

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Tenth session

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

Item 5 of the agenda

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (for discussion and decision)

<i>Statement provided by:</i> UN-GGIM: Europe	
<i>Statement:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UN-GGIM: Europe notes the report welcoming the progress on the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, particularly the activities around the development of the Implementation Guide of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework. The Regional Committee commends the broad global consultation process undertaken with Member States and relevant stakeholders in developing the Guide.• The Regional Committee understands that the Implementation Guide may not yet be a ‘perfect’ document; however it is a living document which is already being implemented and used by a number of Member States to develop and implement their Country-level Action Plans. UN-GGIM: Europe’s view is that the Guide can be adopted subject to refinement. The Regional Committee strongly suggests that the IGIF should be reviewed after a period of practical implementation through an iterative process of honing and refining after it has been applied by more Member States at different levels of geospatial maturity. The aim is to reduce the complexity of the document rendering it more accessible, streamlines and usable.• The Regional Committee agrees that the World Bank and the United Nations have an excellent opportunity to initiate donor coordination on the IGIF. The two entities should therefore consider how to communicate the importance of the IGIF towards potential donors, working with other Member states and stakeholder organisations in order to help countries implement the IGIF based on national needs and requirements.• UN-GGIM: Europe believes that it is useful to establish a knowledge exchange network between countries in the process of implementing the IGIF to help leapfrog ahead to bridge the geospatial digital divide. The Regional Committee would be happy to support such knowledge exchange activities.• UN-GGIM: Europe notes that a number of Country-Level Action Plan methods, toolkits and e-learning materials are being developed by the World Bank and UNSD. It would be helpful if these are aligned to avoid duplication and overlap.• The Regional Committee supports the establishment of a dedicated high-level group of experts on integrated geospatial information management as a mechanism to continue the oversight and mobilize needed resources to maintain the momentum of the IGIF.	
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