

## Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

### Eleventh session

New York, 23, 24 and 27 August 2021

Item 11 of the agenda

### Marine geospatial information (for discussion and decision)

*Statement provided by:*

**Deirdre Dalpiaz Bishop**, Head of United States Delegation,  
United Nations Expert Group on Global Geospatial Information Management

*Statement:*

The United States commends the Marine Geospatial Information Working Group on notable progress under challenging global COVID19 pandemic conditions. We recognize the importance of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) in modernizing the global geospatial landscape and anticipate that the IGIF-Hydro, the IGIF customized for hydrographic applications, will serve as an important step in this modernization. The United States suggests that the IGIF-Hydro serve as a bridge between the IGIF and marine data practices, particularly in support of developing marine geospatial programs around the world. The United States strongly supports the Working Group's continued effort toward completing the IGIF-Hydro document in a timely manner - in consultation with Member States and relevant stakeholders.

The United States is pleased with the Working Group's partnerships with both the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI) Working Group and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC). We anticipate that the IHO's Singapore Innovation and Technology Laboratory, in Singapore, will be an exciting new opportunity for marine geospatial innovation and advancing standards in the marine domain. We encourage the three groups to work with the Laboratory moving forward, and the United States looks forward to participating in the launch of the Laboratory and Working Group Seminar when conditions permit.

The United States strongly encourages the Working Group's continued effort to support and engage with both the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and Seabed 2030. These initiatives highlight how important the ocean is to humankind and how much of the ocean is still unexplored.

Lastly, the United States supports the Group's Work Plan for the upcoming year.

Submitted on:

8/17/2021