



RCMRD: Its Role in Promoting the Use of Geo-information in the Eastern and Southern Africa Sub-Region



Training Center

Regional Centre for Mapping of
Resources for Development
(RCMRD)
Nairobi, Kenya

U.S. Geological Survey
Center for Earth Resources
Observation and Science (EROS)
Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA

Applications of Coarse to High Resolution Satellite Imagery
for Land Productivity Assessment & Management



Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD): Its Role in Promoting the use of Geo-information in the Eastern and Southern Africa Sub-Region

Erick Khamala – RCMRD



Bamako , Mali

6 - 17 February, 2006

Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD):

Its Role in Promoting the use of Geo-information
in the Eastern and Southern Africa Sub-Region



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By

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History



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- The RCSSMRS now renamed RCMRD was established in Nairobi in Kenya in 1975 under the auspices of United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.
- It is an Inter-governmental Organization.
- Currently the Centre has 15 contracting member States namely: **Botswana, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.**
- The countries affiliated to the Centre are: **Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Burundi, Madagascar, Djibouti, Eritrea, Zaire and South Africa.**



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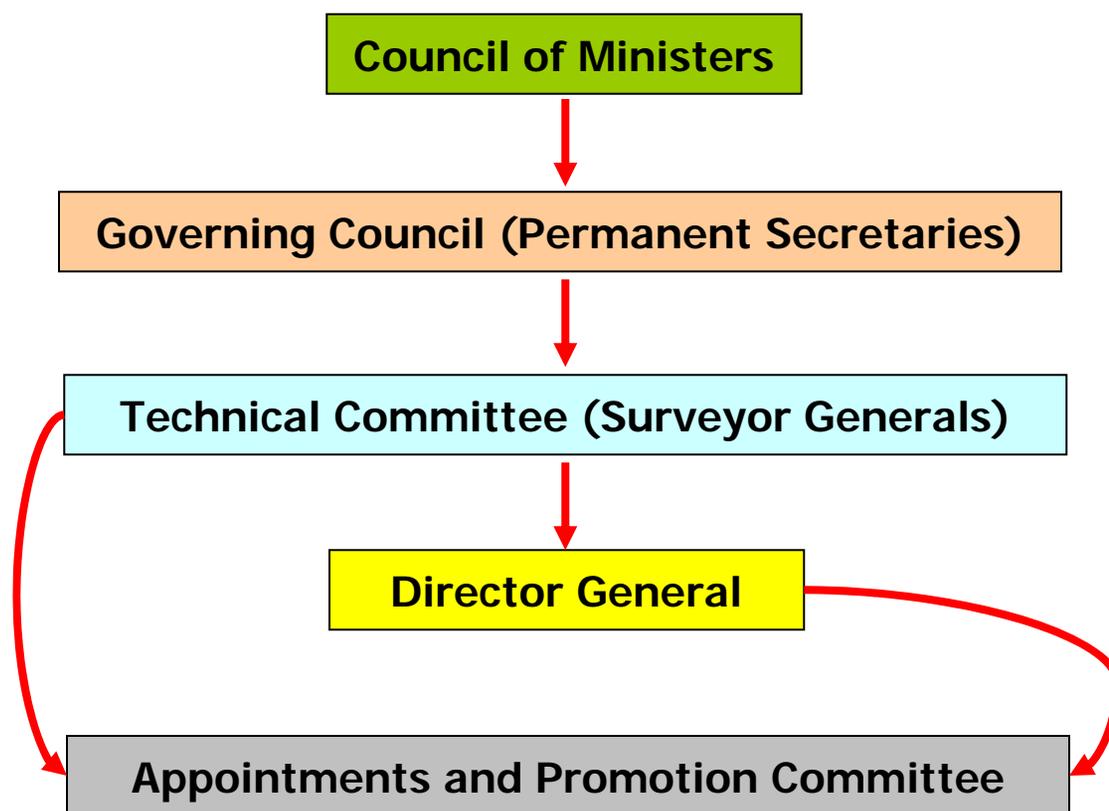
Member States





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Management Structure



THE ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES OF THE CENTRE



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- To provide services in the fields of surveying, mapping, remote sensing, calibration and maintenance of surveying and mapping equipment.
- To provide training for nationals of contracting States in surveying, mapping and remote sensing
- To provide advisory services upon request on problems relating to Surveying and Mapping.

OUR MISSION AND VISION



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- The Centre's mission and objectives were changed in 1997.
- **Mission:** To promote the use of geo-information technologies via standardization, harmonization and development of geo-spatial data and information and strengthening the capability and capacity of the member States in the use of geo-spatial information for sustainable development.
- **Vision:** To become a Centre of Excellence in Geo-information in Africa by 2010.

OUR CURRENT OBJECTIVES



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Key Objectives

- To develop and constantly update harmonized and standardized land resources and urban development digital data and information infrastructure for the region, based on demand.
- To develop regional early warning system for food security, environmental monitoring and disaster management using mainly satellite technology.
- In collaboration with member States' national institutions, undertake projects for creation of spatial information system suitable for development planning at regional and community levels.
- Strengthen and harmonize the fragmented regional and African data using accurate geodetic GPS techniques and research into the field and data processing methodologies.



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OUR CURRENT OBJECTIVES (Cont..)

- **Develop capability and capacity in the maintenance of surveying and mapping equipment and offer advisory and maintenance services to the member States.**
- **In collaboration with national and international institutions, undertake research and training in the application of geo-information in land resources and urban development mapping and assessment for sustainable development.**

Our Programs



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RCMRD executes its activities through 4 main Programs/Departments:

- - Remote Sensing and Environmental Management
- - Resource Mapping
- - Human Resources
- - Engineering Services

NB.

RCMRD has 60 permanent staff (75% are technical) , 20 hired through Projects, and also retains a large pool of consultants in the region whom it calls upon on need basis.



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On-Going Programs/Activities

- Promotion of Geo-information technologies as tools of resource planning and management (**training and applications**)
- Promotion of the Development of National Spatial Data Infrastructures (**NSDI**) and SDI as business investment.
- **Capacity Building** in
 - GIS and remote sensing applications
 - Database development and management
 - Modern surveying techniques
 - Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
 - Integrated Computer Courses
 - Customer tailored courses
- Provision of **consultancy and advisory services** in surveying, mapping, environmental management, resource planning and management and in maintenance and calibration of surveying and mapping equipment.

Achievement Highlights



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- Helped in the establishment and capacity of building of mapping agencies in its member States.
- Trained over 4,000 technical / professional officers from its member States and other African countries in the fields of Surveying, Mapping, Remote Sensing and GIS.
- Implemented numerous mapping and resource assessment projects on behalf of its member States and development partners.
- Provided advisory and consultancy services in surveying, mapping, engineering, environmental assessment, planning and management.

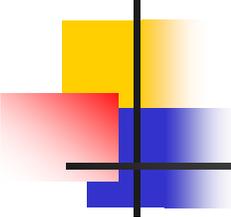
RCMRD's Collaborators/Partners



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The Centre collaborates with numerous national and international organizations and companies including:

- USGS, USA
- ITC, The Netherlands
- Clarke University, USA
- NASA, USA
- European Space Agency
- Canadian Space Agency
- ESRI, USA
- UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Maps Geosystems, U.A.E
- University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya
- UCLAS University, Tanzania



Our Contact

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