Expert Consultation and Meetings on enhancing geospatial information management arrangements and accelerating the implementation of the SDGs

including the third plenary meeting of the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, the meeting of the Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts, and the meeting and workshops of the SDG Data Alliance

Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI)

Expanded Bureau meeting
24 January 2024

Bureau of UN-GGIM

Co-Chairs:
Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe (Belgium)
Mr. Fernand Eanes Bale (Côte d’Ivoire)
Ms. Paloma Merodio Gómez (Mexico)

Rapporteur:
Mr. Kamal Outghouliast (Morocco)

Regional Committees of UN-GGIM

UN-GGIM: Africa
Ms. Marolae Chauke, National Spatial Information Framework, South Africa

UN-GGIM: Americas
Ms. Sofia Nilo Crisostomo, IDE de Chile

UN-GGIM: Arab States
Mr. Mohammed Alsayel, General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information, Saudi Arabia

UN-GGIM-AP
Mr. Antonius Wijanarto, Badan Informasi Geospacial Indonesia

UN-GGIM: Europe
Mr. Frank Tieroff, Kadaster, The Netherlands
Mr. David Henderson, Ordnance Survey, United Kingdom

Thematic Networks of UN-GGIM

Geospatial Societies
Ms. Céline Rozenblat, International Geographical Union

Academic Network
Ms. Maria Antonia Brovelli, Politecnico di Milano

Private Sector Network
Mr. Shaik Mohamed Zaffar Sadiq Mohamed-Ghouse, Woolpert

UN Geospatial Network
Mr. Alexandre Caldas, United Nations Environment Programme
Provisional Agenda

1) Welcome and introduction
2) Agenda and organization of the meeting
3) Report of the Committee of Experts on its Thirteenth Session
4) Resolution E/RES/2022/24 and the UN regular budget proposal for the establishment of a Secretariat for the Committee
5) Seventh High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management
6) United Nations Geospatial Centres of Excellence
7) United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
8) Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda
9) UN-GGIM functional groups and the substantive agenda of the Committee of Experts
10) Geospatial information for climate and resilience
11) Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem
12) Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda
13) Overview of the preparation for the fourteenth session as well as expert, plenary and regional meetings, international seminars and forums, and expert consultations
14) Other matters
15) Summary, next steps and close

Provisional annotated agenda and organization of the meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Annotated agenda</th>
<th>Facilitators/Contributors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 09:00 – 09:30 | 1. Welcome and introduction  
Brief welcome remarks by the UN-GGIM Secretariat and the Bureau of UN-GGIM                                                                                                                               | Mr. Stefan Schweinfest  
Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe  
Mr. Fernand Bale  
Ms. Paloma Meridio Gomez  
Mr. Kamal Outghouliast |
|             | 2. Agenda and organization of the meeting  
The provisional agenda will be adopted, and the organization of the meeting will be confirmed in this segment. The presiding co-Chair will outline expectations and desired outcomes. | Presiding co-Chair                                                                                                           |
|             | 3. Report of the Committee of Experts on its Thirteenth Session  
The Expanded Bureau to note that ECOSOC, at its meeting on 26 October 2022, in its decision 2024-203, took note of the report of the Committee (E/2024/46 - E/C.20/2023/19), decided that the fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts would be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 7 – 9 August 2024 and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fourteenth session. | Mr. Stefan Schweinfest |
|             | Provisional agenda of the fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management  
1. Election of officers.  
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.  
3. Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.  
4. Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda.  
5. Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda.  
6. The future geospatial information ecosystem. |                                                                                     |
10. Geospatial information for climate and resilience.
11. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
12. Integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management.
13. Integrated marine geospatial information.
14. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
15. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.
17. Programme management report.
18. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifteenth session.

09:30 – 10:30  4. Resolution E/RES/2022/24 and the UN regular budget proposal for the establishment of a Secretariat for the Committee

The Secretariat to inform the outcomes/decision of the General Assembly decision on the United Nations proposed programme budget for 2024, in particular DESA’s request for seven new regular budget post and establish a secretariat for the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

The Expanded Bureau will consider the outcomes and deliberate on matters arising and next steps.

Decision 13/101 (b) Noted the ongoing budgetary process associated with the adoption of resolution 2022/24 by the Council and the inclusion of performance measures and results focused on accelerated implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework within the strategic objectives and elements of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, and in this regard underscored the importance of continued advocacy and awareness-raising within and among Member States and their permanent missions in the next steps and final negotiations for adequate and sustainable resources within the Secretariat, and requested an update on the outcomes of the process

Mr. Stefan Schweinfest

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 11:20  5. Seventh High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management

The dates of the Seventh High-level Forum and modality to promote and prepare an engaging substantive program have to be decided.

The Expanded Bureau will consider the desirability for advisory committee to work on and realize the substantive program, the composition of this advisory committee, and next steps.

