



**Ninth Session of the Committee of Experts on
Global Geospatial Information Management**
**Working Group on Legal and Policy Frameworks
for Geospatial Information Management**
***“Availability, accessibility, application,
provenance, privacy and protection of geospatial information”***

Tuesday, 6 August 2019
13:30 p.m. – 18:00 p.m.
Conference Room 5 (CR-5), General Assembly Building
United Nations Headquarters, New York

CONCEPT NOTE

Geospatial information is presented in many forms and mediums, provides the integrative platform for all digital data that has a location dimension to it. All countries and all sectors need geospatial information for national development, policy and decision-making. There is growing recognition that in an era of rapid digital transformation of society and economy, there are issues, challenges and opportunities regarding the availability, accessibility, exchange, application and management of geospatial information, and these are common and experienced across various levels of society, governments and economy. There is also increasing demand for advice on custodianship and governance within Member States, and beyond Member States for cross-border, regional and international collaborations and applications.

Appropriate legal and policy frameworks on geospatial information management can address these issues. Furthermore, legal and policy frameworks can proactively support the development of geospatial information management so that decisions lead to the needed public good in a more efficient way. The ultimate goal for any well working legal and policy framework is to maximize the utility of geospatial information but protect a country or agency against potential business and security risks. The United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) includes the building of robust legal and policy frameworks, the second of nine strategic pathways, to achieve goals around enriched societal value and benefits, effective geospatial information management, and an economic return on investment.

The Roundtable will be highly participatory and seeks to bring to the table governments and related stakeholders, including lawyers and legal experts/professionals. The Roundtable can consider results of the Working Group’s use case exercise, national and regional experiences and practices, operating perspectives from industry and practitioners. The aim is not merely to understand issues and challenges (many are already well understood), rather to collectively consider opportunities and feasible options towards developing a robust, sound and enabling legal and policy framework that optimizes the application, sharing, re-use and value of geospatial information towards enriched societal, environmental and economic value and benefits. This will also need consideration of laws, regulations, policies and decisions in force, e.g., on data and information, privacy and intellectual property, that impacts geospatial information management. The Roundtable is convened by the Working Group in partnership with the Private Sector Network (PSN) and the World Geospatial Industry Council (WGIC).



Proposed Agenda

13:30 – 14:00

Welcome, introductions and setting-the-scene

Moderator: Ms. Malgorzata Drewniak (*Lantmateriet, Sweden/Chair, WG-Legal and Policy Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management*)

14:00 – 14:45

Panel # 1- Use case exercise to address sharing of geospatial data across borders

The Working Group on Legal and Policy Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management developed a use-case intended to identify the legal and policy issues that impact geospatial data collection and sharing across borders. Representatives from countries from different regions responded by identifying the challenges within their legal and policy framework for geospatial information. From these responses, the working group made some initial findings. These findings will be presented at the roundtable followed by a discussion on a number of topics, including whether there is a contrast between countries' with an existing legal and policy framework and those that do not.

Moderator: Mr. Kevin Pomfret (*Centre for Spatial Law and Policy*)

Introduction: Mr. Kevin Pomfret

Panellists: Ms. Xu Kun (*Ministry of Natural Resources, China*)

Mr. Durwin Humphrey/Mr. Trevor Benn (*Guyana Lands and Survey Commission*)(*tbc*)

Ms. Rosamond Bing (*Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Tonga*)

Moderated discussion

14:45 – 15:30

Panel #2 – IGIF Strategic Pathway 2 Policy and Legal and the geospatial community

One of the nine strategic pathways of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework is Policy and Legal. This panel seeks perspectives of private sector and standards development organization on legal and policy issues as relates to open standards, open systems and open data. The Implementation Guide provides the 'what', the specific guidance, options and actions to be taken towards a robust, sound and enabling legal and policy framework that optimizes the application, sharing, re-use and value of geospatial information towards enriched societal, environmental and economic value and benefits.

Moderator: Mr. Steven Hagan (*Private Sector Network/Oracle*)

Introduction: Ms. Malgorzata Drewniak (*Lantmateriet, Sweden*)

Panellists: Mr. Mark Reichardt (*Open Geospatial Consortium*)

Prof. Dieter Fritsch (*Hexagon*)

Moderated discussion

“This is an open side event and all Session Attendees are invited”



15:30 – 16:00

Break

16:00 – 16:45

Panel #3 – Privacy of Geo-location Data

Protecting personal information is of the utmost importance to Members of the World Geospatial Industry Council (WGIC). The purpose of this Panel is to discuss preliminary results of a Survey on recent regulations and legislation regarding geo-location data and personal privacy, and to seek feedback on other ongoing related matters.

Moderator: Ms. Barbara Ryan (*WGIC*)

Introduction: Mr. Arnout Desmet (*TomTom, Chair - WGIC Policy Committee*)

Panellists: Mr. Zaffar Mohamed-Ghouse (*SpatialVision*)

Mr. Jim Steiner (*Oracle*)

Mr. Jim Van Rens (*Riegl*)

Moderated discussion

16:45 – 17:30

Panel #4 – Enabling regional collaboration and applications

Data sharing across borders enables regional collaboration and partnerships, ensure that governments and related stakeholders can discover, access and apply data to coordinate, address and respond to issues and emergencies. This panel seeks to understand from experiences of regional initiatives vis-à-vis legal and policy, including from partners of the Arctic SDI that are facilitating better access to data related to the arctic environment.

Moderator: Mr. Simon Costello (*Geoscience Australia*)

Introduction: Mr. Simon Costello

Introduction: Mr. Prashant Shukle (*Natural Resource Canada*)

Panellists: Ms. Eydís Líndal Finnbogadóttir (*National Land Survey of Iceland*)

Mr. Sebastian Carisio (*National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, USA*)

Moderated discussion

17:30 – 18:00

Summary, wrap-up and close

Moderator: Ms. Malgorzata Drewniak

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