Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Eleventh session New York, 23, 24 and 27 August 2021 Item 9 of the agenda Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management (for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

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Statement:

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Australia welcomes the report and the work of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management, including its updated work plan for 2020-22. Australia is of the view that the Framework proposed by the Expert Group offers a strong view of what constitutes effective land administration. On a global scale, the inequity and variation in the current state of land administration systems is almost unfathomable. We are fortunate in Australia that so many of the fundamentals of the framework are embedded policies, systems and laws in our society, for which our community enjoy the benefits without necessarily understanding how the land administration system supports it.

Australia offers the following observations for the Expert Group to consider:

- The community and future generations will expect continuous improvement. We cannot set out an operating model and then leave it to operate, particularly as setting up such systems takes significant effort, and future generations may expect transactions to be managed and processed on a mobile phone.
- Our land administration systems will becoming increasingly 'fully digital'. Given the high level of financial security that is underpinned by land and property assets, the economy of a nation is reliant on the security of the data assets helf over land. This creates a significant cybersecurity risk, which may be attractive to those who wish to cause harm. Any framework should strongly consider what security mechanisms (digital or otherwise) need to be put in place to protect our valuable data assets.
- There is increasing recognition of more complex rights, responsibilities and restrictions associated with land. The sheer number of rights, restrictions and responsibilities can be difficult and costly for users to understand what can, and can't, be done with a piece of land. We are able to manage, present and analyse this complex policy space very well with modern IT and GIS systems. We should still strive to make it easier for anyone to navigate a potentially complex land administration system.

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