url serves for easier remembering of the access point. IWG-SEM website has currently very simple design with basic information about the group, public and restricted area.

The TC participants appreciated the opening of the website with the eye on further enrichment of its content.

3. IWG-SEM Meeting in Torino, 22-23.4.2013

The next IWG-SEM meeting will be hosted by ITHACA in Torino. The logistical details will be discussed during February. So far DLR, SERTIT, JRC, ITHACA, USGS, Sentinel Asia and SERVIR are planning to participate. Furthermore the EC representation will be enlarged by participants from DG ENTR and DG ECHO, who are encouraging further cooperation of GIO-EMS with similar emergency mapping mechanisms. DLR stressed that the meeting should be used to tackle practical issues of the group and focus deeply on one of the items from IWG-SEM mission statement. The number of presentations should be kept on minimum to allow more time to focus on the working items of the group.

4. Progress on Emergency Mapping Guidelines

No progress on emergency mapping guidelines was reported, the work is supposed to continue during the February. The members of the group will be asked to focus selected part of the document and provide their input. The draft should be ready for review for meeting in Torino.

5. Mailing list

So far IWG-SEM maintains 2 mailing lists: one which would include all participants and one which would include members actively involved in teleconferencing, working on packages etc. So far, whenever the email is sent to both of the list, the recipients email addresses are visible. The TC participants confirmed that they are comfortable with this practice and there is no need to hide the members of the mailing list.

6. AOB

GEO informed the TC participants about the DRM Initiative pilot which was kicked off in Frascati with leading space agencies involved (DLR, JAXA, ASI, CNES, NASA). The pilot is supposed to last 3 years and GEO will keep the group informed about the development of the pilot and its relevance to IWG-SEM.