



**International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks
for Geospatial Information Management
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
18 & 19 October 2016**

Provisional Information Note
(as of August 11, 2016)

Organizers

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) and the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) in collaboration with the Government of Malaysia through the Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia.

Introduction

UN-GGIM has recognized the growing need for geospatial professionals to understand the legislative and regulatory processes and their implications not only for the entire geospatial community, but also for legislators and regulators, the legal profession as well as the user community, so as to better understand the wider applications and benefits of geospatial information. Therefore, in making decision 5/107, UN-GGIM agreed that a plan of action and strategy should be prepared in consultation with Member States, the Centre for Spatial Law and Policy and relevant experts, in order to begin the process of better understanding, advocating and engaging actors and stakeholders. In this regard, the Committee of Experts supported the convening of an international forum on legal and policy issues and frameworks in 2016 (Decision 6/105) in order to take a more proactive role in and facilitating informed dialogue on the identified issues and challenges, including national policies and legal frameworks.

This International Forum will be held from 18 & 19 October, 2016 at the Parkroyal Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and will be combined with the Fifth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, being convened from 16 – 20 October, 2016. The International Forum will formally open on Tuesday 18 October 2016 with a joint opening session officiated by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Malaysia followed by five substantive sessions over the two days. Each of these sessions will include presentations, panel discussions and interactive discussions with participants.

In seeking to bring actors and stakeholders together, the International Forum will provide Member States the unique opportunity to share and learn from one another, consider new concepts, methods and strategies to address policy and legal issues and challenges within national context.

Provisional Programme

Day	Subject	Time
Tuesday 18 October 2016	Joint Opening Session <i>Joint Opening Ceremony for 5th Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP and UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Framework for Geospatial Information Management</i>	09:30-11:00
	Coffee/Tea Break	11:00-11:30
	International Forum Session #1 <i>Unique experiences, practices, approaches and challenges towards the release of open data by geospatial agencies</i>	11:30-13:00
	Lunch	13:00-14:30
	International Forum Session #2 <i>Legal and regulatory framework regarding operations of sensors including deployment on unmanned aerial systems for governmental use</i>	14:30-16:00
	Coffee/Tea Break	16:00-16:30
	International Forum Session #3 <i>Unique Data Protection and Privacy concerns associated with governmental geospatial information</i>	16:30-18:00
Wednesday 19 October 2016	International Forum Session #4 <i>Licensing of geospatial information: Understanding the components of a Geospatial License/Data Sharing Agreement</i>	09:30-11:00
	Coffee/Tea Break	11:00-11:30
	International Forum Session #5 <i>Summary Session: Conclusions, next steps and wrap-up</i>	11:30-13:00
	Lunch	13:00-14:30

Language

The International Forum will be conducted only in English. Interpretation services will not be provided.

Venue

The International Forum will be held at –

Parkroyal Kuala Lumpur Hotel,
Jalan Sultan Ismail,
50250 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Internet Connection

The venue is equipped with wireless internet connection. Kindly contact the Local Organising Committee Conference Information Desk for information.

Registration

All interested participants are required to register online at <http://unggim-ap2016.org/> under the "Registration" tab. Please contact Mr. Wan Mohamad Darani bin Ab. Rahman, email: wandarani@jupem.gov.my or Mr. Fadzullah Suhaimi bin Abd. Ghafar, email: fadzullah@jupem.gov.my should you require any assistance or clarification.

Presenters and Session Moderators

All Presenters are requested to submit the final title of the presentation, a short abstract, brief resume (about 100 – 120 words) and photograph together with a pdf copy of the presentation to the Local Organising Committee preferably before 10 October 2016.

All Session Moderators are also requested to provide a brief resume (about 100 – 120 words) and photograph to the Local Organising Committee preferably before 10 October 2016.

Visa requirements

Every person entering Malaysia must possess a valid Passport or valid internationally recognized Travel Document. The document shall be valid, for more than six (6) months from the date of entry into Malaysia. Many nationals enjoy visa-free entry but visas may be required for some participants travelling to Malaysia and visa application must be made at any nearest Malaysian Representative Office abroad (please refer to <http://www.imi.gov.my/index.php/en/main-services/visa/visa-requirement-by-country.html>). These include holders of diplomatic and service passports as well as United Nations Laissez-Passer.

