

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Eleventh session

New York, 23, 24 and 27 August 2021

Item 5 of the agenda

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

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Statement:

The United Kingdom notes the report by the HLG-IGIF on their progress, especially recognising that much has been achieved in the relatively short time that the group has been together. We would like to thank and congratulate both Ethiopia and Sweden for their leadership in establishing the High-level Group as well as the other Member States who are actively participating. The UK continues to recognise the global significance of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and as such remains a committed member of the HLG-IGIF.

The development of the Strategic Plan is an important mechanism towards the success of the IGIF and we support the six Strategic Goals as outlined in the Strategic Plan. We agree with the selection of the three highlighted priority goals and will continue to look for ways to contribute positively towards them, especially with regards to Strategic Goal #1 'Improved Communication' by sharing lessons learnt and our experiences, notably in the context of developing successful national policies.

We note that the refinement and finalisation of the IGIF Implementation Guide remains a high priority for HLG during the forthcoming year. The UK believes that without the finalised documentation there is a risk that the core focus of the IGIF becomes diluted and inconsistent in its adoption, so we agree that an important focus for the HLG-IGIF remains the completion of the Implementation Guide. We welcome the ambition that was shared in the *Governance for Advancing and Maintaining the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework* Side Event to have this work completed by the end of 2021.

More broadly, we note and congratulate those Expert, Working, and Thematic Groups of UN-GGIM who have aligned their activities to the IGIF over the last year, and who have started to create guidance and reference documents to support the Strategic Pathways. We continue to encourage Expert and Working Groups to strengthen the interlinkages with the HLG-IGIF and other UN-GGIM Programmes of Work.

Submitted on:

13th August 2021