Statement provided by:  
Norway

Statement: 
Norway welcomes the report and would like to thank the UN-GGIM secretariat and the World Bank for taking responsibility for development of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework. We see the value of Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) as an umbrella for a number of underlying guidelines and frameworks developed under UN-GGIM during the last 10 years. It will be important to continue the global cooperation on this important initiative. Communication, coordination and maintenance should now be emphasized and practical examples of benefit highlighted.

We consider IGIF to be very relevant input for the further development of national geographic infrastructures and the strategic actions across sectors and levels of administration in every country. All countries face a pressure on the public sector to provide data as a resource for society to support innovation and development. The IGIF process will contribute to ensure that countries can benefit from the opportunities offered by innovation and new technology in its development efforts. The World Bank and other UN bodies have an excellent opportunity to initiate donor coordination on IGIF.

Norway would like to contribute to the further development and implementation of the framework. Norway has an ongoing institutional development cooperation with a number of countries aiming at strengthening the capacity to manage and utilize geospatial information. We want to contribute to further knowledge exchange networks between countries in the process of implementing IGIF.

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