

## **Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management**

### **Eleventh session**

New York, 23, 24 and 27 August 2021

Item 11 of the agenda

Marine geospatial information

**(for discussion and decision)**

***Statement provided by:***

United States of America

***Statement:***

The United States commends the Marine Geospatial Information Working Group on notable progress under challenging global COVID-19 pandemic conditions. We recognize the importance of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework in modernizing the global geospatial landscape and anticipate that the IGIF-Hydro will serve as an important step in this modernization. The United States suggests that the IGIF-Hydro serve as a bridge between the IGIF and marine data practices, particularly in support of developing marine geospatial programs around the world. The United States strongly supports the Working Group's continued effort toward completing the IGIF-Hydro document in a timely manner - in consultation with Member States and relevant stakeholders.

The United States strongly encourages the Working Group's continued effort to support and engage with the International Hydrographic Organization and its new Laboratory in Singapore, the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and Seabed 2030. These initiatives highlight how important the ocean is to humankind and how much of the ocean is still unexplored.

Lastly, the United States supports the Working Group's Work Plan for the upcoming year.

Submitted on:

Orally delivered at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 24 August 2021