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Dear Colleagues,

Third Session of the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management 24-26 July 2013

I am writing to inform you that the Third Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) will be held in Cambridge, United Kingdom, from 24-26 July 2013, and convened back-to-back with the Cambridge Conference. The official announcement of the third session has been issued through a Note Verbale which was communicated to all the Permanent Missions to the United Nations. A copy of the Note is attached for your reference.

As you may recall, the second session of the Committee, held in New York, from 13-15 August 2012, addressed several critical issues related to geospatial information management. A number of substantive activities have been undertaken as follow-up and they will be reported back and deliberated at this third session, such as the future trends in geospatial information, the development of a global geodetic reference framework, the status of mapping in the world and the development of a global map for sustainable development. The full provisional agenda, as well as other information on the third session are posted on the Committee website at <u>http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html</u>. The substantive reports to be discussed during the Committee session will also be loaded there as soon as they become available, but no later than 12 June 2013.

If you are planning to attend, you will need to comply with the formality of requesting your Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York to advise the GGIM Secretariat in writing of your intention to participate in the meeting, and provide the name(s) of all the members of your delegation. You can find the contact information for your Permanent Mission on the following website: <u>http://www.un.org/en/members/</u>.

Practical information will be made available to confirmed participants. For those who are also planning to attend the Cambridge Conference and UN-GGIM, information about registration and accommodation is available on the following website: <u>www.cambridgeconference.com</u>.

If you have any further questions or need any assistance regarding the forthcoming session of the Committee on GGIM, please do not hesitate to contact the GGIM Secretariat (Mr. Amor Laaribi, Tel: 1-212-963-3042; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: <u>laaribi@un.org</u> and Ms. Vilma Frani, Tel: 1-917-367-2903; Email: <u>frani@un.org</u>).

I look forward to seeing you in Cambridge and welcoming you and your country's delegation to this Third Session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

Yours sincerely,

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Stefan Schweinfest Acting Director UN-GGIM Secretariat United Nations Statistics Division/DESA

Cc: Mr. Kyong-Soo Eom Chief, UN Cartographic Section/DFS-LSD-SSS