



Eleventh Session of the Committee of Experts on  
Global Geospatial Information Management  
**High-level Group on the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework**  
**SIDE EVENT**

**“Governance for Advancing and Maintaining the  
United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework”**

**Tuesday, 10 August 2021  
6:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. (EDT/New York)**

There is now broad global consensus, support, and agreement on the critical importance of the IGIF and its Implementation Guide as a means for addressing multitudes of needs for managing effective geospatial information. The IGIF is tangible evidence of the progress made since the establishment of the Committee of Experts ten years ago. The IGIF provides the rationale, basis and guidance for developing, integrating, and strengthening national geospatial information management arrangements in Member States, bridging the digital data divide, and supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and other global development Agendas.

At its tenth session, the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) noted the global importance, significance and potential of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF), a culmination of various separate efforts addressing known challenges to national, regional and global geospatial management. From those important distinct efforts, a more holistic approach was needed that addressed the shortcomings of NSDIs and responded to the growing needs and challenges in applying non-geospatial data and information for solving real-world requirements and problems. The IGIF serves as an organizing umbrella for the many activities under the purview of the Committee of Experts, including the regional committees and thematic groups of UN-GGIM, which are useful to guide any country towards transformational change, and which serves as a living and usable document to be reviewed and refined through an iterative process, on the basis of the practical implementation experiences of Member States. In making decision 10/103, UN-GGIM at its tenth session, endorsed the establishment of a dedicated high-level group of experts, with balanced geographical representation and expertise, as a mechanism to provide strategic leadership, coordination and oversight in order to ensure the sustained success of the IGIF, and to mobilize the resources necessary to maintain the momentum and refinement of the IGIF as a continuously evolving process.

This important decision emphasizes the executive leadership required for strategically directing the international nature of coordination and cooperation to continue the development and implementation of the IGIF under the purview of the Committee of Experts, and that adequate resourcing for the new high-level group is imperative to generate significant impact and to secure effective operation of the group.

Almost one year has passed since the establishment of the HLG-IGIF and with this side event the newly formed HLG-IGIF wants:

- To create awareness of the HLG-IGIF established by UN-GGIM to provide strategic leadership, coordination, and oversight in order to ensure the sustained success of the IGIF; and
- To inform and engage delegates and observers to the eleventh session on the strategic goals, activities, and progress of the HLG-IGIF.



## Provisional Agenda

### 1. Welcome, opening statements and setting-the-scene

- ❖ Ms. Rosamond Bing, Tonga  
*Co-Chair, UN-GGIM*
- ❖ Mr. Anders Sandin, Sweden or Mr. Tulu Besha Bedada, Ethiopia  
*Co-Chair, HLG-IGIF*

### 2. The Strategic Plan of the HLG-IGIF

- ❖ Mr. Tulu Besha Bedada, Ethiopia or Mr. Anders Sandin, Sweden  
*Co-Chair, HLG-IGIF*

### 3. The Strategic Goals of the HLG-IGIF – A Panel Discussion

- Goal 1: Improve communication
- Goal 2: Promote data governance, availability, and accessibility
- Goal 3: Strengthen capacity development
- Goal 4: Mobilize sustainable funding
- Goal 5: Encourage collaboration, exchange and sharing
- Goal 6: Oversee improvement and review

Moderator:

- ❖ Mr. Tim Trainor  
*President, International Cartographic Association*

Panellists:

- ❖ Ms. Simone Lloyd, Jamaica
- ❖ Ms. Maroale Mimi Chauke, South Africa
- ❖ Mr. Jamie Clark, United Kingdom
- ❖ Ms. Deirdre Bishop, United States of America (*tbc*)  
*Members, HLG-IGIF*

### 4. Plan of Action of the HLG-IGIF – A Moderated and Open Discussion

Moderator:

- ❖ Mr. Anders Sandin, Sweden or Mr. Tulu Besha Bedada, Ethiopia  
*Co-Chair, HLG-IGIF*

### 5. Wrap Up and close

- ❖ Mr. Tulu Besha Bedada, Ethiopia or Mr. Anders Sandin, Sweden  
*Co-Chair, HLG-IGIF*

## Connection details

The side event will be held using WebEx meeting and the connection details are as follows –

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