



Second Meeting of the UN-GGCE International Advisory Committee Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy

18 to 21 March 2024
UN campus, Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1,
53113, Bonn, Germany
Langer Eugen Building, 23rd Floor, Room 2312

CONCEPT NOTE AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Background

An agreement “On the Operationalization of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence” between the United Nations and the Federal Republic of Germany was formalized in November 2022. The agreement formalizes the offer from Germany to host the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (UN-GGCE) at the UN campus in Bonn. The UN-GGCE’s vision for the future is one where all countries have strong political support for geodesy which enables them to – together – accelerate the achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals and derive social, environmental and economic benefits.

The UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy played a considerable role in the establishment of the UN-GGCE. Following efforts to recognize the importance of the geodesy in the General Assembly resolution 69/266¹ the Subcommittee advocated for dedicated resources to strengthen and advance: global geodetic cooperation and coordination; worldwide geodetic infrastructure; standards, policies and conventions; education, training and capacity building; and communication and awareness, while also coordinating measures and overseeing their implementation.

The objective of the UN-GGCE is to work with Member States and geodetic organizations to strengthen our collective impact to:

- Enhance investment in the global geodesy supply chain.
- Improve coordination and collaboration amongst Member States and geodetic organizations.
- Share geodetic data and improve standards, on a voluntary basis, to contribute to the global reference frame and regional densifications.
- Provide greater technical assistance, especially for capacity development in geodesy for developing countries.
- Make geodesy and its benefit more visible and understandable to society.

¹ [GA resolution 69/266](#)



Introduction

The Second Meeting of the International Advisory Committee will be held from 18 to 19 March 2024 at the UN campus in Bonn, Germany. Over these two days, there will be a joint workshop on the Global Geodesy Needs Assessment and global geodesy development plan where the UN-GGCE and the UN-GGIM Subcommittee will participate.

From 20 to 21 March 2024 the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Subcommittee will be held at the UN campus in Bonn, Germany. Members of the UN-GGCE: IAC who are not members of the Subcommittee are invited to participate in this meeting.

The International Advisory Committee is requested to advise on the Global Geodesy Needs Assessment, progress on global geodesy development plan and further work of the UN-GGCE including the discussion paper on the importance of the global geodesy supply chain to critical infrastructure and the global economy. The Subcommittee of Geodesy members are invited to participate in discussions and assist with access to scientific and operational expertise and to develop strategies, implementation plans, policies and guidelines.

The Second Meeting of the Steering Committee will be held in the afternoon of 21 March 2024.

Outline schedule for the days, 18 – 21 March 2024

Date	Morning	Afternoon
Monday, 18 March	2 nd meeting of the UN-GGCE: International Advisory Committee	Joint UN-GGCE, UN-GGCE: IAC, Subcommittee on Geodesy workshop on Global Geodesy Needs Assessment
Tuesday, 19 March	Joint UN-GGCE, UN-GGCE: IAC, Subcommittee on Geodesy workshop on Global Geodesy Needs Assessment	2 nd meeting of the UN-GGCE: International Advisory Committee
Wednesday, 20 March	4 th plenary meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy (including members of UN-GGCE: IAC who are not members of the Subcommittee)	4 th plenary meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy (including members of UN-GGCE: IAC who are not members of the Subcommittee)
Thursday, 21 March	4 th plenary meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy (including members of UN-GGCE: IAC who are not members of the Subcommittee)	4 th plenary meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy (including members of UN-GGCE: IAC who are not members of the Subcommittee) Second Meeting of the UN-GGCE Steering Committee



United Nations
Global Geodetic
Centre of Excellence



UN-GGIM
UNITED NATIONS
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Participation

The Second Meeting of the UN-GGCE International Advisory Committee is an in-person closed meeting, by invitation only, for members of the International Advisory Committee. However, members of the Subcommittee on Geodesy are invited to observe the meeting.

The Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy is an in-person closed meeting, by invitation only, for members of the Subcommittee. Members of the UN-GGCE International Advisory Committee are invited to participate and contribute to the Fourth Plenary Meeting.

The Second Meeting of the UN-GGCE Steering Committee is an in-person closed meeting, only for members of the Steering Committee and person(s) invited to observe the meeting by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs or by the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (BMI), Germany.

All participants and observers are responsible for their travel, local logistics, subsistence and accommodation arrangements, and related expenditures. All participants and observers are responsible for their respective entries into Germany and the European Union including necessary visa and travel insurance as applicable.

Registration

All invited members, participants and observers must confirm and register their attendance by email to Vilma Frani (Email: frani@un.org) as soon as possible, latest by Friday 19 February 2024. This is necessary to facilitate any requirements of security and grounds pass into UN campus, Bonn.





