

**The Twelfth Plenary Meeting of
The Regional Committee of the United Nations
Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific
(UN-GGIM-AP)**

9 November 2023, Bali, Indonesia

**Resolution
(draft for discussion)**

1. International and Interregional Agendas

The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific,

Welcoming the convening of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), held on 2-4 August 2023, at the United Nations Headquarters (UNHQ), in New York;

Noting the Decisions made during the thirteenth session of UN-GGIM, in particular, to enhance global geospatial information management arrangements (13/101), the future geospatial information ecosystem (13/104), the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (13/105), and expand geospatial information for sustainable development and climate resilience (13/107) among others;

Acknowledging the Committee's efforts, progress and achievements in the field of global geospatial information management, its contribution to strengthening geospatial information management capacities and utilization in developing countries in Asia and the Pacific, as well as enhancing effective communication and collaboration with other regional committees, increasing awareness, sharing knowledge, experiences, good practices to further the abilities of member States to leverage the benefits of geospatial information, technology and innovation;

Reemphasizing the importance of geospatial information to successfully accelerate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. *Welcoming* the endorsement of the paper "Examples of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Geospatial Roadmap: disaggregating the SDGs by geographic location", by the Statistical Commission at its 54th session, which supports the vision of geospatial and location-based information being recognized and accepted as official data for the SDGs and their global indicators, and demonstrates the contribution of geospatial information toward implementing the 2030 Agenda, and its broader support to sustainable development and climate resilience;



Encouraging member States of the Regional Committee, United Nations agencies, international and regional organizations, to collaborate to mainstream geospatial information applications in all appropriate aspects of sustainable development as national and regional champions, and in multiple capacities across other relevant forums;

Welcoming the convening of the second cross-regional side meeting during the thirteenth session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), held on 1 August 2023, at the UNHQ, in New York;

Commending the regional committees for convening the joint side event to further strengthen coordination, collaboration and knowledge-sharing among the five regions, for the benefit of all member States;

Appreciating the support from the regional committees in Africa, Americas, the Arab States and Europe for the 12th Plenary meeting of the UN-GGIM-AP, and *requesting* the President of the UN-GGIM-AP to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of information with other regional committees, and contribute to global initiatives. Also *appreciating* the in-person participation of Chile and the United States of America as the representatives from the regional committees for the Americas, and Saudi Arabia as the representative from the regional committees of the Arab States;

Accepting the proposal by regional committees of the Arab States for collaboration with the regional committees of Asia and the Pacific.

2. Establishment of the Academic Network and the Private Sector Network for Asia and the Pacific

The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific,

Approving the establishment of the Academic Network and the Private Sector Network for Asia and the Pacific in order to enhance the collaboration and involvement of the academic and private sectors to contribute to the work of the Regional Committee and the member States. *Requesting* the President and the Executive Board to develop the Terms of Reference for the two networks by the end of 2023, and provide it for discussion and adoption by the Executive Board in May 2024.

3. New Members of the Executive Board

The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific,

Endorsing new Executive Board members:



- China, represented by Ms. Wenli Feng
- Fiji, represented by Ms. Meizyanne Hicks
- Nepal, represented by Mr. Prakash Joshi

4. Working Group 1: Geodetic Reference Frame

Recognizing that the geodetic reference frame underpins satellite positioning technology, and provides the framework for all geospatial activity, and therefore is a key enabler of spatial data interoperability, disaster risk reduction, and land management, and supports the global development agenda;

Also recognizing the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/69/266 on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development;

Further recognizing the successful establishment of the UN Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence at UN Campus, in Bonn, which is a key enabler for the implementation of the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/69/266;

Also further recognizing the importance of data-sharing to enable global and regional products and services to be associated with individual countries in order to support decision makers to address global issues, such as sea level change;

Noting the significant progress made by UN-GGIM-AP and its Working Group 1 on Geodetic Reference Frame in improving the geodetic reference frame for sustainable development for Asia and the Pacific;

Further noting the challenges of developing technical capacity and capability in developing countries to establish national infrastructure and/or national datum, particularly in the context of the complex crustal dynamics of Asia and the Pacific;

Also further noting serious gaps in technical capacity and capability in the geodetic reference frame and/or infrastructure among countries in the region, especially gaps between Asian countries and the Pacific small island developing States.

