

**Brief Remarks by Mr. Kyoung-Soo Eom, Chief
United Nations Cartographic Section
on Thematic Seminar
“Integrating Statistical and Geospatial Information”**

KINTEX, Seoul, 27 October 2011

Your Excellency Mr. Ki-Jong Woo, and Mr. Paul Cheung,
Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am greatly honoured and privileged to be here at this important seminar on “**Integrating Statistical and Geospatial Information**”. Firstly, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all of you for your leadership, passion and efforts towards setting up a mechanism for **better coordination and integration between statistical and geospatial information**. This will surely result in many benefits for all.

The ongoing rapid development in technologies such as IT, Internet, mobile communications, hand-held devices, GIS, remote sensing and satellite imagery has created new opportunities for actions to strengthen information functions in many areas.

Recent experience with the **integration of statistical and geospatial information** has shown that now, more than ever, the ability to obtain, analyse, share and disseminate relevant data and information effectively and to use them in **meaningful way to inform** users and decision-makers, is crucial to the effectiveness of planning, preparedness and operations as well as decision-making.

Nowadays, many users, including governments, the private sector as well as individuals, use **statistical and geospatial** data as base information, which are vital in understanding our world today.

There is an abundance of statistical and geospatial data that is produced within the United Nations. The challenges we face focus mainly on how to effectively and efficiently integrate statistical and geospatial information.

We must work together to develop a strategy and mechanism for establishing common standards so that data is compatible.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hope that this important seminar will build the **corner stones** towards the achievement of a consensus and agreement towards **practical solutions** to confront in a coordinated way the common challenges of our community.

Thank you very much for your attention.