

**OPENING REMARKS
BY**

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**ON
SECOND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

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Hello everyone. I am Joo-Bin Im.

I am happy to meet you, the distinguished representatives and experts of the field of geospatial information.

I have been given the honor of succeeding the post of our former president Seong-An Leem of the Korean Geographic Information Institute.

Before this post, I had been the director-general of Korea Oceanographic & Hydrographic Administration for 1 year and half. And I have attended the International Hydrographic Conference in Monaco this year (spring). I am very interested in integrating the land geospatial information and hydrographic information.

I heard that there were a lot of discussions at the first UNCE-GGIM meeting held last year in Seoul Korea. From the conclusive results through these discussions, we were able to form a working group for 'Inventory of Issues' as well as 'Contribution to Rio+20' (Contribution to the United Nation Conference on Sustainable Development) alongside a visioning group for the geospatial information. In spite the short timeframe, such an outcome is quite meaningful.

In order for geospatial information management under the umbrella of the United Nations to succeed in effectively responding to global issues, it is very important to maintain updates on the most recent trends in the field of geospatial information and to share a knowledge basis. In this regards, I think that it is time appropriate that we prepare agendas such as 'GGIM-Future Trends' and 'GGIM Knowledge Base', etc.

So, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to those who have strived hard in preparing for such agendas, especially to, Dr. Paul Cheung, Dr. Vanessa V. Lawrence for their effort.

Korea stands firm in actively supporting UN-GGIM as the first co-chairing country and we remain actively engaged in the cooperative efforts of sustaining global standards by sharing our experiences in policies with developing country.

Recently, I have set up GGIM-Korea Forum and various professionals in the field of geospatial information engage in it. Thus Korea has plans to carry out various research activities in order to contribute to the UN-GGIM.

Finally, through this second UNCE-GGIM meeting, I hope that making action plans for the next 5 years, would become the leaping-step towards the next activities of the UN-GGIM.

I wish you will be healthy and have the good experiences during the story of N.Y.

Thank you.

Joo-Bin Im
President of NGII