Recommends that UN-GGIM-AP will:

- a) *Contribute* to the Global Geodetic Reference Frame through close collaboration with the Subcommittee on Geodesy, its Working Groups and the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence;
- b) *Support* the adoption of the International Terrestrial Reference Frame by participating in regional geodetic programmes, such as the Asia-Pacific Regional Reference Frame (APREF), and the Asia Pacific Regional Geodetic Project (APRGP);
- c) *Support* the observation, analysis, development and interconnectedness of



national Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), Satellite Laser Ranging (SLR), and Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) infrastructure, to improve the reference frame, and provide an Asia-Pacific regional perspective to the global geodetic community;

- d) *Work* with organizations, such as the International Federation of Surveyors and the International Association of Geodesy, to develop common approaches to geodesy;
- e) *Strongly encourage* member States to share geodetic data openly and freely to support, for example, the connection of national height datums to global systems so that decision makers can address global issues, such as sea level change, through the use of global and regional products and services;
- f) *Encourage* member States to consider developing and sharing real-time geodetic observations, communications and analysis to support disaster risk reduction;
- g) *Encourage* member States to participate in regional initiatives to enhance utilization of geodetic data and techniques for disaster risk reduction, including GNSS augmentation toward existing tsunami early warning systems, in coordination with the organizations internationally responsible for tsunami early warning and mitigation, such as the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS);
- h) *Encourage* development of technical capabilities through training and cooperation in GNSS data processing, Geoid determination, development of regional height system, crustal dynamics and deformation modelling, the use of open geodetic software, and the sharing of best practice examples and use cases;
and
- i) *Support* geodetic experts from member States to attend appropriate regional forums, such as relevant working group meetings, seminars and workshops of the UN-GGIM-AP.

5. Working Group 2: Cadastre and Land Management

Recognizing the importance of the strategic work plan 2023-2035 of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management (EG- LAM);

Aligning effective land administration and the integration of the terrestrial, built, maritime and cadastral domains with the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) to achieve the SDGs, address climate change issues, and build disaster resilience and planning;



Re-affirming the key principles of fit-for-purpose, interoperability, sustainability, flexibility and inclusiveness for effective and efficient land administration processes and systems;

Implementing the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) at the national level and in collaboration with regional committees, functional groups and international organizations;

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the development of human capacity and capability in areas related to land administration and management, including data collection, systems, institutional or legal frameworks, and other pertinent sectors;

Recognizing the importance of leveraging synergies, and avoiding duplication through collaboration with other working groups of UN-GGIM-AP and international organizations, such as International Federation of Surveyors (FIG);

Acknowledging the memberships of Australia and China in Working Group 2.

Recommends that UN-GGIM-AP will:

- a) *Continue* to advocate and raise political awareness about the benefits of effective and efficient land administration and management as stipulated in Decision 7/108;
- b) *Encourage* member States to send their delegates to participate in various forums and share information and exchange knowledge;
- c) *Encourage* member States to engage in the Framework for Effective Land Administration, especially by translating it in their own languages and practically implementing it, leverage the UN-IGIF Implementation Guide, and work with the UN-GGIM Expert Group on Land Administration and Management;
- d) *Identify* and share a diverse range of forums for dialogue and coordination to strengthen the development of human capacity and capability related to cadastre and land management, at the regional level. These forums must include professionals, future young professionals, NGOs, government organizations and vulnerable groups, reflect equality by assessing the current challenges faced by member States, and develop capacity and capability programs; and
- e) *Request* the Secretariat to continue to explore possible options (in a cost neutral manner) to build an UN-GGIM-AP geospatial information service centre, with all interested member States, for the practical provision of geospatial services and products to member countries of UN-GGIM-AP, and consider cooperation with the United Nations GIS Service Centre of the United Nations Office on ICT (UN OICT) in Brindisi, Italy.

6. Working Group 3: Integrating Geospatial Information and Statistics



Recognizing that the integration of geospatial information and statistics is critically important for addressing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development throughout the Asia-Pacific region;

Recognizing also that the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), and the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) are adopted frameworks enabling the integration of geospatial information and statistics;

Noting the progresses and issues reported by several member States on the practices of integrating geospatial information and statistics in many different applications, including monitoring SDGs indicators, examining data on population, disasters, land cover, sea level rise, mapping the COVID-19 pandemic, and mapping stunting risk and infrastructure development, at the village and household level.

