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Information Management

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

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Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present report contains the report of the Secretariat, prepared with the assistance of the expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts, on enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements for consideration by the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

At its fourteenth session, held in New York from 7 to 9 August 2024, the Committee of Experts adopted decision [14/101](#), in which it commended the significant efforts in continuing to take strategic and practical actions to strengthen and enhance the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management arrangements in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution [2022/24](#).

The Committee expressed its appreciation for the establishment of a new and enlarged secretariat for the Committee of Experts dedicated to the Committee's normative and implementation work on global geospatial information management, and in that regard requested the Secretariat to focus, in particular, on: (a) supporting the Bureau to develop a strategic framework for the period 2025–2030; (b) strengthening effective global coordination and governance arrangements for the United Nations global geospatial centres; and (c) supporting a global programme of national capacity development aligned with the Committee's operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.

The Committee expressed its appreciation for and welcomed the opportunity to convene as a global community in Mexico City for the Seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management and urged Member States to embrace the opportunity and participate in this global forum to intensify dialogues and discussions on how geospatial information supports resilient and sustainable development. The Committee requested the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to initiate preparations for the third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress, to be convened after the sixteenth session of the Committee of Experts, in 2026, and to report back to the Committee at its fifteenth session.

In the report, the Secretariat provides information on efforts and progress made in continuing to strengthen and enhance the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management arrangements and the effectiveness of the Committee of Experts and its continued benefits to all Member States. In accordance

* [E/C.20/2025/1](#).

with Economic and Social Council resolution [2022/24](#), the report contains information about coordination activities with functional groups, regional committees and United Nations global geospatial centres, aimed at supporting and developing a global programme for national capacity development that is aligned with the operations of the Committee that are focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.

The report contains information for the Committee about the current progress being made in relation to the establishment of the secretariat dedicated to the Committee's normative and implementation work on global geospatial information management, including the overall status of recruitment and the financial context, including regular and extrabudgetary funding from Member States that supported the activities of the Committee of Experts.

The Secretariat provides the Committee with a brief overview of the progress made towards the operationalization of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence at the United Nations campus in Bonn, Germany, and the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing, China, and the progress made towards the establishment the United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence in Riyadh. It is noted in the report that further details are provided under the new item on the provisional agenda entitled "Contribution of United Nations global geospatial centres (away from Headquarters) to enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements".

In the report, the Bureau informs the Committee of the outcomes of its in-person meeting, held in February 2025 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and attended by members of the expanded Bureau, during which the Bureau discussed and reviewed the provisional agenda and preparations for the fifteenth session as well as decisions pertaining to the development of the strategic framework of the Committee of Experts for the period 2025–2030. The United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees, functional groups and thematic networks were requested to strengthen the implementation of the global geospatial frameworks, norms, principles and guides adopted by the Committee, and to encourage the engagement of Member States and partners to support the overall programme of work of the Committee.

In the report, the Bureau and the Secretariat provide information about the development of the strategic framework for the period 2025-2030 as a matter of priority, including the requested inclusion of considerations relating to environment, climate, resilience, sustainability, disaster risk management, the integration of the terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains, rapid technological changes and advancements, and aspects of diversity, equality and inclusion, in accordance with decisions [14/101](#), [14/108](#), [14/110](#), [14/111](#) of the Committee. In the report, there is also an overview of activities related to strengthening coordination, coherence and governance arrangements for the United Nations global geospatial centres.

In the report, the Secretariat informs the Committee of the successful convening, in Mexico City from 8 to 10 October 2024, of the Seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, the theme of which was "Accelerating Implementation: Achieving Resilience". The report includes details on the statements delivered, the programme followed, the themes discussed and the participants who attended. Information is provided on the process to select the host of the third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress, which is scheduled to be convened in late 2026. The Bureau provides information about its process for evaluating the two bids, which includes the use of an evaluation framework and considerations such as diversity and inclusivity. The decision will be

announced during the fifteenth session. In the report, note is made of a background document on the proposal to establish an international geospatial information day.

The Secretariat also provides information about its efforts to enhance the effectiveness of the Committee of Experts, which include organizing expert consultations and capacity development activities, enhancing communication and web presence, coordinating with implementing partners and developing partnerships to foster coherence and collaboration and to optimize resources. Such efforts support Member States in enhancing and sustaining leadership roles within national geospatial, mapping and cadastral agencies, in line with the overall goal of strengthening and enhancing geospatial capacities, knowledge-sharing and capabilities and with a view to developing a global programme for enhancing national integrated geospatial information management arrangements

