

The Governor James B. Hunt, Jr.
State of North Carolina

and

The Prime Minister Dr. h.c. Johannes Rau,
State of Northrhine-Westfalia

DESIRING to deepen the good relations existing between North Carolina and Northrhine-Westfalia in the area of science and technology; and

CONSIDERING the varied and promising experience gained from the 'Joint declaration about economic, scientific and technological cooperation,' signed March 2, 1984 and extended September 18, 1989; and

INTENDING to cooperate further in the area of information infrastructure and spatial information technology; and

WORKING toward substantial and sustainable economic development of both states and society at large,

have signed the following declaration:

Joint Declaration

Extending Scientific and Technological Cooperation

To include Information Infrastructure

and Spatial Information Technology

between

North Carolina, United States of America, and

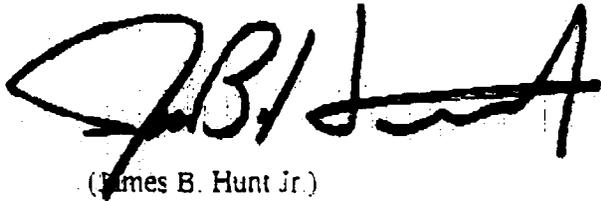
Northrhine-Westfalia, Federal Republic of Germany

- I. The Geographic Information Coordinating Council and the Board of Science and Technology on behalf of the State of North Carolina and the Minister of the Interior of the State of Northrhine-Westfalia will encourage the promotion of joint initiatives in the area of information infrastructure and spatial information technology. The main purpose of the declaration is to forge cooperation in research and development for the emerging information/knowledge society with the following technologies as unifying elements:
- A) Telecommunications
 - B) Spatial Information Systems
 - C) Positioning Technology
 - D) Other Information Technologies
- II. In order to sustain this cooperation over the long term, a bilateral committee will be formed, composed of the Office of the Governor, the Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, and the Geographic Information Coordinating Council of the State of North Carolina, and the Surveying and Mapping Agency of the State of Northrhine-Westfalia. The committee will report regularly but not less than once a year to the respective authorities of both states.
- III. Further, this agreement promotes more effective operations and public services that will benefit all citizens:
- The two states will cooperatively participate in developing the global information infrastructure through commitment of technological resources.
 - The public, academic and commercial sectors of the respective jurisdictions will be involved in these endeavors.
 - New initiatives will be pursued in education related to information infrastructure and spatial information technologies.
 - New leadership will be encouraged for managing growth and development, recognizing that market economies can be developed through the utilization of land, as well as knowledge, as an economic multiplier.

IV. This joint declaration is approved and signed in four (4) copies, two (2) in English and two (2) in German. The English and German texts are identical and equally authentic.

For the State of North Carolina

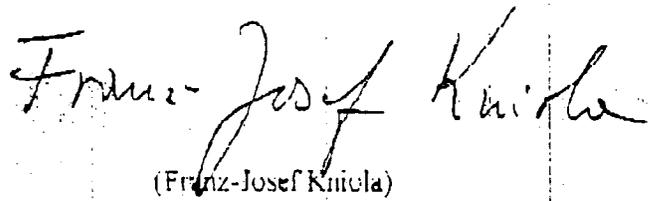
The Governor



(James B. Hunt Jr.)

For the government
of the State of
Northrhine-Westfalia

The Minister of the Interior
on behalf of the Prime Minister



(Franz-Josef Kniela)

Raleigh/Düsseldorf, February 6, 1997

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NCDN/GOV'S OFFICE