



Virtual Meeting of the Expanded Bureau of UN-GGIM

Thursday, 11 March 2021

6:00am – 8:00am EST

**A brief on the activities of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information
Management for Arab States (UN-GGIM: Arab States)**

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Plenary Meeting:

The 8th plenary meeting of the UN-GGIM Regional Committee for Arab States (UN-GGIM: Arab States) was held online, hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and organized by the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GASGI) in collaboration with the Secretariat of the UN-GGIM : Arab States. The aim of the meeting was to follow-up the functioning of the UN-GGIM: Arab States and its working groups and consider the Committee's program for the forthcoming period.

The meeting was attended by 46 participants from 13 Arab Countries, GCC Statistical Center delegates, representatives of the UN-GGIM Secretariat, three experts from the UN-GGIM teams and working groups and representative of the United Nations-Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

Some of the recommendations of the 8th plenary meeting were:

- Approval of the work plan for UN-GGIM: Arab States' working groups for the period 2021-2022G.
- Affirming the importance of implementing UN General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/69/266) -A Global Geodetic Reference Framework for Sustainable Development, planning to assist in the long-term sustainability and the quality of the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF), including the following:
 - o Recommended that, the national geodetic references must be consistent with the International Geodetic Reference System (ITRS), and the International Geodetic Reference Framework (ITRF).
 - o Urges Member States to actively participate in the existing consultations on a draft Position Paper on Sustaining the Global Geodetic Reference Frame and the draft Concept Paper on Establishing a Global Geodetic Center of Excellence which was set by the Subcommittee on Geodesy.
- The 9th Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States will be hosted by the United Arab Emirates in February 2022, the date of the meeting will be announced in due course.

Other Activities:

Among the other activities of UN-GGIM: Arab States was the translation of the following documents into Arabic language:

- IGIF Implementation Guide,
- the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF),
- Framework for Effective Land Administration, and
- Compendium on Licensing of geospatial Information.