

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Eleventh session

New York, 23, 24 and 27 August 2021

Item 13 of the agenda

Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community (for discussion and decision)

<i>Statement provided by:</i> David Henderson, Chief Geospatial Officer, Ordnance Survey. Head of UK Delegation	
<i>Statement:</i> <p>The United Kingdom welcomes the report prepared by the OGC, ISO/TC211 and the IHO, and notes with interest the wide range of topics that have been considered by the three Standards Development Organizations over the past year, especially their focus on the role of standards in enabling the IGIF and towards achieving the SDGs.</p> <p>We appreciate the efforts that have gone into developing the Third Edition of the Standards Guide and recognise the value of moving from a static document to a web-based online resource that can be maintained and updated more easily. We note that the Standards Guide is currently open for review and, in the spirit of creating a ‘living document’, support the endorsement of the Standards Guide following the completion of the review. The inclusion of relevant examples of how and where geospatial standards have been implemented and user stories to demonstrate the value of standards development will further strengthen the Guide. The UK will work with the authors to identify and provide a relevant example for consideration in the finalised Standards Guide.</p> <p>The UK has always been an early adopter, contributor, and champion for geospatial standards. We are currently undertaking a review process to identify and establish an initial list of recommended standards that will form part of a set of national geospatial standards, with a particular focus on supporting FAIR data principles.</p> <p>Geospatial standards are fundamental enablers to the wider use of geospatial data in enabling decision making. Having seen first-hand the benefits of being involved in geospatial standards development, we urge other Member States to engage and participate with Standards Development Organizations. Over the last year the UK has been elected as the incoming Chair of ISO/TC211 and the UK Hydrographic Office has been upgraded to be a Strategic Member of the Open Geospatial Consortium, alongside the UK’s Ordnance Survey.</p>	
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