Statement of Ethics on Global Geospatial Information

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United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management

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The Forgotten Role of Ethics

- No clear statement or discussion on higher principles or values on how we produce, process, manage and maintain geospatial information;
- Geospatial capabilities and identity have evolved in fragmented and inconsistent manner, reflecting fragmented institutional arrangements;
- Governments are struggling to deal with data issues from the public as well as privately sourced information – credibility, accuracy, legitimacy, status;
- Urgently need a 'Statement of Ethics';

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Current Efforts

- GISCI (GIS Certification Institute) Rules of Conduct and Code of Ethics;
- Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (ANZ)- GISP-AP Code of Ethics and Rules of Conduct;
- Code of Conduct for European Surveyors;
- OGC Principles of Conduct;

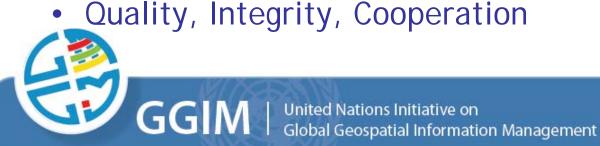
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Some Common Elements

- Objective, Science Based, Independent;
- Public Good, User Orientation, Service Principle;
- Non-discriminatory; Transparent Processes
- Confidentiality of Data, Access rules



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Evolving as a Community

- A Statement of Ethics and associated code of conduct to be evolved;
- Elements to be identified and agreed upon;
- Need to work together Governments, international organizations, the private sector, and the Crowd – <u>the Statement Should Apply to All</u>;
- Evolving as a community: To be proud in making accurate, authoritative, reliable geospatial information readily available to support national, regional and global development, such efforts anchored in high principles.....

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