

United Nations  Nations Unies

SECRETARIAT OF UN COMMITTEE ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
UN STATISTICS DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
TWO UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, DC2-1670, NEW YORK, NY 10017
TELEPHONE NO: 1 (917) 367-4130; FAX NO: 1 (212) 963-9851
Internet location: ggim.un.org

STAT 421 (4-8)

3 October 2012

Dear Colleagues,

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

I am pleased to announce that the UN-GGIM Secretariat, in collaboration with the Government of Qatar, through its Ministry of Municipality and Urban Planning and Qatar Statistics Authority, will be hosting **the Second High Level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM) in Doha, Qatar from 4-6 February 2013** at the Qatar National Convention Centre.

The 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 in 2011, provide follow up on issues from the second meeting of the Committee of Experts on GGIM (August 2012) and address other current critical matters such as capacity building and inter-disciplinary cooperation, data sharing and integration frameworks, and the management of new and expanding sources of data ('Big Data') to support sustainable development. This Forum therefore provides Member States and stakeholders from the geospatial information community with the unique opportunity to share and learn from each other to support local, regional and global sustainable development initiatives.

Please note that the Forum will be substantively supported by the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (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.

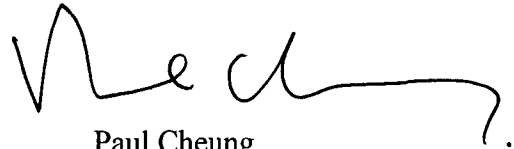
The program for the Forum begins on Sunday, 3 February 2013 with an 'Exchange Forum with the Geospatial Industry'. The main Forum begins on Monday, 4 February 2013, with an opening ceremony and ministerial segment, followed by various technical sessions on a range of topics. Additional information on the High Level Forum and related events will be sent to you in due course and posted at the UN-GGIM website at <http://ggim.un.org/>.

I am delighted to send you this announcement and kindly ask that you mark your calendars accordingly. Official invitations from the Government of Qatar will be sent in the coming weeks. In an effort to inform a wide cross section of the professional geospatial information management community, we ask that you share this information with relevant government agencies and other stakeholders in your country.

Should you have questions regarding this High Level Forum, please do not hesitate to contact my office, in particular Ms. Cecille Blake (Tel: 1-212-963-5823; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: blake1@un.org). For information regarding the arrangements in Qatar, please contact Mr. Mansoor Al Malki from the Qatar Statistics Authority at mmalki@qsa.gov.qa.

Together with our co-organizers, we look forward to welcoming you and your country's delegation at the Second High Level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, as we work to advance the use of geospatial information in sustainable development.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Cheung
 Director
 UN-GGIM Secretariat
 United Nations Statistics Division/DESA

Cc:

Mr. Mansoor Al Malki
 Local Organizing Committee

Mr. Kyoung-Soo Eom
 Chief, UN Cartographic Section/ DFS-LSD-SSS