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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 thirteenth session, held from 2 to 4 August 2023, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 13/103, in which it expressed its appreciation for the continuing and valuable contributions of the thematic networks to its programme of work, including in research and the use of innovative technologies, education and capacity development in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals with geospatial products and services. The Committee appreciated the increased collaboration and partnerships between the four thematic networks and their collective efforts to achieve common goals towards promoting and strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and other global geospatial frameworks of the Committee of Experts.

The Committee recognized the important role of the regional networks to strengthen the global network through a stronger representation of the regions in the governance structure of the United Nations Geospatial Network, ensuring ongoing education for geospatial professionals and that relevant knowledge, innovation and creativity can be better transferred and shared. The Committee of Experts acknowledged the significant use and increasing role of artificial intelligence and the work of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network on geospatial artificial intelligence in collaboration with the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Private Sector Network, including on considering its ethical use and towards creating a body of knowledge on geospatial artificial intelligence, and noted that the discussion should lead to concrete actions and taking next steps in authoritative geospatial artificial intelligence and its associated trust and use in the geospatial domain.

The Committee of Experts further noted the accomplishment of the United Nations Geospatial Network in strengthening the coherence of geospatial activities through an increase in its membership within the United Nations system and ongoing consultations on the One United Nations geospatial situation room, and also noted that this capability should provide a means to share data with Member States, build upon the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and the global networks of the Committee of Experts, and, in this regard, could benefit from use cases that include a closer relationship with Member States.

In this present report, the four thematic networks, namely, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Geospatial Societies, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Private Sector Network and the United Nations Geospatial Network, give the Committee of Experts an update on their contributions and achievements during the intersessional period, accompanied by their technical reports

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as background documents, which provide in-depth analysis and discussion on their progress, activities and contributions to the global geospatial information agenda. The report includes the interlinkages and joint activities among the thematic networks, regional committees and functional groups of the Committee.

In this report, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network provides an update on its intersessional activities, including an update on its membership, aims and objectives. At the time of reporting, the Academic Network has 70 members and associate members from 36 countries, with 9 members admitted since September 2023, and 2 new members pending acceptance. The Network is focused on organizing in-person and virtual seminars and workshops to engage its members on the topics of geospatial and Earth observation artificial intelligence and convened regular board meetings to discuss and plan its activities. The Network, in collaboration with other thematic networks, aims to establish a common body of knowledge on geospatial and Earth observation artificial intelligence and to help identify challenges and opportunities. The report includes results from two global surveys on geospatial and Earth observation artificial intelligence conducted in 2023 that served to expand the activities of the Network in developing its body of knowledge. Furthermore, the Network continued to expand the repository of educational material that helps its members in their work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the Network actively contributed to events of the International Telecommunication Union on geospatial and Earth observation artificial intelligence for good, and supported a workshop in July 2023 entitled “Building a foundation for geospatial AI: defining a syllabus and body of knowledge”. The report contains information on collaborative initiatives pursued by the Network, including the assignment of members to support the work programmes of the Committee of Experts functional groups and regional committees. The Academic Network reports on its active participation in the 12th plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific, held in November 2023, and the 10th plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for Europe, held in Brussels, also in November 2023.

In this report, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Geospatial Societies network provides an update on its activities during the intersessional period. The Geospatial Societies network established a new liaison with the International Geographical Union, revised its key representatives, as detailed on its website, and accepted two new international societies: the Open Source Geospatial Foundation and the International Science Council Committee on Data. The 11 international geospatial societies are creating and furthering synergies by conducting joint engagements and activities, focusing on education, in collaboration with the Academic Network and the Private Sector Network. An updated joint Geospatial Societies calendar of activities is now available on its website. This improves coordination of that network’s educational and scientific workshops and meetings related to the programme of work of the Committee. The report includes details on the contribution of its members to the following groups and activities: the International Advisory Committee of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence; the annual plenary meetings of the regional committees; the activities of several functional groups of the Committee of Experts; consultations and meetings on enhancing geospatial information management arrangements and accelerating the implementation of the sustainable development goals; and the preparation of the seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, to be held in Mexico in October 2024. The Geospatial Societies network also provides details on its collaboration with the Academic Network and the International Telecommunication Union on the staging of the above-mentioned workshop.