Decision 13/101 (d) Welcomed the invitation of the Government of Mexico, through its National Institute of Statistics and Geography, to host the seventh High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, in Mexico City in October 2024, with the theme “Accelerating implementation: achieving resilience”, and confirmed the support of the Committee of Experts in the development and implementation of the programme of the Forum alongside the eleventh plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for the Americas

Ms. Paloma Meridio Gomez
### 6. United Nations Geospatial Centres of Excellence

The Head of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC) and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (UN-GGCE) will provide updates on their operationalization, strategic focus and operational plan/plan of work.

The Expanded Bureau will engage and discuss with the heads of the centres their progress to-date, oversight and governance modalities, and proposed activities for 2024 to develop and expand global geospatial capacity and capability and to enhance geospatial information management arrangements in countries, especially developing countries.

The General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GEOSA), Saudi Arabia will brief on its initiative to establish the United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre in Riyadh including progress to-date.

The Expanded Bureau will discuss feasible and strategic priorities to allow the proposed centre in Riyadh to move beyond concepts to implementation and deliver positive impacts in countries, especially developing countries.

**Decision 13/101 (e)** Also welcomed and supported the commitment from Saudi Arabia to host and establish the United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence in Riyadh, and encouraged the Bureau and the Secretariat to work with Saudi Arabia to clarify and refine the scope and remit of the Centre to ensure that it aligns with the programme of work of the Committee of Experts and complements the activities and established agendas of the United Nations Centres in Deqing, China, and Bonn, Germany, in order to avoid duplication;

**Decision 13/101 (f)** Noted the progress and efforts made to finalize the modalities for the establishment of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Bonn, as tangible means to develop and expand global geospatial capacity and capability and to strengthen geospatial information management arrangements in countries, especially developing countries, and looked forward to ongoing updates on the operations of the Centres at future sessions of the Committee of Experts;

**Decision 13/103 (e)** Welcomed the establishment of the International Advisory Committee of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence, which would provide the required guidance and advice on the development, implementation and review of the substantive annual programme of work of the Centre in a transparent and inclusive manner;

### 7. United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

The co-chairs of High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework to report on the outcomes and decisions of its third plenary meeting including highlights from its plan of work and activities.

The Expanded Bureau may wish to interact with the Secretariat the urgency and additional resources to refine, finalize, publish the Framework suite of documents, including the Overarching Strategy, the Framework Implementation Guide and addenda,
and the resource materials to support the development of country-level Action Plans

Decision 13/105 (a) congratulated the High-level Group for its continued efforts to advance the role and relevance of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework through a significant range of activities, including broadening work group membership, developing communication materials, a sustainable funding guide and an online tool, translating the Framework suite of documents, and participating broadly in webinars, workshops, conferences and events to promote and advance the Framework;

(c) Acknowledged the High-level Group’s priority and urgency to refine, finalize, translate and digitally publish the Framework suite of documents, including the Overarching Strategy, the Framework Implementation Guide and addenda, and the resource materials to support the United Nations Recommended Approach to Design and Develop Country-level Action Plans, all of which required adequate additional resources;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12:30 – 13:30</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13:30 – 13:55</td>
<td><strong>8. Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presidents/chairs of UN-GGIM regional committees</strong></td>
<td><strong>Presiding co-Chair</strong></td>
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<td>13:55 – 14:30</td>
<td><strong>9. UN-GGIM functional groups and the substantive agenda of the Committee of Experts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mr. Stefan Schweinfest</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mr. Nick Brown</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mr. CheeHai Teo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mr. Stefan Schweinfest</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mr. Nick Brown</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mr. CheeHai Teo</strong></td>
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10. **Geospatial information for climate and resilience**

The Committee of Experts invited the Bureau and the Secretariat to work with Member States to determine the modalities for implementation.

A task team is now established, and the Expanded Bureau is invited to take note of the terms of reference, current and planned activities, and timeline including a brief discussion paper.

**Decision 13/107 (e)** Supported elements of all three options as presented in the discussion paper, namely: (i) establish a task team under the purview of the Committee of Experts to strengthen interlinkages between geospatial, statistical, climate and other relevant communities and organizations of the United Nations system; (ii) convene an appropriate and relevant international forum or event on geospatial information for climate resilience that brings relevant stakeholders together to establish an effective programme of work; and (iii) develop a more detailed concept paper that expands on the relevant initiatives, activities and frameworks under the purview of the Committee of Experts;

(f) Welcomed the multiple offers by Member States to support and contribute to the three options, and invited the Bureau and the Secretariat to work with Member States to determine the modalities for implementing the three options and to report back on progress at the fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts, in 2024, potentially under a dedicated agenda item so as to not burden the programme of work of the working group on geospatial information of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group.

