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Dear Colleagues,

Third High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management
Beijing, China, 22-24 October 2014

We are pleased to announce that the UN-GGIM Secretariat, in collaboration with the Government of China, through the National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation (NASG), will be hosting **the Third High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management in Beijing, China from 22-24 October 2014** at NASG's Headquarters.

The Forum is being staged in pursuance of the mandate from the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to convene global forums to promote comprehensive dialogue on global geospatial information management with all relevant governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The event will continue the discussions and consultations from previous High Level Forums, provide follow up on issues from the formal inter-governmental meetings of the Committee of Experts, and provide Member States and geospatial stakeholders with the unique opportunity to share and learn from each other, new ideas, methods and strategies to support local, regional and global sustainable development initiatives.

In 2014, the High Level Forum offers the opportunity for the global geospatial information community to pay particular attention to the critical roles of geospatial information science, technology and innovation, as tools that are able to integrate the 3 pillars (economic, social, environmental) of sustainable development, and as important geographic elements of the post-2015 development agenda. Therefore, the overarching theme of the Third High Level Forum is **'Sustainable Development with Geospatial Information'**.

The Forum will address the role of geospatial information in the post-2015 development agenda, and current critical sustainable development matters such as: mitigating and managing climate change and disasters; sustainable cities and human settlements; science, technology, and innovation to measure and monitor progress; and working together across borders and regions.

Please note that the Forum will be substantively supported by the Regional Committees of UN-GGIM, including for: Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP); the Americas (UN-GGIM: Americas); Europe (UN-GGIM: Europe); the Arab States (UN-GGIM: Arab States); and Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa). The continued involvement of the

geospatial industry at the most senior levels will be a key component of the Forum's technical program.

We are delighted to send you this announcement and kindly ask that you mark your calendars accordingly. Official invitations from the Government of China will be sent in coming weeks. In an effort to inform a wide cross section of the professional geospatial information management community, we ask that you share this information with relevant government agencies and other stakeholders in your country.

Should you have questions regarding this High Level Forum, please do not hesitate to contact my office, in particular Mr. Greg Scott (Tel: 1-212-963-8578; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: scott12@un.org). For information regarding the arrangements in China, please contact Ms. Jiang Xiaohong from NASG at unhlf3@sbsm.gov.cn.

Together with our co-organizers, we look forward to welcoming you and your country's delegation at the Third High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management, as we work to advance the use of geospatial information in sustainable development.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Li Pengde
Deputy Director General
NASG of China
President of UN-GGIM-AP
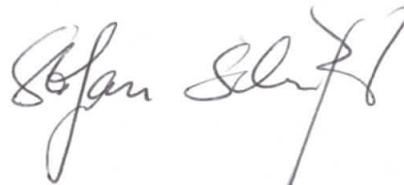
Mr. Stefan Schweinfest
Director
United Nations Statistics Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Cc:

Mr. Kyoung-Soo Eom
Chief, UN Cartographic Section/ DFS-LSD-SSS