
Economic and Social Council

24 July 2023

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management Thirteenth session

New York, 2–4 August 2023

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda

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Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present paper contains the report of the contributions of the four United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda, for consideration by the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

At its twelfth session, held from 3 to 5 August 2022, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 12/104, in which it expressed its appreciation for the continuing and valuable contributions of the thematic groups (networks) – namely, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Geospatial Societies, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Private Sector Network and the United Nations Geospatial Network – including in research and the use of innovative technologies, education and capacity-building, in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals with geospatial products and services, and in promoting the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and other global geospatial frameworks of the Committee.

In this present report, the four thematic networks update the Committee of Experts on the contributions and achievements during the intersessional period, accompanied by their technical background documents, which provide in-depth analysis and discussion on their progress, activities and contributions to the global geospatial information agenda. Also noted in the report are the interlinkages and joint activities among the respective thematic networks.

The report provides an update on the activities of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Geospatial Societies during the intersessional period. The Geospatial Societies is a coalition of presidents, secretaries-general or equivalent office-bearers or their nominees who lead recognized international organizations involved in the coordination, development, management, standardization or regulation of geospatial information and related matters. The report provides details on the new leadership composition of the network, as well as its efforts to increase interactions and to develop and implement collective objectives in the coming period. The accompanying technical background document provides further information and updates on the activities of the member organizations of the Geospatial Societies.

The report provides a summary of information on the capacity development activities, including workshops and other knowledge-sharing events, conducted by the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network. The report also provides details on the new executive team and advisory board and the current membership of the Academic Network. During the intersessional period, the Academic Network continued its activities in support of the Goals, humanitarian mapping, the ethical use of data and artificial intelligence for global geospatial information and its collaboration with other thematic networks.

* E/C.20/2023/1

In the report, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Private Sector Network provides information on the composition of its new board and its strategic road map for the first year of the tenure of the board towards strengthening partnerships with regional committees and other thematic networks of the Committee of Experts. During the intersessional period, the Private Sector Network prioritized activities and consultations, including with regional committees, towards the development of documents that will guide the Private Sector Network towards better contributing to strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) in regional contexts. The documents developed will also form the implementation road map for the remaining term of its current board, from 2023 to 2026.

The report also provides information on the progress and activities of the United Nations Geospatial Network and its continued implementation of its five-year strategic document entitled “Blueprint: geospatial for a better world – transforming the lives of people, places and planet” (2020–2025), which was informed by the frameworks, practices, norms and standards developed by the Committee of Experts. The Geospatial Network elected its leadership for the upcoming two-year period and revised its terms of reference during that intersessional period. The Geospatial Network also discussed and conducted consultations on its One United Nations geospatial situation room, which is detailed in the accompanying technical background document. The report also presents the activities of the Geospatial Network with regard to communication and awareness of the relevance of geospatial information management in the context of the delivery of its mandates.

I. Introduction

1. At its twelfth session, held from 3 to 5 August 2022, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 12/104, in which it welcomed the continued support of the four United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management thematic networks and expressed its appreciation for their continuing and valuable contributions to the programme of work of the Committee of Experts, including in research and the use of innovative technologies, education and capacity-building, in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with geospatial products and services, and in promoting the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) and other global geospatial frameworks of the Committee.

2. In the intersessional period, collectively and individually, the thematic networks have continued their work including to deepen the collaboration within and between their networks, and to contribute to the programme of work of the Committee of Experts. This present report summarizes the main activities and achievements of the four thematic networks of the Committee of Experts, including their meetings, accomplishments, capacity-building initiatives, and actions taken over this intersessional period. The detailed reports of each of the four thematic networks are provided as background documents to this present report. Points for discussion and decision are provided in paragraph 32.

II. Thematic networks of the Committee of Experts

UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies

3. The [Geospatial Societies](#) is a coalition of internationally recognized scientific and professional organizations involved in coordinating, developing, managing, standardizing, and regulating geospatial information and its related activities. The group met formally during the twelfth session of the Committee of Experts in August 2022, and informally, online, to undertake and progress its activities toward enhancing collaboration and defining collective goals in the intersessional period.

