



Thirteenth session, UNHQ New York, 31 July to 4 August 2023

Chairs and Secretariats of the regional committees of UN-GGIM

Tuesday, 1 August 2023

10:00 – 11:15am

Venue: Conference Room A (GA Building)
United Nations Headquarters, New York

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

The five Regional Committees¹ of UN-GGIM are convening this side meeting as a follow up from their first cross-regional side event organised on the side of the twelfth session of the Committee of Experts. The aim of last year's side event was to bring the Regional Committees together to discuss and explore ways they can cooperate and coordinate to support each other and also to sustain the Committee of Experts. The conversation highlighted the common issues and challenges faced by all the five regions – in terms of the policy and existential issues, and the opportunities to build sufficient geospatial capacities in Member States to address these challenges.

The Committee of Experts at its twelfth session in decision 12/103 commended the regional committees for convening the joint side event entitled “Working together towards cooperation and coordination of UN-GGIM regional committees”, in furtherance of strengthening coordination, collaboration and knowledge-sharing among the five regions, to the benefit of all Member States.

The side meeting at the margins of the thirteenth session will bring together the Chairs and Secretariats of the regional committees of UN-GGIM to continue the conversation started in August 2022.

UN-GGIM Architecture regional infrastructure

The Committee of Experts has a unique architecture, with five Regional Committees which provide a mechanism for a strong and streamlined regional infrastructure that brings important regional perspectives to the global level and for the outcomes and benefits of the global activities to be disseminated to all Member States in each region. In addition, it is vital that each UN-GGIM Regional Committee liaises with the UN-GGIM Secretariat on topics of interest and major developments between meetings of the Committee of Experts, facilitating regional development and discussion, and formally feeding into the Committee of Experts.

The aim of this side meeting is to foster discussion and dialog across the five Regional Committees and the UN-GGIM Secretariat to ensure that the benefits of this unique regional architecture is maximised for the benefit the Member States.

¹ UN-GGIM Africa, UN-GGIM Americas, UN-GGIM Arab States, UN-GGIM Asia and the Pacific, and UN-GGIM Europe

This is a closed meeting, by invitation only





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Preliminary Agenda

10:00 – 10:05 Greetings and welcome remarks, *Mr Álvaro Monett, UN-GGIM: Américas Secretariat*

10:05 – 10:10 Greetings and statement, *UN-GGIM Secretariat*

10:10 – 11:00 Moderated discussion, *led by Ms. Maroale Chauke, UN-GGIM: Africa Chair*

A moderated conversation and dialog on the following points of interest:

- *Role of the Regional Committees within the UN-GGIM Architecture*
- *Interaction between the Regional Committees and the UN-GGIM Secretariat (both horizontally and vertically)*
- *Enhancing communication between regional committees and Member States, how to improve engagement of Member States in the work of the UN-GGIM and the Regional Committees*
- *Interlinkages with the thematic networks and the functional groups*
- *Identifying opportunities for inter-regional collaboration, knowledge sharing and funding mechanisms*

11:00 – 11:15 Summary and next steps, *Ms. Carol Agius, UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat*

- *Summary of issues and recommendations.*
- *Identification of possible next steps*
- *Agree statement to bring before the Committee of Experts*

11:15 Meeting Close

Expected Outcomes

- Agree statement to bring before the Committee of Experts
- A summary of issues and recommendations.
- Identification of possible next steps

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