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Item 15 of the provisional agenda*

Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community

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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 prepared jointly by the Open Geospatial Consortium, technical committee 211 of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Hydrographic Organization, 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 ongoing work of the three standards development organizations.

Summary of the report

At its twelfth session, held from 3 to 5 August 2022, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 12/113, in which it expressed its appreciation for the collaborative efforts and work of the three international standards development organizations in developing and preparing standards for the measurement and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals, advancing data access and data sharing, including towards the ongoing response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and disaster risk reduction and management, as well as their support with regard to marine spatial data infrastructure (land-sea interface) and management, and encouraged the development of fundamental and domain-specific standards to address and monitor specific Sustainable Development Goals. The Committee also welcomed the many examples of how countries were using the “Guide to the role of standards in geospatial information management”.

* [E/C.20/2023/1](http://www.un.org/Depts/under20/).



In the report, the three organizations elaborate on their collective efforts. They provide details of the work of the Open Geospatial Consortium on the development of modernized open application programming interface standards, including demonstrations of technology based on real world requirements under the Consortium's initiatives for collaborative solutions and innovation. In 2022 and running through 2023, there were 24 ongoing initiatives covering a broad range of requirements related to, for example, climate services, disasters, land-water interfaces, digital twins and open science. The integration of geospatial information, statistics and other data to address access to and integration of location information under the findability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability principles continues to be a core focus of the Consortium's community. The work of that community includes a strong focus on improving connections with standards developed by the Consortium, such as application programming interface features and environmental data retrieval, International Hydrographic Organization standards (e.g. S-122 on marine protected areas) and ISO standards (e.g. ISO 19152 on the Land Administration Domain Model, inclusive of the proposed part on marine space).

The report includes an account of the progress of ISO technical committee 211 in its collaboration with a number of United Nations agencies and other organizations. This includes updates regarding changing technology and business environments; modernization of geodetic infrastructure; continued progress in the development of the multi-part ISO 19152; the ISO 19144 series on land cover and land use; and ISO 19160 on addressing standards.

The report further presents the advances made by the International Hydrographic Organization on the S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model standard to support the creation and maintenance of interoperable marine data product services that are compliant with the ISO 19100 series of geographic information standards. A significant breakthrough was made in that regard through the formal adoption by the International Hydrographic Organization of its S-100 road map leading towards global provision of S-100-based data services covering a great variety of marine data themes from 2026 onward.

The report also provides an overview of the work of standards development organizations regarding the use of geospatial standards in supporting the measurement and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals; presents how the organizations are working to strengthen their interaction with the Committee's regional committees, functional groups and thematic networks in practice; and discusses practical examples of the use of geospatial standards in support of the Goals, including a collection of user stories showing how standards have helped countries to work towards specific Goals.
