

POLKEN meeting minutes, 12 May 2016, Leuven, Belgium

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AGENDA:		
	Topic:	Lead:
1.	Welcome remarks from Chair	Dominik Kopczewski
2.	European Affairs Representation Strategy (EARS)	Mick Cory
3.	Copernicus Task force report	François Chirié
4.	Digital Single Market Task force report	Neil Sutherland
5.	Cadastre related issue Task force report	Amalia Velasco
6.	Follow up on ELF Data Provider Agreement, Pricing, Licensing and business model	Guest speaker ELF WP 9 chair Laila Aslesen
7.	Issues of interest – policy tracking list ISA ² public consultation on EIF and EIS revision	Marjana Zelić

8.	Tour of the table – national issues, updates, issues for debate	All
9.	AOB, summary and closing remarks	All

1. Welcome remarks from the Chair

Dominik Kopczewski welcomed participants and provided short outline of the agenda.

2. European Affairs Representation Strategy (EARS) – Mick Cory

Please see Mick's presentation at:

http://www.eurogeographics.org/sites/default/files/EARS%20v1%200%20DE_MC%20PolKEN%20May%2016%20Mick.pdf

Mick reported that updated EARS version use as a base visibility – relevance – impact. Evolution not revolution. Less legislation more strategic orientation. Purpose is to represent our members' capability to others. Members to members is part of internal communication strategy. POLKEN is a central for our representation activity, has pivotal role for setting and delivering agenda. Outcome – driven Task Forces.

We concentrate our developments in an enhanced, fully integrated tracking and evaluation service for members with a greater breadth of issues; building on our programme of strategic communications representing Members' contributions within a future European Location Strategy and working towards policy ownership of geospatial information within the European Institutions; Wide endorsement for a EuroGeographics contribution to the UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat and working with UN-GGIM to advance the status of authoritative geospatial information within Europe

NS: "Policy ownership not sure what is meant by it. Is it intended to say that EuroGeographics to provide guidance to EU institutions. But many our members are not part of EU."

MC: "It is not at the treaty of Rome, that's why you have too many bodies all of different areas of Commission responsible for the area of our work."

FC: "We have to consider that we are not in the treaty but statistics is! Competence has to be changed, if they have environment and statistic they need us but they cannot tell us what to do. Our representation is undermined by the lack of the delivery. It is a problem getting people to deliver."

AV: "It is good that we do not depend on EU policy on the other side we don't get funding. That is our real problem. Commission has to be sensible. Maybe EuroGeographics role has to be to explain to the Commission why there are not some data - because of the lack of money. The Commission is like a business - should obliged our organisations to give us money."

If we align our policy to economy growth and digital economy, if identify funding streams we would get money. We have to think more broadly, think externally is Commission policy. We have to think how to facilitate how EG can support us in serving a public interest in our countries and then exercising Commission of doing the same.

3. Copernicus Task force report – Francois Chirie

Please see Francois' presentation at:

<http://www.eurogeographics.org/sites/default/files/POLKEN%2012%20May%202016%20-%20Copernicus%20FC.pdf>

Francois explained Spanish and French proposal for coordinated action with member states on Copernicus reference data requested by Commission in April through Copernicus user forum. He provided the list of the national representatives in the Copernicus user forum and asked for EuroGeographics members to solicit support from their respective national representatives, since the vote on proposal is expected on 6 September.

DK suggests that permanent correspondents of EuroGeographics members should arrange discussion with their respective national representatives for Copernicus.

NS pointed that we need a package of information to give to the people, briefing pack to be forwarded to national representatives.

AV: "What is the role of EuroGeographics in all this?"

MC: "The role is to have Copernicus KEN which might involve EEA."

4. Digital Single Market Task force report – Neil Sutherland

Please see Neil's presentation at:

<http://www.eurogeographics.org/sites/default/files/EuroGeographics%20POLKEN%20NS%20-%2012%20May%202016.pdf>

Neil presented the issues we must be aware of, but no significant activities are ongoing. Digital Single Market most initiatives will be under way during this year. Parliament intervention to DSM has two aspects of particular interest: It is not decisive, but it provides the guidelines to the Commission. Parliament recommends that public administration should have open data.

Accessibility of public websites text is not yet publicly available but it is known that it is extended to mobile applications, as well as extranets and intranets.

ISA² as an opportunity to consolidate the ELF's role in order to get funding. Work programme is adopted, nine packages out of which 4 and 5 might be of interest for us.

5. Cadastre related issue Task force report – Amalia Velasco

Please see Amalia's presentation at:

<http://www.eurogeographics.org/sites/default/files/data%20protection%20presentation%20AV.pdf>

Amalia presented a new Data protection regulation and its possible impact to our members related to privacy policy.