I. Introduction

1. As the post-2015 development agenda was being formulated, strengthening data production and use of better data for policymaking and monitoring was increasingly recognized as a fundamental means for development, drawing from the experience of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). Indeed the [MDGs Report of 2015](#) highlighted the key role of data in a compelling title *Measure what we treasure: sustainable data for sustainable development* where geospatial data was noted as a critical component as: “knowing where people and things are and their relationship to each other is essential for informed decision-making” and as “comprehensive location-based information is helping Governments to develop strategic priorities, make decisions, and measure and monitor outcomes.” The report also notes that “multiplicity of applications such as the use of geospatial information for precision agriculture, monitoring sea-level rise, health care and social interventions.”
2. In the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), references to geospatial information included “to exploit the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, including earth observation and geospatial information, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress” and “to increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts” by 2020. Despite the plea to exploit these data, challenges remain at global, regional, national and local levels to have the necessary data to measure and track progress. Further, data disaggregation by geographic location remains largely unaddressed or insufficient to systematically be supporting global agendas.
3. In 2022, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) welcomed and noted the Committee’s comprehensive report on its implementation of its resolution [2016/27](#) on strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management ([E/2022/68](#)), and the Council adopted resolution [2022/24](#) entitled ‘Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.’ The resolution reiterated 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 (SDGs) and the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States.
4. In April 2024, at the conclusion of the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4), world leaders adopted the ‘[Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS: A Renewed Declaration for Resilient Prosperity](#)’ (ABAS) and pledged to help small island developing States (SIDS) achieve their priorities over the next ten years. The ABAS underscored the “significant challenges in data collection, analysis, technical and institutional capacity, which hinders evidence-informed policy making, monitoring progress and accessing development financing.”
5. In September 2024, the action-oriented [Pact for the Future](#) and its [Global Digital Compact](#) note the importance of digital technologies and their potential for transforming our world and accelerating progress across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It further recognizes the importance of digital public infrastructure, built in accordance with national priorities and needs, echoing the motto of ‘country-led, country owned’ approach advocated by the Committee through the UN-IGIF. The Committee must continue to play a pivotal role to improve the availability, accessibility and application of cohesive and comprehensive geospatial information as a critical component of a national digital public infrastructure and knowledge to address national priorities.
6. In early July 2025, the [Sevilla Commitment on Financing for Development](#) also highlighted the importance of “leveraging innovation in non-traditional data sources, including administrative records, geospatial information, mobile data as well as citizen-

generated data and remote sensing, supported by public-private partnerships and specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) indicators” and committed to “strengthen capacity for effective data-sharing and exchange”.

7. With less than five years to the end of the current development agenda, enhancing global geospatial information management remains a global imperative that requires concerted efforts and strategic partnerships. In this regard, the role of the Committee is indispensable for demonstrating the role of data for policymaking, accelerating innovation for national priorities, advancing the quest for a more equitable, sustainable world, and solving local to global challenges. It is imperative that the Committee continues to improve geospatial information capacities, capabilities, use and innovation as an essential component for collectively addressing and solving complex challenges faced by humanity.

8. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of this present report and to express its views on the implementation of ECOSOC resolution [2022/24](#), in particular on its operations focused on the UN-IGIF and the SDGs. The Committee is also invited to examine ways to strengthen and enhance global geospatial information and contribute to efforts by Member States to strengthen and enhance their national geospatial information management arrangements. Points for discussion and decision are provided in paragraph 75.

II. Bureau and the Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts

9. At its fourteenth session, held in New York from 7 to 9 August 2024, the Committee of Experts adopted decision [14/101](#), in which it commended the significant efforts in continuing to take strategic and practical actions to strengthen and enhance the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management arrangements in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution [2022/24](#).

10. The Bureau and its Expanded Bureau met in-person on the margins of the fourteenth session and discussed priority agenda items and activities to advance global geospatial information management. Discussions focused on: the upcoming Seventh High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management to be held in Mexico City on 8-10 October 2024; enhancing the programme of work of the Committee, including the Strategic Framework for 2025-2030; global coordination and governance arrangements for the United Nations global geospatial centres; and perspectives on a global programme of national capacity development. An initial draft of the Strategic Framework 2025-2030 was circulated and discussed. The Director of the Statistics Division also informed the Bureau and the Expanded Bureau of the establishment of a multi-stakeholder working group on data governance at all levels under the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), established in the context of a General Assembly resolution on the Pact for the Future ([79/1](#)). Discussions concluded on the upcoming initiation of preparation for the Third World Geospatial Information Congress to be held in the last quarter of 2026.

11. During the intersessional period, the Bureau met virtually and regularly with the Director of the Statistics Division, at near monthly intervals. These virtual meetings followed up on items related to the: establishment of the expanded Secretariat; programme of work of the Committee; operationalization of the United Nations global geospatial centres of excellence; Seventh High-level Forum; ECOSOC coordination segment; preparation of the World Geospatial Information Congress; and other matters such as the involvement of the Committee of Experts in other forums.

12. The Bureau and the Expanded Bureau met in person on 3 February 2025 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, hosted by the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information of Saudi Arabia. At this one-day meeting, the Bureau had the opportunity to engage and discuss in person with its Expanded Bureau, the High-level Group of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (HLG-IGIF) and invited experts. The agenda included updates on items such as the programme of work of the Committee; events and activities of the Committee; establishment of the expanded Secretariat; operations of the United Nations global geospatial centres of excellence; and other matters from the Secretariat.

13. The Bureau informed participants of their upcoming involvement in the coordination segment of ECOSOC entitled “Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs for leaving no one behind” to be held from 6-7 February 2025.

