



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Expanded Bureau Meeting 23 November 2018 Deqing, Zhejiang Province, China Summary Report

The UN-GGIM Expanded Bureau met after the successful conclusion of the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress held in Deqing from 19 – 21 November 2018. The Expanded Bureau Meeting was hosted by the Ministry of Natural Resources, China through the Zhejiang Provincial Government and was convened at Hall E302, Deqing International Exhibition Center. The agenda for the meeting was:

1. Welcome and introductions
2. United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress – Reflections
3. Committee of Experts Programme of work
4. Provisional Agenda for the ninth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
5. Date and time of next Expanded Bureau Meeting
6. Any other matters
7. Wrap up and close

1. Welcome and introductions

The meeting was attended by:

i) UN-GGIM Bureau:

Co-Chairs:

Ms. Dorine Burmanje (Netherlands)
Dr. Li Pengde (China)
Mr. Fernand Guy Isseri (Cameroon)

Rapporteur:

Ms. Macarena Perez Garcia (Chile)

ii) UN-GGIM Regional Committees:

UN-GGIM: Africa

Chair:

Mr. Oumar H. Ka (Senegal)

UN-GGIM: Americas

President:

Ms. Paloma Merodio Gomez
(Mexico)

UN-GGIM: Arab States

Secretary General:

Dr. Bandar Al-Muslmani (Saudi
Arabia)

UN-GGIM: Asia and the Pacific

President:

Dr. Andy Barnicoat (Australia)

Co-Vice Presidents:

Mr. Soichi Oki

UN-GGIM: Europe

Chair:

Mr. Tomaz Petek (Slovenia)

iii) UN-GGIM: International Networks:

Geospatial Societies

Prof. Menno-Jan Kraak
Academic

Prof. Abbas Rajabifard

iv) United Nations Secretariat:

Department of Economic and Social
Affairs/Statistics Division:

Mr. Stefan Schweinfest
Mr. TEO CheeHai

Ms. Vilma Frani

Department of Field Support/Information
& Communications Technology Division:

Mr. Kyoung-soo Eom

Economic Commission for Africa:

Mr. Andre Nonguierma

Economic Commission for Latin America
and the Caribbean:

Mr. Alvaro Monett Hernandez

Economic and Social Commission for Asia
and the Pacific:

Mr. Keran Wang

v) Observers:

Ministry of Natural Resources, China:

Ms. Jiang Xiaohong

UN-GGIM: Academic Network:

Prof. Maria Antonia Brovelli



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

The meeting was facilitated by Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, Secretariat for UN-GGIM and guided by a PowerPoint presentation (a copy attached). The Expanded Bureau considered the following -

2. United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress – Reflections

Discussions	Considerations	Actions
<p>It was noted that the UNWGIC International Advisory Committee (IAC) had a ½ day meeting a day earlier (on 22 November 2018). All members of the Expanded Bureau shared their reflections and salient points were:</p> <p>a) from the IAC meeting: i) the distinction between UN-GGIM’s High Level Forum, the Congress, and other Forums and Seminars; ii) the desired periodicity of the Congress, 2 years or 4 years; iii) preference for speakers from diverse background but with global views for a better world;</p> <p>b) need for better engagement – widen the community and stakeholders, especially from the African continent;</p> <p>c) opportunity to imagine, influence, initiate, involve, interact and integrate within an international event;</p> <p>d) the segment for young professionals was welcomed and commended; to be integrated and not segregated/segmented;</p> <p>e) a comprehensive programme including parallel and special sessions – but insufficient time for discussions and interaction;</p> <p>f) ministerial segment was valuable and commendable; need to consider engaging parliamentarians (legislative and policy makers)</p> <p>g) effective communications and promotion could be helpful and to improve visibility and participation;</p> <p>h) about promoting comprehensive, inclusive and effective dialogue within a multi-stakeholder, multi-actor setting; and</p> <p>i) what should constitute key performance indicator – total number of participants? number of parallel sessions? outcomes and impacts?</p>	<p>2.1 The UNWGIC provided a unique opportunity for comprehensive dialogue among and between representatives of governments and related stakeholders</p>	<p><i>Information</i></p>
	<p>2.2 The Moganshan Declaration “request that a second UNWGIC be convened in four years’ time to consider and stimulate global geospatial development progress”</p>	<p><i>Bureau</i></p>
	<p>2.3 IAC will be preparing a report for submission to the UN-GGIM Bureau. Expanded Bureau will review and discuss the IAC’s report at its next meeting</p>	<p><i>Bureau</i></p>

3. Committee of Experts Programme of work

Discussions	Considerations	Actions
<p>The UN-GGIM Secretariat outlined the programme of work of the Committee of Experts, principally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Geospatial information for sustainable development – Working Group on Geospatial Information of the IAEG-SDGs; b) Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development – Subcommittee on Geodesy; c) Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information – Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (Global Statistical Geospatial Framework); d) Land Administration and Management – Expert Group on Land Administration and Management (proposing a Framework on Effective Land Administration); e) Legal and policy Frameworks in Geospatial Information Management - Working Group on legal and Policy Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management (engages the International Bar Association); f) Marine Geospatial Information including inland waters and waterways - Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (engages the International Hydrographic Organization); g) Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters - Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters; h) Operationalizing the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework including the development of overarching implementation guidance for Member States, building upon the work of – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Shared principles for the management of geospatial information; ii) Trends on national institutional arrangements in the geospatial information management; and iii) Global fundamental geospatial data themes 	<p>3.1 An extensive programme of work for a small team at the Secretariat for UN-GGIM;</p>	<p><i>Information</i></p>
	<p>3.2 Recognized the extent of voluntary contributions from Member States, International Organizations, and entities including from geospatial societies, academia and the private sector;</p>	<p><i>Information</i></p>
	<p>3.3 A number of expert and working groups have within its governance structure (as provided by its terms of reference) that the Bureau may review and evaluate the work of the groups from time to time, may propose to the Committee of Experts revision of the terms of reference based on the work of the group. However, not every group established by the Committee of Experts had such a provision;</p>	<p><i>Information</i></p>
	<p>3.4 Operationalizing the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) will be the principal focus for this number of years and a priority, and as decided by the Committee of Experts, to prepare the Implementation Guide of the IGIF for its consideration at its ninth session, that will build upon the various outputs and outcomes of the Committee’s expert and working groups, past and present; and</p>	<p><i>Secretariat</i></p>
	<p>3.5 Committee of Experts wishes the Bureau to consider, coordinate, consolidate and ensure coherence and avoid duplication of efforts within the overall programme of work of the Committee of Experts</p>	<p><i>Bureau</i></p>

