

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Twelfth Session
3-5 August 2022

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Agenda item 4

Determining the future geospatial information ecosystem

Friday, 5 August 2022

Distinguished Representatives, Delegates, Observers and Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the agenda item on determining the future geospatial information ecosystem.

You have before you the report of the Secretariat on this new topic, along with two very informative background documents.

A key role for the Committee of Experts is to keep abreast of future trends and opportunities in the application and use of geospatial technologies, and to develop the necessary global policy to facilitate change where it will be of most benefit. I have no doubt that our engagement in this work is fundamental to the effectiveness of our work in practice.

At the 10th session of the Committee of Experts in 2020, the UK had the pleasure to present the 3rd edition of the Future Trends in Global Geospatial Information Management as sponsored by Committee. This report clearly set out a broad range of disruptive forces and technological opportunities that remain relevant to the work of the Committee and our Working Groups.

Today, on behalf of the Secretariat, I am delighted to introduce the report that provides information on efforts with regard to further exploring the geospatial landscape and determining the future geospatial information ecosystem. This work has been developed to assist Member States and national geospatial information agencies in their thinking on the future geospatial environments in which technological developments and associated factors will play a crucial role.

The work has been progressed through the following three elements:

- An informal discussion and dialogue with geospatial leaders during Geospatial World Forum in Amsterdam in May 2022;
- Development of contextual understanding for a national geospatial information ecosystem, provided as a background document; and
- The development of contextual guidance for a future geospatial information ecosystem that transitions from SDI to a system-of-systems (SoS), and on to the Geoverse, and making the step change using the IGIF, also provided as a background document.

A very well attended side event was convened on this topic on Tuesday, and the presentations, captured within the background documents to the report, served as a catalyst for the conversation that followed. The need for us to (better) understand our role and to (better) understand the position we wish to take in the future (geospatial information) ecosystem is clearly of strong interest to the Committee of Experts

and I would like to encourage all delegates and observer organisations to offer their written input to the consultation by the end of October 2022.

The Committee of Experts is now invited to express your initial views and to provide further inputs and guidance towards next steps and elements of the future geospatial information ecosystem.

Thank You

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