Activities related to sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda

Agenda Item 13
Fourth Session of the Committee of Experts
6 August 2014
Context

Third session of Committee of Experts
Acknowledging that efforts to raise awareness of the role of geospatial information must continue, the Committee requested the Secretariat to continue to keep it informed about the efforts and initiatives of the United Nations system related to sustainable development.

Fourth session of Committee of Experts
Report provides information on activities carried out in the context of using reliable geospatial information for risk assessment and disaster risk reduction instruments, and on major activities related to the post-2015 development agenda, including the sustainable development goals currently being established by the UN.
How can you measure and monitor sustainable development...

without geography, place, and location
ECOSOC • Integration Segment (27–29 May, 2014)  
Sustainable Urbanization

**A New Global Partnership:**  
Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development


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**UN Conference on Small Island Developing States**  
Apia, Samoa  
1-4 September 2014

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**UN Conference on Sustainable Development**  
RIO+20

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Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges
The issue

- You cannot measure and monitor sustainable development, over time, in a consistent manner, without geography, place, and location.

- Despite efforts by the Secretariat and Member States, the level of understanding and uptake of geography and geospatial information in sustainable development, particularly at the policy and decision-making level, remains less than optimal.

- Efforts to enhance the role of geospatial information in the ongoing debate on sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda, need to be increased.

- UN-GGIM is the peak intergovernmental entity to foster a geographical approach to measure and monitor the goals of the post-2015 development agenda.
The Committee of Experts

One of the key objectives of the Committee of Experts is to contribute to the United Nations post 2015 development agenda.

The many environmental, developmental and humanitarian challenges we are facing today, make it increasingly apparent that location matters.

Thus, geospatial information is fundamental to decision making, policy formulation, measuring and monitoring development elements, all critical to the post 2015 development agenda.

I encourage you to remain continuously engaged and provide your expert advice for all the processes mentioned above.

Wu Hongbo
Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
6 August 2014
The Committee of Experts

The Committee is invited to:

(a) Take note of the report and express its views on the way forward in addressing the activities related to sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda;

(b) Provide guidance on the most appropriate means to engage with the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and enhance the role of geospatial information in the Prototype Global Sustainable Development Report;

(c) Consider establishing a group of experts to support the Bureau in contributing to the ongoing debate on the sustainable development agenda in order to ensure that a greater contribution of geospatial information is incorporated in preparations for the post-2015 development agenda.