

United Nations Nations Unies

SECRETARIAT OF UN COMMITTEE ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
UN STATISTICS DIVISION
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Dear Colleagues,

Fourth High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 20-22 April 2016

We are pleased to announce that the UN-GGIM Secretariat, in collaboration with the Government of Ethiopia and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, will be hosting the **Fourth High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management from 20-22 April 2016, at UNECA's Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.**

The Forum is being staged in pursuance of the mandate from the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to convene global forums to promote comprehensive dialogue on global geospatial information management with all relevant governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The event will continue the discussions and consultations from previous High Level Forums, and will follow up on issues from the formal inter-governmental meetings of the Committee of Experts. At its fifth session in August 2015, the Committee of Experts approved and supported the convening of the Fourth High Level Forum to be held in April 2016 in Addis Ababa, Africa, and focused on land administration and management.

Land information and its management are fundamental to successful land administration and the derived benefits to the economies and overall sustainable development of nations. Therefore, the overarching theme of the Fourth High Level Forum is '**Good Land Governance for the 2030 Agenda**'. The Forum will address the role of land information for sustainable development; good land governance and regulatory frameworks; geospatial land information management, including fundamental data requirements, data quality, maintenance and standards; technology and capacity development in support of land management; and partnerships and shared objectives across regions.

Please note that the Forum will be substantively supported by the Regional Committees of UN-GGIM, including for: Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa); Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP); the Americas (UN-GGIM: Americas); Europe (UN-GGIM: Europe); and the Arab States (UN-GGIM: Arab States). The continued involvement of the geospatial industry at the most senior levels will be a key component of the Forum's technical program.

We are delighted to send you this announcement and kindly ask that you mark your calendars accordingly. It should be noted that a number of related side events and special meetings will be convened on 18-19 April 2016, immediately prior to the start of the Fourth High Level Forum. In an effort to inform a wide cross section of the professional geospatial information management community, we ask that you share this information with relevant government agencies and other stakeholders in your country.

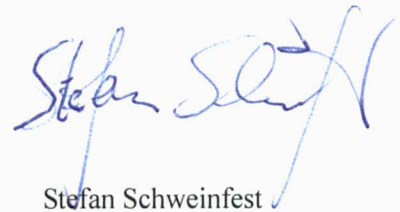
Should you have questions regarding this High Level Forum, please do not hesitate to contact my office, in particular Mr. Greg Scott (Tel: 1-212-963-8578; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: scott12@un.org). For information regarding the arrangements in Ethiopia, please contact Mr. Andre Nonguierma from UNECA at ANonguierma@uneca.org.

Together with our co-organizers, we look forward to welcoming you and your country's delegation at the Fourth High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management, as we work to advance the use of geospatial information in sustainable development.

Yours sincerely,



Sultan Mohamed Alya
Director General
Ethiopian Mapping Agency
Chair of UN-GGIM: Africa



Stefan Schweinfest
Director
United Nations Statistics Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

cc:

Kyoung-Soo Eom
Chief, Geospatial Information Section/ICTD/DFS