

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Tenth session

New York, 26- 27 August 2020 and 4 September 2020

Item 13 of the agenda

Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community (for information)

Statement provided by: Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa)	
Statement:	
<p>1. A large amount of data is available in many African countries, however, these data are often not easily accessible or not well documented and organized in a standardized way. There is a lack of interoperability between the different sources of data, which makes it difficult sharing and reusing of the data available.</p> <p>2. Against this backgroundThe Region has carried out in-country missions for data inventory and collection, with attempt to build nationally harmonised geodatabases aligned with regional specifications.</p> <p>3. Equally, the Region continues to build the Second Administrative Level Boundary (SALB) Datasets with the aim of achieving harmonised mapping of subnational boundaries in Africa.</p> <p>4. Challenges highlighted remain the capacity to establish a high-level coordination mechanism at national level, engaging all stakeholders, including users, to work collaboratively on the adoption and implementation of geospatial standards.</p> <p>5. The Africa Region express its appreciation to the work of the Working Group on the standardization of geospatial information, and fully endorses the report.</p> <p>6. However, there are only two participating members from Africa (Algeria and South Africa), and five observing members (Botswana, Kenya, Eswatini and Tanzania) in the ISO/TC 211 on Geographic Information/Geomatics standards.</p> <p>7. The Africa region calls upon the WorkinG Group to give a close attention on means of helping the continent National Standard Organization having linkages with any of the following: ISO/TC 211, OGC, IHO, and to consider establishing liaison, representing Africa, with these international standard organizations.</p>	
Submitted on:	8/20/2020