Statement provided by:
Simon Costello, Australia

Statement:

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Australia welcomes the report of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information. Australia wishes to express its appreciation for the leadership of Burkino Faso and congratulates Singapore as the new co-chair.

Australia endorses the information and observations in the report, in particular the following observations:

- The marine domain includes all water related elements including oceans and seas, coastal zones, deltas and tributaries, inland water bodies and waterways.
- The marine domain be treated as cross thematic and cross jurisdiction, covering hydrography, oceanography, marine geology, marine biology, human related activities, and maritime governance.
- The vision of IGIF-Hydro is to promote and to advise on practical considerations regarding the inclusion of the marine domain across an entire geospatial ecosystem.

As a highly urbanized country with the majority of its population living near the coast and one of the world’s largest marine jurisdictions, Australia strongly believes that achieving the goal for the integration of maritime and terrestrial geospatial data, will be underpinned by the adoption of standards such as the S-121 standard on Maritime Limits and Boundaries and the ISO-19152 standard for the Land Administration Domain, and the development of seamless geographic models crossing the land and marine domains.

Australia would also like to make particular reference to the importance of facilitating the inclusion of Small Island Developing States in the Working Group, whose lives and livelihoods depend on the Oceans.

Submitted on:  
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