This is an update on activities since the SDI Board Meeting 19 – 20 February 2014:

• The USGS has signed the Memorandum of Understanding. The original signed MOU’s will be distributed to the Board Members.

• All the participating Mapping Agencies have nominated National Contact Points as well as representatives for Lead Countries and Support Countries.

• The Working Group on the Arctic SDI Geo-Portal (lead Finland) and the Working Group on the Arctic Web Map Service (lead Norway) have been established, Terms of References and Activity Plans have been produced. Web-meetings are held on a regular basis. The Swedish Chair of the Technical Working Group is actively involved.

• The Technical Working Group (WG) (lead Sweden, support all countries) meets on a regular basis every 2’nd week (web-meetings) and has revised its Terms of Reference and Activity Plan. The WG follows closely the progress in the working groups on the Web Portal and the Web Map Service. With the broad participation in the Technical WG this fosters ownership in the development of the Web Portal and Web Map Service.

• The Secretariat for the Chair of the Board (lead Canada, support Denmark, Sweden and Norway) and the Communication Working Group (lead Norway, support Canada, Denmark and Sweden) have joint web-meetings on a weekly basis and had a joint meeting May 12 – 15, 2014 with a subsequent meeting in the WG on Operational Policies (lead Denmark, Canada and USA).

• The Working Group on Operational Policies reviewed operational policies, including future trends, from Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure(CGDI) and the National Spatial Data Infrastructure( NSDI) and these will contribute to the evolution of both the Arctic SDI Operational Policies and the Strategy. The considerations also included which operational policies are needed to build and support the concept of a Spatial Data Infrastructure with reference to ”Measuring and monitoring impacts and benefits” from the SDI Manual for the Americas.

• Terms of References for the Arctic SDI Governance and Terms of Reference and Activity Plans for the Secretariat for the Chair of the Board and for the Communication Working Group was finalized at the joint meeting and will be presented at the next Board Meeting. The Steering Committee and the Project Management Group is now replaced by the National Contact Points and by the working groups with lead and support countries. Based on the comments from the Board Meeting the organizational set up do not as originally planned include an Operational Task Force.

• The Communication WG and the Secretariat is finalizing / has finalized

- General ToR for Activity Groups.

- Activity Plan for the Secretariat including planning schedule for next Board Meeting and National Contact Point Meeting

- the Arctic SDI Framework Document + Appendixes

- The one page selling document / flyer

- Posters / presentation for the European Inspire Conference in June 2014

- New Arctic Web Site

- Calendar of Events

• The WG on Strategy has been formed and USA had consultations with Canada, Denmark, Norway and Sweden 15 May 2014 on a framework and a process to be proposed to the Board. USA will follow up with co-chair Finland.

*To conclude all working groups are now full established and have started working.*

• The Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Working Group of Arctic Council have two data sets they wish to publish via Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure. The two data sets are a collection of Earth Observation Data products and a Migratory Bird Data Base. As an activity Arctic SDI is giving technical advice under the lead of Canada to CAFF to achieve a goal which is strategic for both organizations. The work will achieve Arctic SDI objectives including, furthering Arctic Council policy linkage/cover, validating Arctic SDI Information Management Best Practices and strategically build more data sources into Arctic SDI to help serve Peoples of the North.

Provisionally planned meetings June – November:

June 16 – 20 ,2014, 8th INSPIRE Conference, Aalborg, Denmark

• Arctic SDI poster presentation at the 8th Inspire Conference 2014 – Communication WG / Technical AG / WG on Arctic GeoPortal / WG on Arctic Web Map Service

• Joint meeting Technical WG, WG on Arctic GeoPortal, AG on Arctic Web Map Service

• Meeting in the Communication WG – Web Site / Overall Activity Plan / Calendar of Events

September 2 – 5, 2014 Secretariat / Communication WG / WG on Strategy / WG on Operational Policies

• Prepare provisional agenda and documents for National Contact Point Meeting October 15 – 16, 2014 – Secretariat (Canada (CAN) lead; Denmark( DK);Norway ( NOR); Sweden(SWE)

• Demonstration of the Arctic Web Portal and Web Map Service – Chair Technical WG (SWE)

• Workshop on development of a Strategy for the Arctic SDI 2015 – 2022, draft document to the Board – WG on Strategy (United States (US) and Finland (FIN) lead / all countries)

• Workshop on development of Operational Policies, draft document to the Board (DK lead, CAN, US)

Preparing for the Board Meeting

The procedure for submitting proposals, draft decisions, progress reports and documents to the Board is the following:

October 1, 2014 Deadline for documents to the National Contact Points meeting

Submission can be done by National Contact Point on behalf of the Board Members and by the Lead Countries responsible for the activities in the Working Groups.

October 14 – 15, 2014 National Contact Point Meeting, Ottawa, Canada

November 4, 2014 Deadline for documents to the Arctic SDI Board

November 20 – 21, 2014 Board Meeting, Reykjavik

Formal invitation including the preliminary agenda for these two meetings will be sent early summer.