14. The Bureau asked for volunteers to support the Secretariat in finalizing the draft Strategic Framework 2025-2030 towards its consideration at the fifteenth session in August 2025, given that a new Strategic Framework is of critical importance to the Committee of Experts and that it could not be postponed another year. In agreement with the Bureau and members of its Expanded Bureau present at the meeting, the regional committee of Europe, UN-GGIM Europe, volunteered to support the Secretariat in reviewing and organizing the consultations on the Strategic Framework 2025-2030, in accordance with the modalities from the report “that the bureau will consult the draft Strategic Framework with its expanded bureau, regional committees, functional groups, thematic networks and relevant stakeholders”.

15. In discussing the agenda item on ‘climate, environment and resilience’, the Bureau and Expanded Bureau reiterated the need to address the activities on this item in a holistic manner and highlighted the importance to combine the activities of the various groups and teams on these topics. The Bureau also emphasized the importance to ensure synergies with other events and platforms, outside the geospatial realm, related to climate, environment and resilience, and in this context decided to further identify opportunities that would help combine activities of the Committee of Experts and its various groups with other international community efforts and experts on the topic.

16. The Co-Convenors, from Saudi Arabia and South Africa, of the writing team on the ‘Future geospatial information ecosystem’ provided an overview of their current work plan and activities towards the completion of their requirements to deliver a position paper on the future geospatial information ecosystem for the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts.

17. The five regional committees of the Committee of Experts provided updates from their regions, specifically highlighting ongoing challenges in securing adequate resources to support capacity development and in promoting participation and contributions in strengthening national geospatial leadership. The four thematic networks also provided updates on their activities and progress in supporting the programme of work of the Committee. The Bureau expressed its appreciation to the thematic networks for bringing their perspectives and engagement to the Committee, and welcomed their continued efforts to contribute to, and align their activities with the global geospatial information management agenda.

III. ECOSOC Resolution 2022/24 - Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

18. ECOSOC resolution [2022/24](#) decided to enhance the institutional arrangements of the Committee of Experts as a subsidiary body of the Council in

charge of all matters related to geospatial information, geography, land administration and related topics, in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to the resolution. The Committee comprises experts from all Member States and in appointing their national representatives, Member States will seek to designate experts with specific knowledge of geospatial information management and its many interrelated fields¹.

Geospatial positions dedicated to the Committee of Experts

19. As noted in report [E/C.20/2024/5/Add.1](#) of the Committee of Experts, the General Assembly decided to establish a Secretariat, comprising seven new positions (six professional and one general service), for the Committee of Experts in the 2024 programme budget. The General Assembly noted the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) ([A/78/7](#)) that recognized the important functions of the Committee of Experts and the need to support Member States in implementing related technical recommendations to strengthen their geospatial information management capacities.

20. Five of the seven new positions were advertised in May 2024 through the United Nations Careers Portal. However, owing to the overall financial outlook and liquidity situation for the 2024 fiscal year, the United Nations Secretariat instituted a hiring freeze for regular budget positions.

21. In August 2024, in making decision [14/101](#), the Committee of Experts appreciated the establishment of a new and enlarged Secretariat for the Committee of Experts.

22. In December 2024, in the 2025 programme budget ([A/79/7](#)), the ACABQ recalled the establishment of a Secretariat of the Committee of Experts and its seven posts, and was informed that the job openings were published between mid-May and early July 2024 in accordance with the appropriate resolutions, reports, [generic job profiles](#) and administrative instructions. Additionally, in the 2025 programme budget, the ACABQ agreed to the proposed reassignment of three posts² from statistics-related functions to geospatial information functions within the Statistics Division. This reassignment recognizes the need to strengthen the application of geospatial information in Member States with related methodological approaches to address the growing need for the integration of geospatial information with statistics and other data.

23. In summary, the new and enlarged Secretariat is comprised of seven new regular positions³ and three extrabudgetary positions⁴ which are dedicated to the Committee's normative and implementation work on global geospatial information management, including implementing recommendations of the Committee approved by ECOSOC and the General Assembly, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the UN-IGIF. Further, the Global Geospatial Information Management Section⁵ which focuses on strengthening and coordinating the Division's geostatistical work is comprised of three regular positions.

24. In the 2025 programme budget of December 2024, the ACABQ indicated to trust that all vacant posts will be filled as soon as possible and that an update on the recruitment status of all vacant posts will be provided to the General Assembly. However, with a worsening financial outlook, a deepening liquidity crisis in the

¹ Geospatial sciences, geomatics, surveying, geography, land administration, geodesy, cartography and mapping, remote sensing, hydrography and oceanography, land/sea and geographic information systems and environmental sciences

² See [A/79/7](#) with 1 P-5 (until 2030), 1 P-4 and 1 P-3

³ See [A/78/7](#) with 1 P-5, 1 P-4, 2 P-3, 2 P-2 and 1 General Service

⁴ Provided under the agreement for the operationalization of the UN-GGKIC with 1 P-4, 1 P-3 and 1 General Service

⁵ In the Environmental Statistics and Geospatial Information Branch of the Division

2025 fiscal year, and the continued hiring freeze for all regular budget positions since May 2024, selections have not progressed for the seven new positions in the Secretariat, and also for the now vacant (retirement in December 2024) Senior Geospatial Information Officer position in the Section.