Discussions	Considerations	Actions
<p>With regards to operationalizing IGIF, discussed the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) leverage efforts by groups, initiatives and efforts within the Committee of Experts; ii) efforts are needed at the regional and sub-regional levels including educating and capacity development; iii) clarify the kind of support from the Bank, both in the development of IGIF and in operationalizing at country level (grant vs loan); iv) consider how UN-GGIM Networks, such as geospatial societies, can contribute including in areas of education and capacity development; v) ensure sufficient opportunities and duration for IGIF and its implementation guide to be more widely available (within the African context); and vi) understand the level of adoption at the country level. 		
<p>Welcomed the announcement by World Bank that “money is not an issue” and that they are targeting 30 countries in 3 years, and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The understanding that countries must first develop national action plans before seeking funding; ii) However, in many countries, unless there is assistance and funding, there will be no national action plans; and iii) Concerns that countries will not be able to access the funding available from the World Bank to strengthen their national geospatial information management, system and infrastructures. 		

Discussions	Considerations	Actions
<p>On the Committee’s programme of work, opined that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the IGIF is a priority, and also to focus on geospatial information for sustainable development, integration of statistical and geospatial information, land administration and management, marine geospatial information, legal and policy frameworks, and fundamental geospatial infrastructures; ii) coordination between various parts of the programme of work and operationalizing the IGIF is essential and a caution not to “cannibalized one for the other”; iii) there be assessment and evaluation of the various work streams and activities, and to consolidate the Committee’s programme of work; iv) there is the need to align and connect regional activities (by Regional Committees) to Committee’s programme of work and global initiatives; and v) Regional Committees could also coordinate their regional activities with other regions, sharing and seeking synergies. 		

4. Provisional Agenda for the 9th Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Discussions	Considerations	Actions
<p>The provisional agenda for the ninth session as approved by the Committee of Experts at its eighth session in August 2018 was tabled. The meeting noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Committee of Experts entrusted the Bureau with streamlining and finalizing the provisional agenda; and b) The recommendation to ECOSOC that the ninth session of the Committee be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 7 to 9 August 2019. 	<p>4.1 The organization of work for the ninth session should reflect the priorities of the Committee of Experts including providing sufficient time for deliberating priority items.</p> <p>4.2 The Secretariat for UN-GGIM will prepare and table a proposed organization of work for the ninth session at the next Bureau Meeting taking into consideration the priorities, and the need for consolidation, coordination and coherence within the overall programme of work of the Committee of Experts.</p>	<p><i>Secretariat</i></p> <p><i>Secretariat Bureau</i></p>

5. Date and time of next Expanded Bureau Meeting

Discussions	Considerations	Actions
<p>The meeting discussed opportunities and noted the invitation from The Netherlands for hosting the next Expanded Bureau Meeting in Amsterdam on the margins of the 2019 Geospatial World Forum</p>	<p>5.1 The invitation by The Netherlands as co-Chair of UN-GGIM was accepted, the next Expanded Bureau Meeting will be in Amsterdam on 1 April 2019</p>	<p><i>Secretariat Bureau</i></p>
<p>Additionally, the Expanded Bureau was informed of the following –</p> <p>a) 6th plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States, 18 – 20 February 2019, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia together with a two-day workshop on legal and policy issues (16 - 17 February 2019); and</p> <p>b) 8th plenary meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, 4 – 5 November 2019, Canberra, Australia;</p>		

6. Any other matters

Discussions	Considerations	Actions
<p>The Group of Experts on Geographical Names will convene its first session (after being reconstituted by ECOSOC) from 29 April to 3 May 2019 at UN Headquarters in New York. The Expanded Bureau was consulted and requested to nominate a liaison person from the Committee of Experts to UNGEGN.</p>	<p>6.1 The expanded Bureau was requested to consider nomination of a liaison person to UNGEGN.</p>	<p><i>Information</i></p>
	<p>6.2 A background paper for the inclusion of geological information into the agenda of global geospatial information management was suggested, and Dr. Li Pengde and Dr. Andy Barnicoat volunteered to prepare the paper.</p>	<p><i>Information</i></p>
<p>The meeting was asked to consider including/integrating geological information into the agenda of the Committee of Experts, and whether there is the “appetite”, need and rationale. Further considerations may include: i) aspects of managing national natural resources; ii) who are the principal national actors – geological survey authority? iii) its global community and stakeholders; and iv) what are the main issues in global geological information management? A background paper was suggested.</p>		

7. Wrap up and close

Discussions	Considerations	Actions
The Expanded Bureau Meeting was adjourned with a vote of thanks to all participants and the facilitator.		