Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Eleventh session
New York, 23, 24 and 27 August 2021
Item 8 of the agenda
Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information
(for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

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United Nations Expert Group on Global Geospatial Information Management

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Statement:

The United States continues to support the ongoing efforts of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information to provide guidance in pursuit of the global goals outlined in the report issued May 19, 2021 entitled "Integration of geospatial, statistical, and other related information" (E/C.20/2021/9).

The United States endorses the current progress toward the work plan of the Expert Group in the development of guidance and materials to support the implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF). These Frameworks provide an important basis to guide and encourage the international community to create, disseminate, and utilize geospatially enabled statistics.

The United States specifically notes the recent efforts of the Work Streams and Task Teams to produce scoping papers and other documentation to share their expertise with other member states despite the many challenges presented by the global COVID-19 pandemic. Continued collaboration between National Statistical Offices and National Geospatial Information Agencies will support progress toward creating global datasets to address the data needs of the Sustainable Development Goals and support ongoing collaborative efforts amongst member states, helping the international community address our current crisis and preparing for those to come.

The United States invites the international community to reflect on the important contributions of the members of the Expert Group to address the many challenges presented by the global COVID-19 pandemic, to recognize the value of the ongoing work, and to support their future efforts.
The United States applauds the work of the Task Team on Capacity Building and urges all member states to promptly respond to the Global Survey on Diagnosing Readiness to Implement the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework.

The United States further recognizes the work of the multinational team involved in the Marco Estadístico y Geoespacial para las Américas (MEGA) project and the regional collaborative effort to encourage adoption of common standards to facilitate the integration of statistical and geospatial information. This work provides an example of the implementation of the goals of the GSGF and the UN-GGIM. Through the efforts of this regional project, a model of international collaboration was developed with the goal of the free exchange of expertise and data, which proved its value in dealing with the COVID-19 crisis.

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