**Arctic SDI**

**Technical Working** **Group**

**Terms of Reference**

**Introduction**

The Arctic SDI Board has decided to maintain the Technical Working Group with Terms of Reference adjusted to the organizational changes of the Arctic SDI Cooperation. The general background for the work of the Technical Working Group is the Arctic SDI Framework Document chapter 2 and the Appendix 1 on Data, Technology and Infrastructure.

**Objective**

The Arctic SDI Technical Working Group is responsible for:

* Infrastructure and technology
* Design, architecture and standards
* Data models and metadata
* Technical guidelines for establishing Arctic SDI WMS, the Geo-portal and for other coming services

**Organization**

The Board approved the recommendation for Sweden to be the *Lead Country* for the Technical Working Group. *Support Countries* are all participating countries.

The Lead Country has the responsibility for the implementation, operation and progress of the activities. The Lead Country is also responsible for the planning of meetings, video meetings and further communication. The tasks within the activities are undertaken by the Lead Country and the Support Countries.

The Lead Country reports to the Board. This includes the responsibility to submit documents and draft decisions to the Board, including compliance with deadlines and reflecting on the opinions expressed by the National Contact Points in the process of preparing Board Meetings and respecting the schedule for the preparation of Board Meetings.

**Activity plan**

The work within the Technical Working Group is described in a dynamic Activity Plan which will be available via the Arctic SDI Web Site.

**Transparency and interaction**

The work will be performed in an open and transparent manner. Meetings and documentation will be open to all representatives from the signatories of the Memorandum of Understanding.

The Lead Country has the responsibility to coordinate and communicate any necessary cross cutting issues concerning operations and planning of processes with the lead countries of the other Arctic SDI working groups. In principle the Technical Working Group has the main responsibility for new technical development activities. Additional working groups may be created for specific functions as part of the Technical Working Group.

**Resources**

The Arctic SDI activities are based upon voluntary cooperation between the National Mapping Agencies. The participating countries appoint their member(s) of the Technical Activity Working Group