

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Eleventh session

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Item 8 of the agenda

Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information (for discussion and decision)

<i>Statement provided by:</i> Regional Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe	
<i>Statement:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UN-GGIM: Europe notes and welcomes the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information outlining the Expert Group's work and progress during the intersessional period.• The Regional Committee notes with appreciation the Expert Group's progress against its work plan 2020 – 2022, noting in particular the promotional activities in the various UN-GGIM Regions, and the translations of the GSGF to Chinese, French and Spanish. Besides commending how the Expert Group has formed task teams to carry out its work plan, UN-GGIM: Europe also encourages Member States to participate in these three fora on Capacity Building, Privacy and Confidentiality, and Principles of the GSGF.• UN-GGIM: Europe was happy to support the dissemination of the “<i>Global survey to diagnose readiness at the country level for implementing the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework</i>” to the national organisations and agencies in our region. While a response from 77 member states is encouraging, the Regional Committee agrees with the Expert Group's decision to keep the Global Survey open until November 2021 and encourages Member States who have not yet done so to contribute their national perspective to ensure a more balance global perspective.• UN-GGIM: Europe believes that Covid-19 has highlighted the importance of geospatial information; the need to coordinate national responses to the pandemic has brought to the fore the value of integrating statistical and geospatial with other relevant information. This global health crisis stresses the need for countries to leverage to the maximum the benefits from high-quality and reliable data through the implementation of the principles outlined in the GSGF. In this respect both the GSGF Implementation Guide and a collation of national and regional experiences of GSGF implementation are useful and helpful tools for Member States.	
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