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Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda

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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 containing the contributions of the five United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees on strengthening geospatial information management capabilities and decision-making for Member States and on the committees' contribution to the global geospatial information agenda. The report will be available in the language of submission only from the relevant web page of the Committee (<https://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 operations, achievements and future plans of the regional committees.

Summary of the report

At its twelfth session, held from 3 to 5 August 2022, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 12/103, in which it commended the five United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees on their work and achievements during the intersessional period, including their efforts to share knowledge and experiences, to strengthen national initiatives on geospatial information management and deepen collaboration across regional committees to further Member States' abilities to leverage the benefits of geospatial information for sustainable development, and to support evidence-based decision-making to meet local and global challenges, in particular for post-pandemic recovery effort. The Committee noted the strategies and workplans prepared by the regional committees for the Americas and Europe, which had aligned their structures and programmes of work to the global agenda while addressing regional geospatial needs and requirements, and welcomed the preparation of publications, the development of data dissemination platforms, e-learning courses and technical workshops conducted to

* E/C.20/2023/1.



strengthen geospatial capacities of Member States. Also noted were the challenges being experienced by regional committees to provide the resources and capacity to support national mapping/geospatial agencies, in particular in Africa, to be agile and dynamic in responding to technological change, to remain relevant, and not be left behind.

In the report, information is provided on the intersessional activities and achievements of the five regional committees: the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa; the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas; the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Arab States; the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific; and the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe. In highlighting the main achievements of the five regional committees, the report provides information on the main subjects addressed by the committees' working groups, capacity-building initiatives and actions taken to support Member States during the intersessional period, and provides the proposed dates of the next plenary meetings of the regional committees.

The report also contains information on the main decisions adopted at the plenary meetings of the regional committees and the actions taken to ensure that their programmes of work are in alignment with the global geospatial information agenda, in particular the implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and the integration of statistical and geospatial information. Also examined are some of the major challenges faced by the regional committees and the strategies and programmes planned or adopted to address them.
