



IHO

International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

**First Expert Meeting of the UN-GGIM and IHO Joint Working Group  
on Marine Geospatial Information  
“Advancing Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management”**

*Chiang Mai, Thailand*

*4 - 8 May 2026*

**Draft Provisional Agenda**

Date	Session / Agenda Item	Details
<b>Monday, 4 May</b>		
09:00 10:30	<b>Agenda item #1 - Welcome, introductions and opening roundtable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Welcome Remarks</b> JWG-MGI Co-Chairs (Parry Oei / Caitlin Boatright) Meeting Host (Hydrographic Department, Royal Thai Navy - VAdm. Yordluk Silapaduriyank) UN-GGIM / IHO Secretariats (Aigerim Mussayeva / John Nyberg)</li> <li>• <b>Announcements</b> By Hydrographic Department, Royal Thai Navy - Lt. Cdr. Warittha Galloway <i>Participants will be briefed on the facilities and arrangements for the event, refreshment arrangements for the five days and any relevant public health, safety and emergency announcements</i></li> <li>• <b>Introductions and Opening Roundtable</b> By JWG-MGI Co-Chairs <i>The Co-Chairs will invite representatives of Member States, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to briefly introduce themselves. In the interest of time, participants are encouraged to keep their introductions brief and focused</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Agenda item #2 - Agenda, organization of the work and setting the scene</b> <i>(moderated by Caitlin Boatright)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Agenda and organization of the meeting</b> By JWG-MGI Co-Chairs <i>Participants will review and confirm the agenda, objectives, expected outcomes and organization of work for the first expert meeting of the Joint Working Group.</i></li> <li>• <b>Setting the scene</b> By JWG-MGI Co-Chairs <i>The Co-Chairs will provide an overview of the strategic context, expectations and desired outcomes of the meeting, including the transition to a unified joint working group and the opportunity to define its future direction</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Agenda item #3 – Working Modalities of the Joint Working Group</b>	<p><i>The Secretariats will brief participants on the proposed working modalities and coordination arrangements of the Joint Working Group, in accordance with its Terms of Reference. This will include meeting schedules, reporting arrangements, governance structure, membership, document management, communication channels and coordination between the UN and IHO Secretariats.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Updated Working Modalities of the Joint Working Group</b> By UN-GGIM/IHO Secretariats</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Group Photograph / Break</b>	



IHO

International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

11:00 – 12:30	<b>Agenda item #4 - Reports, updates and stocktaking of previous activities</b>	<p><i>The Co-Chairs and Secretariats will provide updates on the activities, progress and achievements of the former UN-GGIM Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information and the IHO Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group prior to their consolidation. The session will also provide an opportunity to take stock of relevant ongoing activities, decisions, workplans and programme priorities of UN-GGIM and IHO that may inform the future work of the Joint Working Group</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report of the co-Chair on the activities and progress of the former UN-GGIM Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, 2024-2025 By Parry Oei</li> <li>• UN-GGIM Secretariat on the programme of work of the Committee of Experts, relevant decisions and the UN-GGIM website By UN-GGIM Secretariat</li> <li>• Report of the co-Chair on the activities and progress of the former IHO Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group, 2024–2025 By Caitlin Boatright</li> <li>• Report of the IHO Secretariat on the programme of work and the IHO Portal By IHO Secretariat</li> </ul>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Lunch break</b>	
13:30 - 15:00	<b>Agenda item #5 – National Reports</b> (moderated by Co-Chairs)	<p><i>Member States will be invited to share national reports, experiences and perspectives related to marine geospatial information management. Presentations may address the implementation of the UN-IGIF-Hydro, IHO C-17, marine spatial data infrastructures, standards, policy and legal frameworks, capacity development, national coordination arrangements and other relevant initiatives</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australia</li> <li>• Brazil</li> <li>• Canada</li> <li>• China</li> <li>• Fiji</li> <li>• Germany</li> <li>• Indonesia</li> <li>• Republic of Korea</li> <li>• Malaysia</li> </ul>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Break</b>	
15:30 – 17:00	<b>Agenda item #5 - National Reports</b> (moderated by Co-Chairs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mexico</li> <li>• Netherlands</li> <li>• Norway</li> <li>• Philippines</li> <li>• Saudi Arabia</li> <li>• Singapore</li> <li>• Thailand</li> <li>• Tonga</li> <li>• United Kingdom</li> <li>• United States of America</li> </ul>
17.00-18:00	<b>Ice-breaker Reception</b>	

