

# 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)

<p><b><i>Statement provided by:</i></b> Jamaica and Japan as Co-Chairs of UN-GGIM WG-Disasters</p>	
<p><b><i>Statement:</i></b> Jamaica and Japan as Co-chairs of the Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters (WG-Disasters) welcomes and takes note of the report prepared by the Secretariat on Strengthening Geospatial Information Management. Commendations are extended for the significant work undertaken by way of practical and strategic actions to strengthen geospatial information management and related interlinkages for Member States.</p> <p>Of particular note are the initiatives undertaken by the Secretariat as geospatial response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, through the hosting of UN-GGIM COVID-19 virtual seminars in collaboration with Regional Commissions and ESRI. The provision of access to information dashboards by ESRI, for developing countries to facilitate interactive COVID-19 visualization and also support monitoring and management of the pandemic are all highly commendable achievements.</p> <p>Reference is made to objective 3.3 of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Working Group to “encourage greater coordination and collaboration on geospatial information activities for disaster risk management with the regional committees and thematic networks of UN-GGIM....” We have taken action in response to this objective through the forging of multiple collaboration initiatives with Regional committees, UN-GGIM bodies, Member States and other stakeholders in the hosting of virtual seminars and webinars on geospatial response to the COVID-19 pandemic as outlined in the report of agenda item 10. The Working Group believes that it could have contributed more, if it was afforded the opportunity to participate in the informal coordination group organized by the Secretariat. The Working Group hereby wishes to be notified of all future initiatives on disaster risk management being undertaken by the Secretariat, in line with principles of collaboration and cooperation towards the effective execution of UN-GGIM matters.</p> <p>The WG-Disasters remains committed to supporting collaboration and cooperation, in addition to strategic initiatives that promote the availability, accessibility, and timeliness of good quality geospatial information for disaster risk management.</p>	
Submitted on:	8/24/2020