



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Memorandum of Understanding

between

The Department of Defence of Australia,
the Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Belgium,
the Department of National Defence of Canada,
the Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic,
the Chief of Defence, Denmark,
the Minister of Defence of the French Republic,
the Federal Minister of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany,
the Minister of National Defence of Greece,
the Ministry of Defence of the Italian Republic,
the Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of the Netherlands,
the Chief of Defence Force, New Zealand,
the Chief of Defence, Norway,
the Minister of Defence of Portugal,
the Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Spain,
the Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Sweden,
the Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Turkey,
the Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland,
the Secretary of Defense of the United States of America,

for the

**Establishment and Maintenance
of a Digital Geographic Information Working Group**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between:

The Department of Defence of Australia,
The Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Belgium,
The Department of National Defence of Canada,
The Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic
The Chief of Defence, Denmark,
The Minister of Defence of the French Republic,
The Federal Minister of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany,
The Minister of National Defence of Greece,
The Ministry of Defence of the Italian Republic,
The Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of the Netherlands,
The Chief of Defence Force, New Zealand,
The Chief of Defence, Norway,
The Minister of Defence, Portugal
The Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Spain,
The Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Sweden,
The Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Turkey,
The Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
The Secretary of Defense of the United States of America,

hereinafter referred to as the Participants, expresses the intent of the Participants to set up a Digital Geographic Information Working Group (DGIWG).

2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

2.1 The DGIWG is responsible to the Defence organizations of member nations for coordinated advice and policy recommendations of standardization issues in the field of geospatial information. This MOU expresses the intent of the Participants to set up the DGIWG, whose general principles and regulations are contained in the Terms of Reference (TOR) at Annex A.

3. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

3.1 This MOU will not impose any financial responsibilities on its Participants, except that each Participant will be responsible for the funding costs it incurs in its own interest, relating to the support of the MOU.

4. PARTICIPATION OF ADDITIONAL NATIONS

4.1 This MOU is open for participation by member nations as defined at Annex A. Membership of additional nations will be by invitation and will be subject to the mutual consent of the Participants.

5. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

5.1 Any disputes regarding the interpretation or implementation of this MOU will be resolved only by consultation among the Participants and will not be referred to an international tribunal or any other third party for settlement.

6. AMENDMENT

6.1 This MOU may be amended only with the mutual consent of the Participants.

7. DURATION, WITHDRAWAL AND TERMINATION

7.1 This MOU will remain in effect for a period of ten years from the effective date.

7.2 A Participant may withdraw at any time, upon presentation of 90 days written notice.

7.3 This MOU may be terminated at any time, with the written mutual consent of the Participants.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE

8.1 This MOU becomes effective upon the date of the last signature.

At Canberra

on 20 August 98

For the Department of Defence of Australia



P D Briggs, Rear Admiral
Head, Strategic Command Division

At Brussels

on 20 October 98

For the Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Belgium

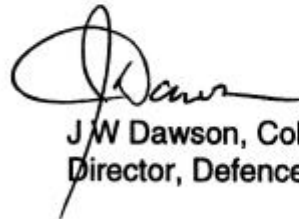


J-P Roman, Major General
Chief of the Operations Division

At Ottawa

on 11 May 1999

For the Department of National Defence of Canada



J W Dawson, Colonel
Director, Defence Geomatics

At Copenhagen

on 10 December 1998

For the Chief of Defence, Denmark



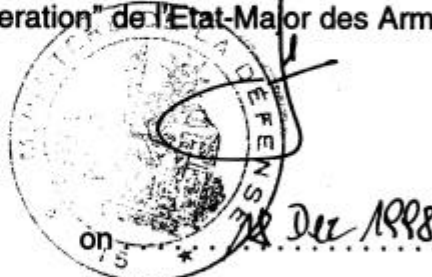
J Sannom, Colonel
Assistant Chief of Staff Infrastructure and Logistics

At Paris

on ... 0.9 JUL. 1998

For the Minister of Defence of the French Republic

Le General de Division Aerienne SABATHE
Sous-Chef d'Etat-Major "Operation" de l'Etat-Major des Armees



At Bonn

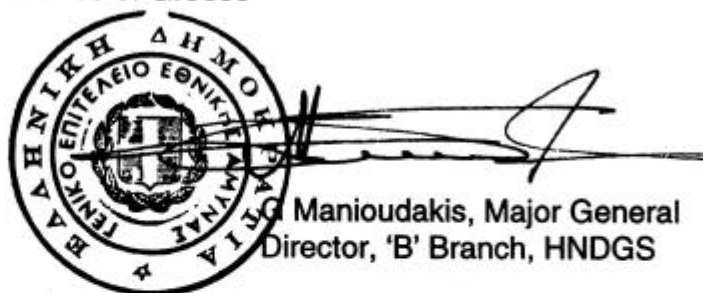
For the Federal Minister of Defence for the Federal Republic of Germany