This report provides an update by the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Private Sector Network on its capacity-development pursuits and collaborations with regional committees and functional groups of the Committee of Experts during the intersessional period, and contributions related to the future of geospatial information ecosystem and geospatial and Earth observation artificial intelligence. In the report, the Network highlights its engagement with the efforts of all five regional committees to advance the global geospatial information management agenda. The Network highlights the Caribbean Geospatial Development Initiative seminar hosted by the Private Sector Network for the Americas, as well as its participation in the thirteenth session and the meeting of the Committee’s expanded Bureau. The report includes information on the engagements and activities of the Private Sector Network with all regional committees of the Committee of Experts. For the Americas, the Network bridged the industry-academia gaps by collaborating with the Academic Network for the Americas to convene a well-attended seminar, and supported the planning and staging of other side events during the tenth session of the plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for the Americas, held in Chile in October 2023. The Private Sector Network strengthened its involvement at the plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for Europe and its

webinar series. Business models for private sector engagement were presented at the plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for Africa, held in August 2023. The Network suggested potential public-private partnerships to support the geospatial ecosystem at the plenary meeting of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for the Arab States, held in February 2024. The Network engaged the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific and is supporting the creation of a regional private sector committee.

This report also provides information on the activities of the United Nations Geospatial Network, including progress on the implementation of its strategy for the period 2020–2025 entitled “Blueprint: geospatial for a better world – transforming the lives of people, places and planet” and the upcoming five-year strategic document for the period 2025–2030, both of which are aligned with accelerating the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and are informed by the frameworks, norms, principles and guides developed and adopted by the Committee. The report includes details on the Geospatial Network’s current priorities, which are: (a) to obtain sustainable sources of funding from the private sector; (b) to increase communication and awareness on the relevance of geospatial information through events and seminars; and (c) to work towards the availability and accessibility of coordinated geospatial information through its One United Nations geospatial situation room, effectively delivering, collectively, “One Map” of integrated geospatial data services. The report also contains information on other priorities, including the organization of the Geospatial Network’s upcoming activities and the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for the strengthening of national geospatial capacities, especially in developing countries and the most vulnerable communities; and the priority to strengthen geospatial data management, innovation, foresight and science to build a United Nations system that can better support Member States in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

I. Introduction

1. At its thirteenth session, held from 2 to 4 August 2023, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 13/103, in which it expressed its appreciation for the continuing and valuable contributions of the thematic networks to its programme of work, including in research and the use of innovative technologies, education and capacity development in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals with geospatial products and services. The Committee appreciated the increased collaboration and partnerships between the four thematic networks and their collective efforts to achieve common goals towards promoting and strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and other global geospatial frameworks of the Committee of Experts.

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 during this intersessional period. The detailed reports of each of the four thematic networks are provided as background documents for this present report. Points for discussion and decision are provided in paragraph 29.

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 thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts in August 2023, and informally with six online meetings during the intersessional period to undertake and progress its activities toward enhancing collaboration and defining collective goals. The Geospatial Societies have now an updated joint calendar available on its [website](#), to better coordinate their events.

4. The [Geospatial Societies, after the twelfth session](#), transitioned to a new leadership and with revised representations from its member organizations. During this period, the Chair of the Geospatial Societies is the International Geographical Union (IGU). As detailed on its [website](#), the Geospatial Societies' member organizations include: [Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society](#) (IEEE-GRSS); [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); [International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics](#) (IUGG); [Committee on Data of the International Science Council](#) (ISC); and [Open-Source Geospatial Foundation](#) (OSGeo).

5. The respective member organizations of the Geospatial Societies have members in over a hundred countries and are 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 applied projects. 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 the Global South.

6. The Geospatial Societies support the programme of work of the Committee with five key priority areas:

- (a) The United Nations Global Geospatial Innovation and Knowledge Centre (UN-GGKIC)

- A former President of the ICA is a member of the International Advisory Committee of the UN-GGKIC and participated in the 2024 meeting of the International Advisory Committee. ISPRS is in discussion with the center to develop joint tutorials, conferences, resource sharing, etc.
- (b) Functional groups of the Committee of Experts
- High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework: FIG is co-chairing a working group on “Strengthening Capacity Development”.
 - Subcommittee on Geodesy: IAG and FIG are partner organizations of the Sub-Committee and participated in its fourth plenary meeting held in Bonn, in March 2024. The Subcommittee’s Working Group on ‘Capacity and Education’ includes a member of the IAG.
 - Expert Group on Land Administration and Management: FIG contributed to the development of the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) and presently, through its Commission 7, collaborates with the Expert Group to implement FELA at the country level.
 - The network is a member of the Writing Team on the Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem and the Chair participates in the virtual meetings of the Team and contributes to the discussions on the elements and scope of the future geospatial information ecosystem.
- (c) Regional committees of the Committee of Experts:
- The ninth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Africa in Cape Town, South Africa – 14-18 August 2023, with participation from FIG, ICA, ISPRS and IGU.
 - The eleventh plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Americas in Santiago de Chile, Chile, with participation from OSGeo who organized an Open-Source side event on 20 October 2023.
 - The twelfth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM-AP in Bali, Indonesia, on 6-10 November 2023, which coincided with the Asia-Pacific Geospatial Forum (APGF 2023), with the theme “Embracing Geospatial Innovation for Sustainable World”. FIG and IAG participated in the Forum including the “Geodetic Reference Frames and Application for Disaster Workshop”.
 - The tenth plenary meeting of the UN-GGIM: Europe was held in Brussels, Belgium, on 22-23 November 2023. FIG and IGU participated and the Chair presented the Geospatial Societies activities.
- (d) ‘Building a foundation for geospatial AI: defining a syllabus and body of knowledge’