4. The Geospatial Societies has transitioned to a new leadership and with revised representations from its member organizations. As detailed on its website, Societies' member organizations include: [Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society \(IEEE-GRSS\)](#), a technical Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE); [International Association of Geodesy \(IAG\)](#); [International Cartographic Association \(ICA\)](#); [International Federation of Surveyors \(FIG\)](#); [International Geographical Union \(IGU\)](#); [International Map Industry Association \(IMIA\)](#); [International Society for Digital Earth \(ISDE\)](#); [International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing \(ISPRS\)](#); and [International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics \(IUGG\)](#).

5. The respective member organizations of the Geospatial Societies have members in over a hundred countries and comprised of hundreds of entities and establishments, thousands of universities, and tens of thousands of individuals. These member organizations are actively engaged in the practice of geospatial information management and its many interrelated fields, research, higher education, and sometimes even elementary education. The Geospatial Societies have the potential to disseminate scientific values, knowledge, methods, practices on a global scale, and further promote the programme of work and geospatial frameworks of the Committee of Experts. Their role also allowed them to understand the needs and capacity development efforts and requirements, particularly for developing countries and the Global South. The Geospatial Societies agreed to have an updated joint calendar which will be regularly updated and available on its [website](#), to better coordinate educational, scientific and professional workshops, meetings, and events, specifically targeting developing countries.

6. The Geospatial Societies also maintained numerous interactions between each other and with various other institutions. For instance, seven out of the nine Geospatial Societies member organizations are affiliated with the [International Science Council \(ISC\)](#) which plays an active role at the interface of science, policy, administration, and in

collaboration with United Nations entities. The ISC is currently developing a project called “[Science in and for the intergovernmental system](#)” notably, the [CODATA](#) committee of ISC which collaborates closely with the United Nations on initiatives such as the [Global Open Science Cloud Initiative](#), among [others](#). The Geospatial Societies are investigating how to further create synergies with the ISC by conducting joint action and engagement. The Geospatial Societies also aim to enhance their extensive network and relationships to foster efficiencies and to deepen their involvement in the implementation of the UN-IGIF, the centres of excellence, and the programme of work of the Committee of Experts.

7. The Geospatial Societies conducted preliminary discussions during May and June 2023 to further coordinate their action and support the programme of work of the Committee, including their contributions to the implementation of the UN-IGIF with three key areas as priority areas to contribute to:

(a) The United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing, China where the International Cartographic Association (ICA) is engaged through its presence on the centre’s international advisory committee;

(b) The United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Bonn, Germany where the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) are engaged, through their presence on the centre’s international advisory committee and are considering the modalities and activities of their contribution; and

(c) The One UN Geospatial Situation Room for people, places, and planet where the Geospatial Societies wishes to increase its involvement, particularly in education, and contribute to the discussion on spatial knowledge and ethics in relation to the SDGs and the fourth industrial revolution.

8. The background document provided with this present report provides further details on the result of the latest discussions within the Geospatial Societies on their main priorities, considered within the context of the nine strategic pathways of the UN-IGIF.

UN-GGIM Academic Network

9. Since the twelfth session of the Committee of Experts, the Academic Network membership reached sixty-two institutions from thirty-six countries. The details of the membership are available on the Academic Network [website](#). Since September 2022, the network has welcomed four new members and the approval of six applications are currently ongoing. Members of the Academic Network are regularly promoting the Network and its activities via events advertised on its website.

10. A newly elected executive team and advisory board were elected in January 2023. The compositions of the executive committee, advisory board, and representations to regional committees of the Committee are detailed on the Network’s website. During the intersessional period, the Academic Network focused on organizing in-person and virtual seminars and workshops to engage its members. Regular board meetings were held to discuss and plan its activities.

11. The Academic Network organized two noteworthy events:

(a) “Trustful and Ethical Use of Geospatial Data: the Role of Academics” during the week of the twelfth session of the Committee at the United Nations Headquarters in New York (see event [summary](#)); and

(b) “Bridging Academia and Industry in Geospatial Research, Education and Training” during the second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress in Hyderabad, India, co-organized together with the Private Sector Network (see [program](#) and presentations)

12. The outcomes of both events served to expand the activities of the Academic Network in the area of ethical use of geospatial artificial intelligence (GeoAI) and the distribution of educational material to support the achievements of the SDGs.

