

Setting a high note for the Latin America Geospatial Forum

16th August 2011, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil - Setting a high note for the LAGF that starts on 17th, a high-level delegation comprising of heads of National Mapping Organizations (NMOs) from 17 Latin American nations alongwith representatives from Industry and other leaders in the field of geospatial data management from around the region took up the agenda of addressing key issues besetting the Latin American Geospatial Industry at NMO-Industry Exchange Forum. Representing the Geospatial Leadership of the region, participants discussed at length the needed initiatives on data policies, data generation, its usage by public and its innovative applications.

An occasion, perhaps witnessed for the first time in the region, saw some focused deliberations on aspect of data demand and supply and human resources' requirement for the domain. The visions of the industry leaders were put forth along with sharing of the concerns and challenges that each of them experience.

The various resolutions putforth during the forum were that the participants in the NMO-Industry Exchange Forum will:

1. Welcome the opportunity for the mutual exchange of views and experiences and thank the organizer of this forum for their efforts. It is recommended that fora of this type continues
2. Urge all NMOs in partnership with other government institutions, industries and other interested organizations and individuals to find new ways to increase the visibility of the importance of locationally referenced information to society
3. Urge all government and other organizations holding or creating geospatial data to facilitate access to and sharing of this data
4. Urge increased efforts to build both human and institutional capacity for the creation and use of locationally referenced information
5. Urge all NMOs to consider developing new business models which are demand rather than supply driven and which respond directly to sub-national, national to international priority need.
6. Encourage all NMOs to participate in United Nations Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management in Korea and beyond.
7. Support from industry technical collectives in strengthening the work of NMOs is important and the exchange of views, which fora of this type allow, are much appreciated

About Latin America Geospatial Forum

The Latin America Geospatial Forum is scheduled for 17-19 August, 2011 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. With Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE) and Instituto Pereira Passos (IPP) as co-organizers the conference would highlight the need for firmly placing 'geospatial knowledge' at the heart of economic and development agenda of the nation. The conference, which will include plenary and keynote sessions, symposia, seminars, workshops, technical sessions, technology shows and a state-of-the-art exhibition, would bring all stakeholders in the geospatial domain: government, academia, researchers, students, and the industry - onto one platform to come forward and share their learning and experiences with each other and rest of the world; and enter into meaningful dialogue towards development and strengthening of geospatial industry in Latin America. Know More: www.lagf.org

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