



Twelfth plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP)

Agenda item #3:

Report from the UN Secretariat – Global Geospatial Information Management

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E/RES/2022/24 (22 July 2022)

Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

4. Reiterates the importance of strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee of Experts, particularly for the achievement of its operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States;

6. Decides to enhance the institutional arrangements of the Committee of Experts as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council in charge of all matters related to geospatial information, geography, land administration and related topics, in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to the present resolution;

United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF)

Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services For Disasters

Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF)

Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA)

Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management (UN-IGIF-Hydro)

Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes

Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF)

National Institutional Arrangements in Geospatial Information Management

The Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management

Role of Standards in Geospatial Information Management

Compendium on Licensing of Geospatial Information

Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management Reports

SDGs Geospatial Roadmap



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“In a world increasingly reliant on higher accuracy measurements and location-based services, **collaboration**, **coordination** and **coherence** in global geospatial information management is more important than ever before. The United Nations is the right place to foster the needed cooperation. However, the availability and accessibility of quality, timely and reliable geospatial information remains a challenge, as does the capacity of countries to produce the information they need.

Your important work on developing **consensus**-based norms and frameworks, together with your practical guidance, will allow Member States to strengthen and enhance their national geospatial capacities to measure progress, and to make progress towards a better world for all.”

Li Junhua,
Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations
Opening Remarks, Thirteenth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, 2 August 2023



Thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, 2 – 4 August 2023, UNHQ, New York

Attended by 282 participants from 80 Member States and representatives of 83 organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations.

i) Bureau of the thirteenth session

Co-Chairs:

Ingrid Vanden Berghe (Belgium)

Fernand Eanes Bale (Côte d'Ivoire)

Paloma Merodio Gómez (México)

Rapporteur:

Kamal Outghouliast (Morocco)





United Nations

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

**Report on the thirteenth session
(2–4 August 2023)**

**Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2024
Supplement No. 26**

ii) Report on the thirteenth session

On 26 October 2023, the Economic and Social Council

(a) Took note of the report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its thirteenth session (E/2024/46);

(b) Decided that the fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 7 to 9 August 2024;

(c) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts

Economic and Social Council decision 2024/303

<https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/13th-Session/documents/>



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Provisional agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.
4. Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda.
5. Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda.
6. The future geospatial information ecosystem.
7. United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
8. Global geodetic reference frame.
9. Geospatial information for sustainable development.
10. Geospatial information for climate and resilience.
11. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
- 12. Integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management.**
13. Integrated marine geospatial information.
14. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
15. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.
16. Collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
17. Programme management report.
18. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifteenth session.
19. Report of the Committee of Experts on its fourteenth session.



Decision 13/101

(b) Noted the **ongoing budgetary process associated with the adoption of resolution 2022/24 by the Council** and the inclusion of performance measures and results focused on accelerated implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework within the strategic objectives and elements of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, and in this regard underscored **the importance of continued advocacy and awareness-raising within and among Member States and their permanent missions in the next steps and final negotiations for adequate and sustainable resources** within the Secretariat, and requested an update on the outcomes of the process;



10 October 2023

STAT 421(4-158)

Dear colleagues,

As you are aware, the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) plays a pivotal role in promoting geospatial information for sustainable development. Last month, at the SDG Action Weekend, our work was brought to the attention of delegations and participants attending the UN General Assembly and SDG Summit through a well-attended Side Event entitled 'Geospatial Information: Accelerating Implementation of the SDGs'. All information and resources, including the full recording of the Side Event, can be found on our UN-GGIM website here: https://ggim.un.org/meetings_2023/SDG_Action_Weekend/.

important to UN decision making and implementation of the SDGs as is statistics, even if we are able to successfully obtain all 7 extra posts for geospatial information, it will still be less than 10% of the posts dedicated to statistics.”

“The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), in its first report on the proposed programme budget for 2024 has recognized the important functions of UN-GGIM and the need to support Member States in implementing related technical recommendations to strengthen their geospatial information management capacities. Nevertheless, ACABQ is not fully convinced of the requested capacity for a secretariat of the Committee of Experts at this stage and therefore recommends against the establishment of two posts (1 P-3 and 1 P-2).

