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30 July 2018

Dear Colleague,

**Deqing International Seminar on
United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management
'Effective Land Administration'
Deqing, Zhejiang Province, China, 27 – 28 September 2018**

I am pleased to announce that the Secretariat for the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), in collaboration with the Government of China, through the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Zhejiang Provincial Government are jointly organizing the Deqing International Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management to be held from 27 – 28 September 2018 in Deqing, China. This International Seminar is supported by the Committee's Expert Group on Land Administration and Management and the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP).

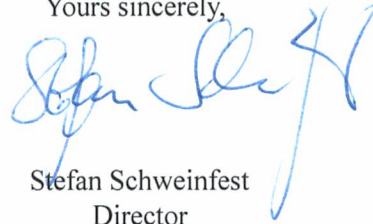
It is estimated that 70% of the world's people-to-land relationships are not documented, recorded or recognized. Effective and efficient land administration and management is needed to accelerate efforts to document, record and recognize people-to-land relationships in all its forms. With these challenges, coupled with the lack of geographic coverage of formal land administration systems, the theme of the Deqing International Seminar is 'Effective Land Administration'. The Seminar will provide a unique and supportive platform for the geospatial community and a diverse group of stakeholders to engage one another and discuss priority issues related to fit-for-purpose land administration and management. Effective land administration provides all people with better access to, and security of, land and property rights, can mitigate issues relating to land as a root cause triggering conflict, and to 'leave no one behind', the overarching principle of the 2030 Agenda.

We request you and/or your senior officers from your organization to attend and contribute to the Deqing International Seminar. We also ask that you share this information with relevant government agencies and organizations in your country in the effort to inform a wide cross-section of related communities, policy-makers and stakeholders. More information concerning the Deqing International Seminar will progressively be made available at our web-site at: <http://ggim.un.org/2018-Deqing-International-Seminar/>.

Should you have any questions or need further clarification regarding the substantive arrangements for the Deqing International Seminar, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat, Mr. TEO CheeHai (E-mail: teo@un.org). For registration, accommodation and local administrative matters, please contact our colleague at the Ministry of Natural Resources, China, Ms. LIU Sisi (E-mail: liusisi@nasg.gov.cn).

Together with our co-organizers, I look forward to welcoming you at the Deqing International Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management with the theme 'Effective Land Administration'.

Yours sincerely,



Stefan Schweinfest
Director

UN-GGIM Secretariat
United Nations Statistics Division/DESA