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Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data

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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 prepared by the working group on legal and policy frameworks for geospatial information management, 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 progress made by the working group in its efforts to address legal and policy issues in geospatial information management, including issues related to authoritative data.

Summary of the report

At its ninth session, held in New York from 7 to 9 August 2019, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 9/110, in which it noted with appreciation the contribution of the working group to the development of the Implementation Guide of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and in that regard welcomed the document entitled “Guidance and recommended actions aligned with strategic pathway 2: policy and legal”, which underpins the strategic pathway. It also noted the progress of the working group’s use case exercise and the preparation of a white paper to address the issues and findings from the use case to develop and provide guidance, in an integrated manner, on the legal and policy considerations for the successful implementation of the Framework. The working group was also requested to consider the issue of the custodianship and authority of geospatial data.

In the report, the working group provides information on its progress and activities, including the preparation and completion of its white paper on the policy and legal aspects of the availability of geospatial information. The white paper, which

* E/C.20/2020/20.



is provided as a background document to the report, contains the final results of the use case exercise and demonstrates and validates the application of the approach described in the Implementation Guide with regard to strategic pathway 2, including some of the complex policy and legal issues addressed.

In the report, the working group also provides an overview of its planned activities for 2020 to 2021 to address complex legal and policy issues in geospatial information management and to support the implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework. In that regard, the working group seeks the Committee's approval to change its name to the working group on policy and legal frameworks for geospatial information management, so as to align it with strategic pathway 2.
