

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

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Item 8 of the agenda

Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Distinguished Delegates,

The Committee of Experts has before it the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information. It provides great pleasure for me to introduce this item on behalf of the Expert Group, as the newly appointed Co-Chair alongside Ms Kathrin Gebers of Germany. I offer gratitude to Australia and Mexico for their leadership of the Expert Group since its inception in 2013. The Report is submitted for information and noting and has two background documents relating to the revised Terms of Reference of the Expert Group and its workplan for the period 2020-2022. I would like to highlight to the Committee of Experts that in making decision 51/123, the Commission endorsed the GSGF in March 2020, as adopted by the Committee in its decision 9/106 of August 2019. This full endorsement opened phase two, which is the adoption and implementation of the GSGF by Member States. Therefore, the Expert Group has revised its Terms of Reference and developed a workplan to guide its phase two activities.

A Communication Strategy is being finalized to strengthen communication of the work of the Expert Group with Regional Bodies, other Expert Groups and professional bodies in works relating to the integration. Likewise, the prevalence of the COVID-19 pandemic has further stressed the crucial role of data to inform timely data-driven decision-making. We encourage Member State participation in the work of the Expert Group particularly in strengthening its various Task Teams and Work Streams.

With these introductory remarks, I hereby submit the report.

I thank you

Kathrin Gebers (Ms.), Germany

Alex Mudabeti (Mr.), Namibia

Co-Chairs, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information