

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Tenth session

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Item 12 of the agenda

Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data (for discussion and decision)

<i>Statement provided by:</i> Finland	
<i>Statement:</i> <p>Finland welcomes with pleasure the report of the Working Group on Legal and Policy Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management. As it is described in report the work of the Working Group has been efficient and focused on relevant and complex issues in the field of open data, personal data, data privacy, data protection, data licensing and the security and misuse of data. As the Working Group has noted at the report it is confirmed that the approach in the IGIF Implementation Guide for Strategic Pathway 2 – Policy and Legal, serves well to address the complex policy and legal issues in geospatial information management.</p> <p>Finland supports the Working Group’s plan that next period will be about transitioning from theory to reality. Next step should concentrate on real-world situations and develop practical solutions to address real-world issues which are useful globally. Finland encourages the Working Group to begin its consideration on the authority and custodianship of data, and to support the implementation of the IGIF at the country-level.</p> <p>The Working Group’s report includes also the White Paper on legal aspects of availability of geospatial information. Finland considers that the White Paper is well developed and a useful document. The White paper documents well the results and findings from the use case exercise, and demonstrates the approach to identify and address policy and legal issues and gaps. Finland agrees with the White Paper that in general, the approach to address policy and legal issues may be different depending on the circumstances. The conclusions that the Working Group has made based on the findings and possible approaches identified in this situation are relevant. As it is mentioned at the report, it is crucial also move to implement actions at the country-level.</p> <p>Finland encourages the Working Group to consider focusing next on addressing the issues around geolocation data for public good (and in time of crisis and emergencies), and its implications including confidentiality and privacy (of individuals). The currently ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic has proven the need for the geolocation data for public good.</p> <p>Finland approves initiative of the working group to change its name to the working group on policy and legal frameworks for geospatial information management. That way it is align with strategic pathway 2.</p>	
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