



Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

ETHIOPIAN MAPPING AGENCY

Reliable Geospatial Information for Sustainable Development

4TH HIGH LEVEL FORUM ON UN-GGIM

Introductory Statement

By

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Addis Abeba

✚ H.E. Dr. Mulatu Teshome, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE),

✚ H.E. Dr. Yinager Dessie, with the rank of Minister, Commissioner of the National Planning Commission of the FDRE

✚ Honourable Ministers,

✚ Distinguished Members of the Diplomatic Corps,

✚ Distinguished Delegates of Member States,

✚ H. E. Dr. Li Pengde, Co-Chair of the Committee of Experts of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM)

✚ H.E. Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, Director of United Nations Statistics Division

✚ H.E. Mr. Oliver Chinganya, Director of the ECA African Centre for Statistics

✚ H.E. Dr. Christian Lemmen, from the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies,

✚ Leaders and Experts on Geospatial Information Management,

✚ Ladies & Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee, composed of members from the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the Ethiopian Mapping Agency (EMA), it is a great honour and pleasure for me to welcome you all to this 4th High Level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), organized by

the Secretariat of UN-GGIM and co-hosted by the Government of the FDRE and UNECA.

Please also allow me to take this opportunity to thank you all for honouring our invitation and taking time off your busy schedules to attend and to contribute in the deliberations of this august Forum.

H.E. President Dr. Mulatu,

Honourable Ministers,

Distinguished Participants,

It has now become evident that the availability of up to date, accurate and authoritative geospatial information is a primary and critical component of a modern land management system essential for Good Land Governance. It with this understanding that the Committee of Experts of the UN-GGIM decided to dedicate the 4th High Level Forum to issues related to Good Land Governance and Land Information for Sustainable Development.

___ Honourable Ministers, well over four hundred invited participants from 67 countries comprising of delegates from Member States, representatives of United Nations Agencies & other Multilateral Organizations, Geospatial Industry representatives, representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations and Leaders of Geospatial Societies are in attendance today in this 4th High Level Forum of UN-GGIM. From the number of participants and participating Member States, it is the

most successful Forum to date and I hope the Forum outcomes will also reflect this.

I trust the Forum will prove to be productive for us all and help us to come up with final recommendations that will lay the foundation for Good Land Governance for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

With these introductory remarks, I now call upon H.E. Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division and Head of the UN-GGIM Secretariat to deliver his opening remarks.

THANK YOU!
