



Eighth Session of the Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM

Global Geodetic Reference Frame

Monday 30 July 2018

11:30 am -13:00 pm

Venue: Conference Room 11 (CR-11)

United Nations Headquarters, New York

A. Background

The Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) is fundamental to economic prosperity, safety of life and environmental management, although this is not well understood by governments and the public more generally. Geodesy underpins our understanding of the dynamics of planet Earth, including how the planet changes through time. Geodesy is used to develop the spatial reference frames required for supporting the collection, integration and utilization of all other geospatial data. It also supports the coordinate systems transmitted by Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), which are increasingly being used for providing users the opportunity to access and interface mapping and other spatial datasets in real time.

B. Objectives and expected outcomes

Member States and observers will be briefed on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) and the substantial progress achieved since the adoption of the General Assembly resolution on Global Geodetic reference frame for sustainable development (A/RES/69/226).

The last two years the United Nations Subcommittee on Geodesy (SCoG) has worked on developing an implementation plan for the GGRF Roadmap and the Position Paper defining appropriate governance arrangements to enhance the sustainability of the GGRF. This comprehensive work has now come to a conclusion and the highlights will be presented and put in perspective at this side event.

"A global reference frame is key if you want to be able to compare data from all continents and to empower scientists from all parts of the world - to really give precise information, to make the planet a better place."

Erik Solheim, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme

"This is an open event and all Session Attendees are invited"



C. Agenda

11:30am – 13:00pm

Moderator: Mr. Gary Johnston, Group Leader, Geodesy and Seismic Monitoring, Geoscience Australia, **Australia** and Co-Chair United Nations Subcommittee on Geodesy

1. Introductory Remarks

- Mr. Gary Johnston, Group Leader, Geodesy and Seismic Monitoring, Geoscience Australia, **Australia** and Co-Chair United Nations Subcommittee on Geodesy
- Mr. Alexey Trifonov, Deputy Director Real Estate Department, Ministry of Economic Development, **Russian Federation** and Co-Chair United Nations Subcommittee on Geodesy

2. Governance Position Paper (10 minutes each)

- Mr. Dag Høgvard, Senior Geomatics Advisor, Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation, **Norway**
- Ms. Laila Løvhøiden, Norway, lead of the GGRF Governance Focus Group, Head of Global Geodesy Department, Geodetic Division, Norwegian Mapping Authority, **Norway**

3. Reality on the ground: case study and challenges (10 minutes each)

- Mr. Sergio Cimbaro, President, IGN Argentina, **Argentina**
- Dr. Zuheir Altamimi, Research Director, IGN France, **France**

4. Highlights of GGRF Roadmap Implementation plan (25 minutes)

- Mr. Gary Johnston, Group Leader, Geodesy and Seismic Monitoring, Geoscience Australia, **Australia** and Co-Chair United Nations Subcommittee on Geodesy
- Mr. Alexey Trifonov, Deputy Director Real Estate Department, Ministry of Economic Development, **Russian Federation** and Co-Chair United Nations Subcommittee on Geodesy
- Ms. Allison Craddock, Member of the GGRF Education, Training and Capacity Building Focus Group, and Systems Engineer, Space Geodesy Program, International Coordination and Partnership Office, NASA, **USA**

5. Open Discussion, Summary and Conclusions by Moderators (15 minutes)

Reference materials

- GGRF Newsletter 7: http://ggim.un.org/documents/UN%20GGIM_Newsletter_07_170630_web.pdf
- Global geodetic reference frame report: <http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/documents/E-C.20-2018-6%20Global-geodetic-reference-frame-report.pdf>
- GGRF Roadmap Implementation Plan: <http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/documents/Road-Map-Implementation-Plan.pdf>
- Governance Position Paper: <http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/documents/Position-Paper-on-Governance.pdf>

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