



11 August 2003

Mr. Santiago Borrero,
Permanent Committee on Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas,
P.O.Box 23521,
Bogota,
Colombia.

Dear Santiago,

Cadastral Template Project

I am delighted to advise that the Cadastral Template Project jointly developed by the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) and the International Federation of Surveyors Commission 7 (Cadastre and Land Management) has received a United Nations mandate through the 16th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific held in Japan on 14-18 July 2003. The Resolution is attached.

The United Nations mandate for the Cadastral Template Project is an important development to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of cadastral systems worldwide including a focus on the role of cadastres in national spatial data infrastructures. In simple terms the Cadastral Template provides a standard format to collect both descriptive and statistical data of the cadastral system of a specific country.

After several years' development the Cadastral Template has now been approved for use by all countries in the Asia-Pacific region under the direction of PCGIAP and by the country delegates to FIG Commission 7. The UN Resolution also endorses the desirability of seeking countries worldwide to complete the Template by collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Working Party on Land Administration (UNECE-WPLA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa through the Committee on Development Information (UNECA-CODI) and the UN-sponsored Permanent Committee on Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas (PCIDEA).

As a result of this UN Resolution I am seeking your support to encourage the members within PCIDEA to complete the Cadastral Template by the end of 2003. However late submissions will always be welcome. Please note that the material shown on the website will be as provided by the countries submitting the data. However PCGIAP, under the UN Resolution, has agreed to update and maintain the data if advised by participating countries for the period of the Work Plan 2003-2006 of its Working Group 3 (Cadastre). UNECE-WPLA and UNECA-CODI have agreed to participate in the project.

The Cadastral Template Project has been coordinated through the Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration, Department of Geomatics, The University of Melbourne, Australia, by myself, Mr. Daniel Steudler and Dr. Abbas Rajabifard, with the support of Professor Stig Enemark (Aalborg University, Denmark). All information with regard to the Cadastral Template Project is available at:

www.cadastraltemplate.org

including details of countries already in the system as well as a questionnaire. To date about thirty countries have completed the Cadastral Template for inclusion on the website.

According to the UN Resolution any aggregation or analysis of data will also be shown on the website. If you have any questions please contact:

- Mr. Daniel Steudler (steudler@sunrise.sli.unimelb.edu.au), or
- Dr. Abbas Rajabifard, PCGIAP Working Group 3 (abbas.r@unimelb.edu.au)

Thank you for your cooperation in what I believe is a very significant project worldwide to support the development of cadastral systems.

I would be grateful if you can pass this letter on to the new President of PCIDEA with a covering letter explaining the background to the project. I would be very grateful for a copy of any correspondence and advice of who to contact on this matter in future.

Yours sincerely,

Ian P. Williamson
Chair – Working Group 3 (Cadastre)
PCGIAP

Encl.

c.c. Mr. Peter Holland, President, PCGIAP
Ms Mariko Ito, PCGIAP Secretariat
Mr. Holger Magel, President, International Federation of Surveyors