

**Committee of Experts on  
Global Geospatial Information Management  
Tenth session**

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

Item 9 of the agenda

**Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management**

**INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT**

Distinguished delegates, representatives, observers, colleagues and friends,

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the annual report of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management. Although the Covid-19 pandemic compels us to adjust our approaches and does not allow us to meet in New York this year, the need and urgency for timely and fit for purpose land administration has not changed. In fact, geospatial information related to effective land administration is proving to be of great importance in managing, combating and overcoming this global crisis. Tenure security, land development and information management connect the past, present and future and form the basis for sustainable development.

We are fortunate, that during the lockdown period in many countries, our members and colleagues were still in the position to contribute – from their homes – to the important tasks of our Expert Group. As co-chairs, we sincerely thank you all for your contributions and commitment. Only through the hard work of our members we were able to finalise the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) that was subjected to a global and thorough consultation process, as the Committee of Experts had requested. The result of this work is presented to you today with the invitation to express your views and it is our Expert Group's request for the Framework to be adopted by the Committee.

Adding this valuable element to the geospatial fundamentals we are building as a community, we are motivated and committed to continue this important work, demanding your involvement and guidance in the future direction and steps.

*Kees de Zeeuw (The Netherlands)*

*Trevor Benn (Guyana)*

*Co-chairs of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management*