A visa is an endorsement in a passport or other recognized travel document indicating that the holder has applied for permission to enter Malaysia and that permission has been granted. Visa that has been granted is not absolute guarantee that the holder will be allowed to enter Malaysia. The final decision lies with the Immigration Officer at the entry point.

Any request for assistance in visa application including letter of invitation should be made well in advance (contact Mr. Wan Mohamad Darani bin Ab. Rahman, email: wandarani@jupem.gov.my or Mr. Fadzullah Suhaimi bin Abd. Ghafar, email: fadzullah@jupem.gov.my) as it may take more than a few weeks to process visa application particularly when the nearest Malaysian Representative Office is in another country.

Health Requirements

If you are coming from, or have recently travelled in, South and Central America or sub-Saharan Africa you must present a certificate of vaccination against Yellow Fever upon arrival in Malaysia. The list of Yellow fever endemic countries will be regularly updated by Ministry of Health Malaysia

based on WHO list. You may refer to the Ministry of Health Malaysia web-site for additional information <http://www.moh.gov.my/english.php/pages/view/620>

Accommodation

Every participant is responsible for arranging one's own accommodation including booking and reservation. Please refer the UN-GGIM-AP event web site <http://unggim-ap2016.org/> under the "Accommodation" tab for further information.

Transportation from Airport to Hotel

The Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) is the main gateway into the country and services over 45 international airlines. The city is situated about 55km from KLIA and several public transport options provide easy access to the city. Bus, taxi, and limousine service into Kuala Lumpur are widely available from both KLIA terminals (KLIA – Main and KLIA-2).

Kuala Lumpur's main transportation hub, KL Sentral, is approximately 30-minute journey away on the comfortable KLIA Ekspres, a high-speed rail service. From KL Sentral there are taxi services to most hotels in the city.

Personal Security and Safety

Personal security is an individual responsibility. Using common sense and staying alert can reduce risks. The best way to be safe is to avoid trouble at all cost, rather than having to extricate oneself later.

Location and Climate

Malaysia lies approximately 7° north of the Equator and consists of West and East Malaysia. West Malaysia is bordered by Thailand to the north, Singapore to the south, the South China Sea to the east, and the Straits of Malacca to the west. East Malaysia on the northern portion of the island of Borneo shares its southern border with Indonesia, its northern border with Brunei, and is cradled by the South China Sea to the west and north, and the Sulu Sea to the northeast.

Malaysia is pampered with a warm tropical climate all year, with temperatures ranging between 70° F to 90° F and high humidity. The weather is influenced by the Northeast and the Southwest Monsoon. The period of May to September is usually the drier period. The East Coast of West Malaysia and the states in East Malaysia normally have their rainy seasons between November and February.

Time

The standard time for Malaysia is 8 hours ahead of UTC.

Electricity Supply

Malaysia's electric supply is on a 220-240 volts, 50 cycles system generally accessible via 13-amp, three pin (British) socket. Visitors from countries using different electricity voltage systems or socket type are advised to bring their converters and adapters

Water

Water in Kuala Lumpur is generally safe to be consumed from the tap, though boiling prior to consumption is highly advisable.

Currency

The Malaysian unit of currency is the Ringgit Malaysia (RM), which is divided into 100 sen. Currency comes in notes of RM1, RM5, RM10, RM 20, RM50 and RM100 denominations. Coins are issued in 5 sen, 10 sen, 20 sen, and 50 sen denominations.

Banking

Banking hours in Kuala Lumpur are generally between 09:30 a.m. to 16:00 p.m. Monday to Friday and are closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. Some banks and their branches open on Saturdays. All commercial banks are authorized foreign exchange dealers. Major hotels, however, are generally licensed to buy or accept foreign currencies in the form of notes and travelers' checks. Licensed Money Changers can buy or sell foreign currencies in the form of notes.

ATMs are located at major bank branches, most shopping malls, airports, bus terminals, etc. ATMs in Malaysia usually require a 6-digit PIN.

Points of Contact

For substantive issues:

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For registration including Letter of Invitation for visa application:

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