Under this priority, developed during the intersessional period, the Geospatial Societies actively collaborated with the Academic Network and with the UN Geospatial Network, in particular, the International Telecommunication Union on ‘GeoAI for Good’. The Geospatial Societies collaborated towards the 3 syllabi Working groups’ elaboration, corresponding to 3 levels of training: Experts; Users; Decision-makers. The Geospatial Societies co-leads the working group 4 on “Body of Knowledge.” These four working groups’ first results were presented during the hybrid ITU’s events on GeoAI for Good on 30 May 2024. In addition, the Geospatial Societies launched a survey on the main training centers of the World on GeoAI. This survey was diffused to all members of the Geospatial Societies and the Academic Network. The activities related to GeoAI will be briefly presented during the joint side event of the four thematic networks on the sidelines of the Fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts.

- (e) Other contributions:
- The Expert consultation and meetings on enhancing geospatial information management arrangements and accelerating the implementation of the SDGs, Aguascalientes, Mexico, on 22-26 January 2024, with the Chair of Geospatial

Societies presenting the Geospatial Societies activities with participation by FIG and ICA.

- The preparation of the Seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management in Mexico City, Mexico, on 6 – 8 October 2024 with the Chair of Geospatial Societies and a member of ICA participating in the Advisory Committee of the event. Along with the three other networks (Academic Network, Private Sector Network, UN Geospatial Network), the thematic networks are supporting a session on “The rise of AI, Big Data and data analytics: The GeoAI of the future.”

7. The report of the Geospatial Societies is presented as a background document to this present report and further details the network’s contributions and main priorities in the context of the activities of the Committee of Experts.

UN-GGIM Academic Network

8. During the intersessional period, the membership of the Academic Network has reached sixty-seven institutions from thirty-eight countries. The details of the members are available on the Academic Network [website](#). Since September 2023, the Academic Network admitted nine new members and the acceptance of three new members is pending, with a few more institutions expressing their interest to join. The Academic Network’s members are regularly promoting the Academic Network and its activities via the events advertised on the Academic Network [website](#).

9. The compositions of the Academic Network’s Executive Committee, Advisory Board, and representatives to the regional committees are detailed on the Academic Network website. During the intersessional period (2023-2024), the Academic Network focused on organizing in-person and virtual seminars and workshops to engage its members. Monthly board meetings were held to discuss and plan its activities. The Academic Network organized and/or is involved in organizing the three noteworthy events:

- (a) The AI for Good workshop on "[Navigating GeoAI: Plotting the course for future education](#)" in Geneva, Switzerland, on 30 May 2024.
- (b) The upcoming joint side event on “Geospatial, Data Analytics and GeoAI Accelerating the SDGs and Impacting National Priorities” at the fourteenth session in New York, USA, in August 2024.
- (c) The joint session on “The rise of AI, Big Data and data analytics” for Day 3 of the seventh High-level Forum in Mexico City, October 2024.

10. The Academic Network also participated in the twelfth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM-AP on 9 November 2023 and UN-GGIM: Europe on 21-23 November 2023, and is exploring further collaborations, such as the newly established United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC) in Deqing, China.

11. The most important focus area for the Academic Network in 2023-2024 was Geomatics and Earth Observation AI (GeoAI). In collaboration with other thematic networks, the Academic Network aimed to establish a common GeoAI body of knowledge and identify opportunities and challenges. Following the two global surveys on GeoAI involving universities and Member States in early 2023 and the need for educational frameworks in GeoAI highlighted in the ‘AI for Good’ Summit in July 2023, the following key outcomes have been delivered by the four international working groups:

- (a) A syllabus for developers with advanced computer skills but limited geomatics knowledge, focusing on geospatial concepts before specialized GeoAI training.
- (b) A curriculum for geomatics experts to build foundational AI skills before delving into GeoAI specifics.
- (c) A program for decision-makers with less technical background to understand GeoAI applications.

