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SECRETARIAT OF UN COMMITTEE ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
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STAT 421 (4-64)

30 August 2017

Dear Colleagues,

**Fifth High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management
Mexico City, Mexico, 28-30 November 2017**

We are pleased to announce that the UN-GGIM Secretariat, in collaboration with the Government of Mexico, through the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), and Geospatial Media and Communications, will be hosting the **Fifth High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management from 28-30 November 2017, at the Sheraton Maria Isabel Hotel in Mexico City, Mexico.**

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, provide follow-up on issues from the formal inter-governmental meetings of the Committee of Experts, and provide Member States and geospatial stakeholders with the unique opportunity to share and learn from each other, new ideas, methods and strategies to support local, regional and global geospatial technologies and innovation related to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In response to the transformative nature and broad needs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Fifth High Level Forum on UN-GGIM will facilitate an in-depth dialogue on geospatial technology and innovation, and the importance of public-private partnerships for the promotion of geospatial knowledge and services to attain the 17 aspirational SDGs. Therefore, and with an overarching theme **'Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Geospatial Technology and Innovation'** the High Level Forum will provide Member States and geospatial information stakeholders the unique opportunity to exchange knowledge, practices and experiences and afford peer-to-peer learning on strategies, approaches and methods to support sub-national, national and regional initiatives towards increasing the availability, accessibility and application of high-quality, reliable and timely geospatial information for sustainable development.

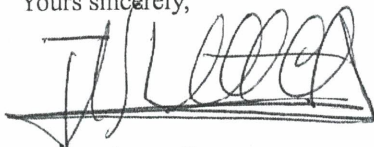
The Fifth High Level Forum aims to substantively improve and strengthen the national geospatial information management capacities of countries, particularly developing countries, towards implementing the 2030 Agenda and evidence-based policy and decision making. Objectives of the Forum will be to discuss the integration of geospatial knowledge, platforms and services to facilitate informed decision making, empowering people for better sustainable management and development of the Earth's finite resources. This will enable and drive national government agencies, multilateral and international development organizations, the commercial sector, academia and civil society to pursue sustainable development using geospatial knowledge and services. It will also continue to raise political awareness and highlight the importance of these technologies to decision makers.

The Forum will be substantively supported by each of 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), as well as the UN-GGIM Private Sector Network, the UN-GGIM Academic Network and the UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies.

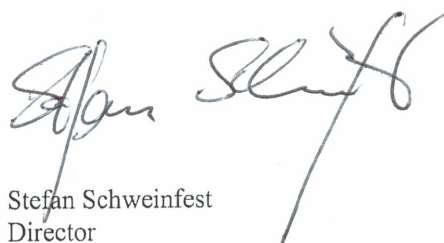
We are delighted to send you this announcement, and kindly ask that you mark your calendars accordingly. In an effort to inform a wide cross section of the professional geospatial information management community, we ask that you share this information with relevant government agencies and other relevant stakeholders in your country. The concept note as well as other information on this Fifth High Level Forum will be gradually posted on the event's web-page at <http://ggim.un.org/5th%20HLF.html>.

Should you have questions regarding the Fifth High Level Forum, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Greg Scott (Tel: 1-212-963-8578; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: scott12@un.org) and Ms. Vilma Frani (Tel: 1-917-367-2903; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: frani@un.org) at the UN-GGIM Secretariat. For information regarding the arrangements in Mexico City, please contact Ms. Ana de Lara from INEGI (Email: ana.delara@inegi.org.mx). Together with our co-organizers, we look forward to welcoming you at the Fifth High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management, as we work to advance the critical role of geospatial information in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Yours sincerely,



Julio A. Santaella
President
National Institute of Statistics and Geography –
INEGI, Mexico



Stefan Schweinfest
Director
United Nations Statistics Division
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cc:

Kyoung-Soo Eom
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