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Dear Colleagues,

**Third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (3<sup>rd</sup> UNWGIC)  
16 – 19 November 2026, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

We are pleased to announce that the Third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (3<sup>rd</sup> UNWGIC) will be held from 16 to 19 November 2026 at the Ritz-Carlton Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Congress will be organized by the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as the secretariat for the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM). The government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through its General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GEOSA) is hosting and supporting the 3<sup>rd</sup> UNWGIC, which will convene under the overarching theme: “Navigating the Next Frontier: Embracing the Digital Renaissance and a New Geospatial Paradigm”.

As mandated by the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the Congress will promote comprehensive dialogue on global geospatial information management between governments and with relevant stakeholders, including international and regional organization, academia, the private sector, and civil society. The Congress provides a global platform to enhance collaboration and advance a future-ready geospatial ecosystem leveraging responsibly managed geospatial infrastructures, information, and systems generating actionable insights for meaningful global-to-local impact.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> UNWGIC is convened at a time of unprecedented technological change and accelerating digital transformation. The Congress will provide an inclusive, future-oriented platform to:

- embrace a new geospatial paradigm and reaffirm the emergence of a digital geospatial renaissance;
- advance integrated knowledge systems that fuse geospatial, statistical, environmental and socio-economic information to drive evidence-based insights;
- accelerate the implementation of globally developed consensus-based geospatial frameworks, with the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) as the overarching strategic framework; and
- foster global solidarity and partnerships to define pathways toward a geospatially empowered society and the wellbeing of all lives and livelihoods.

A distinguished gathering of senior officials, thought leaders, innovators, researchers, educators, practitioners, next generation leaders, and stakeholders from across the globe is expected to participate and engage in high-level dialogue on the societal, economic, and environmental benefits of quality, timely, and reliable geospatial information. This discourse will focus on the role of geospatial information in advancing national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), fostering a collective vision for a more sustainable and inclusive future where no one is left behind.

Further information on the Congress, including programme updates, participation modalities, and logistical guidance, once available, will be on the Congress website: <https://ggim.un.org/3UNWGIC/>. The Secretariat will also circulate additional information and updates from time to time. In an effort to inform a wide cross-section of the global geospatial information management community and stakeholders, I would appreciate if you share this announcement with relevant government agencies and stakeholders in your country, including the statistical, land administration, hydrographic, environmental, marine, and digital governance communities.

Should you have any questions regarding the Congress, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Aigerim Mussayeva and Ms. Vilma Frani (Email: [ggim@un.org](mailto:ggim@un.org)) at the UN-GGIM Secretariat, Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Please mark your calendar and prepare to join us. Together, we can bridge the gap between policy and practice, usher in a new geospatial paradigm, and shape a shared geospatial future for all. We look forward to welcoming you to the Third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress in Jeddah from 16 – 19 November 2026 as we collectively advance the critical role of integrated geospatial information management for the benefit of everyone everywhere.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Mukherjee', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shantanu Mukherjee  
Acting Director