13. The Academic Network contributed to ITU's events on "GeoAI for Good" including the organization of a workshop on "Building a foundation for GeoAI: defining a syllabus and body of knowledge" with members participating in "GeoAI Challenge", a virtual seminar with panel discussion on "GeoAI and Education", held in June 2023. At the thirteenth session, the Academic Network together with the Private Sector Network will convene a side event discussing the body of knowledge needed to address challenges with ethical use of GeoAI.

14. The Academic Network also participated in a discussion on its potential contribution to the One UN Geospatial Situation Room. The discussion was organized by the United Nations Geospatial Network during an event hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, Kenya, in June 2023. The Academic Network offered to link its educational resources to the One UN Geospatial Situation Room, which was welcomed by the chair of the UN Geospatial Network.

UN-GGIM Private Sector Network

15. The Private Sector Network elected a new board which approved its strategic roadmap for the first year of its tenure towards strengthening partnership with the Committee's regional committees and thematic networks. The board also acknowledged the contribution of the former chair and board members for their valuable services.

16. Beyond its presentation at the twelfth session of the Committee of Experts, the Private Sector Network contributed to several events during the intersessional period, including:

(a) The second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress "Geo-enabling the Global Village: No One should be left behind", in Hyderabad, India (October 2022) with two side events in collaboration with the Academic Network and UN Geospatial Network, on the challenges, opportunities, and expectations of collaboration between academic and research communities and private sectors, and the need for private sector participation and support to geo-enable United Nations programmes;

(b) An online event on "Empowering the private geospatial industry in the Arab States" in relation to the National Geospatial Act, Saudi Arabia (May 2023);

(c) Various events and virtual seminars, including "Trimble Days in the Caribbean", "UN-IGIF Workshop in the Caribbean", the "Caribbean Geospatial Development Initiative (CARIGEO)", and "Sargassum Project"; and

(d) The Geospatial World Forum "Geospatial Caravan: Embracing One and All" in Rotterdam, The Netherlands (May 2023).

17. The Private Sector Network organized its work through regional chairs and, under the board, suggested engaging in dialogues with respective regional committees and their activities. Beyond its intent to strengthen its regional approach, the Private Sector Network decided to assign its members toward contributing to specific functional groups of the Committee of Experts with the aim to enhance the geospatial ecosystem through diverse collaborations.

18. In the coming period, the Private Sector Network will prioritize activities and consultations, including with regional committees of the Committee of Experts, toward the development of documents that will guide the Private Sector Network to better contribute towards strengthening the implementation of the UN-IGIF within regional contexts. The board of the Private Sector Network is also prioritizing a paper to increase its involvement with other thematic networks in strengthening the implementation of the UN-IGIF.

19. The Private Sector Network partnered with the Academic Network to survey the skills and capacity required for GeoAI, the survey questionnaire was circulated to all Private Sector

Network members on 13 June 2023, and the results will be presented during this thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts.

United Nations Geospatial Network

20. The Geospatial Network grew its members from within the UN System from twenty-five in 2019 to forty in 2023. The Network continued the implementation of its five-year strategy document “[Blueprint: Geospatial for a better world – transforming the lives of People, Places and Planet](#)” (2020 to 2025), informed by the frameworks, norms, practices and standards developed by the Committee of Experts.

21. The Geospatial Network reviewed its Terms of Reference during its virtual meetings in March and May 2023. An updated Terms of Reference, as annexed to this present report, was discussed and accepted at its meeting in Nairobi on 15 June 2023 and subsequently circulated to and agreed by the Geospatial Network in June 2023. The main changes to its terms of reference were the composition of its Steering Group and leadership of the network, allowing greater flexibility in composing the Steering Group and selecting its chair and two vice-chairs and the need for sustainability, seniority, gender equality and regional representations in its leadership positions. Following the updating of its Terms of Reference, the Geospatial Network renewed the composition of its Steering Group, and as follows:

- (a) Chair: United Nations Environment Programme;
- (b) Vice-Chairs: International Institute for Educational Planning of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and World Health Organization (WHO); and
- (c) Steering Group members: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); International Organization for Migration (IOM); International Telecommunication Union (ITU); Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA); World Meteorological Organization (WMO); World Food Programme (WFP); and the secretariat of the Committee of Experts.

