

United Nations Nations Unies

SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
UN STATISTICS DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
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Dear Colleagues,

Tenth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) 26-27 August and 4 September 2020

I am writing to inform you that the tenth session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) will be held in a scaled down virtual format, consisting of three two-hour meetings, on 26 and 27 August and 4 September 2020.

This decision was taken by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on 3 June 2020 in light of the continued impact of COVID-19 on the working arrangements for the 2020 sessions of the Council's subsidiary bodies, and a letter from the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Experts to the President of ECOSOC dated 27 May 2020. The decision recognizes that the convening of the tenth session virtually at the end of August will allow sufficient time for written submissions and informal consultations on the technical reports to be initiated in a timely and acceptable manner.

As you may recall, the ninth session of the Committee of Experts, held in New York on 7 – 9 August 2019, addressed several emerging and critical issues related to geospatial information management globally. Numerous substantive activities have since been undertaken and, as follow-up, they will be reported back and deliberated upon at this tenth session. These include progress on: the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework; the Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management; a Framework for Effective Land Administration; strengthening geospatial information management; the sustainability and quality of the global geodetic reference frame; how geospatial information supports and informs the sustainable development goals; and progress and activities of the Committee's experts and working groups, among others.

The logistical and technological arrangements, full provisional agenda, organization of work, as well as other information on the tenth session, is now gradually being posted on the Committee's website at <http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/10th-session/>. The substantive reports to be discussed during the Committee session will also be loaded as soon as they become available, no later than 17 July 2020.

If you are planning to participate in the tenth session of UN-GGIM as an observer, you will need to advise the UN-GGIM Secretariat (Mr. CheeHai Teo, Email: teo@un.org, and Ms. Vilma Frani, Email: frani@un.org) of your intention to participate in the session before **Friday, 31 July 2020**. Practical information and updates will be made available to confirmed observers as they become available.

Although we all find ourselves in a very unique and unfamiliar situation at this time, we appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we adapt our working methods in progressing the substantive work of the Committee of Experts. I look forward to ‘virtually’ welcoming you and your representatives to the tenth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

Yours sincerely,



Stefan Schweinfest
Director
UN-GGIM Secretariat
United Nations Statistics Division/DESA

cc: Erzen Ilijazi
Chief, Technology Operations, OSD/OICT