25. In May 2025, the Secretary-General of the United Nations indicated plans to conduct a System-Wide Reform, known as the 'UN80 Initiative'⁶, including a proposed meaningful reduction in the overall budget level of the United Nations Secretariat, inclusive of the elimination of 20 percent of the posts as a reference for the reduction exercise. The proposed budget for 2026 to the ACABQ was revised in June 2025 and will be presented in September for approval before the end of the year. With no incumbered posts for the seven new positions in the Secretariat and one vacant Senior Geospatial Information Officer in the Section, the geospatial positions in Statistics Division are particularly vulnerable to the UN80 Initiative, its ongoing exercise to reduce the overall budget level of the United Nations Secretariat, and the elimination of 20 percent of posts for respective Departments in the United Nations Secretariat.

26. In this overall context, and despite best efforts to support and advance the programme of work of the Committee of Experts, with the concurrent vacant new positions selection and retirement of senior officers in the Division, the work of the Secretariat and the Section is seriously affected preventing many of the activities from being conducted. The current gaps in the Secretariat resources, further aggravated by the vacant position of Director of the Statistics Division, could impact several key components of the programme of work of the Committee of Experts including overall delays in delivering on ECOSOC resolution 2024/22.

27. Overall, the lack of resources could affect the implementation on the UN-IGIF (Result Based Budgeting indicators) and related country-level action plans; impede the services and documentation for the intergovernmental proceedings including annual plenary sessions, expert groups, and normative work of the Committee; and finally, deprive of oversight and enhanced authority at the Headquarters level causing lack of internal control, coherence, coordination, and compliance of activities in offices away from headquarters (i.e., UN Global Geospatial Centres of Excellence in Deqing, Bonn and upcoming Riyadh).

Regular and extrabudgetary funding resources

28. In addition to the challenges related to the selection of geospatial positions and to sustaining these positions in the context of the UN80 Initiative, the current budgetary situation for the Secretariat remains a challenge. As noted in the report of 2024 ([E/C.20/2024/5/Add.1](#)), during the initial discussions and informal consultations leading up to ECOSOC resolution [2022/24](#), some Member States expressed the need for regular budget allocations to support experts from developing countries to participate in the annual sessions of the Committee of Experts and key calendared technical meetings, including those for capacity development. Some Member States also advocated for dedicated United Nations conference management services, including interpretation and full support for the annual sessions of the Committee of Experts.

29. As noted in paragraph 19, while the General Assembly decided to establish a Secretariat, comprising seven positions, for the Committee of Experts in the 2024 programme budget, as per the report of the ACABQ ([A/78/7](#)), no provisions were made to include regular budgetary resources for securing conference management services, interpretation, technical support for the annual sessions of the Committee of Experts, or participation of Member States. In its report, the ACABQ indicated

⁶ See statement [SG/SM/22644](#) of 12 May 2025

that it trusted that extrabudgetary contributions would be mobilized to support the participation of experts, in particular from the most vulnerable countries.

30. Despite decision 14/101 (i) in which the Committee of Experts emphasized the critical need to mobilize extrabudgetary resources at the global level to support national efforts and the global and regional activities of the Committee of Experts, the absence of regular or sustained extrabudgetary resources are a constant challenge for the Secretariat to support the participation of experts. In the absence of these regular budget resources, the Committee of Experts may wish to consider mobilizing extrabudgetary resources, dedicated to supporting experts from developing countries to participate in the annual sessions and for editing and translating reports of the Committee.

31. The [Sevilla Commitment on Financing for Development](#) contained direct references to “leveraging innovation in non-traditional data sources, including administrative records, geospatial information, mobile data as well as citizen-generated data and remote sensing, supported by public-private partnerships and specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) indicators” and to “strengthen capacity for effective data sharing and exchange, as appropriate, within government and between government and the private sector”. This call provides an opportunity to advocate for mobilizing further extrabudgetary resources for the Committee of Experts given its contribution to addressing the SDGs and future agendas and possibly supporting the participation of Member States from developing countries.

Resources, contributions and partnerships

32. In making decision 14/105 (e) the Committee of Experts acknowledged the importance of ensuring the currency of and translating and publishing the UN-IGIF suite of documents and resource materials to facilitate the implementation of the Framework by countries. Given the unavailability of sustained budget resources in the Secretariat (paragraph 28) to facilitate knowledge sharing and translations of key frameworks, a task team comprising volunteer translators from Member States and the Academic Network dedicated significant efforts to make available the UN-IGIF in multiple languages. The task team's efforts in translating reference frameworks of the Committee of Experts are critical in promoting, sharing knowledge, and sustaining the adoption of the frameworks across Member States. The in-kind contribution by several Member States to contribute to the availability and accessibility of these critical resources is recognized and appreciated across regions. The translation task team⁷ also expressed its willingness to further engage and contribute to the universal access to the other guidance, reference documents and frameworks developed by the Committee of Experts. The Committee may wish to consider formalizing the role of the translation task team under the guidance of the Bureau, to ensure it prioritizes appropriately critical documents to translate, and in close coordination with the Secretariat, to develop adequate processes and to align the work with processes of the relevant services of the United Nations.

