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Geospatial information for sustainable development

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report jointly prepared by the Secretariat and the working group on geospatial information of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, which will be available in the language of submission only from the relevant web page of the Committee of Experts (<http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/10th-Session/>). The Committee is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the efforts to address the availability and application of geospatial information in producing Sustainable Development Goal indicators and in measuring and monitoring the key principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is to leave no one behind.

Summary of the report

At its ninth session, held in New York from 7 to 9 August 2019, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 9/105, in which it noted the recent activities of and progress made by the working group. It also noted the concerns of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group to ensure that the working group was sufficiently connected to the statistical community, and requested the Secretariat's assistance to facilitate greater communication between the Inter-Agency and Expert Group and the working group and to strengthen alignment with, and closer cooperation between, the geospatial and statistical communities. In that regard, it further noted that the Inter-Agency and Expert Group had revised the working group's terms of reference and that the Co-Chairs of the working group had initiated mechanisms to revise its membership and recalibrate its activities.

The report provides information on the activities of the working group, including the outcomes of its sixth meeting, held in Mexico City in March 2020, at which its reconstituted membership revised its work plan for 2020–2021. The work plan is aimed at, among other things, identifying and sharing common standards

* E/C.20/2020/20.



required for the use of geospatial data as a source in the production of official statistics; showcasing how geospatial information can contribute to the indicators and metadata of the global indicator framework; and supporting data disaggregation. In addition, the report also serves to describe the efforts and progress made to ensure that the contribution of the global geospatial information community remains aligned with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as well as to highlight the opportunities for geospatial information to inform broader efforts to support global and local sustainable development.