**IHO**International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

Tuesday, 5 May		
9:00 – 10:00	<b>Agenda item #5 - National Reports</b> (moderated by Co-Chairs)	<i>Discussion on national reports, experiences and perspectives related to marine geospatial information management, the implementation of the UN-IGIF-Hydro, IHO C-17, marine spatial data infrastructures, standards, policy and legal frameworks, capacity development, national coordination arrangements and other relevant initiatives</i>
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Break</b>	
10:30 – 12:00	<b>Agenda item #6 - Strengthening collaboration, partnerships, engagement and capacity development</b> (moderated by Parry Oei)	<p><i>This session will consider opportunities to strengthen collaboration, partnerships, stakeholder engagement and capacity development in support of integrated marine geospatial information management. Discussions will focus on how the Joint Working Group can advance international coordination, promote knowledge exchange, improve data accessibility and support Member States through practical capacity-development activities, in line with its Terms of Reference</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN-GGCE Project - Joining Land and Sea By Parry Oei</li> <li>• IHO S-122 Pilot Project – Protected Seas MOU By John Nyberg</li> <li>• Story Map to Demonstrate Value (MSDIWG Work Plan A.1) By Rafael Ponce (ESRI)</li> <li>• IHO MGI Portal Update (MSDIWG Work Plan B.2) By Yong Baek</li> </ul>
12:00 – 13:30	<b>Lunch break</b>	
13:30 - 15:00	<b>Agenda item #7 - Bridging Geospatial Information and the Law of the Sea: From Frameworks to Implementation</b> (moderated by Parry Oei)	<p><i>This session will consider the relationship between marine geospatial information, the law of the sea and related policy and legal frameworks. It will explore how geospatial information can support evidence-based decision-making, maritime governance, implementation of international legal instruments and improved collaboration between the geospatial, hydrographic, oceanographic and legal communities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bridging Geospatial Information and the Law of the Sea: From Frameworks to Implementation By Ilaria Tani</li> <li>• Status of S-121 Standards By Yong Baek</li> <li>• Open Discussion</li> </ul>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Break</b>	
15:30 – 17:00	<b>Agenda item #8 - Increasing the relevance of UN-IGIF-Hydro and C-17: Reviewing and updating</b> (moderated by Caitlin Boatright /John Nyberg)	<i>This session will consider how the UN-IGIF-Hydro and IHO C-17 may be reviewed, aligned and further developed to better support Member States in strengthening national marine geospatial information management, hydrographic and oceanographic programmes, marine spatial data infrastructures and integrated land-sea information systems. The discussion may also consider the possible development of practical implementation guidance, tools or task teams.</i>
18:30-	<b>Welcome dinner</b>	
Wednesday, 6 May		
9:00 – 10:00	<b>Agenda item #9 - Frameworks, guidance, technical standards and innovation</b> (moderated by Parry Oei/ Chris Hemmingway)	<i>Standards development organizations, innovation laboratories and relevant partners will share perspectives on technical standards, methods, guidance, pilots and emerging practices related to marine geospatial information management. The session will consider achievements, gaps and opportunities to strengthen interoperability, metadata, standards</i>