33. To address ongoing challenges of resources to advance geospatial information management since the inception of the Committee in 2011, the Statistics Division established partnership with key organizations. In 2019, a strategic partnership was established with Geospatial World through exchange of letters. The partnership aimed to address the common goal of demonstrating the true value of the global geospatial knowledge, the data ecosystem, public-private partnerships and the advancement of the global development agendas. Through its continued engagement and support, the partnership allowed to raise awareness on the value and benefits of geospatial information management for society and

⁷ Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, and the United Arab Emirates

extend the outreach and communication on the role of the Committee of Experts. During the intersessional period, another partnership was formalized between the Division and PVBLC Foundation towards strengthening the geospatial capabilities of Member States and supporting the enhancement of national geospatial information management arrangements, leveraging the UN-IGIF. The establishment of the partnership was also a means to formalize the ongoing collaboration of the Secretariat and the SDG Data Alliance, as well as to promote the use of geospatial data and technologies in developing countries to accelerate progress toward achieving the SDGs and advancing national development priorities.

34. In 2023, financial resources were provided through Eurostat in the context of its overall cooperation with the Statistics Division and included covering the costs related to organization of important events or actions for capacity development. In this context, the grant, which was extended to March 2025, provided an opportunity to conduct a dedicated workshop in Europe to increase connectivity and collaboration between statistical, geospatial and data user communities, share knowledge about good practices and relevant use cases, and raise awareness on new technologies relevant for improving the data integration process. The grant also offered an opportunity to design and develop a dashboard to monitor the achievements of implementing the UN-IGIF.

35. In July 2025, the United Kingdom offered the secondment of one of its experts to the Secretariat for a period of eight weeks to temporarily augment the ability of the Secretariat to discharge its functions to the Committee of Experts and to facilitate the preparatory work of the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts. The secondment was formalized, and the expert provided support to advance and finalize background and other documents for the session and beyond. In the coming period, the Secretariat will also investigate opportunities related to the recruitment of junior professionals in geospatial information management and interns to support the work and proceedings of the Committee.

36. Finally, the Secretariat also wishes to acknowledge the leadership, in-kind contributions, expert contributions and technical support provided by Member States to advance global geospatial information management, to conduct the proceedings of the various groups of the architecture of UN-GGIM, and to develop relevant documents and guidance.

IV. Strengthening the programme of work of the Committee

37. In making decision [14/101](#), the Committee also requested the Secretariat to focus, in particular, on: (a) supporting the Bureau to develop a Strategic Framework for the period 2025–2030; (b) strengthening effective global coordination and governance arrangements for the United Nations global geospatial centres; and (c) supporting a global programme of national capacity development aligned with the Committee’s operations focused on the SDGs and the UN-IGIF.

Strategic Framework 2025-2030

38. In 2018, the Committee of Experts recognized the importance of having a Strategic Framework to guide its programme of work and developed a Strategic Framework for the period 2018-2022 as annexed to its report on ‘Strengthening of geospatial information management’ [E/C.20/2018/4/Add.1](#). In 2022, at its twelfth session, in making decision 12/101, the Committee of Experts “supported the proposals for the revision of the Committee of Experts and developing a short-term strategic plan for 2022–2024 that identifies the key activities and priorities of the Committee along with adequate resources and required outcomes.” The proposed

revision of the strategic plan did not materialize due to resource constraints in the Secretariat.

39. In 2024, in its report ‘Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements’ (E/C.20/2024/5/Add.1), the Committee of Experts noted that a new Strategic Framework could encompass the Committee's operational focus on the SDGs and the UN-IGIF to effectively support Member States to enhance their national geospatial information management arrangements and contribute to national development priorities. The report proposed that the Secretariat would analyze the most recent Framework (2018 – 2022) against key activities and priorities of the Committee, identify any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and gaps, and evaluate emerging trends and future needs. Based on these insights, an updated draft Strategic Framework would be prepared and provided to the Bureau for initial consideration. The report also indicated the expectation “that the Bureau will consult the draft Strategic Framework with its Expanded Bureau, regional committees, functional groups, thematic networks and relevant stakeholders” and for the Bureau to “recommend a new Strategic Framework for consideration by the Committee of Experts at its fifteenth session.”

40. A draft of the proposed Strategic Framework 2025-2030 was circulated at the meeting of the Bureau and Expanded Bureau in New York in August 2024, and subsequently in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in February 2025. At its meeting in Jeddah, as noted in paragraph 14, the Bureau agreed to advance, including through the support provided by UN-GGIM Europe, the draft Strategic Framework through several rounds of consultation that included the Expanded Bureau, experts, regional committees, and finally, through a global consultation inclusive of a webinar and survey.

41. From March to June 2025, in accordance with the process outlined by the Bureau, the draft Strategic Framework 2025-2030 was subjected to a series of consultations. These included two brainstorming sessions commencing in March with nominated experts by the Chairs and Presidents of the regional committees of the Committee of Experts. In April, the draft Strategic Framework was sent for another round of consultations with Member States by the Chairs and Presidents of the regional committees and their respective secretariats to ensure a broad outreach and rich feedback on the draft. In June, the draft Strategic Framework was sent to all delegations of the Committee of Experts with a survey to facilitate feedback and suggestions for refinements to the Framework. Finally, to ensure the abundance of opportunities for feedback, the Bureau also organized an [online webinar](#) in the lead up, or so-called ‘digital road’, to this fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts.