It is important that you highlight to your Permanent Mission that the work attributed to each of the posts will NOT be done if these posts are not included in the budget. This means that we will not be able to fulfill the mandate given by ECOSOC and some of the output will not be delivered. Also, in general, although geospatial information is as

Yours sincerely,



Ingrid Vanden Berghe (Ms.)
Co-Chair, UN-GGIM
Kingdom of Belgium



Fernand Eanes Bale (Mr.)
Co-Chair, UN-GGIM
Cote d'Ivoire



Paloma Merodio Gomez (Ms.)
Co-Chair, UN-GGIM
Mexico

10 October 2023

Letter from co-Chairs to Committee of Expert



Decision 13/101

(d) **Welcomed the invitation of the Government of Mexico, through its National Institute of Statistics and Geography, to host the seventh High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, in Mexico City in October 2024, with the theme “Accelerating implementation: achieving resilience”,** and confirmed the support of the Committee of Experts in the development and implementation of the programme of the Forum alongside the eleventh plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for the Americas;

(e) **Also welcomed and supported the commitment from Saudi Arabia to host and establish the United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence in Riyadh,** and encouraged the Bureau and the Secretariat to work with Saudi Arabia to clarify and refine the scope and remit of the Centre to ensure that it aligns with the programme of work of the Committee of Experts and complements the activities and established agendas of the United Nations Centres in Deqing, China, and Bonn, Germany, in order to avoid duplication;

(f) **Noted the progress and efforts made to finalize the modalities for the establishment of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Bonn,** as tangible means to develop and expand global geospatial capacity and capability and to strengthen geospatial information management arrangements in countries, especially developing countries, and looked forward to ongoing updates on the operations of the Centres at future sessions of the Committee of Experts;



Seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management

- **October 2024 (likely first week)**
- Eleventh plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Americas, Meeting of the Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts, Other meetings (tbc)

Meeting of the Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts

- **22 – 26 January 2024**
- **Aguascalientes, Mexico**

Tenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe

- **22 – 23 November 2023**
- **Brussels, Belgium**

Eleventh Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States

- **4 – 8 February 2024**
- **Doha, Qatar**

Third Plenary Meeting of the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

- **22 – 26 January 2024**
- **Aguascalientes, Mexico**

Second expert meeting of the Working Group on Policy and Legal Framework for Geospatial Information Management

- **20 – 22 February 2024**
- **Brussels, Belgium**

Sixth expert meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information

- **4 – 8 March 2024**
- **Indonesia**
- **International Seminar**

Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy

- **Week of 18 March, 2024**
- **Bonn, Germany**

Fourth meeting of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management

- **April/May 2024**
- **Mexico**
- **International Seminar**

Expert Group Meeting on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information/Expert meeting of the IAEG Working Group on Geospatial Information

- **September 2024**
- **Nairobi (UNON), Kenya**

Expert meeting of the Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

- **Date and host/venue to be decided**



Decision 13/101

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UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEODETIC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (UN-GGCE)

UN CAMPUS, BONN, GERMANY

The Overarching Goal of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence is to assist Member States and geodetic organizations to coordinate and collaborate to sustain, enhance, access and utilize an accurate, accessible and sustainable Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) to support science, society and global development.

The objective of the Centre is to support the implementation of General Assembly resolution 69/266 through strengthening and advancing: global geodetic cooperation and coordination; worldwide geodetic infrastructure; standards, policies and conventions; education, training and capacity building; and communication and awareness, while also coordinating measures and overseeing their implementation.

Mr. Nick Brown assumed the position as the Head of Office, UN-GGCE at the UN Campus in Bonn
on 5 October 2023.

<https://ggim.un.org/UNGGCE/>



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UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION CENTRE (UN-GGKIC), DEQING, CHINA

The Overarching Goal is to develop and promote the required innovation, leadership, coordination, and standards to strengthen the adoption of geospatial information to support the implementation of national development priorities and the SDGs.

Leveraging the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, Member States will have the ability to integrate and deliver national geospatial information policy, data, systems, services and capabilities into national government development policies, strategies, and arrangements.

The **objective of the Centre** is to strengthen and advance the geospatial information management capacity development capabilities of Member States.

Mr. Li Pengde assumed the position as the Head of the UN-GGKIC in Deqing on 16 October.



