

**Committee of Experts on  
Global Geospatial Information Management  
Tenth session**  
New York, 26- 27 August 2020 and 4 September 2020  
Item 7 of the agenda  
**Geospatial information for sustainable development**

**INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT**

Distinguished Delegates, Observers and Colleagues

Under this Agenda Item, with reference to a report presented for consideration by the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management and the 2020-21 Work Plan of the WGGI of the IAEG on SDGs, we can review and understand recent activities of the Secretariat and WGGI.

A key topic to be understood is how the geospatial community can provide expertise and advise to stakeholders such as the IAEG-SDGs, custodian agencies and the larger statistical community as to how geospatial information, Earth Observations and other new location-based data sources can reliably and consistently contribute to the production of the indicators and, as a result, either become the source of, or support, official statistics for SDG indicators.

We must not forget that the target audiences just identified may not have the expertise to engage readily with the current geospatial tools and solutions. How geospatial capacity can be built or expanded within UN Member States, and the use of such tools and solutions to measure, monitor and become new and innovative communication channels for SDG Indicators should be explored.

Working on SDG centred projects in partnership with other IAEG-SDG Working Groups and/or Custodian Agencies is an area of opportunity and should be considered.

We now wish you a successful discussion.

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