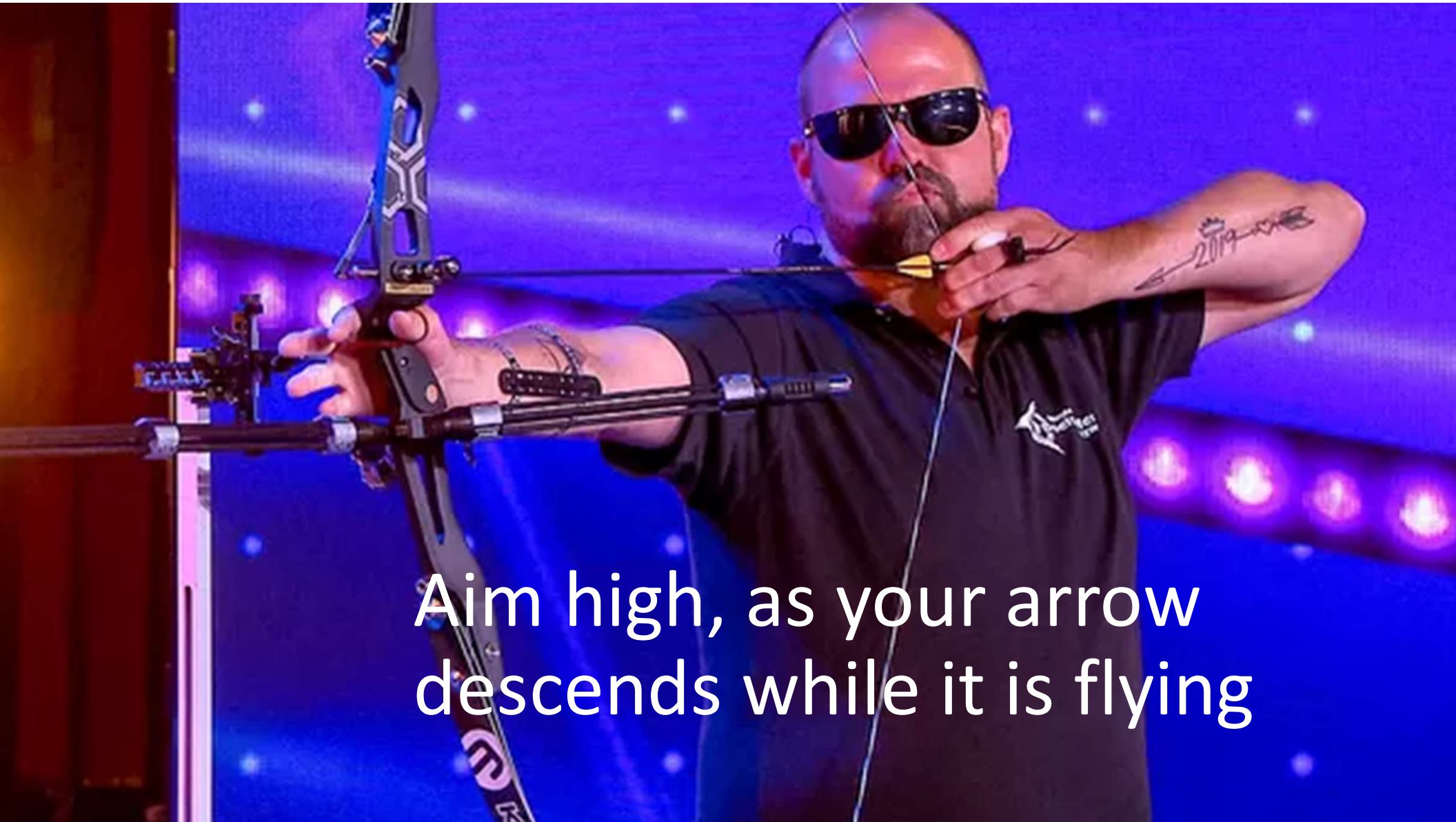


The ASK



A camel is a horse
designed by committee.



Aim high, as your arrow descends while it is flying

3 DIMENSIONS:

- The organizational aspects of our way of working are important to us, and we want to keep them.
- The “secretariat” resource that we need to maintain momentum and deliver at the required high level of output is higher than available today and without sufficient and sustainable resources our committee will not be able to maintain its efforts.
- We consider geospatial information as elementary for UN as is statistical information and think it is fit to organize it at the same level in the UN system

1. STAY OURSELVES

The organizational aspects of our way of working are important to us, and we want to keep them.

They are

- An inclusive approach to all member states
- Regional Committees
- Thematical groups and networks
- Open to private sector, Academia, and other Observers

2. NOTHING COMES FOR FREE

The “secretariat” resources that we need to maintain momentum and deliver at the required high level of output is higher than what is available today and without sustainable resources our committee will not be able to maintain its efforts.

- MS have seconded staff to the secretariat to be able to achieve the desired outcome
- MS have made available significant resources to the work of the committee of experts, including services concerning secretariat responsibilities such as translation services into official UN languages
- The resources actually available from UN system are at this moment not dedicated to geospatial activities
- These resources can be shifted

3. The geospatial work should have the same status as the statistical

- As geospatial information is as elementary for UN as is statistical information, the organizational structures for that information should be at the same level
- Within the UN system, the relevance of our work needs to be recognized and this can be reinforced by raising the status of our group

So what is the message to our missions?

- We think it is important for UN that we can continue our work. Geospatial is a very important part of the new data-universe.
- We want to continue to function as we have, including our ways of working in regional groups, thematic networks, etc
- To be able to deliver to UN, to member states and to the world the added value that lies ahead of us, our work should be sustainably resourced. As MS we have invested, but also on UN side more needs to be done and can be done (see all vacancies at DESA)
- If sustainable resources can only be secured through to a status rise we propose to create the geospatial commission (parallel to the statistical commission) but we do not want to give up on our inclusive way of working.