Detailed Agenda

Monday, 18 March		Location: UN campus, Langer Eugen Building, 23rd Floor, Room 2312
9:00 – 9:30 am	Arrival and entry to the building	
2nd meeting of the UN-GGCE: International Advisory Committee (UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy Members are welcome to observe)		
9:30 – 10:15 am	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Stefan Schweinfest (Director, UN Statistics Division/DESA) Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC) <p>Organization of the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC) Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline of the agenda Overview of desired outcomes from the meeting <p>Operating Plan of the UN-GGCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC) Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation of the work undertaken so far by UN-GGCE Operating model and reporting lines of the UN-GGCE Operating plan of the UN-GGCE for 2024 and 2025 Discussion with IAC members on operating plan and priorities of the UN-GGCE 	
10:15 – 10:20 am	Outcome: Seek consensus on the UN-GGCE operational plan and priorities for 2024 and 2025	
10:20 – 10:30 am	Group photo	
10:30 – 11:00 am	Morning Tea	
Joint UN-GGCE, UN-GGCE: IAC, Subcommittee on Geodesy workshop on Global Geodesy Needs Assessment		
11:00 – 11:15 am	<p>Presentation of the draft Global Geodesy Needs Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC) Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the method used to perform the Global Geodesy Needs Assessment process Summary of findings from a global and regional perspective Discussion 	
11:15 am – 12:25 am	<p>Breakout session 1: Global Geodesy Needs Assessment - Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC) Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) <u>Quite time (15 mins)</u>: Each person reads the Evidence focus area information in the draft Global Geodesy Needs Assessment document and makes personal notes <u>Group allocation (5 mins)</u>: People will be put in groups <u>Discuss and document (35 mins)</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each group will discuss the Evidence focus area of the Global Geodesy Needs Assessment. Scribe to add information or comments to the Needs Assessment, but don't remove any information Add information relating to gaps and options for improvement <u>Report (15 mins)</u>: Group representative to report back to the whole group 	
12:25 – 12:30 pm	Outcome: Word document from each group sent to Nicholas.Brown@un.org and Focus Area in the title.	



12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 – 2:55 pm	<p>Breakout session 2: Global Geodesy Needs Assessment - Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC)</i> • <i>Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)</i> • <u>Quite time (20 mins)</u>: Each person reads the Resources focus area information in the draft Global Geodesy Needs Assessment document and makes personal notes • <u>Group allocation (5 mins)</u>: People will be put in groups • <u>Discuss and document (45 mins)</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each group will discuss the Resources focus area of the Global Geodesy Needs Assessment. ○ Scribe to add information or comments to the Needs Assessment, but don't remove any information ○ Add information relating to gaps and options for improvement • <u>Report (15 mins)</u>: Group representative to report back to the whole group
2:55 – 3:00 pm	Outcome: Word document from each group sent to Nicholas.Brown@un.org and Focus Area in the title.
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Tea
3:30 – 4:55 pm	<p>Breakout session 3: Global Geodesy Needs Assessment - Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC)</i> • <i>Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)</i> • <u>Quite time (20 mins)</u>: Each person reads the Governance focus area information in the draft Global Geodesy Needs Assessment document and makes personal notes • <u>Group allocation (5 mins)</u>: People will be put in groups • <u>Discuss and document (45 mins)</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each group will discuss the Governance focus area of the Global Geodesy Needs Assessment. ○ Scribe to add information or comments to the Needs Assessment, but don't remove any information ○ Add information relating to gaps and options for improvement • <u>Report (15 mins)</u>: Group representative to report back to the whole group
4:55 – 5:00 pm	Outcome: Word document from each group sent to Nicholas.Brown@un.org and Focus Area in the title.
6:30 pm	Dinner - Tuscolo Münsterblick (Gerhard-von-Are-Straße 8, 53111 Bonn)





Tuesday, 19 March		Location: UN campus, Langer Eugen Building, 23rd Floor, Room 2312	
9:00 – 9:30 am	Arrival and entry to the building		
Joint UN-GGCE, UN-GGCE: IAC, Subcommittee on Geodesy workshop on Global Geodesy Needs Assessment			
9:30 – 10:40 am	Breakout session 4: Global Geodesy Needs Assessment – Capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC)</i> • <i>Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)</i> • <u>Quite time (15 mins)</u>: Each person reads the Capacity focus area information in the draft Global Geodesy Needs Assessment document and makes personal notes • <u>Group allocation (5 mins)</u>: People will be put in groups • <u>Discuss and document (35 mins)</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each group will discuss the Capacity focus area of the Global Geodesy Needs Assessment. ○ Scribe to add information or comments to the Needs Assessment, but don't remove any information ○ Add information relating to gaps and options for improvement • <u>Report (15 mins)</u>: Group representative to report back to the whole group 		
10:40 – 10:45 am	Outcome: Word document from each group sent to Nicholas.Brown@un.org and Focus Area in the title.		
10:45 – 11:15 am	Morning Tea		
11:15 am – 12:25 pm	Breakout session 5: Global Geodesy Needs Assessment – Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC)</i> • <i>Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)</i> • <u>Quite time (15 mins)</u>: Each person reads the Awareness focus area information in the draft Global Geodesy Needs Assessment document and makes personal notes • <u>Group allocation (5 mins)</u>: People will be put in groups • <u>Discuss and document (35 mins)</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each group will discuss the Awareness focus area of the Global Geodesy Needs Assessment. ○ Scribe to add information or comments to the Needs Assessment, but don't remove any information ○ Add information relating to gaps and options for improvement ○ <u>Report (15 mins)</u>: Group representative to report back to the whole group 		
12:25 – 12:30 pm	Outcome: Word document from each group sent to Nicholas.Brown@un.org and Focus Area in the title.		
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch		
1:30 – 2:55 pm	Other business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC)</i> • <i>Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion on “Hidden Risk” report (Mr Nicholas Brown) ○ Discussion on “Partners of the UN-GGCE” proposal (Mr Nicholas Brown) ○ Any other business 		
2:55 – 3:00 pm	Outcome: Decision on process towards development of “Hidden Risk” report Outcome: Decision on process towards development of “Partners of the UN-GGCE” proposal		
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Tea		
3:30 – 5:00 pm	Other business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Albert Momo (co-Chair UN-GGCE IAC)</i> • <i>Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introduction to the Joint Global Geodesy Development Plan (Mr Nicholas Brown) ○ Discussion 		
6:30 pm	Dinner - Brauhaus Bönnsch (Sterntorbrücke 4, 53111, Bonn)		