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Decision 13/102

(b) Also welcomed and recognized the efforts of the regional committees to strengthen engagement and alignment among the five regions, through effective communication and collaboration, increased awareness, sharing of knowledge, experiences, good practices, tools and technical experience, and interregional capacity-development initiatives to strengthen national geospatial information management to further Member States' abilities to leverage the benefits of geospatial information, technology and innovation;

Inter-Regional Committee Meeting

(A meeting of Presidents and Chairs of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committees for Africa, Americas, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific and Europe)

7 November 2023

Discovery Kartika Plaza Hotel, Kuta – Bali, Indonesia

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management at its thirteenth session from 2 – 4 August 2023, in decision 13/102, welcomed and recognized the efforts of the regional committees to strengthen engagement and alignment among the five regions, through effective communication and collaboration, increased awareness, sharing of knowledge, experiences, good practices, tools and technical experience, and interregional capacity-development initiatives to strengthen national geospatial information management to further Member States' abilities to leverage the benefits of geospatial information, technology and innovation. As part of the Twelfth Plenary Meeting

of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) from 6 – 10 November 2023 hosted by the Government of Indonesia through its Badan Informasi Geospasial, the inter-regional committee meeting was organized to promote inter-regional dialogue and strengthen engagement and cooperation.

Regional committees are all seeking to align their regional focus and work plan with the global agenda and programme of work of the Committee of Experts, share resources where appropriate and avoid duplication. Ultimately, regional committees seek to bring the "global to the local" for the benefit of their respective Member States in their regions. Three of the five regional committees were represented in person and two regions participated via video conferencing. Key outcomes from this meeting include: to strengthen inter-regional engagement and sharing of information including regional activities, case



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Decision 13/104

(d) Supported the proposals to progress with option 2a set out in the report, namely **to entrust the Bureau, supported by a writing team**, with developing a position paper on determining the scope and an outline on the fundamental elements and principles of the future geospatial information ecosystem for the consideration of the Committee of Experts at its fourteenth session, and welcomed the multiple offers by Member States to support the Bureau;

Decision 13/107

(f) Welcomed the multiple offers by Member States to support and contribute to the three options, and **invited the Bureau and the Secretariat to work with Member States to determine the modalities** for implementing the three options and to report back on progress at the fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts, in 2024, potentially under **a dedicated agenda item** so as to not burden the programme of work of the working group on geospatial information of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group.



Technical Discussion on
“Integration of Terrestrial, Maritime, Built and Cadastral Domains:
Data, Processes and Systems”
2 and 3 November 2023
Level 13 InnoRooms, Singapore Land Authority, Revenue House, Singapore

At its thirteenth session, the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, in decision 13/109, also noted the intended considerations on the integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains, and encouraged the expert group to collaborate with relevant international organizations as well as functional groups of the Committee of Experts, including the working group on marine geospatial information, and to include consideration for the land/sea interface and its technical complexities. A technical discussion was arranged by the Singapore Land Authority in its capacity as a co-Chair of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management to support the Committee of Experts' consideration on the integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains beginning with an understanding of the data, processes and systems involved. The technical discussion was supported by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, as a co-Chair of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information. The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, in making decision 13/109, encouraged the Expert Group to consider the roles of effective land administration in the area of climate and the integration of the terrestrial, maritime, and cadastral domains, including through collaborative activities with partnering international organizations. The Committee of Experts also encouraged the Expert Group to collaborate with relevant international organizations as well as functional groups of the Committee of



Decision 13/109

(e) Also noted the intended considerations on the **integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains**, and encouraged the expert group to collaborate with relevant international organizations as well as functional groups of the Committee of Experts, including the working group on marine geospatial information, and to include consideration for the land/sea interface and its technical complexities;

Decision 3/111

(e) Welcomed the updated workplan for the period 2023–2024, encouraged the working group to raise awareness and promote the implementation of the Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management at the country level and ensure that the Framework remains relevant through regular review and updates as necessary, and noted the action to work with the expert group on land administration and management and the Singapore-International Hydrographic Organization Innovation and Technology Laboratory **to advance the work of integrating activities related to the terrestrial and marine domains**;



THANK YOU



Fourteenth Session
of the United Nations
Committee of Experts
on Global Geospatial
Information
Management
7 – 9 August 2024
UNHQ, New York



UN-IGIF
INTEGRATED GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION FRAMEWORK



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