

**Report on the establishment of
UN-GGIM: Arab States**

Why regional Arab states committees of UN-GGIM?

- 1- Addressing global issues and contributing collective knowledge as a community with shared interests and concerned,
- 2- developing effective strategies to build geospatial capacity between the regional countries.
- 3- to improve policy, institutional arrangements and legal frame work.
- 4- To make accurate, authoritative, reliable geospatial information readily available to support national, regional and global development.

Steps taken for the Creation of Arab States- UNGGIM

1-The First meeting of Arab group was in Doha-Qatar , a Seminar on Regional Cooperation held on February- 7- 2013, in conjunction with the Second High-Level Forum on GGIM, which aimed to deliberate on the need to establish a regional UN-GGIM committee to coordinate geospatial information in the ESCWA region.

- 2-The Second informal meeting was held in the margin of the third Session of UN-GGIM IN Cambridge, July 2013.all participants member again agreed to create the Arab state division – UNGGIM.AND Jordan represented by Dr Awni khasawneh The GD Of The Royal Jordanian Geographic Center offer the hosting of the next meeting in AMMAN –JORDAN.
- 3-The third regional meeting was organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

- and the Royal Jordanian Geographic Center of the Government of Jordan. The purpose of the Seminar was to provide a forum for sharing national practices and experiences in the use of geospatial information and the building of national geospatial infrastructures, and particularly to facilitate the process of the establishment of the UN-GGIM for the Arab States. The Seminar provided a prospect for reviewing existing national geospatial information capacities and challenges for meeting the increasing requirements of geospatial data users, and the need for coordination at national and regional levels. Furthermore, the ideas generated by the discussion and the recommendations made by participants are expected to contribute towards the drafting of a report on the establishment of the UN-GGIM for the Arab States to be presented to the fourth session of the UN-GGIM, to be held in New York in August 2014.

- The regional meeting was attended by 33 participants of whom 24 were from the following 13 countries in the region: Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Qatar, Oman, State of Palestine, Sudan, Syria and Tunisia. Also in attendance was the Director General of the Statistical Centre for the Cooperation Council for the Arab Countries of the Gulf (GCC-Stat), as well as representatives from the UN-GGIM-AP, UN-GGIM-Europe, UN-GGIM, UN-ESCWA, and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD).



HJGC & RGSSTE in collaboration with UN-GGIM
(UN-GGIM for the Arab States Meeting)
عمان، الأردن ٢٠ شباط ٢٠١٩ / ٢٠ فبراير ٢٠١٩









بالتعاون مع لجنة الأمم المتحدة لخبراء إدارة نظم المعلومات الجغرافية المكاتب العالمية
(اجتماع ممثلي إدارة نظم المعلومات الجغرافية المكاتب العالمية الخاصة بالدول العربية)
RJGC & RCSSTE in collaboration with UN-GGIM
(UN-GGIM for the Arab States Meeting)
عمان - الأردن / 3 - 5 فبراير 2014 ٢٠١٤ شباط ٦ - ٥

UN-GGIM
Secretariat

Chair

UN-GGIM (Co-Chair)

- The Regional Meeting consists of four sessions As following
- session 1: examined international/regional coordination in geospatial information, with an overview of UN-GGIM followed by presentations from Asia-Pacific and the European regional UN-GGIM committees.
- **SESSION 2: NATIONAL EXPERIENCES.** Session two offered participating countries a forum to share their national practices and strategies on the use of geospatial information and the building of national geospatial infrastructures

- . The session included presentations by representatives of the following countries: Jordan, Bahrain, State of Palestine, Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait, Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon, and Oman, and also from the Republic of Korea (an invited country out of the region).

- **SESSION 3: FUNCTIONS, MANDATE, STATUES AND WORK PROGRAMME**
- The Third session, which in fact deals with the main issue to be addressed by the meeting, examined and discussed the guiding principles of the mission and functions of the Committee under formation, its statutes and what would be the major issues the Committee should address in the incoming years.
- Two working groups were formed: the first working group to cope with the Mission and Statues of the Committee and
- The second working group to cope with the Work Programme .

- **SESSION 4: CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

1-Participants recommended that a Transitional Bureau should be formed. Participants agreed that the Transitional Bureau for the UN-GGIM Arab States will be led by Mr. Awni Khasawneh from Jordan, Director General of the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre (RJGC), representing the national mapping agencies of the region, and Mr. Sabir Al Harbi, from Oman, Director General of the Statistical Centre for the Cooperation Council for the Arab Countries of the Gulf (GCC-Stat), representing the national statistical offices in the region.

- Participants also agreed to form two working groups:

- Working Group 1: on Mission and Statutes of the UN-GGIM for the Arab States, to be represented by Bahrain, Jordan, Palestine, Kuwait, Qatar, Sudan, Lebanon and Syria.
- The Working Program 2: on the Work Programme to be represented by Jordan, Iraq, Morocco, Libya, Oman and Tunisia.
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- The UN-GGIM co-Chair Ms Vanessa Lawrence CB pledged to assist in this important work in the Arab States to establish UN-GGIM: Arab States successfully at the 4th session of UN-GGIM in August 2014.
- All Arab UN Member States were strongly encouraged to send significant delegations led by Ministers and/or the Directors General to New York for the entire program of the UN-GGIM from 3rd - 8th August 2014.

- Finally I would like to inform you Mr Chair & Distinguished delegates and members that on 6-August all Arab countries representatives who is participating in the current 4th Session –UNGGIM ,New York agreed in an Informal meeting of the Arab United Nations member States to request the current Session to formalize the creation of UN-GGIM for Arab States.

- It was also agreed that the transitional Committee will continue to work in further steps in the status and the work program of UN-GGIM: Arab States.

also preparing and organizing for next plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States with UN-Secretariat (UN Statistics Division and UN-ESCWA).