

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Tenth session

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

Item 3 of the agenda

Strengthening of geospatial information management (for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

EuroGeographics

Statement:

- a) Eurogeographics takes note of the report on strengthening geospatial information management, and thanks the secretariat for its work in taking the practical and strategic actions to strengthen geospatial information management and related interlinkages for Member States.
- b) EuroGeographics will continue to actively support these efforts, and will continue to participate and collaborate in UN-GGIM activities, as observers on the UN-GGIM: Europe regional committee, and will continue to resource and support the provision of the secretariat, through the renewal of our agreement with the Netherlands. Furthermore, we will continue to keep our members informed about UN-GGIM activities through our extensive network of National mapping, cadastral and land registries of Europe, ensuring that all our members are aware of these important developments.
- c) We note the excellent work on the third edition of the Future Trends document on global information management and congratulate the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain, with the support of the regional Committee of UN-GGIM for Europe, on their leadership in its production. EuroGeographics supports the adoption of the Future Trends document by the Committee of Experts.
- d) We too highlight the important role that geospatial information is playing in the monitoring and management of the response to the Covid-19 pandemic, whilst noting the different and sometimes fragmented way in which this is done depending on national resources, capability and capacity, as well as maturity of information systems across the world. This further strengthens the argument for a concerted effort to adopt the implementation guide on the IGIF.
- e) The creation and adoption of the IGIF and the FELA are significant achievements by the Committee of experts, and should feature strongly in the report back to the Economic and Social Council in 2021. Whilst stressing the successes of the last 5 years of the mandate provided, there is an ongoing need to encourage further engagement and collaboration not only between the key international partners and other donors, but other international and national aid agencies active in the geospatial domain, to ensure that assistance continues to align with the IGIF, avoiding overlap and duplication of effort whilst maintaining country level ownership and prioritisation of action plans. We strongly suggest that there must be an ongoing effort to do this, and therefore suggest that the report to the Economic and Social Council in 2021 should contain clear recommendations on how to secure its sustainable application in the future.

Submitted on:

8/19/2020

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