**IHO**International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

		<p><i>implementation and the use of innovative technologies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FMSDI Pilot results and next phase of the FMSDI Pilot By Scott Simmons (OGC)</li> <li>• MetaData Standards By Eric Foo</li> <li>• MetaData Study in Korea (tbc)</li> <li>• Open Discussion</li> </ul>
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>10:30 – 12:00</b>	<b>Agenda item #10 – Strategic Vision and priorities of the Joint Working Group</b> <i>(moderated by Jotham Teo / Caitlin Boatright)</i>	<i>This session will consider the strategic vision, priorities and goals of the Joint Working Group, taking into account the strategic objectives of UN-GGIM and IHO, the updated Terms of Reference and relevant global frameworks. Participants will discuss priority areas for the Joint Working Group, including governance, standards, capacity development, partnerships, data integration, innovation and communication</i>
<b>12:00 - 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>	
<b>13:30 - 15:00</b>	<b>Agenda item #11 – Good practices, case studies and practical applications</b> (Hybrid Session)	<p><i>Member States, partners and organizations will share good practices, case studies, pilot projects and practical applications that demonstrate the value of marine geospatial information. The session will highlight examples of implementation, innovation, land-sea data integration, non-navigational uses of hydrographic data, artificial intelligence, regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing mechanisms</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CHS Sea Trial Area for Non-Navigational Use (MSDIWG Action 10/2025) By Chris Hemmingway</li> <li>• Korea: case study and good practice sharing session</li> <li>• AI Uses in Marine Sector (MSDIWG Work Plan C.2) by MSDIWG AI Task Group (tbc)</li> <li>• Land-Sea Compilation Report and Pilot project proposal by Jotham Teo</li> <li>• Regional MSDI WG Ambassadors (tbc)</li> <li>• IHO Lab by Parry Oei</li> </ul>
<b>15:00 – 15:30</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>15:30 – 17:00</b>	<b>Agenda item #11 - Good practices, case studies and practical applications</b> (Hybrid Session)	Open Discussion
<b>Thursday, 7 May</b>		
<b>08:30- 10:00</b>	<b>Agenda item #12 – Preparation of the Joint Workplan</b> <i>(moderated by Co-Chairs)</i>	<i>Participants will review the outcomes of previous discussions and consider key thematic areas for inclusion in the Joint Workplan. The session will focus on consolidating the workplans of the former groups, identifying priority activities and considering the establishment of task teams or other working arrangements to support implementation</i>
<b>10:00- 10:30</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>10:30- 12:00</b>	<b>Agenda item #12 – Preparation of the Joint Workplan</b> <i>(moderated by Co-Chairs)</i>	<i>Participants will review the outcomes of previous discussions and consider key thematic areas for inclusion in the Joint Workplan. The session will focus on consolidating the workplans of the former groups, identifying priority activities and considering the establishment of task teams or other working arrangements to support implementation</i>



IHO

International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30-17:00	Technical Tour	Organized by Host Country
<b>Friday, 8 May</b>		
9:00-10:00	<b>Agenda item #13 – Review of the draft strategic vision and workplan</b>	<i>Participants will review and provide input on the draft strategic vision, Joint Workplan and coordination arrangements of the Joint Working Group. The session will aim to consolidate key outcomes, agreements and follow-up actions, including reporting to the respective governing bodies of UN-GGIM and IHO</i>
10:00-10:30	Break	
10:30-12:00	<b>Agenda item #14 – Election of the Co-Chairs</b>	<i>Members of the Joint Working Group will consider and proceed with the election of the Co-Chairs, in accordance with the Terms of Reference and agreed working modalities of the Joint Working Group</i>
	<b>Agenda item #15 – Reporting to respective governing bodies</b>	<i>The UN-GGIM and IHO Secretariats will brief participants on the respective timelines, processes and requirements for reporting the outcomes of the Joint Working Group to its governing bodies. Participants will consider the key messages, outcomes, priorities and recommendations to be reflected in the reports, ensuring consistency and coherence in reporting to both UN-GGIM and IHO</i>
	<b>Agenda item #17 – Next steps, summary and close</b>	<i>The Co-Chairs and Secretariats will summarize the main outcomes of the meeting, agreed actions, responsibilities and next steps. The meeting will close with final remarks by the Co-Chairs and Secretariats</i>