

Report on the Fifth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP incorporating UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information

At the UN-GGIM Expanded Bureau Meeting
UN Headquarters, New York, 7-9 December 2016



UN-GGIM-AP

Regional Committee of United Nations
Global Geospatial Information Management
for Asia and the Pacific

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The Fifth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP & the UN-GGIM International Forum

- Jointly organized by UN-GGIM-AP, the Secretariat of UN-GGIM and the Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia
- from 16-20 October 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Attended by 495 registered participants from over 30 countries, including 125 international participants
- UNGGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information was held from 18-19 October
- Two workshops of UN-GGIM-AP WG1 and WG4 were held as side events from 16-17 October.



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The Fifth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP

- Attended by about 100 national delegates and observers from 29 countries and 5 international organizations.
- Reviewed the activities of the Committee during the intermeeting period; discussed challenges and priorities; discussed work plans for next steps; briefed on the activities and considerations of UN-GGIM; communicated with liaison organizations.
- Statutes of UN-GGIM-AP were amended according to the ECOSOC resolution adopted on 27 July 2016 by which UNRCC-AP was removed from the UN meeting calendar.
- Five resolutions as follows were adopted to define the next steps of the Committee and its WGs:
 1. Geodetic Reference Frame
 2. Disaster Risk Management
 3. Regional SDI
 4. Cadastre and Land Management
 5. International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information



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The UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information

- Officiated by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Malaysia, attracted 495 registered participants from over 30 countries.
- 16 speakers spoke in the following 4 sessions:
 1. Unique experiences, practices, approaches and challenges towards the release of open data by geospatial agencies;
 2. Legal and regulatory framework regarding operations of unmanned aerial and vehicular systems;
 3. Unique data protection and privacy concerns associated with government geospatial information;
 4. Licensing of geospatial information: understanding the components of a geospatial license/data sharing agreement.
- The outcomes of all the discussions were reflected in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information. The Declaration was unanimously adopted by the participants, and later adopted by the UN-GGIM-AP Plenary. With the Declaration, there is a defined path forward for UN-GGIM and the global geospatial information community.



We recognize that,

- Policy and legal issues impact geospatial information management at the local, national and international levels; and that these must be considered and balanced within national strategies, policies, laws and contexts;
- Developments and innovations in geospatial information and its related technologies and techniques are rapidly changing societal access to information, requiring the urgent need for geospatial professionals to actively engage with policy, legislative and regulatory challenges to allow for an enabling environment where geospatial information can further inform and support economic and sustainable development;
- Effective and sustained policy and legal frameworks will evolve over time, respond to societal progress and technological developments, including as machine-learning environments become more prominent; and such effective policy frameworks will allow for progressive and forward-looking strategies and include guidelines, principles and internationally agreed standards;
- There are significant policy and legal challenges to address, including issues related to the quality, timeliness, comparability, authority, availability, accessibility, licensing, pricing, sharing, liability, privacy and security of data, and open data.

We resolve to,

- Contribute, as a responsible geospatial community of stakeholders and partners working together, to provide collaborative leadership for the change needed to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, noting that when realized across its full extent, the lives of all will be profoundly improved and our world will be transformed for the better;
- Confirm that the global geospatial community will be more proactively engaged with issues relating to the collection, use, privacy, provenance and, accessibility of data, as well as issues related to the use of unmanned aircraft systems and other potentially intrusive devices;
- Agree that an enabling strategy and plan of action must be developed in order to begin the advocacy and engagement process on policy and legal issues among relevant parties;
- Continue to strive towards providing the necessary mechanisms to enable effective and efficient governance, sharing and usage of geospatial information and technologies towards achieving national development aspirations as well as common goals for sustainable development regionally and globally;
- Consider the potential policy and legal implications associated with delivering reliable geospatial data that is required to be nationally disaggregated by a number of

metrics including, income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We therefore request UN-GGIM at its Seventh Session to,

- Thank the Government of Malaysia for the hosting of this International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information;
- Consider establishing a working group to explore policy and legal frameworks for geospatial information, with participants from both the geospatial and legal communities;
- Develop a strategy and plan of action on policy and legal issues in order to begin the advocacy and engagement process, inclusive of a guide to the licensing and dissemination of geospatial information that can provide guidance to Member States;
- Contribute to developing capacity within the Member States on the policy and legal issues that impact the collection, use, storage and dissemination of geospatial information;
- Adopt this Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information.

