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Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

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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 of the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, which will be available in the language of submission only from the relevant web page of the Committee (<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 further development of the Framework suite of documents in three interconnected parts (part one, comprising the overarching strategy; part two, comprising the implementation guide; and part three, comprising the country-level action plan), on the resource materials to support the recommended implementation approach and on the strategic leadership and coordination of and oversight by the Group to ensure the sustained success of the Framework.

Summary of the report

At its twelfth session, held from 3 to 5 August 2022, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 12/105, in which it congratulated the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for its continued efforts to advance the role and relevance of the Framework through its plan of work, including establishing work groups and hosting side events, webinars and in-person meetings to improve communication and enhance capacity development. The Committee emphasized the ongoing priority and urgency of adequately resourcing, supporting, and ensuring the refinement, finalization, translation, digital publication and dissemination of the Framework suite of documents, including the overarching strategy, the implementation guide and resource materials related to country-level action plans, so that the documents are accessible, understandable and translated.

* E/C.20/2023/1.



The Committee of Experts noted the ambitious plan of work of the High-level Group, anchored by its three priority goals and associated tasks, encouraged expanded and equitable participation and engagement in the work of the Group, encouraged the Group to find solutions to the resource issues and stronger governance and resourcing of the Group and encouraged Member States to support the work of the Group by facilitating the mobilization of necessary resources and providing guidance on expanded participation and engagement in the Group's work groups. The Committee commended the ongoing efforts in the promotion and communication of the Framework, acknowledged that promoting positive outcomes and impacts at the country level further encouraged the implementation of the Framework and urged Member States and relevant stakeholders to develop and share their Framework case studies to build a library of shared knowledge, experiences and good practices.

The Committee of Experts reiterated the importance of implementing the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework as a forward-looking framework at the country level, across the programme of work of the Committee, within priority areas in the workplans of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees, with interlinkages with other regional-to-global frameworks and in response to increasingly challenging national, regional and global demands. The Committee welcomed the establishment and success of the SDG Data Alliance initiative as a concrete mechanism to mobilize resources to assist developing countries in accelerating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, made possible by advancing and implementing individual country-level action plans and data hubs for countries throughout Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America, and requested the SDG Data Alliance to report back to the Committee on its progress.

In the report, the High-level Group provides information on its progress and activities, including in particular its working methods and meetings, as measured against its three priority goals: improving communication, strengthening capacity development and mobilizing sustainable funding. The Group convened virtual and in-person meetings during the intersessional period to advance the achievement of the three priority goals and agreed tasks. At the beginning of 2023, the Group conducted an exercise to refresh its membership in accordance with its terms of reference and invited United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees to review and consider their contribution, participation and representation. The Group regularly reviews its plan of work to advance its three priority goals and, at its meetings, discussed how it would incorporate the remaining three goals into the plan of work for 2024–2025. The Group leadership team (consisting of the Co-Chairs, work group co-leads and the Secretariat) meets monthly to review progress on the plan of work, resolve questions and concerns and coordinate efforts across the three work groups.

In the report, the High-level Group highlights progress in each of its three work groups, including efforts to expand work group representation from Member States and from regional committees, functional groups and thematic networks of the Committee of Experts. The Group continues to promote strong collaboration, encourage synergistic efforts and avoid duplication. In addition, the report serves to inform the Committee of continuing efforts to extend the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework into interrelated domains, principally land administration and management, marine geospatial information and the integration of statistical and geospatial information. The Group connected with and promoted the work of the Committee's functional groups as it related to the Framework, the Framework for Effective Land Administration and the Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Management.

The report also provides information on the High-level Group's communications efforts, including the adoption of a tagline, the finalization of generic

presentation materials and the use of social media and newsletters to communicate and promote the Group's activities and progress. In addition, the report includes a discussion of initial efforts to create communication materials, including developing an Integrated Geospatial Information Framework brochure for decision-makers and a case study template and documenting case studies that promote the positive impacts of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework to share examples and positive outcomes. Moreover, the Group highlights communications engagements, including the convening of forums and sessions at global events to promote the Framework and share good practices and successful strategies in order to encourage implementation at the country level.

In the report, the High-level Group provides information on progress towards refining, finalizing and translating the suite of Integrated Geospatial Information Framework documents, including the overarching strategy and documents comprising the implementation guide. In addition, progress on translation into languages other than English to ensure that the suite of documents are understandable and utilized by a broader audience will be discussed. The report includes information on the Group's efforts to mobilize sustainable funding for the implementation of the Framework at the country level, including progress on the development of a sustainable funding guide to provide Member States with needed information on potential funding sources and requirements, value propositions, and impacts and benefits of investing in the Framework to enhance nationally integrated geospatial information management. The report also includes an update from the SDG Data Alliance on its progress and activities, including those aimed at mobilizing resources and providing remote technical assistance to developing countries for advancing the Framework through the development of country-level action plans and implementing data hubs to help accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The High-level Group welcomed and noted Economic and Social Council resolution [2022/24](#) and, in particular, the reiteration of the importance of strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee of Experts, particularly for the achievement of its operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States. The Committee will be invited to provide further guidance on the way forward for Member States to implement the Framework as an overarching paradigm and a forward-looking framework at the country level and across the work areas of the Committee and its regional committees, functional groups and thematic networks, as well as guidance on the Framework's interlinkages with other regional-to-global frameworks and its continued adoption in response to increasingly challenging national, regional and global demands.