E Henkel, Colonel
Director, Federal Armed Forces Geographic Service

At Athens

on ... 25. Jan. 1999

For the Minister of National Defence of Greece



Manioudakis, Major General
Director, 'B' Branch, HNDGS

At Rome

on ... 24 FEB. 1999

For the Minister of Defence of the Italian Republic

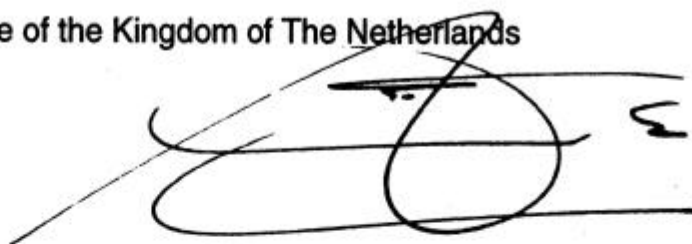


G P Ristori, Brigadier General
Chief, 3rd Division Defence General Staff

At The Hague

on ..3 Dec 1998..

For the Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of The Netherlands

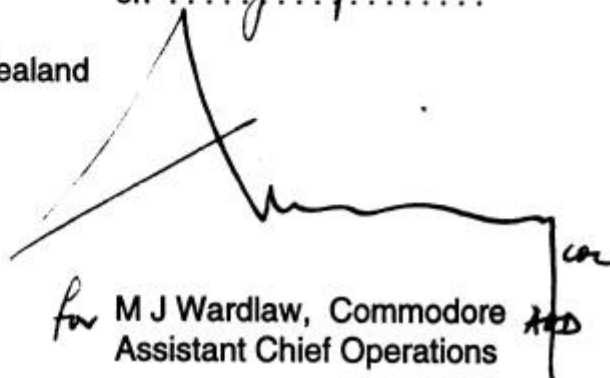


H J M Noordhuizen, Major General
Director for Policy and Planning RNLA

At Wellington

on ..31 July 1998..

For the Chief of Defence Force, New Zealand



for M J Wardlaw, Commodore
Assistant Chief Operations

At Oslo

on ..4 November 1998

For the Chief of Defence, Norway



Øyvind Ruge, Colonel
Director, Norwegian Military Geographic Service

At Madrid

on ...30 March 1999..

For the Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Spain




D Chacon Ortiz
Secretaria General Técnica

At Ankara

on 29 April 1999

For the Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Turkey


O EVREN, Major General
Commander of the General Command of Mapping

At London

on 3 May 1999

For the Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland


P Wildman, Brigadier
Director of Military Survey

At Washington

on 4 May 1999

For the Secretary of Defense of the United States of America


J Sorvik

Associate Director International / Co-Production Division
National Imagery and Mapping Agency

At Lisbon

on 21 July 1993

For the Minister of Defence of Portugal



C Mourato Nunes, Colonel
Director of the Army Geographic Institute

At Prague

on 12.6.99

For the Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic



K Radej, Colonel Ing
Chief of the Military Topographic Service

Col. 

At **Stockholm**

on 3 May 2001

For the Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Sweden

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Hedskog', with a stylized, cursive script.

Björn Hedskog
Major General
Deputy Director Forces Directorate



TERMS OF REFERENCE

for the

DIGITAL GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION WORKING GROUP (DGIWG)

VISION

1. Future deployment of military forces will increasingly involve multinational joint forces. DGIWG nations must be prepared to respond at short notice with geospatial information to support joint operations globally.

MISSION

2. DGIWG is the multinational body responsible to the defence organizations of member nations for co-ordinated advice and policy recommendations on standardization issues. It will meet the interoperability challenges by creating the standards and procedures required to enable the provision, exchange and use of standardized geospatial information.

OBJECTIVES

3. DGIWG member nations acknowledge that NATO geospatial information requirements are a priority. To maximize interoperability and to satisfy operational user requirements DGIWG will:

- a. Adopt a technical vision and development strategy to meet the DGIWG vision and mission.
- b. Provide support to multi-dimensional geospatial models and the ability to manipulate, integrate, query and combine different data types.
- c. Liaise closely with other standards organizations as appropriate, and make every effort to harmonise DGIWG standards with others.

- d. Promote the use of DGIWG standards in systems development.
- e. Consider operational requirements and develop solutions for standards, specifications and technology for production, management and dissemination of geospatial information.
- f. Maximize collaboration between member nations on standardization issues.

