

United Nations Nations Unies

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Resolution VII: Global geographic information management (*)

The Conference,

Recalling the recommendations made in Economic and Social Council resolution 131 (VI) of 19 February 1948, entitled “Coordination of cartographic services of specialized agencies and international organizations”, and subsequent resolutions,

Taking note of the rapid development of and increased demand for geographic information infrastructure in all countries in past years, which has made geographic information an invaluable tool in policy planning and decision-making,

Bearing in mind that global issues, such as climate change, food and energy crises, peace operations and humanitarian assistance, all require strong support for geographic information management on a global scale,

Acknowledging with appreciation the work of the United Nations regional cartographic conferences and the significant role that they are serving in the Asia and Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean regions, as well as in Africa, and recognizing the important role and contribution of regional organizations in Europe,

Also acknowledging the important contribution of other regional and international organizations and of global initiatives and projects,

Recognizing the absence of a United Nations consultation process led by member States, which deals with global geographic information management, coordinates regional efforts, promotes global norms on geographic information and brings such information to bear on global issues,

Also recognizing the requests of member States for a global mechanism, the work to develop common frameworks and tools and a process of standardization, for which the United Nations has a key mandate, to address the need and the necessity for experience exchange and technology transfer on geographic information tools and infrastructures, with specialized, regional and international organizations,

Requests that, by 1 November 2010, the Secretary-General and the United Nations Secretariat initiate discussions and prepare a report, for a future session of the Economic and Social Council, on global coordination of geographic information management, including consideration of the possible creation of a United Nations global forum for the exchange of information between countries and other interested parties, and in particular for sharing best practices in legal and policy instruments, institutional management models, technical solutions and standards, interoperability of systems and data, and sharing mechanisms that guarantee easy and timely accessibility of geographic information and services.

(*) Cf. Report of the Conference

Eighteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok, 26-29 October 2009
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