

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Eleventh session

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Item 6 of the agenda

Global geodetic reference frame (for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

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Statement:

The International Association of Geodesy commends the work accomplished by the Subcommittee on Geodesy during the intersessional period, and in particular, for revising its Position Paper on Sustaining the Global Geodetic Reference Frame and the Concept Paper on Establishing a Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence, after the broad consultation. The IAG supports the adoption of the two papers as reference and basis documents for the future work of the Subcommittee as well as the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (GGCE) work plan.

The IAG looks forward to providing guidance on defining the work program of the GGCE, in agreement with the recommendations of the GGRF roadmap, and in cooperation with the Committee of Experts, the Subcommittee on Geodesy and relevant geodetic and Earth observation organizations.

Recalling the fundamental role of IAG in bringing together the necessary geodetic institutions for over 150 years, and its ongoing role in building and supporting the international technical services that provide critical fundamental geodetic products, IAG looks forward to substantial and extensive cooperation and coordination with the future GGCE. Interaction between the GGCE staff and IAG components will be essential in order to effectively shape the priorities of the GGCE work plan. This collaboration will optimize and harmonize current and future international efforts to improve and sustain the global geodetic infrastructure so that the GGRF may meet scientific and societal challenges.

Furthermore, IAG supports development and implementation of a Global Geodesy Development Plan (GGDP) that builds on the geodetic infrastructure questionnaire conducted by the Subcommittee and completed by IAG Services in 2019/2020. IAG is ready to collaborate with the GGCE and the Subcommittee to optimally develop the GGDP, including forming work packages, and providing expert consultation on prioritization or urgency levels.

IAG also recognizes the importance of developing complementary communication, advocacy, and capacity development mechanisms to engage current and future stakeholders in geodesy. We note the potential of such engagement to attract contributions from Member States and other relevant geodetic stakeholders to the future GGCE.

Submitted on:

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