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Geospatial information for sustainable development and climate resilience

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report jointly prepared by the Secretariat and the working group on geospatial information of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, which will be available in the language of submission only from the relevant web page of the Committee of Experts (<http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/13th-Session/>). The Committee is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the efforts to address the availability and application of geospatial information in climate resilience and the production of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators and in measuring and monitoring the key principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is to leave no one behind.

Summary of the report

At its twelfth session, held in New York from 3 to 5 August 2022, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 12/107, in which it endorsed Statistical Commission decision 53/101 regarding the adoption of the SDGs geospatial road map as an excellent reference and communication tool to enhance the awareness of geospatial information and other technologies in generating geospatially integrated statistical data for the Sustainable Development Goal indicators and allowing Member States to learn from the many examples and case studies and to take key actions relevant to their countries' national circumstances. The Committee noted the global progress towards achieving the Goals and the call of the Secretary-General to rescue the Goals, recognized the urgent and transformational role that geospatial information could have in overcoming many of the data availability and data integration gaps and urged Member States to implement the global frameworks of the Committee of Experts as

* E/C.20/2023/1.



a means of enhancing national geospatial information arrangements, to meet national priorities and to measure and monitor the Goals.

In the report, information is provided on the activities of the Secretariat and the working group in their respective efforts to strengthen the use of geospatial information, in all its forms, in addressing the needs and demands of the 2030 Agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals and other global development frameworks. The working group provides details of its progress and achievements during the intersessional period, principally through the promotion of the SDGs geospatial road map and the paper of the working group entitled “Examples of the implementation of the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap: disaggregating the SDGs by geographic location”. The paper was presented to the Statistical Commission at its fifty-fourth session and serves to collate examples of how the road map has been implemented nationally to inform and support the implementation, measurement and monitoring of the Goals in accordance with national circumstances while providing actionable guidance, anchored in the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework, on how to disaggregate the Goals by geographical location. Moreover, the report contains information on the progress of the working group on its workplan for 2023, including the development of a concise guidance note in which the working group strategically positions the importance of geospatial information up to and beyond the mid-term review of the 2030 Agenda.

The report also contains information on how the Secretariat, with the guidance and support of the Bureau of the Committee of Experts, explores the many dimensions, opportunities and challenges arising in the area of geospatial information for climate resilience, proposing recommendations for the Committee to consider so that the role of geospatial information in national and global efforts for climate resilience is strengthened.

In addition, the report includes a discussion of the efforts of the Secretariat and the progress made to ensure that the contribution of the global geospatial information community remains aligned with the 2030 Agenda and other global development frameworks. The discussion serves to highlight the increasing opportunities for applying geospatial information to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, address climate-related challenges and leave no one behind.
