

Summary of CGA meeting

9 April 2003

Participants: Roberto Cervellati (Italy), Janet Thomson (UK), Chiara Ramorino (Italy).

The meeting started with a discussion about the general direction of GIG and resulted in the development of a list of issues that the GIG wishes to present to the GSSG Chief Officer.

1. Support for Italy's work on the CGA was likely to finish later this year. However, it was suggested that a letter from the Chairman of the SCAR Geoscience Standing Scientific Group to the Chairman of ENEA, noting the importance of the work already carried out on the CGA and the need for work to continue. This may help in persuading the ENEA Chairman to continue with the project. Peter Clarkson might also write a supporting letter, on behalf of SCAR.
2. If Italy could not continue, which country would be able to take on the project? Germany had expressed an interest in the past and because Joern Sievers was unable to attend the workshop in Freiburg, he was spoken to by telephone. He will submit a proposal to his Director, stating the effort required to migrate the existing website (if required), and up date it each quarter, and to maintain the database. Janet Thomson and Roberto Cervellati will provide information to Joern Sievers for his proposal.
3. A discussion on the issue of accuracy of coordinates and the method of location concluded that countries updated details as mapping of areas improved but that adding a statement about accuracy and method of locating the feature was too much extra effort for little gain. The project had not received all of the data that had been requested so far.
4. A conclusion on providing a data quality indicator for each name was delayed until discussion in the joint GIS/CGA workshop. It was suggested that all naming authorities should be encouraged to collect information on data quality / methods of locating the feature so that the information would be available in the future if required by the CGA. It would be difficult to obtain these details for all the existing names in the CGA (about 34 000 in total).