

SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT UN STATISTICS DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS TWO UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, DC2-1670, NEW YORK, NY 10017 Internet location: ggim.un.org

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Dear Colleagues,

## Thirteenth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) New York, 2 - 4 August 2023

I am pleased to inform you that the Thirteenth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 2 - 4 August 2023. The official announcement of the Thirteenth Session will be issued through a Note Verbale which will be communicated to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York. Once the Note Verbale is issued, a copy of the Note Verbale will be provided for your additional reference.

In fulfilling its mandate, the Committee of Experts continues to provide the leadership to ensure that geospatial information and resources are coordinated, maintained, accessible and able to be leveraged by Member States and society to find sustainable solutions for social, economic, and environmental development. The annual session is the forum for coordination and dialogue with and among Member States and relevant international organizations on enhanced cooperation in the field of global geospatial information management. At the Thirteenth Session, the Committee of Experts will follow up and deliberate on work items from the twelfth session including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the implementation of adopted global frameworks, the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework in particular, and to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States. The Thirteenth Session will address efforts to enhance the institutional arrangements of the Committee of Experts as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council in charge of all matters related to geospatial information, geography, land administration and related topics. It will also address emerging and critical issues including the future geospatial information ecosystem, geospatial information for sustainable development and climate resilience, authoritative data and integrated marine geospatial information management.

The Provisional Agenda (E/C.20/2023/1) and the Documentation for the Session (E/C.20/2023/2) are available on the website of the thirteenth session of the Committee at <u>https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/13th-Session</u>. Other documents and supporting information on the Thirteenth Session will be posted as they become available. The substantive reports to be discussed during the thirteenth session will also be uploaded to the session's website no later than 12 July 2023.

To assist with your planning and preparation for the Thirteenth Session, we kindly ask that you note that several important side events and meetings related to the substantive work of the Committee of Experts will be convened on 31 July and 1 August 2023, and on the margins of the Thirteenth Session. A draft overview of the side events and meetings for the week will be available and updated regularly on the website of the Thirteenth Session.

If you are planning to attend the Thirteenth Session, you will need to comply with the formality of requesting your Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York to register on the e-deleGATE portal under "ECOSOC/United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management" your intention to participate in the session, and the name(s) of all members of your delegation. Your Mission will then request grounds passes to the United Nations premises for you. The contact information for Permanent Missions is available on the following website: <u>https://www.un.org/en/about-us/member-states</u>. Additionally, we also request that you inform the Secretariat of your participation and members of your delegation in order to assist the Secretariat with its preparations.

Please note that participating delegates and experts should be made available at their government's expense. Arrangements for hotels need to be made by individual participants (or their Mission) at hotels of their own choice. Practical information and updates will be made available to confirmed participants in due course.

Should you have any questions or need any assistance regarding the thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts, please do not hesitate to contact the UN-GGIM Secretariat (Mr. Chee Hai Teo, Email: teo@un.org and Ms. Vilma Frani, Tel: 1-917-367-2903; Email: frani@un.org).

I look forward to seeing you in New York and welcoming you and your country's delegation to the Thirteenth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

Yours sincerely,

Stefan Schweift

Stefan Schweinfest Director UN-GGIM Secretariat United Nations Statistics Division Department of Economic and Social Affairs

cc: Erzen Ilijazi Chief, Technology Operations, OSD/OICT