

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Tenth session

New York, 26- 27 August 2020 and 4 September 2020

Item 5 of the agenda

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

EuroGeographics

Statement:

- a) EuroGeographics notes the present report, and commends the secretariat on the significance of the achievement of the UN-GGIM expert group in preparing the IGIF as tangible evidence of progress in the last five years
- b) Developing the guide is a key success but it is essential that this success is sustained. We strongly support the establishment of a dedicated high-level group of experts on integrated geospatial information management to oversee and mobilise resources to maintain the momentum of the IGIF.
- c) We note the concern expressed at the size and complexity of the document and the need to make it usable and practical, whilst recognising it is a live document. We agree that some constructive editing will help enhance the document further and make it usable and practical. However, we reemphasise our view that the IGIF is an important and significant development in the world and we encourage the Committee of Experts to adopt it, whilst recognising that it is a live document that will benefit from further refinement as set out in our response to the global consultation.
- d) In our response to the global consultation we encourage further engagement and collaboration not only between the key international partners and other donors, but other international and national aid agencies active in the geospatial domain, to ensure that assistance continues to align with the IGIF, avoiding overlap and duplication of effort whilst maintaining country level ownership and prioritisation of action plans. We strongly suggested that there must be an ongoing effort to do this, and that the means of sharing experience and best practice internationally is addressed. We have supported the development of the guide since its inception, and will continue to support it in its implementation in practical ways, continuing to consult and encourage the use of the guide, bringing our network of members together in order to ensure its success helping others in implementing it (donor/receptor countries and raising awareness of the IGIF amongst our members and stakeholders).
- e) We recognise that the Guide is targeted at Member States, but we would like to stress the importance of international supporting mechanisms to ensure that in parallel to national communication plans there is a strong top down encouragement from the United Nations and other international bodies and stakeholders to bring awareness and focus on the importance of the IGIF. Such clear messaging from the United Nations and other global and regional bodies will ensure that there is sufficient political and policy awareness of the importance and relevance of the IGIF, and the role that geospatial data has in addressing the global and national challenges faced.

Submitted on:

8/19/2020

**Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial
Information Management**

Tenth session

New York, 26- 27 August 2020 and 4 September 2020

Item 5 of the agenda

**Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
(for discussion and decision)**