

**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:***

Government of India

***Statement:***

Dear Chairman,

The report of the Working Group on “Marine Geospatial Information” shared by the Secretariat is well noted. The report provides information on the progress made during the intersessional period including several virtual meetings and the ongoing efforts of this WG to implement the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework in the Marine domain, where water is the dominant geographic feature.

India’s Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has been pursuing important programmes for enhancing the scientific understanding, providing societal services and sustainably managing our Ocean resources. With growing national emphasis on blue economy and marine spatial planning, large amounts of data will continue to be generated in the maritime domain and managed in lines with the national geospatial policy.

The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS, MoES) acts as the National Oceanographic Data Centre under the UNESCO-IOC’s IODE framework, and manages oceanographic data (in-situ, remote sensing and model products).

Several regional and international projects spanning the maritime domain are being formulated as part of UN Ocean Decade (2021-30), Seabed 2030, etc. Marine geospatial datasets that will be generated by multiple agencies across different countries need to be seamlessly integrated to enable sustainable management and deliver key societal services related to livelihood and safety of maritime communities. This will require robust tools, infrastructure and standards for data collection, archival, sharing, analysis and visualisation of marine geospatial. More importantly there is a strong need for capacity building among the marine geospatial data generators and users.

Indian congratulates the WG on “Marine Geospatial Information” for the progress and requests the WG to continue to advocate best practices, guidance and standards that will facilitate seamless integration of datasets spanning maritime, terrestrial and cadastral domains.

Thank you

Submitted on:

8/19/2021