

# 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)

*Statement provided by:*

Japan

*Statement:*

Japan emphasizes the importance of inclusion, transparency and openness regarding all the efforts for strengthening geospatial information management. The Committee of Experts needs to make sure there are no duplicates of efforts, and its proposal is the most efficient and most effective as well as transparent and accountable to all Member States in addressing the issues. Japan encourages the Bureau and the friends of the co-Chairs to exercise broader and deeper information sharing among the Committee of Experts and with the Permanent Missions of each Member State so that they can consider carefully the report to the Economic and Social Council in 2022 based on the information provided. Japan would also kindly requests the co-Chairs to share us the definition of 'friends' so that the Committee of Experts is able to combine efforts of the experts more efficiently and transparently.

Japan requests further clarification by the Secretariat regarding the responsibility and the mandates of the Bureau and the Committee on extrabudgetary contribution to the Secretariat of the United Nations so that there are no duplicates of the efforts between the Secretariat and the Committee. Japan requests clarifications on who takes accountability and responsibility for the 11th tranche of the Development Account Project introduced in the report. Japan is also interested in the detailed information about the 'six target countries' from these perspectives.

Japan also would like to be informed regarding the accountability on the letter of collaboration between the WGIC and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and requests detailed reporting to the Committee of Experts.

Japan believes that the SDG Data Alliance should have been well announced beforehand to the members of the Committee of Experts if the SDG Data Alliance is something to be recorded in the official document of the Committee of Experts. Still, Japan welcomes further clarification so that Japan is able to support the efforts paid by SDG Data Alliance.

Japan requests further clarification on who takes the accountability of the Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre and on other matters, including the programmes, activities and governance as well as reporting system to the Committee of Experts. Japan proposes that UNSD and IAC should review the current status and future work programmes and activities of the Centre and report to the Committee of Experts.

As one of the founding members, Japan is engaged in the International Advisory Committee (IAC) of UN-GGKIC and ready to use its expertise to provide substantive advice for the development of the Centre. We recognize that the opening ceremony of the Centre scheduled in May has been postponed, although an informal meeting was held briefly online. As the IAC member, Japan requests the next steps to be informed to the IAC members and other relevant stakeholders regarding the establishment of the UN-GGKIC. .

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Japan requests further clarification from the Secretariat regarding "no additional regular budget resources were provided" in Paragraph 41. Did the Secretariat request additional regular budget resources? If so, what was the consequence of requesting it? Japan welcomes further clarification on the relationship between the Report to ECOSOC and the additional regular budget request so that all Member State agencies can internally consult timely and responsibly.

Japan requests detailed information on the proposals for discussion regarding something "much more could and should be done" so that everyone can understand that the proposed arrangement is the fair, transparent, efficient, and effective way to support implementation. Japan welcomes advice from various capacity-building donor agencies, including all related United Nations agencies and funds, on how ECOSOC can best contribute to the strengthening of geospatial information management.

Regarding "UNDRR is hosted in the UN Campus in Bonn, Germany." on page 7 of the Briefing Note, UNDRR has its headquarters in Geneva. It has regional offices in Nairobi, Panama City, Cairo, Bangkok, and Brussels. It then also has sub-regional and liaison offices in Bonn, Kobe, Incheon, New York, and Suva. Please see <https://www.undrr.org/about-undrr/where-we-work>

Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI)

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