6. Follow up on ELF Data Provider Agreement, Pricing, Licensing and business model – Laila Aslesen

Please see Laila's presentation at:

<http://www.eurogeographics.org/sites/default/files/ELF%20licensing%20PolKEN%20May%202016.pdf>

Laila gave an update of what was happening with pricing and licensing in ELF. The guiding lines are development of private sector and underpinning the public sector. In October project ends and transition phase starts. Transition phase activities are planned e.g. continuous improvement of coverage, improving products by developing technology and customer solutions, engage large European users and value added resellers. Try to put together sustainable policy, business model, organisational support and technical solutions. ELF licence to direct channel and value added reseller. Licensing principles must be simple, harmonised terms and conditions, sustainability.

7. Policy tracking list and ISA² public consultation on EIF and EIS revision – Marjana Zelic

Please see Marjana's presentation at:

<http://www.eurogeographics.org/sites/default/files/presentation%20marjana.pdf>

Marjana presented DODs "Interest list" with topics which are part of EuroGeographics tracking record, i.e. topics that we track, evaluate and react when needed.

A short discussion ended with a proposal to add four new topics: Linked data, Smart cities, Internet of things and Cloud solutions.

The second issue on the screen was on current Public consultation launched as ISA² activity related to revision of the European Interoperability Framework (EIF). After the explanation and discussion it is concluded that it is not for EuroGeographics to participate, but members individually, if they consider so, and advisably if they could provide the voice on what should be changed, where the focus should be, and what are the priorities.

8. Tour of the table – national issues, updates, issues for debate - all

Netherlands

- decision to make our key registers (topography, cadaster, addresses, buildings) available as linked data;
- 2) growing interest in high density maps as a basic component for self-driving cars and assistance in navigation for visually impaired people;
- 3) discussion to make pdf's of paper maps freely available (but not as open data)

UK

OS has been a Government-owned company for more than a year. Under our new CEO, Nigel Clifford, we have been working hard on a new business strategy that will transform OS into a model NMCA, able to offer a range of services to other agencies around the world.

We have launched an API store which will improve access to our data for developers. Government is investing GBP 5 million to investigate options for open address data.



Much attention is focused on the EU referendum in the UK on 23 June; the immediate concern is about the short-term economic impact of a decision to leave. At least we shall remain members of EuroGeographics!

In the autumn Government announced its intention to privatise Land Registry's operations and consider options for introducing private capital into OS. It is currently consulting on its plans for Land Registry; for more information please see link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/land-registry-moving-operations-to-the-private-sector>

Italy

First of all I would like to introduce a topic I do hope useful in order to avoid an always possible grasping by future frustrations: what occurred in the recent past, in fact, can always happen again in the future...Past examples have been Euro DEM and Euro HYDRO, a future example can arrive to be ELF?

EuroGeographics, should set up a future different way to approach the EC, EP and MEPs. This future new kind of approach should be set in a regulatory framework differently and better capable of protecting and promoting, as EC's first choice, the authoritative data we, as NMCA's and as EuroGeographics, produce.

EG by itself cannot do more than what already did and tried always to do well: I mean to suggest its members to have the so called approach "bottom-up", the only one possible before...Nowadays, we can say that EG is not anymore only EG and full stop: our Association can, whenever there is the need, also "to dress the UN-GGIM: Europe suit" ..

You all also know where the majority of the UN-GGIM: Europe Members are arriving from and that they are representing their European Countries relating to the geospatial information management carried out mainly by the same European Countries' NMCA's.

Not to mention that EG, currently, is also acting as UN-GGIM: Europe operational Secretariat and we all (EG's members) are covering its costs...

So, once again it is my opinion that it has to be EG MB the right arena where the most important EG's topics should be identified (Pol-KEN and the other KENs are only representing useful "tools" to EG MB) in order to be passed to UN-GGIM: Europe (Executive Committee or not) members that are representing European Member States as well as their own interests and, surely, in this way it should be easier to create the most appropriate links/approaches to MEPs or others VIPs within the European Institutions.

Relating to our not jumping at ELF, it has to be remembered that we are ELF products partner but not ELF project partner. This has been our line from the very beginning. To us and at that time in fact it was not possible to calculate the true risk of the project in order to inform properly our Defence General Staff from which, better not to forget it, we receive our financial budget every year. The above already mentioned issue was not clear in the past and it seems still not clearer nowadays and for the future in terms of costs and risks.... a part the already increased yearly EG membership subscriptions 2016-2017.

