

12. FUTURE ACTIVITY

Future plans include the participation of PICES member countries not already federated (*i.e.*, Canada and China) into a PICES Metadata Federation. Such activity may be supported through future 2007 NSDI-CAP funding possibilities. At the 2006 TCODE meeting, a request for Phase III funding (\$4K) to bring China or Canada into the Federation was submitted (pending successful funding application elsewhere).

With the move of the U.S. metadata clearinghouse interface from proprietary to open-source software, the potential exists for PICES to adopt the open-source standard, federate its metadata

internally and sever its direct relationship with the U.S. Clearinghouse nodes. We conclude, that at some point, it may become desirable for PICES to host its own clearinghouse separate from FGDC NSDI.

Other future developments include mirroring a PICES Clearinghouse node and looking into options for translating web pages hosted by non-English speaking PICES partners into their native language. Because of the language barrier, this latter idea would certainly open up PICES metadata to a wider audience than is now available.