

HEAD OFFICE OF GEODESY AND CARTOGRAPHY

00-926 Warsaw, 2 Wspolna Str.

Warsaw, 1999-06-01

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate General XIII

Brussels

E-Mail: pubinfo@cec.be

Subject: Green Paper on Public - Sector Information in the Information Society

Dear Sirs,

Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography of Poland as a member of the Comité Européen des Responsables de la Cartographie Officielle (CERCO) and as an "interested party" entirely shares the opinion and comment on the concept of Public Sector Information worked out by CERCO. Especially we would like to emphasize and repeat what was stated in CERCO opinion referring to particular questions:

Ad. question 2) For spatial information the main obstacle is the lack of meta-data and clear policy on accessibility to information,

Ad. question 3) Meta-data should be available on Internet free of charge,

Ad. question 4) Pricing must be discussed in the context of the category of information and the issues of mapping products are completely different from more basic administrative information,

Ad. question 5) The Mapping Authorities have a factual monopoly for full national coverage of geographic information, however this dominant position is not an abuse providing products are sold at a fair prices to all customers,

Ad. question 6) Harmonising of copyright systems would bring a number of benefits,

Ad. question 7) Privacy issues deserve a special attention. In our field of activities this problem is sensitive as concern to property cadastral information,

Ad. question 8) It may create an obstacle by making public bodies less willing to give access when they are liable for damages.

Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography of Poland appreciates very much if you take into consideration above remarks.

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