



**UN-GGIM**  
UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

**Third Expert Meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information and International Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management with the theme “effective and integrated marine geospatial information management”**

9 – 13 May 2022

Singapore

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**Concept Note and Provisional Agenda**

**Background**

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) recognized the need to consider the marine environment, namely, inland waters and waterways, shorelines, coastal waters, seas and oceans, as a key component of any national geospatial information management arrangements essential for the effective administration, management and governance of land and marine spaces, and the national geospatial resources of Member States. At its seventh session in August 2017, UN-GGIM established the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (WG-MGI) and endorsed its terms of reference. Marine geospatial information encompasses inland water bodies and waterways, coastal zones, seas and oceans contributes to the availability and accessibility of comprehensive location-based information to support Governments in developing policies, priorities and programmes, make decisions, and measure and monitor progress and outcomes.

The Working Group aims to play a leading role in marine geospatial information policies at the global level to support the wellbeing of billions of inhabitants reliant on sustainable inland water bodies and waterways, coastal zones, seas and oceans. The Working Group is to provide a forum for dialogue and coordination among Member States, and between Member States and the International Hydrographic Organization, United Nations system and relevant international organizations to enhance global cooperation, advocate and improve the availability and accessibility of marine geospatial information.

*Operational framework for integrated marine geospatial information management*

UN-GGIM at its eleventh session, in making [decision 11/109](#), appreciated the continuing efforts by the Working Group to align its work with the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) in modernizing the geospatial ecosystem, and welcomed the development of an integrated policy guidance and operational framework for a domain that embraced all water-related elements, including oceans and seas, coastal zones, deltas and tributaries, inland water bodies and waterways, as an important contribution in this modernization. The draft operational framework for integrated marine geospatial information management (IGIF-H) has to promote and advise on practical considerations regarding the integration of the marine domain as an important component of the geospatial ecosystem and a bridge between the IGIF and marine geospatial information management practices. In this regard, UN-GGIM urged for the recognition that the marine domain as being cross-thematic and cross-jurisdictional, covering many disciplines including hydrography, oceanography, marine geology, marine biology, maritime governance and human-related activities. The draft operational framework should support and serve the development of effective and inclusive integrated marine geospatial information management and programmes.

### *Integration of the terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains*

Also at the eleventh session, UN-GGIM reiterated that the integration of the terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains remained a priority for Member States, and encouraged further consideration to ensure that institutions collaborate to consider and develop interoperable arrangements, standards and infrastructures for the integration of all types of geospatial information leveraging the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF), as well as to advocate guidance, standards and practices that would facilitate seamless integration of datasets spanning the terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains.

### *Cross-thematic and cross-jurisdictional, covering many disciplines*

The United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information collaborates with the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group of the International Hydrographic Organization and the Marine Domain Working Group of the Open Geospatial Consortium to develop and provide guidance and standards; advocate and encourage the availability and accessibility of marine geospatial information for a multiplicity of purposes; consider integrated ecosystems based data management practices; development and provision of practical, helpful guidance and recommendations that countries can take to enhance the availability and accessibility of marine geospatial information; all for the benefits of society, environment and economy and sustainable development. This includes efforts to implement the IGIF for the marine domain - the portion of the Earth where water is the dominant geographic feature.

### **About the third expert meeting**

The third expert meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information is a closed meeting, by invitation only. The in-person meeting allows members of the Working Group together with invited experts to review, consider and discuss its progress to-date, follow through on the guidance and decisions of UN-GGIM at its annual sessions, and in particular, its ongoing consideration to develop and consult the draft operational framework for integrated marine geospatial information management (IGIF-H). The meeting also facilitates peer-to-peer engagement and exchange of information, experience and practices, as well as to attend to the business and activities of the Working Group.