Wednesday, 20 March

Location: UN campus, Langer Eugen Building, 23rd Floor, Room 2312

9:00 – 9:30 am	Arrival and entry to the building
4th plenary meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy (including members of UN-GGCE: IAC who are not members of the Subcommittee)	
9:30 – 10:40 am	<p>Welcome, introductions and organization of the work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Fernand Bale and Mr Johannes Bouman (co-Chairs of Subcommittee)</i> <p>Aligning the work program of the Subcommittee on Geodesy and the UN-GGCE Strategy and Operating Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Fernand Bale and Mr Johannes Bouman (co-Chairs of Subcommittee)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentation: What is the role of the Subcommittee? (<i>co-Chairs of Subcommittee</i>) ○ Discussion
10:40 – 10:45 am	Outcome: Decision on the role of the Subcommittee
10:45 – 11:15 am	Morning Tea
11:15 am – 12:25 pm	<p>UN-GGIM regional geodesy working groups update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Fernand Bale and Mr Johannes Bouman (co-Chairs of Subcommittee)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UN-GGIM: Arab States (Mr Abdullah Alqahtani) (25 mins) ○ UN-GGIM: Europe (Mr Jeffrey Verbeurgt) (25 mins) ○ Questions and discussion
12:25 – 12:30 pm	Outcome: Discuss and document any decisions / actions based
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 – 2:55 pm	<p>UN-GGIM regional geodesy working groups update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Fernand Bale and Mr Johannes Bouman (co-Chairs of Subcommittee)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UN-GGIM: Africa (Mr Aslam Parker) (25 mins) ○ UN-GGIM: Asia-Pacific (Mr Basara Miyahara) (25 mins) ○ UN-GGIM: Americas (Mr Sergio Cimbaro & Mr Dan Roman) (25 mins) ○ Questions and discussion
2:55 – 3:00 pm	Outcome: Discuss and document any decisions / actions
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Tea
3:30 – 4:55 pm	<p>UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy Partners update (30 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Fernand Bale and Mr Johannes Bouman (co-Chairs of Subcommittee)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IAG – Mr Richard Gross (10 mins) ○ FIG – Mr Ryan Keenan (10 mins) ○ NASA – Mr Stephen Merkowitz (10 mins) <p>Business of the Subcommittee – Working Groups, Bureau and co-Chairs (55 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Fernand Bale and Mr Johannes Bouman (co-Chairs of Subcommittee)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Selection of new Subcommittee Bureau Member ○ Discussion and decisions on current working groups and plans for the future? ○ Other business
4:55 – 5:00 pm	Outcome: Discuss and document any decisions / actions





Thursday, 21 March		Location: UN campus, Langer Eugen Building, 23rd Floor, Room 2312
9:00 – 9:30 am	Arrival and entry to the building	
4th plenary meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy <i>(including members of UN-GGCE: IAC who are not members of the Subcommittee)</i>		
9:30 – 10:40 am	Regional reference frames <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Fernand Bale and Mr Johannes Bouman (co-Chairs of Subcommittee)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional reference frames (Mr Zuheir Altamimi) ○ Discussion on all regional reference frames 	
10:40 – 10:45 am	Outcome: Discuss and document any decisions / actions	
10:45 – 11:15 am	Morning Tea	
11:15 am – 12:30 pm	Summary and close <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Fernand Bale and Mr Johannes Bouman (co-Chairs of Subcommittee)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summary of outcomes / decisions ○ Close 2nd meeting of the UN-GGCE: International Advisory Committee and 4th plenary meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy 	
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch	

Thursday, 21 March		Location: UN campus, Langer Eugen Building, 23rd Floor, Room 2312
Second Meeting of the UN-GGCE Steering Committee		
1:30 – 3:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed meeting for UN-GGCE Steering Committee members • Separate agenda circulated by the UN Secretariat 	