- (d) A comprehensive Body of Knowledge in GeoAI, crucial for establishing a shared understanding and fostering collaboration among professionals in the field. This body of knowledge supports innovation, decision-making, and curriculum development in GeoAI.

12. The progress made by these working groups was showcased in the ‘AI for Good’ Summit (30 May 2024), demonstrating advancements in GeoAI education and its applications for societal good. Further to the above, the Academic Network continues to expand the repository of [educational material](#), including the materials developed for GeoAI education and training, which helps the members of the Academic Network work towards achieving SDGs.

13. As a follow-on from the discussions at the Academic Network’s side event during the thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts, the Executive Committee of the Academic Network edited a Special Issue of the ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information on “Trustful and ethical use of Geospatial Data”, with six papers published so far. The special issue is open access and is available [here](#).

UN-GGIM Private Sector Network

14. During the intersessional period, the Private Sector Network remained active in its engagement in various initiatives and contributed significantly to the discussions on the future geospatial information ecosystem, and in addition participated in the twelfth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, the tenth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Americas in October 2023, the tenth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe in November 2023, the ninth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Africa in August 2023 and eleventh plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States in February 2024.

15. The Private Sector Network’s involvement includes participation in the Writing Team on the Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem as well as the UN-GGIM-AP Working Group 4 on the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), providing invaluable private sector insights to support the implementation of the UN-IGIF. During the thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts, the Network hosted a workshop on GeoAI and collaborated with the Academic Network on an online survey. A jointly authored paper on GeoAI by the Private Sector Network and the Academic Network is scheduled for publication in 2024.

16. Following the commitment of the Network to support the advancement of UN-IGIF, the Private Sector Network conducted a global consultation in May 2024 with the support of regional committees to seek inputs on the role of the private sector in strengthening the UN-IGIF. Based on the consultation, a position paper entitled “Role of the Private Sector in Strengthening the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework”. This paper could be utilized as an input to the UN-IGIF partnership pathway where the private sector can play a significant role in strengthening the implementation of UN-IGIF. The Network has attracted more private sector members, and continues to promote the UN-IGIF to a broader network of professionals.

17. Chairs of the regional Private Sector Networks participated in various online and offline events and meetings, addressing topics such as youth education on geospatial technologies and statistics, the role of digital technologies and authoritative data in regional development, the importance of location intelligence for sustainable development in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), bridging the gap between the private sector and academia, and business models of private sector engagement. The Private Sector Network for Europe was instrumental in developing a discussion paper entitled "Strengthening Collaboration within UN-GGIM: Europe" emphasizing the importance of enhanced collaboration. Within UN-GGIM: Americas a Private Sector Network was constituted. Similar to UN-GGIM-AP, a Private Sector Network was established to support and actively participate in the activities of UN-GGIM-AP.

18. The Private Sector Network will actively collaborate with the other thematic networks in the coming period to strengthen GeoAI initiatives and the achievements of the SDGs. The Network will support the activities of regional committees of the Committee of Experts, participate and contribute actively to the seventh High-level Forum and support the HLG-IGIF.

19. The report of the Private Sector Network is presented as a background document to this present report with an attachment, the paper on the “Role of the Private Sector in Strengthening the UN-IGIF”.

United Nations Geospatial Network

20. The Geospatial Network is now a forty-two member network of entities of the UN system engaged in geospatial activities. The Network continued the implementation of its 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. The Network also started its consultations on the upcoming new strategic orientations and design of its new upcoming five-year strategy document “Blueprint Strategy towards 2030: Geospatial for People, Places and Planet” (2025 to 2030) to be presented at the Fifteenth Session of the Committee of Experts.

21. The UN Geospatial Network continued its consultations and deliberations on the One UN Geospatial Situation Room as a single-entry interface for coordinated and federated geospatial data, services, systems and activities for and within its entities of the UN System and enabled by leveraging the standard One Map (and UN Maps services) as detailed in its [concept document of 2023](#). The UN Geospatial Network further decided to organize its One UN One Geospatial Situation Room implementing the strategic priorities of One Map, One UN and One Humanity, agreed in the [Masai Nairobi Declaration](#) on 15 June 2023, in Nairobi, Kenya, and in accordance with the [14 Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes](#) to align with the frameworks, norms, practices and standards developed by the Committee of Experts, and showcase practical use and promotion of the work of the Committee of Experts. Furthermore, the Network is mobilizing resources and funding from the private sector for the implementation of the One UN Geospatial Situation Room, in partnership with the UN Foundation and focused on the priorities of climate resilience and early warning as well as peace and security and humanitarian, accelerating the achievement of the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and impacting in countries at national, local and community levels.