### **About the International Seminar**

The International Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, with the theme “Effective and Integrated Marine Geospatial Information”, will provide the forum for deliberating key considerations for integrated marine geospatial information within a data ecosystem for effective policies, decisions, programmes and projects to achieve national development priorities and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The International Seminar seeks to share and exchange knowledge, information and experience, facilitate peer-to-peer engagement and learning, interact and consider guidance, recommendations, standards and approaches towards the availability and accessibility of marine geospatial information for a multiplicity of purposes towards the deepest and broadest benefits of society, environment and economy. The International Seminar will include sessions and presentations addressing identified sub-themes, with an agenda that promotes active interactions, sharing and exchanges.

## About the joint meetings

The thirteenth meeting of the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group of the International Hydrographic Organization and the Annual meeting of the Marine Domain Working Group of the Open Geospatial Consortium will be co-located within the week-long programme for the event. These joint meetings will further enhance peer-to-peer interactions, learning and exchange of knowledge, information and experience.

## Organizers

The United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Section, Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Government of Singapore through the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore will jointly organize these expert meetings and international seminar together with the United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group of the International Hydrographic Organization and the Marine Domain Working Group of the Open Geospatial Consortium.

The international seminar is supported by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP), the Pacific Surveying and Geospatial Council (PGSC) facilitated by the Pacific Community, the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).

## Language

All expert meetings and the International Seminar will be conducted in English.

## Participation

The International Seminar from 10 - 12 May 2022 is open to participants from governments, United Nations system, international organizations, the private sector, academic and research institutions and civil societies. However, request and registration of participation will be required.

The third expert meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, the thirteenth meeting of the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group of the International Hydrographic Organization and the Annual meeting of the Marine Domain Working Group of the Open Geospatial Consortium on 9 and 13 May 2022 are closed events and participation is by invitation only.

## Travelling to Singapore

All travellers to Singapore aged two and above should take a pre-departure COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test or an Antigen Rapid Test (ART) test as may be required. Please refer to the updated [Information - Travel methods for Singapore](#) for details.

Attendees are to obtain entry visa (if applicable), purchase travel insurance, secure a self-isolation accommodation, download the Trace-together application, and submit their Health Declaration and Digital Vaccination Certificate before departing for Singapore. Please refer to the tables and links in the 'travel method to Singapore' document for more details.

## Health and safety

For a safe meeting environment, prevailing local government measures related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic at the time of the meeting shall apply. This may include requirements for pre-departure negative result of a PCR or an Antigen Rapid Test that are professionally administered within 2 days before departure for Singapore. If you are symptomatic on arrival, you may be directed to take a COVID-19 test. Access to the meeting and International Seminar venue is also subject to prevailing local government measures and may only be possible with a valid COVID-19 certificate of full vaccination.

## Outline programme

The outline programme is as follows –

Monday 9 May 2022	Expert Meetings (Day #1)	
	08:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thirteenth meeting of the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group of the International Hydrographic Organization</li> </ul>
	10:30 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Third expert meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information</li> </ul>
	14:30 p.m. – 18:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint session - Third expert meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information and the Thirteenth meeting of the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group of the International Hydrographic Organization</li> </ul>
Tuesday 10 May 2022	International Seminar (Day #1)	
	09:00 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint official opening ceremony for the International Seminar and the meetings of the three working groups</li> <li>Plenary Session #1</li> </ul>
	14:30 p.m. – 18:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plenary Session #2</li> <li>Plenary Session #3</li> </ul>
Wednesday 11 May 2022	International Seminar (Day #2)	
	09:00 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plenary Session #4</li> <li>Plenary Session #5</li> </ul>
	14:30 p.m. – 19:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical Visit (by invitation only)</li> </ul>
Thursday 12 May 2022	International Seminar (Day #3)	
	09:00 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plenary Session #6</li> <li>Plenary Session #7</li> </ul>
	14:30 p.m. – 18:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plenary Session #8</li> <li>Issuing of the 'Singapore Statement on Effective and Integrated Marine Geospatial Information' as the outcome statement of the International Seminar</li> <li>Official Closing Ceremony</li> </ul>
Friday 13 May 2022	Expert Meetings (Day #2)	
	08:00 a.m. – 09:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual meeting of the Marine Domain Working Group of the Open Geospatial Consortium</li> </ul>

