INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Agenda Item #11 - Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management

Thursday, 3 August 2023

Thank you, Madam Chair,

Distinguished representatives, delegates, observers, and colleagues.

My name is Victor Khoo from Singapore Land Authority, and I am pleased to present the report of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management for your kind consideration.

[Introduction]

The Expert Group aims to strengthen awareness of the importance of effective land administration and management to decision makers; and to encourages the application of geospatial information resources and systems to improve effectiveness and efficiency in land administration and management.

To support the objectives, the Framework for Effective Land Administration (or in short FELA) was developed and adopted by Committee of Experts in August 2020. FELA acts as an overarching policy guide, provides a reference for Member States when developing, renewing, reforming, strengthening or modernizing land administration and management systems.

[Membership and meetings]

The Expert Group appreciated all contributions from expert group members and partners during this intersessional period. Our thirteenth virtual meeting considered and agreed on the inventory of issues and updated workplan for 2023 to 2025. During our fourteenth virtual meeting, we agreed on our report to the Committee and welcomed Ms. Raffaella from the SNIT-IDE Chile as Co-chair.

[Collaboration with partners]

The Expert Group welcomed and appreciated opportunities to collaborate with regional committees and other functional groups, such as the Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management, and to continue to work with international organizations such as International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) and Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).

[Inventory of issues]

The Expert Group continue to address issues including rights, restrictions and responsibilities associated with land; digital and mobile access to land information; the integration of the built environment and the cadastre; and the cybersecurity and data security mechanisms needed to protect vital land information; and noted that efforts to address those issues required integrated information on land tenure, land value, land development, land use and land use change to effectively administer and manage land.
[Request for consideration]

The committee of Experts is invited to provide views and guidance for the implementation of the FELA at national or sub-national level, where national circumstances will require further elaboration and adaptation of the FELA towards countries’ needs; and to take note of the inventory of issues and the workplan of the Expert Group for the period 2023 – 2025.

Last but not least, the co-Chairs request the Committee of Experts to consider updating this standing agenda item from ‘Application of geospatial information to land administration and management’ to ‘Integrated Geospatial Information for effective land administration and management’ considering that the Expert Group is now focused on implementing the FELA together with the UN-IGIF.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

*Raffaella Anilio & Victor Khoo*
*co-Chairs, Expert Group on Land Administration and Management*
*2-4 August 2023*