The current budgetary constraints, imposed also to IMGI, have been responsible of the changes in its production process: thank to the right Law and Technical Agreements, we are receiving the many Italian Regions' geo-data. These data sets will be checked, made INSPIRE compliant and generalized to the different institutional needed scales.

Because of what already above mentioned, our master DB underwent a complete reengineering and its conclusion has been shifted to the end of 2017.

About “Open Data”(very hot current issue), discussions are currently still ongoing at political, technical and financial levels in order to determine which is the more convenient business model to be adopted as well as the data access policy able to determine disadvantages to no one.

Accordingly to the limited current internal budget and manpower possibilities, we are also carrying out the so called “50K OPEN”DB. It will take time because it is not currently on the top of our priorities, but it is the opinion of our Production Divisions Chief that it is something important to be carried out.

Poland

Change of government didn’t affect activities of the NMCA however a discussion has been initiated on options for transformation of the national geodetic and cartographic service in general. There is no clear view on the direction of changes yet however different variants are taken into consideration.

Due to changes introduced into the structure of public administration few ministries were transformed or rearranged which was followed by shifting competences, also in supervision over the NMCA. GUGiK has been transferred from administration to construction.

This has not till now, caused critical delays in realisation of the new EU financed projects:

1. CAPAP - Public Administration Centre of Spatial Analyses,
2. ZSIN - Development of Integrated Real Estate Information System – Stage II;
3. K-GESUT - National database of the geodetic register of utilities network.

Belgium

We are currently still putting to INSPIRE geoportal, work in progress, investigating work with crises management, focus on fire fighting since it is not harmonised at all. Now we are developing application which will be used by all crises users, police, fire, civil protection.

Constructed portal of old maps, one portal of several collections.

Norway

A lot of master level data. Government want them to be open data. The new e-land registry system running. Has to be ready with all internal systems. 90% are professional customers, we will dramatically reduce paper document.

Kosovo

Part of Ministry of environment and spatial planning; responsible for cadastre and licencing a private surveying sector. Running a lot of projects some funded by government some from EU, Government of Norway and World Bank projects. National geo portal is developed has to be filled with more information. Have NSDI strategy to be approved by the Government as well as the Law on NSDI to be approved by the Parliament.

France

Mrs Ségolène Royal, French Minister of Environment, Energy and the Sea, in charge on International Relations on Climate, has inaugurated the 1st Innovation Day of IGNF on 17 May 2016. During this Day, IGNF has presented the winners of the last call for projects of the “IGNfab” incubator, which is meant to help SMEs



to develop innovating products and services using territory description and geo-localisation. The candidates were competing about the theme: tourism, leisure, valuing territories and heritage.

Germany

MW briefly reported on outcome and follow-up of the court case regarding the database directive at the ECJ.

Hungary

Open data and free data discussions, every data is open but not free. Maybe for governments' body. Area photos some orthophotos can be downloaded for free.

Latvia

LGIA is one of new partner in ELF project. From Latvia started 2 organizations – LGIA and SLS.

Participation in projects is difficult, policy in geoinformation consists Ministry of defence, LGIA is under this Ministry. State Land Service is under ministry of justify, but Copernicus involves Ministry of Education. The national geo-portal is managed by the State Regional Development Agency under Ministry of Environment and regional development.

It will not be in ELF project all data sets from Latvia, because data for INSPIRE prepared different institutions, they are not NMCA and members of EG.

Time for new partners is too short – others worked 3 years, for us are only 6-7 months.

At the moment we are working on a new pricelist. In future private sector will be pay only for services, not for data and price will be lower.

Price list is also approved by the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations – we need 6 month to confirm it.

From this year financing for data preparation and updating from the state budget is 100% and all kind of data for the public sector and Municipalities are distributed free of charge. We don't have open data, all users need licences.

At the end of 2013 the Cabinet of Ministers approved the Latvian Geospatial Information Development Concept, which provides financing model for the preparation of data till 2020.

Data viewing service are available for everyone - Map Browser, where you can see all the civilian data, prepared by the Agency, look for place names and addresses to determine the coordinates, and more. 2 month ago we prepared version of Map Browser for mobile phones.

9. AOB, summary and closing remarks - chair

Dominik reported on joint KEN chairs and EUROSDR meeting. We look on how to work on implementation of cooperation agreement.

Webinar is organised by POLKEN on the Copernicus issue, on 13th of June 2016. 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM CET:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8149387045965538049>



It is important for the MS to meet your national representative in the Copernicus user Forum to explain the issues related to Copernicus reference data: duplication, inconsistency with national reference data.

Next meeting will take place in Budapest, Hungary in October/November 2016.