	09:30 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Joint session - Third expert meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Thirteenth meeting of the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group of the International Hydrographic Organization, and Annual meeting of the Marine Domain Working Group of the Open Geospatial Consortium</li> </ul>
	14:30 p.m. – 16:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Thirteenth meeting of the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group of the International Hydrographic Organization</li> </ul>
	16:30 p.m. – 18:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Third expert meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information</li> </ul>

(4 March 2022)

## **Appendix 1**

### **Provisional agenda for the third expert meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information**

- 1) Welcome and introductions
- 2) Provisional agenda, organization of the meeting and setting-the-scene
- 3) Reports, highlights, outcomes and updates
  - a) International seminar on effective and integrated marine geospatial information management
  - b) Tenth and eleventh sessions of UN-GGIM
  - c) Programme of work of the Committee of Experts
  - d) UN-GGIM reporting back to ECOSOC on implementing E/RES/2016/27
- 4) Operational framework for integrated marine geospatial information management
- 5) Objective, work plan, tasks and activities of the working group
  - a) Collaboration, engagement and capacity development
    - i) IHO, IHO regional commissions and capacity development
    - ii) Singapore-IHO Innovation and Technology Laboratory
    - iii) Seabed 2030 Project
    - iv) United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development
  - b) Policy and legal frameworks and authoritative data, authority and custodianship
  - c) Land and sea interface (coastal zones)
  - d) Integration of the maritime, terrestrial and cadastral domain
- 6) Business of the Working Group
  - a) Updating the work plan
  - b) Twelfth session of UN-GGIM
  - c) Leadership transition
  - d) Next meeting
- 7) Summary, next steps and close

**Appendix 2 – Draft agenda for the International Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management with the theme ‘effective and integrated marine geospatial information management’**

Tuesday 10 May 2022	International Seminar (Day #1)	
	09:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Joint official opening ceremony for the International Seminar and the meetings of the three working groups
	10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Refreshment break
	11:15 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.	Plenary Session #1 – Effective and integrated marine geospatial information management ( <i>keynote session</i> )
	13:00 p.m. – 14:30 p.m.	Lunch break
	14:30 p.m. – 16:00 p.m.	Plenary Session #2 – Availability and accessibility of marine geospatial information for sustainable societies, economies and environment
	16:00 p.m. – 16:30 p.m.	Refreshment break
	16:30 p.m. – 18:00 p.m.	Plenary Session #3 – Integration of terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains
Wednesday 11 May 2022	International Seminar (Day #2)	
	09:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Plenary Session #4 – Effective governance, policy and legal frameworks and financing for integrated marine geospatial information management
	10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Refreshment break
	11:15 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.	Plenary Session #5 – Data, innovation and standards for integrated marine geospatial information management
	13:00 p.m. – 14:30 p.m.	Lunch break
	14:30 p.m. – 19:00 p.m.	Technical Visit to the Singapore-IHO Innovation and Technology Laboratory (by invitation only)
Thursday 12 May 2022	International Seminar (Day #3)	
	09:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Plenary Session #6 – Partnerships, capacity development and advocacy for integrated marine geospatial information
	10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Refreshment break
	11:15 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.	Plenary Session #7- An operational framework for integrated marine geospatial information
	13:00 p.m. – 14:30 p.m.	Lunch break
	14:30 p.m. – 16:00 p.m.	Plenary Session #8- Coordinated and coherent integrated marine geospatial information management ( <i>multi-disciplinary, multi-thematic</i> )

		<i>and cross jurisdictional marine geospatial information management practices)</i>
	16:00 p.m. – 16:30 p.m.	Refreshment break
	16:30 p.m. – 17:15 p.m.	Closing Session Outcome statement of the International Seminar - 'Singapore Statement on Effective and Integrated Marine Geospatial Information'
	17:15 p.m. – 18:00 p.m.	Official Closing Ceremony