42. The final UN-GGIM Strategic framework 2025-2030, [Annexed](#) to this report, outlines the vision, mission and strategic objectives for the Committee of Experts. The Framework also captures the latest global frameworks and development agendas, and the relationship between national priorities and the value and benefits of geospatial information that can be provided for society. The Strategic Framework 2025-2030 also incorporates the overall recent context of ECOSOC resolution [2022/24](#), the overall architecture of UN-GGIM, including the role of the United Nations global geospatial information centres of excellence, regional committees, functional groups, thematic networks, Secretariat and main working streams of the Committee of Experts. The Strategic Framework 2025-2030 continues to be a dynamic strategic and communication tool that will evolve over time, dependant of changes in global agendas, emerging trends, emerging global challenges and decisions of the Committee of Experts. Importantly, the Strategic Framework 2025-2030 will also assist in guiding and propelling the Committee in the next, post-2030, sustainable development agenda.

United Nations global geospatial centres and their coordination and governance arrangements

43. The Committee of Experts focuses on the strengthening and enhancing of geospatial information management capacities and utilization in Member States, especially in developing countries. ECOSOC resolution [2022/24](#) recognized the sustained efforts of the Committee of Experts to establish the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing, China, and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence at the United Nations campus in Bonn, Germany, each of which will, in an open, inclusive, participatory and transparent manner, provide opportunities to develop and expand global geospatial capacity, competence and capability, and to strengthen geospatial information management arrangements in countries, especially developing countries.

44. In June 2023, a formal offer from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, through its General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GEOSA), to host and establish a United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, was made to the United Nations. In making decision [13/101\(e\)](#) at its thirteenth session, the Committee of Experts welcomed and supported the commitment from Saudi Arabia to host and establish the Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The required UN administrative processes are presently being finalized with Saudi Arabia for the establishment of the Centre in Riyadh.

45. The global geospatial centres of excellence, as project offices managed by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), provide critical assets and resources for enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements and the effectiveness of the Committee of Experts. Each centre contributes to the operational focus of the Committee as aligned with their respective mandates, substantive focus and expertise. Collectively, the centres are an inherent part of the overarching strategy of the Committee, including its initiatives, global geospatial frameworks, norms, principles and guides, to enhance effective geospatial information management across the world.

46. The substantive focuses for each of the global geospatial centres are:

- (a) United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence ([UN-GGCE](#)) (Bonn, Germany)

Recognizing the importance of the global geodesy supply chain, assist Member States and geodetic organizations to coordinate and collaborate to implement [A/RES/69/266](#) and to sustain, enhance, access and utilize an accurate, accessible and sustainable Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) to support science, society and global development.

- (b) United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre ([UN-GGKIC](#)) (Deqing, China)

Develop and promote the required knowledge, innovation, and leadership to strengthen the adoption of geospatial information to support the implementation of national development priorities and the SDGs, leveraging the UN-IGIF, and where Member States will have the ability to integrate and deliver national geospatial information policy, systems, services and capabilities into national government development policies, strategies, and arrangements.

- (c) Proposed United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

Support Member States and stakeholders in enhancing global geospatial information management with the aim to progress towards a future geospatial ecosystem where the global geospatial information community and stakeholders actively engage and contribute sustainable real-world solutions to humanity's many challenges, leveraging high-quality, timely and reliable location-based information and impactful geospatial analytics including advancements in geospatial technologies and artificial intelligence systems towards new geospatial approaches and capabilities.

47. As noted in paragraph 37, the Committee of Experts requested the Secretariat to focus on strengthening effective global coordination and governance arrangements for the United Nations global geospatial centres. Given the current resource constraints and staffing in the Secretariat, the development of coherent, cohesive and concerted coordination and governance arrangements was not prioritized. Nevertheless, the Secretariat undertook several activities to advance practical solutions for a better coordination and governance, including the preparation of shared resources and documentation such as calendars, exchanging workplans, definition of focal points, activities forecast and the organization of global team meetings between the United Nations global geospatial centres, the Global Geospatial Information Section and the Secretariat. The coordination of the participation and attendance at key events, such as the Expanded Bureau in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and the fifteenth session from the Centres, was also planned and organized through the Secretariat.

48. The operationalization of the United Nations global geospatial centres is detailed in the report on the 'Contribution of United Nations global geospatial centres (away from Headquarters) to enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.' The report provides an overview on the responsibilities, advisory committees, current staffing, programme of work outputs and capacity development activities conducted respectively in the implementation of national development priorities and the SDGs, leveraging the UN-IGIF, and strengthening the global geodesy supply chain. The proposed United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence, in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, is being established, and a Senior Advisor- Geospatial Information was recruited temporarily, for six months, to provide dedicated support for the establishment of the Centre in Riyadh.

49. During the intersessional period, the Secretariat continued to carry out critical activities at headquarters related to the oversight of the United Nations global geospatial centres of excellence including the coordination with relevant programme management offices, participation in the recruitment, facilitating provision of service request, and the development of guidance and guidelines related to the management of United Nations global geospatial centres. Further activities and events conducted in close coordination with the United Nations global geospatial centres and the Secretariat are described in the global programme of national capacity development.