DEFINITIONS

- 4. **Global Geospatial Information** Geospatial facts about the earth referenced by geographic location and arranged in a coherent structure such that resource management, data relationship visualization and other reasoning queries may be applied using specialized software tools to manipulate the data. This information is available in analogue or digital forms.
- 5. **Global Geospatial Services** Range from valuable advice and assistance for effective exploitation of information, to the provision of unique products designed to meet special needs.
- 6. **Global Geospatial Information and Services (GGI&S)** Resources of earth-based information and services to be exploited for military operations on land, in the air and at sea.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7. In order to achieve these objectives, DGIWG member nations accept the following responsibilities:
 - a. To implement a body of work that incorporates NATO geospatial information requirements as a priority.
 - b. To make recommendations to member nations on Global Geospatial Information and Services (GGI&S), and on the degree of standardization among national, NATO and international systems, if appropriate.
 - c. To identify and define those aspects of GGI&S which require standardization, and to recommend priorities, schedules and means of standardization.
 - d. To produce, approve and maintain standards and specifications for GGI&S.
 - e. To review, revise and create plans, procedures and organizational structures to co-ordinate the creation of GGI&S.
 - f. To recommend and provide the mechanisms, capabilities and procedures that will enable or enhance NATO and other international co-production.
 - g. To act as a forum for the exchange of information on existing and planned national geographic systems and related Information Management/Information

Technology (IM/IT) concepts. This may include the work of national civil mapping and charting agencies where individual member nations have a responsibility to exert influence to ensure standardization with national, NATO and other international geospatial information requirements.

- h. To offer advice on GGI&S and related IM/IT matters to member nations, and appropriate NATO and other international bodies.
- i. To release documentation prepared by DGIWG in accordance with RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS section of this document.
- j. To maintain the documentation prepared by DGIWG.
- k. To ensure the work of DGIWG is promoted in the international arena. As a minimum, DGIWG will ensure that international standards are harmonized with DGIWG standards to the maximum extent possible.

COMPOSITION

- 8. The DGIWG committee structure will evolve as necessary to achieve its overall DGIWG objectives.

METHOD OF WORK

- 9. The DGIWG method of work will be by consensus.
- 10. The detailed tasks of any subordinate bodies which the DGIWG decides to set up will be contained in their respective ToRs which are to be drafted by the respective bodies and approved by DGIWG. The major tasks of DGIWG are listed below.
- 11. DGIWG will meet at least once a year and will:
 - a. Ensure that the vision, mission and objectives are achieved.
 - b. Create, task and disband subordinate bodies and approve their ToRs.
 - c. Endorse new work items proposed by member nations or subordinate bodies.
 - d. Ensure that DGIWG work is prioritized and adequately resourced by member nations.
 - e. Promote DGIWG work in and liaise with other international bodies.
 - f. Maintain the DGIWG ToRs.
 - g. Encourage member nations to present national technical issues or developments in the field of GGI&S.

- h. Identify emerging technological trends and issues.
- i. Define and maintain the Technical Vision and Development Strategy.

MEMBERSHIP

12. The DGIWG is comprised of member nations (Participants). All Participants agree to the mission and objectives of DGIWG. There are two categories of membership, Participating and Associate:

- a. Participating. Participating Member nations must demonstrate their commitment by the allocation of resources to the technical work of DGIWG by leading or participating in a technical body of work.
- b. Associate. Associate Members are those who commit resources to reviewing the work of DGIWG. Associate Member nations may participate fully in DGIWG bodies but their positions may not influence DGIWG decisions. Associate membership allows co-operation with Participating Member nations and enables both Associate and Participating Member nations to benefit from such co-operation. A full list of Participants is maintained at Appendix 1 to this Annex.

13. Membership Control. Membership of new nations will be in accordance with the MOU. Applications for membership are to be submitted to the Chairman, DGIWG SC. It is recognized that prior to application for membership, candidate member nations may wish to observe the workings of DGIWG. This is allowable under similar application.

14. Changes in membership category will be determined by the Participants.

15. Membership may be terminated at any time in accordance with paragraph 7.2 of the MOU.

ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

16. DGIWG is not a NATO body but its existence and expertise in its field have been recognized and welcomed by NATO and international standardization organizations. Close liaison will be maintained with these organizations. The Chief Geographic Officer SHAPE or his designated representative is invited to attend DGIWG meetings for liaison. Additional liaisons may be established as appropriate.

RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS

17. The release of DGIWG committee papers, working and draft documentation will be limited to member nations and liaison bodies.

18. No restriction will be placed on the release of standards and specifications which have been approved by DGIWG.

19. The release by member nations of DGIWG standards and specifications and compliant data, is encouraged, in order to promote their use.

IMPLEMENTATION

20. The DGIWG ToR is implemented upon the entry into effect of the MOU of which the ToR is an Annex and upon the termination of the DGIWG Memorandum of Understanding dated 18 January 1989.

REVIEW

21. A review of the ToR will be a standing agenda item at DGIWG meetings.

List of Participants

Participating Member Nations

BELGIUM

CANADA

CZECH REPUBLIC

DENMARK

FRANCE

GERMANY

GREECE

ITALY

NETHERLANDS

NORWAY

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

SWEDEN

TURKEY

UNITED KINGDOM

UNITED STATES

Associate Member Nations

AUSTRALIA

NEW ZEALAND