

Le directeur général

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Dear Professor Paul Becker,

On behalf of the Institut national de l'information géographique et forestière (IGN-France), I am very pleased to learn and strongly support the offer from the Federal Government of Germany to host the office of the Global Geodetic Center of Excellence (GGCE) for the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management – UN-GGIM. Without doubt, Germany's offer to host the office of the GGCE in Bonn will greatly contribute to the enhancement and sustainability of the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF).

Within the context of the UN-GGIM, France has always supported the idea of creating such a center and so I am happy to see that the idea came to fruition. Therefore I am looking forward for more cooperation and knowledge exchanges between BKG and IGN in geodesy and in light of the future GGCE office at the United Nation Campus in Bonn.

IGN will continue its contribution to the work of the UN-GGIM Sub-Committee on Geodesy, particularly with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the GGRF roadmap, as well as the work program of the GGCE, in coordination with the International Association of Geodesy to which our both institutions contribute.

IGN-France will also continue its efforts to develop, improve, and maintain the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF), which constitutes the central component of the GGRF, and which we are maintaining since more than three decades. We therefore expect that the GGCE work program will benefit to the ITRF and aim at enhancing global cooperation in order to improve the international geodetic infrastructure that is in need of sustainability over decades, so as to meet societal and scientific requirements and future challenges.

Sincerely Yours

Sylvain LATARGET



IGN Acting Director General

Prof. Dr. Paul Becker
President
Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy
Richard-Strauss-Allee 11
10598 Frankfurt, Germany