Global programme of national capacity development

50. During the intersessional period, the Secretariat continued to implement activities related to shaping a global programme of national capacity development including organizing and participating in UN-IGIF workshops, meetings of the IAC, contributing to regional committees' proceedings and online seminars and related activities.

51. During the 2023-2024 period, the Secretariat and the SDG Data Alliance supported a series of regional capacity development and knowledge transfer workshops on the UN-IGIF in South Africa (August 2023), Ethiopia (October 2023), Indonesia (November 2023), and in [Mexico](#) (January 2024). During the intersessional period, the Secretariat, in close collaboration with the UN-GGKIC, the SDG Data Alliance and the regional committees, continued to organize workshops on the UN-IGIF including for SIDS Caribbean countries, held in [Antigua and Barbuda](#) (October 2024), and for SIDS Pacific in [Fiji](#) (November 2024), and in Southern Africa in [Mozambique](#) (March 2025). Other workshops are being planned for the next intersessional period to ensure the sustained adoption of the UN-IGIF by Member States.

52. The regional committees are pivotal bodies within the Committee's architecture as they directly interface with Member States. The annual plenary sessions of regional committees are critical as they allow to capture regional challenges and raise awareness on the guidance of the Committee of Experts. Regional plenary sessions are particularly important to broaden the reach of the work of the Committee to all Member States in respective regions as some countries are able to attend more easily regional sessions given the proximity and given topics may be closely related to specific regional challenges. During the intersessional period, the Secretariat assisted the regional committees of Africa, Arab States, and the Americas, and the UN global geospatial centres attended to the regional committees of Europe and Asia and the Pacific. Regional committee meetings are key fixation points for a global capacity development programme, including for ensuring the sustained adoption of UN-IGIF, as the attendance can ensure broader outreach and shared knowledge with regional constituents. The regional committee meetings are valuable fixation points for delivering in-depth workshops and conducting capacity development activities on the substantive focus of the centres, effectively delivering the guidance, norms and standards of the Committee of Experts. The next intersessional period will provide opportunities to explore the synergies and benefits of conducting regional workshops on substantive topics of the UN global geospatial centres.

53. Leveraging voluntary contributions, trust funds and support of the UN-GGKIC, and in line with decision 14/101 (f) related to the recommendation for a "dedicated and easily accessible web presence for the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre on the website of the Committee of Experts, alongside the links to the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence and the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework," the Secretariat is leading the design and migration of a coordinated and centralized website which will enable to facilitate the access to shared knowledge, reference documents, resources and good practices of the Committee of Experts. The refurbished and migrated website of the Committee of Experts inclusive of the UN-GGKIC, UNGGCE and UN-IGIF resources is planned to be available by the end of 2025. The Secretariat is also preparing the digital and interactive publication of key resource documents of the Committee such as UN-IGIF suite of documents, or the Future geospatial information ecosystem.

54. The Secretariat is cognisant of the need to further scope and organize a holistic, cohesive and coherent global programme of national capacity development and has started to prepare a draft plan that will be consulted with the Bureau and its Expanded Bureau during the intersessional period after the fifteenth session and available at the sixteenth session.

V. Global events and advocacy

55. At its fourteenth session in 2024, the Committee of Experts referenced the critical importance to focus on communicating, promoting, advocating, and raising

awareness of the merits, benefits, and potential of geospatial information across multiple thematic areas of the Committee's work, including geodesy, climate resilience, land administration, and the marine environment. The revised UN-GGIM Strategic Framework 2025-2030 further emphasizes the need for strategic engagement, communication and awareness across sectors, and to foster understanding and organizational value.

Seventh High-level Forum

56. At its thirteenth session in August 2023, the Committee of Experts, in making decision 13/101, welcomed the offer of the Government of México, through its National Institute of Statistics and Geography, to host the [Seventh High-level Forum](#) in Mexico City in October 2024, and confirmed the support of the Committee of Experts in the development and implementation of the substantive programme for the Forum. In making decision 14/101, the Committee expressed its appreciation to Mexico for the opportunity to convene, as a global community, the Seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management in Mexico City.

57. From 8 - 10 October 2024, the Committee of Experts successfully convened the Seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management with the theme "Accelerating Implementation: Achieving Resilience" in México City. The Forum brought together 237 participants from 47 countries, the United Nations, other international organizations and the private sector. This seventh edition of the High-level Forum continued UN-GGIM's regular high-level, multi-stakeholder discussions on global geospatial information management, which aimed to promote comprehensive dialogue among Member States, and between Member States and relevant international organizations, UN system entities, and stakeholders. The programme included key topics such as accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Beyond, including through the implementation of the UN-IGIF, climate risk, capacity development, emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, and partnerships to improve climate resilience, and building a sustainable future.

58. Key messages from the Seventh High-level Forum included the importance of sustained capacity development, youth engagement, academia and integrating geospatial education, and political leadership engagement. Participants and speakers highlighted the critical role of global frameworks such as the UN-IGIF and further advocated the necessary shift in implementing and encouraging local action and an ecosystem approach to implementation. The role of the private sector in championing innovation and the necessity for public private partnerships was recognized. The Forum also focused on the dual governance roles of artificial intelligence (AI), stressing the need for high-quality data and legal alignment. Gender equality, diversity and inclusive participation were celebrated as transformative forces for the future.

