



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
27 July 2015

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Fifth session

New York, 5-7 August 2015

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Items for discussion and endorsement

7. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.

The report and supporting technical documents were prepared jointly by the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), Technical Committee 211 of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO/TC 211) and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO). The report provides an update on the follow-on work from the production of the “Guide to the Role of Standards in Geospatial Information Management” and the companion documents, including case studies and the value proposition of standards. The Committee of Experts is invited to adopt the “Guide to the Role of Standards in Geospatial Information Management” and the “Technical Compendium” as the international geospatial standards best practice for spatial data infrastructure, and encourage all Member States to implement the recommended standards appropriate to their countries’ level of SDI maturity.

10. Development of a statement of shared guiding principles for geospatial information management.

The report, prepared by the Working Group on the Development of a Statement of Shared Guiding Principles, provides a final statement of shared guiding principles for geospatial information management. The Committee of Experts is invited to endorse the shared guiding principles and to approve the approach to have them referred to

the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for endorsement, and to encourage Member States to adopt the principles in their national circumstances.

Items for discussion

3. Global geodetic reference frame.

The report, prepared by the Working Group on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame, describes the process whereby the General Assembly adopted resolution 69/266 on a global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development; the initial development by the Working Group of the road map; and the results of the global questionnaire sent to Member States for the purpose of gathering opinions on the key elements of the global geodetic reference frame and its sustainability. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report, and to provide guidance on the development of the road map for the global geodetic reference frame.

4. Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes.

The report, prepared by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe, describes consultations with the UN-GGIM Bureau to consider integrating global fundamental geospatial data themes into the work of the working group on core data, the progress of the working group in its efforts to fulfil its regional objectives and the proposals of the Regional Committee on how the work can be developed at the global level. The Committee of Experts is invited to consider the initiative being proposed by UN-GGIM: Europe to liaise with the other Regional Committees of UN-GGIM to bring together information on the consideration of fundamental geospatial data themes and to lead discussions between interested Member States and observers in order to develop agreement of a minimum set of global fundamental geospatial data themes.

5. Trends in national institutional arrangements in geospatial information management.

The report, prepared by the Working Group on Trends in National Institutional Arrangements, describes the work of the three task groups during the intercessional period, including: production systems analysis, coordinated by Spain; funding structures, dissemination systems and data policy models, coordinated by Mexico; and the structure of geospatial information management organizations and the role of volunteered geographic information, coordinated by Singapore. The Committee of Experts is invited to express its views on the way forward based on the next steps and recommendations proposed by the Working Group to address its mandate relating to national institutional arrangements.

6. Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.

The report, prepared by the Secretariat with the assistance of the Centre for Spatial Law and Policy, describes the issues that impact the requisite legal and policy frameworks globally and captures the Secretariat's engagement with the International

Bar Association (IBA) regarding the Association's current work on a draft Convention on Geoinformation. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the updates on developments on legal and policy issues and provide guidance on the IBA's proposed Convention on Geoinformation.

8. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other information.

The report, prepared by the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, provides information on the recent activities of the Expert Group, including the major outcomes of the first Global Forum on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, held in New York in August 2014, and the main findings and recommendations of the second meeting of the Expert Group, held in Lisbon in May 2015. The report also presents information on a consultative meeting of the Expert Group, held in Beijing in October 2014. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the progress of the Expert Group and the development of the global geospatial-statistical framework.

9. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management.

The report, prepared by the Secretariat in collaboration with a group of land tenure/land management experts from United Nations entities and international geospatial organizations, describes issues related to the administration and management of land. The Committee of Experts is invited to express its views on the way forward.

11. Knowledge base for geospatial information management.

The report, prepared by the Secretariat, describes the new developments brought to the knowledge base for geospatial information management, and outlines a number of actions to be taken in order to ensure that the repository of geospatial information management is searchable and continuously updated. The Committee of Experts is invited to express its views on the way forward for the knowledge base portal, including additional items to be incorporated.

12. Coordination of United Nations activities related to geospatial information management.

The report, prepared by the Secretariat with the assistance of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG), the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), and the United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), describes the activities of the aforementioned United Nations entities to intensify closer coordination within the United Nations geospatial information community. The Committee of Experts is invited to provide its views on the elaboration of better coordination and clarifications of roles and responsibilities of geospatial information management activities both within and outside the United Nations system.

13. Activities related to sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda.

The report, prepared by the Secretariat, describes the increase in multiple advocacy initiatives that demonstrate the role of geospatial information in sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda, and the efforts to consolidate the mission of the working group on a global map for sustainable development and mainstream it in the sustainable development context. The Committee of Experts is invited to consider continued and specific efforts in activities related to formulating geospatial data inputs into the post-2015 development agenda.

14. Programme review of the work of the Committee of Experts during the 2011-2015 period.

The report, prepared by the Secretariat, provides key elements of an initial draft of the requested comprehensive review to ECOSOC in 2016. It describes the considerable achievements of the Committee of Experts, identifies the challenges it faces, and proposes specific recommendations for consideration for the future modalities and programme of work of the Committee of Experts. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and the initial draft, and to express its views on the way forward for the submission of the review to ECOSOC in 2016.

15. Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial agenda.

The report is a compilation of the activities of the following six regional and thematic groups: the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific; the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas; the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa; the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe; the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Arab States; and the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies.

Items for information

16. Provisional agenda and dates for the sixth session of the Committee of Experts.

17. Report of the Committee of Experts on its fifth session.