22. During the inter-sessional period, the Geospatial Network continued raising awareness on the use and relevance of geospatial information within the United Nations system and beyond including participating, contributing or holding events, including:

- (a) At the second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress “Geo-enabling the Global Village: No One should be left behind”, in Hyderabad, India (October 2022);
- (b) The UN Maps Conference “Building Greater United Nations Maps Together”, in Valencia, Spain (March 2023);
- (c) The Plenary of the Digital and Technology Network to the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, in Washington, USA (May 2023);
- (d) The “Building the One UN Geospatial Situation Room for People, Places and Planet” Conference in Nairobi, Kenya (June 2023); and
- (e) The ITU Challenge “GeoAI for Good” in Geneva, Switzerland (July 2023)

23. During these events, the Geospatial Network developed further its interactions and cooperation with the regional committees and the thematic networks of the Committee of Experts, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), the UN Secretary General’s Data Strategy: Data Governance Group, Data Action Group, and the Digital and Technology Network. Further, the Geospatial Network organized online presentations on the activities conducted by its respective entities through “[GeoTalks](#)” sessions to continue raise awareness of the relevance of geospatial information and promote the use and relevance of geospatial information for Member States and the United Nations for better decision-making.

24. The Geospatial Network continues to build the geospatial component of the UN Secretary-General's Data Strategy and continued its consultations and deliberations on the One UN Geospatial Situation Room¹. Aligned with its objectives to ensure the availability and accessibility of coordinated geospatial information and related systems, the One UN Geospatial Situation Room was launched at a [conference in Nairobi](#) (Kenya) as a single-entry interface for coordinated and federated geospatial data, services, systems and activities for and within its forty entities of the UN System, spanning across the five United Nations thematic pillars. As agreed during the [UN Maps Conference](#) in Valencia, Spain, the One UN Geospatial Situation Room is enabled by leveraging One Map service (UN Maps). A report on the One UN One Geospatial Situation Room was prepared by the Geospatial Network has been provided as a background document to this present report.

25. In the coming period, the Geospatial Network intends to continue to mature its One UN Geospatial Situation Room concept, detailed in the background document, including through consultations and cooperation with Member States, regional committees and thematic networks of the Committee of Experts, international standards development organizations, and other partners. The Geospatial Network also intends to coordinate its national geospatial capacity development activities, especially in developing countries, and contribute further to the awareness and implementation of the UN-IGIF within a global partnership.

26. Respective entities of the United Nations system also contributed to the work of the international standards development organization such as the development of ISO's Land Administration Domain Model, Land Cover Land Use and addresses systems. The Geospatial Network is actively contributing to the awareness and use of artificial intelligence applied to geospatial information management (GeoAI), in partnership with other thematic networks of the Committee of Experts, for the delivery of its member entities' mandates and operations.

III. Points for discussion

27. **The Committee of Experts is invited to:**

(a) Take note of the present report and express its views on the progress and achievements of the four United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management thematic networks.

¹ Decision 12/104, paragraphs (d) and (e)

**Committee of Experts on
Global Geospatial Information Management
Thirteenth session**

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Annex

United Nations Geospatial Network

Terms of Reference

1. Mandate

1.1. The establishment of the United Nations Geospatial Network (the Network) was agreed by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) at its seventh session in August 2017 ([decision 7/115](#)); its original Terms of Reference were endorsed at its eighth session in 2018 ([decision 8/115](#)); and, its name agreed during the ninth session of UN-GGIM in August 2019 ([decision 9/102](#)).

