



## UN-GGIM: EUROPE Formally Established

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On the 1st October 2014, at a meeting in Chisinau Moldova, the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe (**UN-GGIM: Europe**) was formally established.

This new body was created after two years of preparatory work beginning in November 2012 with an inaugural phase. The process transitioned at the 3rd session of the Committee of Experts on GGIM in 2013, with increased and active involvement of European Member States, the creation of its governance structure and the preparation of a draft work plan. The process culminated on 1st October in Chisinau with the meeting of 110 delegates, including representatives from 6 National Statistical Institutes and 43 NMCAs and the election of the Executive Body.

UN-GGIM Europe is now chaired by Bengt Kjellson of Sweden, supported by two vice chairs, Dorine Burmanje from the Netherlands, and Antonio Arozarena from Spain, in addition to a 8 member executive committee. The Netherlands has responsibility for providing secretariat services to UN-GGIM: Europe and EuroGeographics will carry out the work under a service level agreement. Their website is <http://un-ggim-europe.org/>.

The establishment of UN-GGIM: Europe marks the creation of the third regional group within the UN-GGIM structure. The objective is to create five regional groups with responsibility for promoting their unique geospatial information management needs and interests of the region globally, while cooperating with other regional and global entities.

The UN-GGIM Secretariat welcomes the Executive Committee and Member States of UN-GGIM: Europe and looks forward to supporting and working with them.

