

Update from the 5th Session of the UN-GGIM

Third Meeting of the UN Expert Group on
the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

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UN-GGIM

United Nations Committee of Experts on
Global Geospatial Information Management

Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

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Outline:

- ❖ Presentation of the report of the UN Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information: Main Points
- ❖ Discussion
- ❖ Decision 5/105
- ❖ Conclusions



Content of the Report

- ❖ Global Forum on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information - Major Outcomes
- ❖ Major findings and recommendations of the second meeting of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
- ❖ Consultative Meeting of the Expert Group in Beijing



Main points

- ❖ The participation of more than 200 senior leaders, from both NSOs and NGIAs of 73 countries, in the first Global Forum exemplify the importance and relevance of the integration of statistical and geospatial information. The Global Forum was particularly successful in bringing national statistical and geospatial leaders together to communicate and understand each other. The Global Forum welcomed future meetings of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, and stressed that it was imperative that the professional statistical community, in partnership with relevant national geospatial information authorities, remain fully engaged in the work of this Expert Group.
- ❖ In both events, the Global Forum and the second meeting of the Expert Group, it was specifically noted that statistical and geospatial communities are major contributors of information used for evidence-based decision-making across many sectors, whether public or private, for which **institutional coordination** and cooperation between the statistical and geospatial agencies within a country are vitally important and key factors to the success of the integration.



...cont.

- ❖ It was also stressed that geospatial data can significantly improve the quality (accuracy, relevance, accessibility) of official statistics, and Population and Housing Censuses are key enablers for demonstrating statistical and geospatial integration for all stages of a statistical cycle.
- ❖ Both statistical and geospatial communities should have a common voice in information discussions, such as the Post-2015 Development Agenda at the strategic level and 2020 Round of Censuses at the tactical level, and there is an urgent need for a mechanism, such as a global statistical-geospatial framework, to facilitate consistent production and integration approaches for geo-statistical information.



Points Discussed (record of interventions)

The Committee was invited to:

- Take note of the progress of the work of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information;
- Encourage the involvement of the geospatial community from Member States in the work of the Expert Group and participation in related appropriate events;
- Provide guidance on the time frame within which a progress report on the development of the Global Geospatial-Statistical Framework by the Expert Group should be submitted at future meetings of the Committee.



Integration of geospatial, statistical and other information

❖ The Committee of Experts:

- Welcomed the report by the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information and noted the progress made by the Expert Group in tackling common issues to both geospatial and statistical communities.
- Agreed that statistical and geospatial communities are major contributors of information used for evidence-based decision making across many sectors, whether public or private, for which institutional coordination and cooperation between the geospatial and statistical agencies are vitally important, and key factors to the success of integration
- Noted the importance of integrating geospatial and statistical information as expressed by the first Global Forum on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information in August 2014, where more than 200 senior leaders from both communities were fully supportive of the need to integrate statistical and geospatial information and better coordination between both communities, with a view to closely working with the “Big Data” community.
- Acknowledged that geospatial information can significantly improve the quality of Official Statistics, and that Population and Housing Censuses are key enablers for demonstrating statistical and geospatial integration at all stages of a census cycle, particularly in the context of the 2020 Round of Censuses.
- Encouraged the continued involvement of the geospatial community from Member States in the work of the Expert Group and participation in related appropriate events, and noted that the development of the Global Geospatial-Statistical Framework by the Expert Group will be submitted to the Statistical Commission and the Committee of Experts in 2016.



Conclusions

- ❖ At global level: bring Statistical and Geospatial communities **to work together**: Develop the Global Statistical-Geospatial Framework (UN-GGIM and UN Statistical Commission)
- ❖ At national level: better **cooperation/coordination** between NSOs and NMAs/NGIAs: through the National Geospatial Infrastructure (NSDI)
- ❖ Two major opportunities for countries: **Post-2015 Development Agenda** (SDGs-recognition of the importance of the integration of statistical and geospatial information) and **2020 Round of Census** (to develop their statistical-geospatial infrastructure)
- ❖ [In the context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda with emphasis on “leave no one behind”, the census due to its total coverage of the population is an **invaluable source of information for sustainable development** especially with use of geospatial tools for integration of data and location].



Thank You!



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