

**PROTOCOL**  
**ARCTIC SDI BOARD MEETING NR 3**

<b><u>Date:</u></b>	21 March, 2013
<b><u>Host Location:</u></b>	Government of Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Earth Sciences Sector, Mapping Information Branch. 615 Booth Street, Room 650, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.
<b><u>Meeting format:</u></b>	Iceland, Denmark and Canada meet in person. Russia and USA (Alaska) participated via Skype. Steering Committee members from Norway and Sweden Skyped in.
<b><u>Notes:</u></b>	Presentations are available at <a href="http://www.arctic-sdi.org">www.arctic-sdi.org</a> .

*The protocol is sent to Board Members, to special invited persons and to co-opted participants to the meeting. [Cameron Wilson](mailto:Cameron.Wilson@ec.gc.ca), Secretary, manages the original; to be archived on [www.arctic-sdi.org](http://www.arctic-sdi.org).*

**Participants:**

COUNTRY	ORGANISATION	NAME	POSITION
<b><i>Board members:</i></b>			
Russia	The Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Mapping	<b>Sergey Sapelnikov</b> <i>(Skype)</i>	Deputy head of Federal State for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography
Canada	Earth Sciences Sector, Natural Resources Canada	<b>Prashant Shukle</b>	Director General Mapping Information Branch
USA	U.S.Geological Survey	<b>Carl Markon</b> <i>(Skype)</i>	Deputy Regional Executive Alaska Area
Iceland	National Land Survey of Iceland	<b>Magnús Guðmundsson</b>	Director General and Chairman of the Arctic SDI Board

<b>Co-opted persons to the meeting</b>			
Norway	Norwegian Mapping Authority	<b>Martin Skedsmo</b>	Chairman Steering Committee
Russia	The Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Mapping	<b>Andrey Mukhin</b>	Leading specialist-expert of International Division Planning, Organisation and Control Department of Federal State for State Registration, Cadaster and Cartography
Sweden	Swedish Mapping, Cadastre and Land Registration Authority	<b>Owe Palmer</b>	Steering Committee, PMG
Denmark	Danish Geodata Agency	<b>Kåre Clemmesen</b>	Deputy Director General
Sweden	Swedish Mapping, Cadastre and Land Registration Authority	<b>Fredrik Persäter</b>	Chairman TWG
Canada	Natural Resources Canada	<b>Ann Martin</b>	Mapping Information Branch Director and co-chair of notional Administrative Working Group.
Canada	Natural Resources Canada	<b>Cameron Wilson</b>	Mapping Information Branch Manager and Secretary to the Board

### 1. **Welcome by the Host**

Dr. Brian Gray, Assistant Deputy Minister, Earth Sciences Sector, Natural Resources Canada greeted participants and opened the meeting. Dr. Gray reaffirmed Canada's commitment to Arctic SDI in order to meet policy drivers ranging from limits to the continental shelf to responsible resource development. He outlined the importance the Government of Canada is giving to location information through the co-ordination efforts of the Federal Committee on Geomatics and Earth Observation and development of a Federal Geospatial Platform. The Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure, both internationally and domestically is not only foundational, but can lead to exponential growth in responsible resource development. Achieving economic objectives while protecting our heritage with accurate, accessible and authoritative data.

### 2. **Introduction by the Chair** (Iceland)

Magnus Guðmundsson outlined his expectations for the meeting:

- To finalize the Memorandum of Understanding
- Similarly, the Terms of Reference should be approved
- Decide to update project plan for next phase in recognition that while our technical efforts are astounding, more work needs to

## Arctic SDI

occur in the financial and policy space. In particular to further define our relationship with Arctic Council

- To do this we must be user driven and further work is needed to identify user groups and needs.
- Arctic SDI status reported:
  - Green: Spatial Base Data and Human Resources
  - Yellow: Standards, Tools, Vision
  - Red: Financials, Policies

### 3. **Introduction by Host** (Canada)

Prashant Shukle gave a forward looking strategic presentation, key points:

- Recognition of the significant contributions from each stakeholder, while recognizing the differences between Mapping Agencies, and how SDIs may serve respective domestic priorities.
- A broad range of evolving International and Canadian policies: Open Data, Cloud Computing, Effectiveness and Efficiency, Federal (Canada) Committee on Geomatics and Earth Observation, Sustainable development vis-à-vis Responsible Resource Development
- Open Data opportunities at G8
- *The standards piece is a critical linchpin in this environment*
- Economic Value Study is attempting to quantify the tertiary or downstream impacts of geospatial data.
- Canadian nascent development of a Federal Geospatial Platform, a centralized open data platform
- Significant capacity gaps in the North

### 4. **Technical Working Group update**

Fredrik Persäter explains that the technical work is proceeding on schedule. He notes that each country has data published to SDI environments, the question is how to leverage these works into a “virtual Arctic SDI”, underscoring the importance of standards.

The initial focus was to publish and integrate base maps from each country. Lessons learned will be applied to other types of data and services. New data and services opportunities will need to be prioritized.

In response to “swallowing the elephant” concern, discussion turned to quantification of levels of effort with appropriate project scoping. This further underscores the importance of a common vision on priority data, standards based interoperability and applications.

Data rights management remains an issue for data that is not freely available. It is expected that this, and similar, policy issues will be tackled in the operational (next) phase of the project.

The Board formally recognized the Technical Working Group’s successes and wished to convey their congratulations.