11. **Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem**

The Committee of Experts entrusted the Bureau, supported by a writing team, with developing a position paper on determining the scope and an outline on the fundamental elements and principles of the future geospatial information ecosystem.

The Expanded Bureau is invited to consider the modality to advance its work on the future geospatial information ecosystem.

**Decision 13/104 (c)** Agreed that the definition and development of future geospatial ecosystems was an opportune activity for the Committee of Experts to undertake but that it required further scoping and consensus to identify and describe what the foundations of future geospatial ecosystems would encompass within the purview of the Committee, and in that regard suggested that further structure and detailed work on defining the Committee’s understanding could take place and progress into general principles, and that the further work on the concept should emphasize that geospatial information is an integrated component in different digital ecosystems and in many cases is not an ecosystem in itself;

(d) Supported the proposals to progress with option 2a set out in the report, namely, to entrust the Bureau, supported by a writing team, with developing a position paper on determining the scope and an outline on the fundamental elements and principles of the future geospatial information ecosystem for the consideration of the Committee of Experts at its fourteenth session, and welcomed the multiple offers by Member States to support the Bureau;

(e) Reiterated the need to reduce the growing geospatial digital divide between developed and developing countries, to leverage existing exemplars and use cases within Member States, and to ensure that the future geospatial ecosystem gives priority to the needs of developing countries and small island developing States, including to keep promoting the systematic and comprehensive frameworks that make geospatial data, services and technology available to decision makers;
14:30 – 15:00

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<th>12. <strong>Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>The chairs of UN-GGIM thematic networks may wish to inform the Expanded Bureau key activities and highlights in their efforts to contribute to the global geospatial agenda and the programme of work of the Committee of Experts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Expanded Bureau may wish to interact with UN-GGIM thematic networks on efforts to align their activities to promote and contribute to the global geospatial agenda.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chairs of thematic networks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presiding co-Chair</td>
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| Decision 13/103 (b) | Appreciated the increased collaboration and partnerships between the four thematic networks and their collective efforts to achieve common goals towards promoting and strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and other global frameworks of the Committee of Experts; |

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<th>13. <strong>Overview of the preparation for the fourteenth session as well as expert, plenary and regional meetings, international seminars and forums, and expert consultations</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>The Secretariat will provide an overview of the preparation for the fourteenth session (August 7 – 9). An overview of the expert and plenary meetings, expert consultations and meetings as well as international seminars and forums organized or facilitated by the UN-GGIM Secretariat will also be provided. These activities including additional capacity development workshops seek to engage and promote comprehensive dialogue between Member States and with relevant stakeholders, as well as to provide coordination and coherence within the programme of work of the Committee of Experts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Stefan Schweinfest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. CheeHai Teo</td>
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<th>14. <strong>Other matters</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>ECOSOC Coordination Segment, UNHQ New York, 31 January – 1 February 2024. Co-Chair is invited to the panel on “Conversation with Executive Secretaries of regional commissions and Chairs of functional commissions and expert bodies on sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda”.</td>
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<td>Inputs to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) which will be held from 8 to 17 July 2024 at UNHQ New York. The theme for 2024 HLPF is “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions.”. The focus will be on SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17. The deadline is 1 March 2024.</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Data Forum, Medellin, Colombia, 11 – 14 November 2024. The host is requesting proposals that may cover: full-length session, usually 60 minutes in duration with between 4 and 6 speakers, including moderators/ facilitators; shortened session, 20-minute ignite/lightning talk with a single speaker on an issue which the Programme Committee can try and match with another full-length session or combine shortened sessions to make a full-length session; and feature as a special format in the programme, which is being considered are for press-style announcements, activity areas with interactive events like...</td>
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workshops and demonstration areas as a showcase. The deadline is 29 January.

*Contribution to the Integrating gender, inclusion and diversity into the Committee’s agenda items, and its functional groups and thematic networks.*

*Strengthening the collaboration between UN-GGIM and UNGEGN. The Committee had reiterated support for strengthening collaboration between the Committee of Experts and UNGEGN, in particular the project to prepare a compendium of institutional arrangements on shared good practices for geographical names standardization between national mapping agencies and national names authorities.*

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>15:00 –</td>
<td><strong>15. Summary, next steps and close</strong></td>
<td>The presiding co-Chair will provide a summary of key outcomes and decisions, outline agreed action items. The Expanded Bureau and UN-GGIM Secretariat may wish to provide brief closing remarks.</td>
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<td>15:15</td>
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<td>Presiding co-Chair Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe Mr. Fernand Bale Ms. Paloma Meridio Gomez Mr. Kamal Outghouliast Mr. Stefan Schweinfest</td>
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<td>15:15 –</td>
<td><strong>Break</strong></td>
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<td>15:45</td>
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*08 January 2024*