**The Kuala Lumpur
Declaration**

Side events: Workshop on Geospatial and GNSS CORS Infrastructure

- 1.5 Day workshop from 16-17 October, jointly organized by **UN-GGIM-AP WG1**, **FIG** and **JUPEM**.
- 155 registrants (61 international); 22 presenters spoke in 6 sessions.
- Intense discussion toward challenges and priority issues on geodetic reference frameworks for sustainable development.
- Advocated the significance of geodetic infrastructure in addressing global challenges and implementing sustainable development goal.
- Shared knowledge, experience, techniques and good practices on the reference frames and GNSS CORS, as well as geospatial and geodetic infrastructure modernization.
- Discussed role of organizations and sectors in the development of geospatial and geodetic infrastructure.



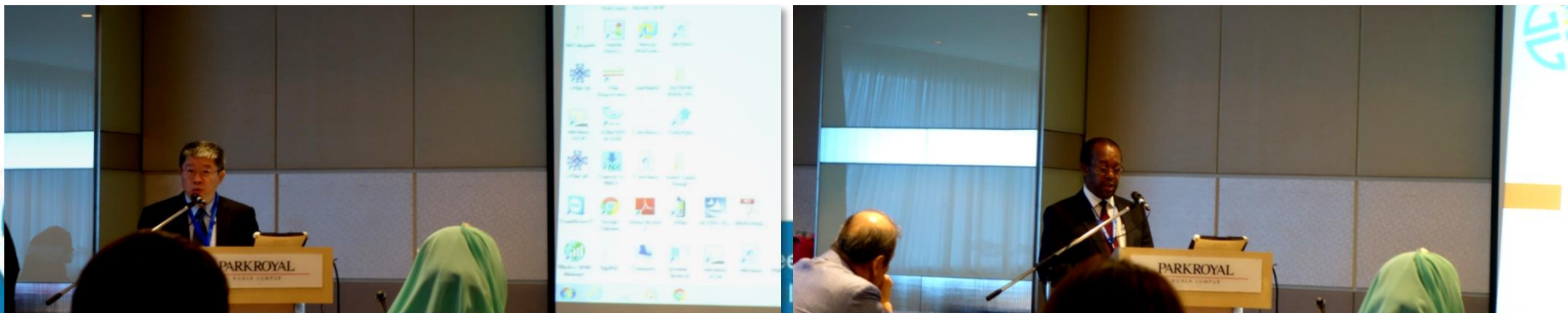
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Side events: Workshop on Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration and STDM

- Half-Day workshop on 17 October, jointly organized by UN-GGIM-AP WG4 and JUPEM, and attended by 60 participants.
- Intended to help member states better understand and design a fit-for-purpose approach to building sustainable land administration system.
- Interactive training for Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration and STDM. Hands-on demos were conducted on STDM to deepen understanding, with open source STDM application distributed.
- Presenting the geospatial data as metadata and indicators, particularly land indicators, for sustainable development, the importance of good land administration and management in the implementation of global development agenda was iterated and explicated .
- Introduced the guiding principles of fit-for-purpose land administration and stressed the importance of top-level support in advocating and leading the promotion of FFP, as well as organizations and sectors' role as practitioners and facilitators.



Recommendations to the Seventh Session of UN-GGIM

- Respond to the request raised in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information:
 - consider establishing WG on this topic;
 - develop related strategy and plan of action to begin the advocacy and engagement process;
 - contribute to developing Member States' capacity in this regard.
- Continue to promote capacity building on geospatial information management of Member States as one of the top priorities of UN-GGIM V2.0 agenda. The two workshops of UN-GGIM-AP held in Kuala Lumpur proved to be widely and warmly welcomed by the Member States.



6th Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP

17-19 October 2017

Kumamoto, Japan



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