## 5.

**Country Reports**Denmark - Kåre Clemmensen:

Arctic SDI falls under the purview of the Ministry of Environment. Given increased interest in Greenland and self-governance and results management agendas, Arctic SDI's relevance and importance has increased over the last two years. Similar to Canada, Denmark is interested in pursuing partnership and issuing some kind of collaboration statement. Interest in Greenland from several perspectives, legal and environmental, defence, Search and Rescue, boundaries and sovereignty.

Sweden - Owe Palmer:

Nothing to report.

Norway - Martin Skedsmo:

Ongoing, productive dialogue with Norwegian SAO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Iceland - Magnús Guðmundsson:

Search and Rescue high priority objective. SAO waiting for MoU. Election end of April so will have a new minister. Current minister is supporting 100%. Media is showing interest. Strengthen link with Denmark and Denmark Technical University (DTU) .

Russia - Andrey Mukhin:

Andrey thanks the Host and Technical Working Groups for their presentations. Changes in Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography (Rosreestr) and legislation are noted. A new law, that regulates the spheres of geodesy, mapping and spatial data is planned to come into force this year. For example, more than 30 combined enterprises, that had been under Rosreestr's jurisdiction, were combined in one open joint stock company. In the Rosreestr's structure there remains the Federal State Budget Enterprise "Central Cartographo-Geodetic Fund", that in the future will become an operator of spatial data. On the base of GeoPortal it is being established as a unified informational resource, that will provide the access to and exchange of different kind of information between public authorities as well as other organisations and individuals.

USA - Carl Markon:

USGS updating elevation data, current data is over 50 years old. Higher interest from SAO's.

Canada: Prashant Shukle:

See Agenda Item 3, "Introduction by Host".

## 6.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

Magnus Guðmundsson presents the revised MoU in keeping with the need for a non legally binding agreement. All countries have agreed to this version and the revision is going through official approval channels in each country.

Decision: Memorandum of Understanding will not be signed or confirmed at Kiruna Ministers' meeting, May, 2013.

Decision: A revised version of the MoU will be approved by all countries over the next 3 months.

## 7. Terms of Reference (ToR)

The Terms of Reference catalyzed discussion around the larger issue of governance, given the increasing importance of the Arctic SDI:

- All countries agree that Arctic SDI is maturing as a project and is a fundamental to Arctic stewardship both domestically and internationally. Each country is working on a SDI and are members of broader GSDI and standards (ISO, OGC, INSPIRE) communities. The question then, is how to leverage Arctic SDI governance to compliment respective domestic initiatives in terms of collaboration; standards, data and shared priorities.
- As such, the excellent work to date on the ToR is recognized and helps build a more generalized ToR in keeping with the non-legal MoU. Specific Work Packages will be used by the MoU and ToR as policy cover. ToR need to be agreed to by all countries based on a consensus model.
- *Mission vs. procedural documents* (engagement plan, technology, etc) need to be kept separate. Need mechanism to update these documents, without incurring delays.
- MoU and ToR revisions shouldn't stop TWG from moving forward.

Decision: Terms of Reference not approved.

Decision: ToR should be streamlined, actioned to notional Administrative Working Group (Jens Peter). A draft scheduled for May 1 and final June 1<sup>st</sup> 2013.

## 8. Steering Committee governance

Decision: The Steering Committee shall thank the Advisory Group for their valuable support and to instruct the group to go on stand-by status, in light of upcoming operational phases of the project.

## 9. Confirmation of Vision

Statement and project plans may evolve as operational phase progresses.

Decision: At this time, a change to the Vision is not under consideration.

## 10. International linkages

- Importance of Arctic SDI governance documents reiterated as a prerequisite to effective and efficient engagement.
- Is there a way for us (8 mapping agencies) to work as a group with standards organisations? Yes, we should continue this work and look to other bodies as well (pending final MoU signatures).
- Explore bi-lateral use-cases or projects (e.g. Canada – US marine or forest fires).

Decision: After general discussion it was agreed that Mapping Agencies and Arctic Council shall continue to define and formalize an Arctic SDI project. To explore if

Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) can serve Arctic SDI as a point of entry into Arctic Council on a wider variety of issues (e.g. Sustainable Development, Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response).

**11. Organisation Structure**

- Streamlining efforts shall not hinder current technical initiatives by the Technical Working Groups
- Explore bi-lateral use-cases or projects (e.g. Canada – Alaska)

Decision: to make a new draft Project Plan for Operational phase, before end of June 2013. To be presented at Board meeting Fall 2013. Working versions to be discussed in September at Steering Committee meeting in Helsinki. Lead PMG.

**12. Way Forward**

The Board has reaffirmed the vision and placed a higher profile to the project. Technical collaboration is excellent, can continue to move forward. The ToR and MoU are foundational and may take more time. We have come out of here with a stronger resolve. While the project continues, the next phase will include high levels of engagement, standards and open data efforts. As a result we need to recast, as need be, within our changing landscape.

**13. Other Business**

- Canada and G8 - linking back to foreign affairs and discussion papers on Open Data.
- Denmark - next Board meeting should have a 3 year strategic discussion. Canada's presentation was strategic and helps set the context. We are on hook to lead strategic discussion.
- Canada - number of resolutions on UN-GGIM in July, how do we want to position Arctic SDI. We need to put some action on this.

**14. Proposed**

- Strive to have the same country host Arctic SDI as that chairing Arctic Council, i.e. synchronize chairships.
- It was proposed that Canada chairs Arctic SDI Board for next two years, pending partner agreement.

**15. Confirmation of time and place for the next meeting**

- Next Board meeting is proposed to be in Reston, Virginia, USA on October 17, 2013. Further information will follow in May.

**16. Closing the meeting**

The Chairman thanks everyone for important and fruitful discussions. He then closed the meeting.

Cameron Wilson  
Secretary