Recommends that UN-GGIM-AP will:

- a) *Continue* to advocate and raise political awareness to strengthen collaborative national arrangement between Geospatial and Statistical Agencies in the Asia-Pacific region;
- b) *Facilitate, support and provide* assistance in knowledge exchange;
- c) *Promote* use of standards and sharing of common literatures for integration and analysis of geospatial information and statistics;
- d) *Continue* to collaborate with other relevant organizations that use statistical information;
- e) *Advance* the adoption of the principles of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) in the Asia-Pacific region;
- f) *Contribute* to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by integrating geospatial statistics;
- g) *Share* case studies of integrating geospatial and statistical information to support effective natural disaster management; and
- h) *Emphasize* the need for capacity and capability development.

7. Working Group 4: Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

Recognizing the need for short-, medium- and long-term plans and strategies to raise awareness, including at the political leadership level, about the United Nations



Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) and its components at regional and country levels using different means;

The Working Group will:

- a) *Share* experiences and best practices to assist in preparation of country-level action plans;
- b) *Prepare* UN-IGIF component-specific plans for understanding and implementation;
- c) *Conduct* trainings and actions for capacity and capability development with a special focus on the requirements of developing countries;
- d) *Work* on Adoption and Monitoring Mechanisms;
- e) *Organize* workshops, webinars, and meetings to deliberate and exchange ideas and experiences.

8. UN-GGIM-AP Secretariat

The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific,

Appreciating the leadership of Mr. Antonius Bambang Wijanarto, as the President of UN-GGIM-AP since October 2022, in successfully implementing the work of the Regional Committee;

Commending India for hosting the Eleventh Plenary meetings of UN-GGIM-AP in 2022, which were held in Hyderabad, India;

Appreciating the generous support of Singapore for hosting the Executive Board meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, in March 2023 in Singapore;

Appreciating the generous support of Indonesia for hosting the Twelfth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, held on 9 November 2023 in Bali, Indonesia, as a significant event at the Asia-Pacific Geospatial Forum (APGF 2023);

Appreciating the generous offer from India to host the Thirteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, to be held in the second half of 2024. *Requesting* the Secretariat to work with the host to make due preparation;

Encouraging member States to consider hosting the 14th Plenary meeting in 2025;

Appreciating the generous offer from Australia to host the Executive Board meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, to be held in May 2024 in Sydney, Australia;



Appreciating the Government of Japan for contributing to the Secretariat's work through the secondment of a Junior Professional Officer in 2020-2022;

Appreciating the Government of the Republic of Korea for contributing to the Secretariat's work through financial support during 2022-2024;

Appreciating the Government of China for contributing to the Secretariat's work through the secondment of a Junior Professional Officer in 2022-2024;

Encouraging more in-kind contributions from member States to strengthen the Secretariat's service to the Regional Committee;

Noting that work during 2022-2023 gradually returned to normal post the COVID-19 pandemic;

Appreciating the progress made by the Committee in promoting geospatial information management and applications for sustainable development, and the Secretariat's support in facilitating sharing of knowledge and experiences, strengthening regional cooperation related to geospatial information management and applications among member States;

Encouraging members and associate members to further enhance substantive cooperation on space science and technology and their applications to strengthen integrated geospatial information applications for sustainable development in the region through leveraging innovative digital applications, managing data and information more effectively, engaging end users and the youth, and enhancing partnerships with national, regional and global stakeholders;

Endorses the resolutions/reports and recommendations made by the Working Groups, and the work plan for 2022-2024;

Recommends the Secretariat to further support geospatial and statistics communities to enhance their collaboration and exchange for the effective implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), and the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) to support sustainable development in the region, as well as encourage exchange and collaboration with other regional committees;

Requests the Secretariat to support the President in implementing the activities listed in the Term of Reference of the Executive Board of UN-GGIM-AP (draft_GGIM-AP-ToR 2022-2025_finalised_25042023.pdf) (un-ggim-ap.org), which was adopted by the Executive Board in March 2023;

Requests the Secretariat to support the President in the establishment of the Academic Network and Private Sector Network for Asia and the Pacific; and



Requests the Secretariat to strengthen the use of the UN-GGIM-AP website and other innovative means for efficiently sharing information and documents among member States.

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