

**Second High Level Forum on  
Global Geospatial Information Management  
Qatar National Convention Centre, Doha, Qatar  
4-6 February 2013**

**Annotated Agenda**

**Background:**

The Secretariat of the United Nations initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), in collaboration with the Government of Qatar, through its Ministry of Municipality and Urban Planning and Qatar Statistics Authority, will host the Second High Level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management at the Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha, Qatar from 4-6 February 2013. An Exchange Forum with the Geospatial Industry will be convened on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

The Second High Level 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 the First High Level Forum, provide follow up on issues from the second meeting of the Committee of Experts on GGIM (August 2012), and provides 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 sustainable development initiatives.

The Forum will be substantively supported by the Regional Committee of UNGGIM for Asia and the Pacific (UNGGIM-AP, formerly PCGIAP), the Permanent Committee for Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas (PC-IDEA), and the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST) for Africa.

**Forum Outcomes:**

The objective of the Second High Level Forum is to provide an opportunity for in-depth discussion and consultations among governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. Bringing all stakeholders together, the Forum will address current critical matters such as: the importance of and drivers for building a national geospatial information system; growing the information base and promoting its greater use in view of emerging technologies; developing an effective global geodetic reference framework and supporting location-based services; and developing a geospatial information portal in support of sustainable development. A Ministerial Segment will be convened in order for high level decision makers to share and exchange views with delegates on the very important role of geospatial information in national development.

## **Sunday, 3 February**

### **Exchange Forum with the Geospatial Industry**

This pre-conference exchange will facilitate the continued involvement of the geospatial industry at the most senior levels in the discussions surrounding UN-GGIM. It serves as a means to actively engage with the industry in discussions regarding key issues of both policy and technology, and to support the GGIM agenda, while demonstrating some of the trends and directions in which the industry is heading.

## **Monday, 4 February**

### **Opening Ceremony and Ministerial Segment**

Welcome, opening address, and keynote speeches.

Presentations by invited Ministers, followed by a panel discussion.

### **Session 1: Building a National Geospatial Information System: Driving Forces, Success Stories**

This session will discuss the critical importance of national geospatial information systems to integrate, manage, and deliver geospatial information for timely and authoritative decision making and policy development. Drivers – such as national policies and strategies, integration and sharing of information, building the knowledge base, advancing the information economy, reducing duplication and overheads – and success stories will demonstrate the value of nationally coordinated approaches to providing high-quality geospatial data to support economic, social and environmental development.

## **Tuesday, 5 February**

### **Session 2: Future Trends in Geospatial Information: Growing the Information Base, Promoting Greater Use**

This session will discuss the future trends in geospatial information, growing and broadening the diversity of the information base, and address means to promote its greater use, including user case studies. The discussion will also focus on the future trends as a reference framework for policy development and analysis, and effective decision-making across priority government and industry sectors.

### **Session 3: Developing an Effective Global Geodetic Reference Framework and Supporting Location-Based Services**

This session will consider the importance of precise positioning infrastructure and the global geodetic reference system, and their role in economic development, particularly the development of location-based services. A consistent global approach to positioning,

as a key enabler of geospatial data interoperability, is critical. However, the global community needs to address the impediments – lack of clear and agreed mandates and coordination mechanisms, variability in implementation and adoption, sub-optimal contribution of data to the global reference frame – which minimize the potential benefits of deriving more accurate positioning data for located-based services nationally, regionally and globally.

### **Wednesday, 6 February**

#### **Session 4: Geospatial Information and Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**

As articulated in the Rio+20 outcome document, geospatial information has a key role to play in monitoring and delivering sustainable social, environmental, and economic development goals across the globe. This session will present tangible examples of how geospatial information is being leveraged to support sustainable development objectives, and will discuss the future role of geospatial information in this critical domain.

#### **Session 5: Challenges in Developing Core Global Reference Datasets**

A continuing gap in the successful unification of a national, regional and global geospatial information management capability is the lack of an agreed set of readily available and authoritative global reference datasets by specific themes. This session will discuss why these datasets, developed and maintained by the national geospatial information authorities, should be readily accessible, standardised and shared amongst countries, and be adopted by international organizations and agencies. These core fundamental data themes would also form the building blocks of a global geospatial platform for sustainable development.

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