



COSIPLAN
Presidencia Pro Tempore
Chile 2013 - 2014

Meeting of the Executive Technical Group on the Geographic Information System and Cartography

October 16, 2013
Buenos Aires, Argentina

NOTES OF THE MEETING

On October 16, 2013, the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, hosted the Meeting of the Executive Technical Group (GTE) on the Geographic Information System and Cartography, which was attended by delegations from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela, as well as by representatives of the UNASUR General Secretariat and of IIRSA Technical Coordination Committee. The meeting agenda and the list of participating delegations are attached as Annexes 1 and 2, respectively.

The objectives of the GTE meeting were to assess the progress made to date in the implementation of a Geographic Information System for the COSIPLAN, and to define the next steps towards its development, taking into account that this requires coordinated, participative, and structured work from its members and a high degree of technical content in their analysis.

The working sessions were opened by the representative of the Presidency Pro Tempore held by Chile, Mr. Rigoberto García, International Coordinator of the Chilean Ministry of Public Works. Next, the National Coordination of Argentina presented the work plan background and progress and the meeting objectives and expected results. The latter consisted in presenting and analyzing the survey of geographic data, the feature catalogue and the form for the COSIPLAN GIS feature data dictionary, as well as the proposed topological rules and relationships for use by the COSIPLAN GIS. Finally, the scope of the assistance granted to the project by the UNASUR Common Initiatives Fund and the proposed next steps were also presented. The presentation is attached as Annex 3.

Subsequently, the National Coordination of Argentina presented the final results of the Survey of Geographic Data for Implementing the COSIPLAN GIS. The overall results have been positive, as information on the basic layers is available for most of the countries, which is enough to start work. The presentation is attached as Annex 4.

The representative of the UNASUR General Secretariat suggested that a cadaster should be built containing the list of missing information and the reasons for it, which may be diverse. The aim is to analyze each case so as to take the measures necessary to obtain such information. One of the tasks of the consultant to be hired at the next stage of the project will be to conduct this survey.

The delegation of Suriname said that the Ministry of Public Works is beginning work on the GIS and efforts are being made to centralize the information, which is generated by different government agencies.

Next, the National Coordination of Ecuador presented the proposed Feature Catalogue based on the work done in this regard by the Argentine delegation. The presentation included the general considerations that were the basis for the proposal, the input list, and the methodology used. This presentation is attached as Annex 5.

The National Coordination of Chile presented the proposed "Geometric and Topological Relationships for the COSIPLAN GIS," and the National Coordination of Argentina presented the "Data Dictionary Form." These presentations are attached as Annexes 6 and 7, respectively.

The delegations welcomed the work undertaken by the National Coordinators of Chile and Ecuador, and proposed that these countries should prepare a document containing the items presented with emphasis on the ones that require further work and definition in order to address them at the next GTE meeting, which will be held via videoconference.

Next, the Argentine National Coordination informed that the UNASUR Common Initiatives Fund has approved the provision of assistance for the development and implementation of the COSIPLAN GIS. The scope, components, implementation time frames, and next steps of the project to be executed with such funds were presented. The representative of the UNASUR General Secretariat presented the proposed regulations for the execution of the UNASUR Common Initiatives Fund. These presentations are attached as Annexes 8 and 9, respectively.

Finally, regarding the next steps, the following actions were identified:

1. Organization of two videoconferences, one on Tuesday, November 19, and another one after the Meeting of Ministers to be held on November 29 (date to be defined).
2. Feature Catalogue: The National Coordination of Ecuador will submit, as soon as possible, a general document highlighting the issues to be defined for distribution to the countries. These issues will be dealt with at the videoconference that will be held on November 19.
3. The data dictionary form was agreed upon.
4. Topological rules and relationships: Within a month, the Chilean National Coordination will submit a document containing the issues to be defined for distribution to the countries, which will be addressed at the videoconference that will be held on November 19.
5. Common Initiatives Fund: The Argentine National Coordination will be in contact with the UNASUR General Secretariat to analyze the procedures for executing the assistance. The results will be reported at the November 19 videoconference.
6. Work Plan 2014: The plan will be defined based on the project progress, and will be included at the next GTE meeting.

List of Annexes

Annex 1: Meeting Agenda

Annex 2: List of Participating Delegations

Annex 3: Presentation on the progress made on the work plan, the objectives, and the expected results of the meeting

Annex 4: Presentation on the results of the geographic data survey

Annex 5: Presentation on Ecuador's proposed Feature Catalogue for the COSIPLAN GIS

Annex 6: Presentation on the proposed topological rules and relationships for use by the COSIPLAN GIS

Annex 7: Presentation on the Data Dictionary Form

Annex 8: Presentation on the assistance provided by the UNASUR Common Initiatives Fund for the COSIPLAN GIS

Annex 9: Presentation on the proposed regulations for the execution of the UNASUR Common Initiatives Fund