



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

Sixth 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”

incorporating the fifteenth meeting of the International Hydrographic Organization Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group and the 2024 meeting of the Open Geospatial Consortium Marine Domain Working Group
Bali, Indonesia
4 – 8 March 2024

Concept Note and Provisional Agenda

Background

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) [resolution 2022/24](#), adopted on 22 July 2022, reiterated the importance of strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), particularly for the achievement of its operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States. The resolution also updated and modernized the Committee’s Terms of Reference (as annexed to the resolution), being the subsidiary body of ECOSOC in charge of all matters related to geospatial information, geography, land administration and related topics¹. With a vision to position geospatial information to effectively address global challenges and specifically in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the objectives and functions of the Committee of Experts include to provide a platform for the development of effective strategies on how to strengthen national capacity concerning geospatial information, especially in developing countries.

The Committee of Experts had recognized that to sustainably manage that significant portion of the Earth’s surface that is covered by water - lakes, rivers and tributaries, deltas, seas, and oceans and all that it has to offer, governments will need to ensure that marine geospatial information management is fully integrated within the wider national digital information ecosystem for evidence-based policy development and decision making. This is a strategically crucial step for hydro or marine programs to make as they work to increase their value and recognition within national information infrastructures. National geospatial programs support development priorities, including the ability to track progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, must ensure that marine geospatial capabilities are integrated. It is equally important for national hydro or marine programs to understand, and be partners in, national integrated geospatial information management programs. Such an integrated, and well managed marine geospatial information program nationally will be a necessity to meet the challenges of governance, planning, managing and coordinating resources, transportation, coastal resilience, recreation, and other aspects of the blue economy.

The Committee noted the continuing efforts of the Working Group to advance the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), and its nine strategic pathways, with the Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management (UN-IGIF-Hydro), a two-part document to leverage the guidance offered in the UN-IGIF, and to provide practical guidance for countries to extend the nine strategic pathways in the hydro or marine domain, ultimately working

¹ E/RES/2022/24



towards the vision of the integrating marine geospatial information into the global geospatial information ecosystem and to enhance the ability to make informed decisions to support the preservation and management of the marine resources.

At its thirteenth session in 2023, the Committee of Experts, in [decision 13/111](#), adopted the Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management comprising [Part One – The Strategic Overview](#), and [Part Two – The Strategic Pathways](#), and encouraged the Working Group to provide practical support for countries to extend the nine strategic pathways of the UN-IGIF into the hydro domain and the integration of marine geospatial information into the broader national geospatial information ecosystem. The Committee emphasized that it was strategically crucial for any national hydro or marine programmes to increase their value and recognition within the broader national geospatial information management programmes that support national development priorities, including the ability to address climate-related challenges and improve resilience, the land-sea interface, coastal zones and the pressing need to monitor sea level rise, recognizing their importance in mainstreaming the Blue Economy and achieving sustainable coastal resilience and development.

The Committee of Experts further noted that the Working Group would convene its sixth expert meeting and an international seminar in Indonesia in March 2024, jointly with the fifteenth meeting of the International Hydrographic Organization Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group and the 2024 meeting of the Open Geospatial Consortium Marine Domain Working Group, and encouraged increased opportunities for participation by small island States in the region.

The [Working Group](#) plays 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 provides 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-IGIF-Hydro serves as a supplement to the Implementation Guide of the UN-IGIF for the hydro or marine environment but also presents an expanded set of value propositions to justify the “why” marine geospatial information programs are integral parts of digital information ecosystems and investment in them is foundational for sustainable national development and nationally integrated geospatial information management. The UN-IGIF provides, including for the marine environment, the overarching paradigm, the basis and guide for developing, integrating, strengthening and maximizing geospatial information management and related resources in all countries, assisting countries in bridging the geospatial digital divide, secure socio-economic prosperity, and to leave no one behind.

[UN-IGIF-Hydro Part One – The Strategic Overview](#) provides a high-level strategic overview of the UN-IGIF-Hydro in order to present the case for investing in (and improving) marine geospatial information management programs around the world. It serves as an introduction to assist in explaining the importance of integrated marine geospatial information management to senior level policy and decision-makers, managers, and those new to the concept of integrated marine geospatial information management.

[UN-IGIF-Hydro Part Two – The Strategic Pathways](#) presents the “how” for the implementation of the UN-IGIF for the marine environment, leveraging the nine strategic pathways of the UN-IGIF. In this Part Two, the UN-IGIF nine strategic pathways are elaborated, with guidance and examples of good practices, for

including the marine environment when implementing the UN-IGIF at the country-level. UN-IGIF-Hydro Part Two provides a number of unique value propositions and more elaborated guidance.

The Committee of Experts at its thirteenth session, in decision 13/111, encouraged the Working Group to raise awareness and promote the implementation of the UN-IGIF-Hydro at the country level and ensure that the Framework remains relevant through regular review and updates as necessary.