2. Aim and Objectives

2.1. The aim of the Network is to:

2.1.1. Strengthen the coordination and coherence of geospatial information management within the United Nations system;

2.2. The objectives of the Network are to:

2.2.1. Strengthen coordination, collaboration and sharing mechanisms on geospatial information within the United Nations system, including relevant policies, capacity building, delivery infrastructures and systems, as well as geospatial information management, collection, dissemination, usage and sharing;

2.2.2. Increase communication and awareness to senior management of the relevance of geospatial information and its management, including the collection, creation, production, dissemination and use of geospatial data, aiming at effective cooperation and collaboration of geospatial activities, in relation to the mandates of the United Nations system;

2.2.3. Ensure the availability and accessibility of coordinated geospatial information and related systems to create quality, timely and reliable products and effective services to support Member States and United Nations mandates on local, national, regional and global issues, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

2.2.4. Promote the use and relevance of geospatial information for Member States and the United Nations for better decision-making through increased collaboration and coordination of geospatial information resources, data, skills, technology and policies within the United Nations; and

2.2.5. Support the aims and objectives of UN-GGIM, including in the development of norms, frameworks, principles and guides, and capacity development initiatives, as appropriate.

3. Key functions and activities

3.1. Foster collaboration among United Nations system entities, including identifying and addressing overarching trends, shared interests and common topics;

3.2. Provide a platform within the United Nations system through which geospatial knowledge, education and training, technology, practices, data, needs, partnerships and collaborative arrangements with external entities can be shared, so as to avoid duplication and create synergies;

3.3. Consider and recommend an overarching governance model on geospatial information management within the United Nations system, in accordance with existing mandates;

3.4. Identify and engage UN-GGIM concerning challenges that may arise while fulfilling various United Nations

* E/C.20/2023/1

mandates in relation to the availability and management of geospatial information, and propose initiatives and activities, as appropriate, to address such challenges; and

3.5. Develop biennial work programs, informed by broad consultation within the Network, to create synergies and address the objectives of the Network while ensuring that there are no overlaps or duplication of initiatives.

4. Membership and Composition

4.1. United Nations system entities that wish to participate as a member of the Network will designate their most senior professional working in the field of geospatial information management as their designated representative. An alternate representative should also be nominated in addition to the designated representative. A member may replace its designated or alternate representatives by informing the Chair and the Secretariat.

4.2. Any geospatial practitioner of the United Nations system is able to participate and contribute actively to the proceedings and work of the Network, in close coordination with their entity's designated representative.

4.3. Membership in the Network places no obligations on the participating entities. A member may withdraw from the Network at any time upon informing the Chair and the Secretariat.

4.4. Participation in the work of the Network is on a 'best effort' basis and within existing resources. The Network has no access to any budgets and cannot therefore provide any type of funding for its membership and activities. However, the Network can be funded by voluntary contributions from external agencies that may wish to support the activities of the Network.

4.5. A list of members, designated representatives and alternate representatives will be maintained by the Secretariat and reviewed annually. The list will be made available to the Chair, Network Steering Group and members of the Network.

5. Governance, Term of Office and Procedural

5.1. A Network Steering Group (Steering Group) will have oversight of the Network. The Steering Group will comprise a Chair, two Vice-Chairs, the Secretariat and representatives from other entities, if they are not already represented by the Chair and Vice-Chairs.

5.2. The Steering Group will consider matters brought to the attention of the Network by members and/or UN-GGIM and discuss and propose or otherwise plans of action for consideration by the Network.

5.3. The Chair of the Network will call for and preside over meetings of the Network and the Steering Group. The Chair may speak on behalf of the Network on matters previously discussed and agreed upon by members of the Network and will represent the Network at the Expanded Bureau of UN-GGIM.

5.4. The two Vice-Chairs of the Network will actively support the Chair to advance the aim, objectives and functions of the Network.

5.5. Members of the Network Steering Group will be selected before the Network's Plenary Meeting to ensure it is reported to UN-GGIM for a term of two years.

5.6. The Network Steering Group will oversee and assess the activities of the Network, including that of any of the Network's sub-groups or task teams, and make recommendations for future work programmes.

