

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:

The Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency

Statement:

- The Netherlands welcome the report of the Secretariat on strengthening geospatial information management taking note with appreciation of the strategic and practical actions over the past twelve months.
- The Netherlands underline the importance of geospatial information management. To strengthen the capacity of GGIM we seconded a staff member to the Secretariat. We encourage other countries to consider contributing to further capacity enhancement.
- The Netherlands welcome that the Second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) will be convened in October 2022 in Hyderabad, India. The Netherlands thank the Government of India for hosting the Congress.
- With regard to reporting back to the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of resolution 2016/27, and to examine the strengthening of the institutional arrangements of the Committee, the report describes the achievements by the Committee of Experts made. The Netherlands underline these achievements.
- The Draft Briefing Note titled 'Strengthening Institutional Arrangements on Geospatial Information Management', is regarded as a sound and well written document explaining to Member States the key points that need to be understood and considered in the preparation of the Committee's report to ECOSOC next year.
- The Netherlands support the establishment of an ad-hoc task team, comprising the Bureau and friends of the co-Chairs of UN-GGIM, together with any volunteered staff and expert resources, to prepare and consult on the draft report to ECOSOC. The Netherlands has already indicated its continuing involvement.
- The timeline as proposed for the draft report provided to the Committee of Experts for consultation towards the end of this year followed by a final report for submission to ECOSOC in February 2022 is seen as reasonable.
- The Netherlands appreciate and underline the suggested call for initiating a dialogue of geospatial information management experts in Member States with their Foreign Affairs and Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York to alert and sensitize them to the preparations and nature of the report to the Economic and Social Council in 2022.
- It would also be important for the GGIM initiative itself to sensitize relevant UN bodies to inform them about the achieved results and future ambitions (especially the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) as a potential instrument to be used in the context of global challenges such as the 2030 Agenda, climate change and biodiversity to name a few.)

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