Sixth expert meeting

The Sixth expert meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information is hosted by the Geospatial Information Agency of Indonesia and the Indonesian Navy's Hydrographic and Oceanographic Center. The week of the sixth expert meeting will also incorporate the Second International Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management with the theme "effective and integrated marine geospatial information management".

The Sixth expert meeting is a closed meeting for members of the Working Group and invited participants. This in-person meeting allows members of the Working Group together with invited experts to review, discuss and consider:

- i] activities and progress to-date;
- ii] implementation of ECOSOC resolution 2022/24;
- iii] implementation of the UN-IGIF-Hydro at the country-level, and its review and updates;
- iv] issues and collaborative activities identified by the Committee of Experts at its Thirteenth Session including accelerating the achievement of the SDGs;
- v] the workplan for the ensuing period;

to enhance the value and recognition of marine geospatial information management within the broader national geospatial information management arrangement that support national development priorities, including the ability to address climate-related challenges and improve resilience, the land-sea interface, coastal zones and the pressing need to monitor sea level rise, recognizing their importance in mainstreaming the Blue Economy and achieving sustainable coastal resilience and development.

The fifteenth meeting of the International Hydrographic Organization Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group (IHOMSDIWG) and the 2024 meeting of the Open Geospatial Consortium Marine Domain Working Group (OGCMDW) will be co-located within the weeklong programme. These joint meetings with coordinated agendas facilitate and improve coordination, peer-to-peer engagement and exchange of information, experience and practices with colleagues from the International Hydrographic Organization Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and the Open Geospatial Consortium Marine Domain Working Group.

Participants

This sixth expert meeting is in person and a closed meeting. Participation is by invitation only. Participants are expected to be members of the Working Group, IHOMSDIWG and OGCMDW, invited expert representatives of Member States and regional committees, functional groups, and thematic networks of the Committee of Experts. Interested national representatives of Member States wishing to participate and contribute to this expert meeting may request to be invited.

International Seminar

The International Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, with the theme "Effective and Integrated Marine Geospatial Information", will provide an open forum for deliberating key considerations for effective and integrated marine geospatial information management. This is in

recognition that it is strategically crucial for any national hydro or marine programmes to increase their recognition, relevance and value nationally in support of national development priorities, including the ability to address climate-related challenges, improve understanding of the land-sea interface, the coastal zones and pressing need to monitor sea level rise, and recognizing the importance in mainstreaming the Blue Economy and achieving sustainable coastal development and resilience.

This international seminar is the second with an emphasis on integrated marine geospatial information from the shores to the high seas. The [first](#) was successfully organized in Singapore (9 – 13 May 2022) that resulted in the issuance of the [Singapore Statement on Effective and Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management](#).

The International Seminar seeks to share and exchange knowledge, information and experience, facilitate peer-to-peer engagement and learning, interact and consider, including:

- i] Opportunities in leveraging the UN-IGIF-Hydro to address cross-cutting challenges in integrated marine geospatial information management;
- ii] The UN-IGIF-Hydro and the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty, and the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development;
- iii] The integration of terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains and the complex technical issue related to land/sea interface;
- iv] Identifying gaps and priority areas for the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information Management, the IHO Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and the OGC Marine Domain Working Group
- v] Broadening perspectives in integrated marine geospatial information management and introduce new insights;

The International Seminar held in plenary format will include presentations addressing identified sub-themes with an agenda that promotes active interactions and inclusive participation.

Participants

Participants are members of the Working Group, IHOMSDIWG and OGCMDWG and invited representatives participating in the joint meetings. Interested representatives of Member States and relevant stakeholders wishing to participate in the international seminar may request to be invited.

Language

The sixth expert meeting and international seminar will be conducted in English.

Dates

4 – 8 March 2024

Venue

The venue for the sixth expert meeting and international seminar is the Courtyard by Marriott Bali Nusa Dua Resort located in the Tourism Area Lot SW1, Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia 80363.

Outline Programme

The outline programme is as follows:

DAY 1 Monday 4 March	International Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management	
	08:00 – 08:30	<i>Arrival of participants and registration</i>
	08:30 – 10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joint Opening of the international seminar and meetings of the UNWGMGI, IHOMSDIWG and OGCMWDWG ▪ Welcome and opening addresses ▪ Keynote presentation
	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Group photography</i> <i>Break</i>
	10:30 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ International Seminar Plenary Session #1
	Lunch break	
	13:30 – 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ International Seminar Plenary Session #2
	15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
	15:30 – 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ International Seminar Plenary Session #3
	17:00 – 17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Closing session of the International Seminar
18:00 – 21:00	<i>Welcome Dinner (by invitation)</i>	
DAY 2 Tuesday 5 March	Meetings of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information and Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Technical Site Visit	
	08:00 – 08:30	<i>Arrival of participants</i>
	08:30 – 10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sixth expert meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (Segment #1)
	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Group photography</i> <i>Break</i>
	10:30 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fifteenth meeting of the Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group
	<i>Side and/or networking meeting</i>	
	Lunch break	
	13:30 – 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joint meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group
	15:00 – 15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Break</i>
15:30 – 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joint meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group 	
DAY 3 Wednesday 6 March	Meetings and joint meetings of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group	
	08:00 – 08:30	<i>Arrival of participants</i>