22. The Network continued its work on the geospatial generic job profiles to advance a consolidated approach to human resource management of geospatial professionals in the United Nations system. This body of work remains an important reference for the UN system to establish clear and consistent roles and responsibilities and to promote geospatial expertise and related professions. The UN Geospatial Network also recalls its considerations from the [eleventh session of the Committee of Experts](#) (paragraph 28 (b)) on the usefulness of using the clear denomination of “Chief Geospatial Officer” for a respective seniormost representative to the Network and to the Committee of Experts in each entity of the United Nations, with the view to raise the profile of geospatial information management to their respective management and in the UN system as a whole.

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

- (a) The “GIS Day” on “[Geospatial professional in action for the UN and the SDG](#)” on 15 November 2023 with a series of in-person presentations delivered in schools and universities across the world by United Nations staff;
- (b) Contribution to the meeting of the expanded bureau of the Committee of Experts, in Aguascalientes Mexico on 22-26 January 2024;
- (c) The conference “UN Maps Enabling the UN 2.0” in Valencia, Spain, on 20-24 May 2024;
- (d) The GeoAI for Good part of the “AI for Good” Summit in Geneva, Switzerland on 29-31 May 2024;
- (e) The UN-GGIM: Europe plenary meeting in Geneva, Switzerland on 19-20 June 2024; and

- (f) The upcoming coordination meeting of the UN Geospatial Network entitled “One Map. One Humanity. Transforming the lives of People, Places and Planet” in the lead up to the fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts, on 1-2 August 2024 in New York, USA.

24. The UN Geospatial Network continued its “GeoTalks” series to continue raising awareness of the relevance of geography, data and innovation for Member States and the United Nations for better decision-making. In the context of both the “GeoTalks” and the “[Geospatial professional in action for the UN and the SDG](#)”, the Network also included gender equality, diversity, and inclusion by promoting a diverse range of geospatial professionals in the United Nations, and will further include this topic in its upcoming “Blueprint to 2030: Geospatial for People, Places and Planet”.

25. The Network decided to organize itself in “GeoCommunities” with the view to further structure its work and enable its entities to lead focused streams of work on their geospatial activities which are beneficial to the collective endeavors of the Network. In particular, the UN Geospatial Network wishes to establish a GeoCommunity on “Geospatial Impact for the Sustainable Development Goals” which would enable the development of “use cases that include a closer relationship with Member States” as called for in [decision 13/103 \(f\)](#) of the Committee of Experts. The use cases would effectively be a collaborative partnership between the UN Geospatial Network, Member States and thematic networks that could take the form of an advocacy publication for collectively raising awareness on the use and potential impact of geospatial information for the Sustainable Development Goals and addressing national priorities across the world. The UN Geospatial Network looks forward to further establishing a close relationship with interested Member States through this initiative.

26. Following on the [decision 12/104 \(d\)](#) of the Committee of Experts which “welcomed the Data Strategy of the Secretary-General for Action by Everyone, Everywhere and the initiative of the United Nations Geospatial Network to build its geospatial component,” the Network brought to the attention of the Deputies’ committee meeting of the United Nations, held on 5 March 2024, the importance of the geospatial information contribution within the wider UN data activities. The Chair of the UN Geospatial Network further highlighted the need for data integration into UN Data for monitoring peace and security, human rights, and climate (environment) and development, and, in this context, the contribution of the One UN Geospatial Situation Room for the implementation of the UN Data Strategy, as the geospatial component of the UN Data. The UN Geospatial Network is working toward preparing the Concept 3.0 of the One UN Geospatial Situation Room, to be presented as a background report by the Fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts.

27. The UN Geospatial Network is also working on raising extrabudgetary resource including from the private sector, through the United Nations Foundation, with the view to support the development of the One UN Geospatial Situation Room, as well as the implementation of the UN-IGIF, especially in developing countries, and to coordinate better national geospatial capacity development activities conducted by the United Nations. The funds would also address the priorities of the One UN Geospatial Situation Room for the availability and accessibility of coordinated geospatial information and related systems.

28. Finally, respective entities of the United Nations system also contributed to the work of the international standards development organization, and the UN Geospatial Network as a whole is actively engaged in partnerships with other thematic networks of the Committee of Experts, for the delivery of its member entities’ mandates and operations.

III. Points for discussion

29. The Committee of Experts is invited to:

- (a) **Take note of and express its views on the contributions to the global geospatial information agenda by its four thematic networks; and**
- (b) **Express its views and provide guidance on the need to work synergistically, avoiding duplication and in alignment with the priorities and programme of work of the Committee for the benefit of all Member States.**