

**Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eleventh Session**

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Agenda item 11 - Marine Geospatial Information

Tuesday, 24 August 2021

Thank you, Chair

Distinguished members of the Committee of Experts and Colleagues

We are pleased to present the fourth report of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information. During this challenging time, the Working Group has continued to stay engaged with the global geospatial community and has worked to expand its contribution from a water-themed perspective.

Over the past year, the Working Group has invested its time in advancing progress on its contribution to the IGIF. The Group anticipates that the IGIF-Hydro will complement the IGIF's modernization of the geospatial landscape around the world. We intend for the IGIF-Hydro to serve as guidance and a reference for developing marine geospatial programs and for existing programs that wish to take advantage of the guidance and recommendations offered in the IGIF.

The Group has continued to expand on its work with international organizations, including the International Hydrographic Organization and the Open Geospatial Consortium. We are particularly excited about our new partnership with the IHO-Singapore Innovation and Technology Laboratory and the opportunity that it will provide for further collaboration with the IHO and other marine geospatial initiatives. An aspect of this collaboration is the area of land/sea interface. The Laboratory will officially launch in October of this year in conjunction with a series of webinars jointly organized by the IHO-MSDIWG, the OGC, and our Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information, hosted by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore.

Lastly, the Group has worked to further engage with both Seabed 2030 and the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. We intend to offer continued promotion and participation in both initiatives in the coming years.

Chair and Distinguished members of the Committee of Experts, the Working Group welcomes the Committee's views and guidance on our activities and way forward, and on our quest for effective integrated marine geospatial information that includes seas, oceans, coastal zones, inland waters and waterways.

Thank you for your time, your statements and interventions during this eleventh session, and the opportunity to introduce the Working Group's report.

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Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore*

*John Nyberg
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States of America*

*Co-Chairs
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