5.7. The Secretariat will preside over the selection process which should be based on consensus, and address the need for sustainability, seniority, gender equality and regional representation for the members of the Network Steering Group, the Chair and Vice-Chairs. Candidate representatives must present their interest for the Steering Group positions to the Secretariat via email

5.8. The Network may set up time-bound ad-hoc Task Groups consisting of members of the Network. These Task Groups, voluntary in nature, will be disbanded after completion of their tasks, reporting its outcomes and agreement by the Network.

5.9. Members will contribute to the deliverables of the Network, and will generally adopt action plans, reports, statements, and other deliverables by consensus. If consensus cannot be achieved at any given time the Chair, or in their absence the Vice-Chair, may call for individual comments and opinions regarding the deliverables, and will be considered adopted when not less than two thirds of the members present comment in favor.

5.10. The Network will review its terms of reference as needed.

6. Frequency of Meetings

6.1. The Network is expected to convene annual plenary meetings coinciding with the annual sessions of UN-GGIM.

6.2. The Network will hold special meetings upon request and as required from its members or from UN-GGIM

6.3. The Network will operate virtually and meet when the opportunity arises, normally in concurrence with related UN-GGIM events

7. Reporting Procedure

7.1. The Network will report to UN-GGIM at its annual sessions and will include the preparation of written reports and background documents as appropriate. The preparation of an annual report to UN-GGIM will be coordinated by the Network Steering Group in consultation with the members.

8. Secretariat

8.1. The UN-GGIM Secretariat will serve as the Secretariat of the Network.

8.2. In cooperation with the Chair, the Secretariat will coordinate and assist with the organization and preparation of the agenda for the meetings of the Network, prepare the annual report, issue notices, assist with the selection of the Steering Group and perform any other support activities deemed appropriate and necessary.

9. Direction

9.1. The UN-GGIM Bureau can periodically review and evaluate the progress of the Network. It may propose revision of the terms of reference based on the accomplishments of the Network and any new items that UN-GGIM would like the Network to consider and address.

List of entities of the United Nations System

	ACRONYM	NAME
SECRETARIAT	EOSG	Executive Office of the Secretary-General
	DESA	Department for Economic and Social Affairs
	DFS	Department of Field Support
	DGACM	Department of General Assembly & Conference Management
	DM	Department of Management
	DPA	Department of Political Affairs
	DPI	Department of Public Information
	DPKO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
	OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
	DSS	Department of Safety and Security
	OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights
	OIOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services
	OLA	Office of Legal Affairs
	OSAA	Office of the Special Adviser on Africa
	PBSO	Peacebuilding Support Office
	SRSG/CAAC	Office of the SRSG for Children in Armed Conflict
	OSRSG-SVC	Office of the SRSG on Sexual Violence in Conflict
	ODA	Office of Disarmament Affairs
	ODC	Office on Drugs and Crime
	OHRLLS	Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
OOSA	Office for Outer Space Affairs	
REGIONAL COMMISSIONS	ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
	ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
	ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean
	ESCAP	Economic & Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

	ACRONYM	NAME
	ESCWA	Economic & Social Commission for Western Asia
NDS, PROGRAMMES, RESEARCH & OTHERS	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
	UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
	WFP	World Food Programme
	UNIDIR	United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
	UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
	UNSSC	United Nations System Staff College
	UNU	United Nations University
	ITC	International Trade Centre
	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
	UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
	UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
	UNRWA	United Nations Relief & Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UN-Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality & the Empowerment of Women	
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
	ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
	ILO	International Labour Organization
	IMF	International Monetary Fund
	IMO	International Maritime Organization
	ITU	International Telecommunication Union
	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
	WTO	World Tourism Organization
	UPU	Universal Postal Union

	ACRONYM	NAME
	WHO	World Health Organization
	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
	World Bank	World Bank Group
RELATED ORGANIZATIONS	CBD	Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
	CCD	Secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification
	UNFCCC	Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
	GEF	Global Environment Facility
	IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
	IOM	International Organization for Migration
	UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
	UNRISD	United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
	UNV	United Nations Volunteers
	WTO	World Trade Organization