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RE: Request for Letter of Support on the German application for a United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence

Dear Professor Becker,

Thank you for your letter describing Germany's plans to assist in sustaining the Global Geodetic Reference Frame. As the current co-Chair of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Subcommittee on Geodesy, Australia welcomes and strongly supports Germany's proposal to establish a United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Bonn, Germany.

Australia recognises that the Global Geodetic Reference Frame is the foundation for evidence-based policies, decisions and program delivery. The Global Geodetic Reference Frame is no longer reserved for use by Earth scientists alone, instead it underpins the collection and management of integrated geospatial information and is relied upon for social, environmental and economic initiatives.

Australia notes that in the Ninth Session of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, the Committee of Experts encouraged the Subcommittee on Geodesy to investigate options to establish a Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence to assist with global cooperation and collaboration to improve the accuracy of, and access to, the Global Geodetic Reference Frame. Australia welcomes and strongly supports Germany's leadership to answer the call from the Committee of Experts and Subcommittee on Geodesy.

Furthermore, Australia notes and strongly supports the proposed establishment of a Federated Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence to cater for multiple contributors and partners to sustain the Global Geodetic Reference Frame.

Australia wishes you the best of luck in your discussions with our colleagues around the world, and in our capacity as co-Chair, we offer you any assistance you may need.

With kind regards,



Nicholas Brown
Director of National Geodesy
Geoscience Australia
Co-Chair of the UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy