

## **Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management**

### **Eleventh session**

New York, 23, 24 and 27 August 2021

Item 3 of the agenda

### **Strengthening of geospatial information management (for discussion and decision)**

<b><i>Statement provided by:</i></b> Simon Costello, Australia	
<b><i>Statement:</i></b>  Click or tap here to enter text.  Australia welcomes the report from the Secretariat for strengthening geospatial information management, in particular the need to strengthen the messaging to ECOSOC of the tangible value of this Committee of Experts to the delivery of the agenda and mission of the United Nations.  Australia is of the view that the report to ECOSOC is able to appeal to the political and diplomatic communities in Member States. The language in the report must not be technical yet still clearly outline facts and benefits. ECOSOC members may also benefit from targeted briefings from their UNGGIM counterparts.  As practical steps, Australia offers to contribute to the written report, through the Australian Bureau of Statistics, particularly to support the development of content on the 'continued efforts to work with the Statistical Commission and with the entire United Nations system, and to integrate geospatial and statistical information systems'. This would utilise the Australian Bureau of Statistics' experience as co-chair of the expert group that is focused on this area.  Australia supports the initiation of dialog to sensitise Permanent Missions to the nature of the report to ECOSOC.  In addition, Australia has a good track record of working with other Member States to facilitate the use of geospatial information in our Asia Pacific region. To build on this track record, Australia is open to nominating some of our officials for specific projects with UNGGIM, following the lead of our friends in the Netherlands and Sweden.	
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