

Date

Thursday 19 July 2007

Title of session

Plenary: Conference Close

Name of presenter/chair

Chair: Vanessa Lawrence, Director General and Chief Executive, Ordnance Survey

Name of rapporteur

Karen McGrath, Ordnance Survey

Presentation title: Draft resolutions

The Conference had stimulated debate and learning; Vanessa encouraged feedback to understand if there was a requirement for a Cambridge Conference in 2011 and if another interim event, CC Exchange in 2009 should be held – there appeared to be some interest in this.

There had been 220 delegates from over 70 countries attending the conference; over 350 people had been on site nearly every day. The Conference had provided a lot of information; the keynote guests brought out major points which were so relevant to all delegates.

Data collection and use: Air Marshall Stuart Peach mentioned the importance of collecting data once to the most appropriate quality and re-using the data in a suitable context - managed well and used by all.

Reputation and status: Jon Williams' emphasis of the importance of being definitive and relied upon as an organisation very much resonated with NMAs. In support of this it is essential that NMAs continue to develop reputation and behaviours.

Technology: Sir Martin Sweeting described the rapidly changing technology which will take us to places we can't even begin to imagine. NMAs need to make sure that technology is used in what they definitively do in the collection, management and dissemination of data and geospatial products; it is important that knowledge is harnessed and technology exploited in the execution of roles.

Knowledge sharing: Vanessa reported that further developments had occurred during the conference of the two web based portals under discussion and development from AGIN & GSDI. A number of countries had signed up to offer help in populating, maintaining and ensuring quality. Vanessa reinforced the importance of responding to requests for information to populate the web sites and stated that she would measure and publish the results. Vanessa made an assurance that the important issue of maintaining editorial control would be addressed.

Awareness: NMAs should be proactive in creating awareness of how and what they do outside of their traditional sphere and make sure that decision makers in business, the general public and

politicians understand. The need to invest in the next generation so they understand the power of location, place and geographic information is key.
 Press from number of countries had been reporting on the Conference; from their output it was evident that they grasped the message and understood the importance of location and place.
 Africa: Colleagues from Africa had put together the final three slides following their meeting at the Conference (NB. At the time of the presentation the slides had not been subject to editorial control).
 Vanessa closed the conference.

Questions	Answers