	08:30 – 10:00	▪ Fifteenth meeting of the Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group
	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
	10:30 – 12:00	▪ Sixth expert meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (Segment #2)
	Lunch	
	13:00 – 17:00	<i>Technical site visit (by invitation)</i>
DAY 4 Thursday 7 March	Meetings and joint meetings of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group	
	08:00 – 08:30	<i>Arrival of participants</i>
	08:30 – 10:00	▪ Meeting of the Marine Domain Working Group
	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
	10:30 – 12:00	▪ Joint meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group
	<i>Side and/or networking meeting</i>	
	Lunch break	
	13:30 – 15:00	▪ Joint meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group
	15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
	15:30 – 17:00	▪ Joint meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group
DAY 5 Friday 8 March	Meetings and joint meetings of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group	
	08:00 – 08:30	<i>Arrival of participants</i>
	08:30 – 10:00	▪ Joint meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group and Marine Domain Working Group
	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
	10:30 – 12:00	▪ Fifteenth meeting of the Working Group on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (Concluding segment)
	<i>Side and/or networking meeting</i>	
	Lunch break	
	13:30 – 15:00	▪ Sixth expert meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (Segment #3)
	15:00 – 15:30	▪ Sixth expert meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (Concluding segment)
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Break</i>	

Objectives of the sixth expert meeting

This in-person expert meeting provides a forum for members of the Working Group together with invited participants to:

- Play a leading role at the policy level by raising political awareness and highlighting the importance of reliable, timely and fit-for-purpose marine geospatial information to support the administration, management and governance of the marine environment;
- Encourage the use of internationally agreed-upon geospatial information frameworks, schemas, systems and established standards to improve the growing inter-dependent relationships between people and the marine environments; and
- Support the Committee of Experts in the development of norms, principles, guides and standards to significantly increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable geospatial information including any regional capacity development initiatives.

Provisional agenda

The provisional agenda for the sixth expert meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information –

- 1) Welcome and introductions
- 2) Agenda, organization of the meeting and setting the scene
- 3) Effective and integrated marine geospatial information management – national and regional perspective
- 4) Reports, highlights, updates and considerations
 - a) Report of the co-Chair on the Working Group’s activities and progress
 - b) Report of the Secretariat including the programme of work of Committee of Experts
- 5) Implementing the UN-IGIF-Hydro at the country-level
- 6) Relevance of UN-IGIF-Hydro through regular review and updates
- 7) Availability and accessibility of marine geospatial information (issues identified by Committee of Experts at its Thirteenth Session)
 - a) Support of national development priorities and accelerating the achievement of the SDGs
 - b) Address climate-related challenges
 - c) Improve understanding of the land-sea interface, the coastal zones and pressing need to monitor sea level rise;
 - d) Importance in mainstreaming the Blue Economy;
 - e) Achieving sustainable coastal development and resilience.
- 8) Strengthening collaboration, partnerships, engagement and capacity development
 - a) Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development
 - b) Regional committees, functional groups and thematic groups of UN-GGIM
 - c) IHO and its regional commissions
 - d) ISO Technical Committee 211
 - e) Open Geospatial Consortium
 - f) Singapore-IHO Innovation and Technology Laboratory
 - g) Seabed 2030 Project
- 9) Plans and activities of the Working Group and updating the Workplan
- 10) Fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts, 7 – 9 August 2023
- 11) Seventh High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management with the theme “Accelerating implementation: Achieving resilience”
- 12) Next steps, summary and close

Points of Contact

Local logistical arrangements:

Ms. Ratna Sari Dewi
Badan Informasi Geospasial Indonesia
Email: ratna.sari@big.go.id

Mr Fajar Triady Mugiarto
Badan Informasi Geospasial Indonesia
Email: fajar.triady@big.go.id

IHO Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (IHOMSDIWG)

Mr. Yong Baek
International Hydrographic Organization
Email: yong.baek@iho.int

OGC Marine Domain Working Group (OGC-MDWG)

Mr. Trevor Taylor
Open Geospatial Consortium
Email: ttaylor@ogc.org

United Nations Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (UNWGMGI)

Administrative:

Ms. Bermet Tashybekova
Global Geospatial Information Management Section, Statistics Division,
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations
Email: bermet.tashybekova@un.org

Substantive:

Mr. CheeHai Teo
Global Geospatial Information Management Section, Statistics Division,
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations
Email: teo@un.org