ECOSOC Coordination Segment

59. ECOSOC's Coordination Segment, held on 6-7 February 2025 at the United Nations headquarters, addressed the main annual theme of the 2025 session of ECOSOC 'Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs for leaving no one behind' while also contributing to the in-depth reviews of the UN High-level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF) for SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals). The 2025 Coordination Segment plays a crucial role in aligning the work of the ECOSOC system with the urgency to expedite the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and serves as a key platform for the Council to provide forward-looking policy guidance and direction to the work of its subsidiary bodies and the UN system entities.

60. The Bureau contributed video recordings including in the panel on 'Conversation with Executive Secretaries of the Regional Commissions and Chairs

of Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies on Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals including by leveraging the outcomes of the Summit of the Future' in which the Co-Chair from Belgium noted that "The Committee of Experts is committed to improving the availability of, and access to, geospatial information to address global challenges. Understanding precedes action, and geospatial information provides the critical knowledge needed to determine where to act... our community is committed to work with everyone to advancing national public digital infrastructure for our goals and the benefits of *people, places, and planet*".

61. The Bureau also contributed to the panel on 'Harnessing data, science, technology and innovation to advance digital progress' where the Co-Chair from Cote d'Ivoire highlighted that "by strengthening geospatial information policies and capacities, we are democratizing access to data and knowledge that enables governments to drive planning and manage resources effectively" further noting that "these efforts are essential to reducing the 'digital divide'".

World Geospatial Information Congress

62. The first United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress ([UNWGIC](#)) was successfully held in November 2018 in Deqing, China, in collaboration with the Government of China through the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Zhejiang Provincial Government. The second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress ([2UNWGIC](#)) was successfully held in October 2022 in Hyderabad, India, in collaboration with the Government of India, specifically its Ministry of Science and Technology.

63. The Congresses are recognized to have an immense value to enhancing common understanding, developing geospatial capacity, accelerating innovation within governments and institutions, and raising awareness on the benefits of global geospatial information to realize national development priorities and accelerate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

64. In making decision [14/101](#), the Committee requested the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to initiate preparations for the third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress, to be convened after the sixteenth session of the Committee of Experts in 2026, and to report back to the Committee at its fifteenth session. Following the decision of the Bureau and its Expanded Bureau, at its meeting held in Jeddah in February 2025, the Secretariat initiated the preparations for the third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress.

65. In February 2025, the Secretariat initiated an open call for Member States to express interest in organizing and hosting the Third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress as a high-level, multi-stakeholder discussion on global geospatial information with a view to promoting a comprehensive dialogue with all relevant actors and bodies. Responses to the call included the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and South Africa, both offering interest to host the Congress respectively in Riyadh and Cape Town.

66. In April 2025, prospective Member States were requested to prepare a detailed proposal and bid for hosting the next Congress, inclusive of details on expected impact, logistical arrangements, media coverage, and sustainability of commitment. Owing to a variety of administrative challenges and the short timeline, at the set date for receiving the complete bids, only one was received. The call to host the Third World Geospatial Information Congress is therefore awarded to Saudi Arabia through the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GEOSA), which serves as Saudi Arabia's national mapping authority, and to be held in Riyadh in late 2026.

World Geospatial Day

67. Communicating awareness and understanding of the value and benefits of geospatial information has been a challenging proposition for the Committee of Experts since its establishment. These challenges continue to resonate across the United Nations system, Member States, industry, academia, and the general community today. In the 21st century, integrated geospatial information management is crucial for addressing global challenges, supporting more resilient societies, driving dynamic digital economies, and connecting people, planet and prosperity. As observed in the UN-IGIF Overarching Strategy ‘Case for Change’, geospatial information is a major contributor to socio-economic transformation in many countries. Yet, there is still a considerable lack of awareness and understanding of the vital and integrative role of geospatial information and related enabling architectures in contributing to national development. This lack of awareness is particularly common at the policy and decision-making levels in developing countries.

68. Therefore, at its May 2025 meeting the Bureau considered a proposal submitted by Fiji to establish a ‘Global Geospatial Information Day’ as a dedicated international day in the global United Nations calendar to elevate the awareness and understanding of geospatial information and technologies across all sectors and walks of life. The adoption of such an international day would be through a UN General Assembly resolution, in a similar way to resolution [A/RES/69/266](#) entitled ‘A global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development’, also submitted by Fiji in February 2015.

69. The Bureau agreed that the purpose of a dedicated international geospatial day is to highlight and raise awareness of the pressing need to advance geospatial information as a transformative digital technology, as per the motivation of the UN-IGIF, so that all governments and economies can generate political understanding, industry momentum, and broad public awareness, while bridging the digital divide.

70. The Bureau unanimously supported the proposal and agreed it should be brought to the attention of the Committee of Experts for consideration at this fifteenth session. A background document attached to this present report provides further detail on the proposal, inclusive of rationale, options and modalities, and the formulation of initial concepts to facilitate the drafting and submission of a resolution to the General Assembly to seek support and commitment at the highest level. Key points the Committee may wish to note include the following:

- Existing Designated Days: The UN General Assembly has designated specific international days and weeks as occasions to mark events or topics in order to promote, through awareness and action, the objectives of the Organization. These have been proclaimed through the adoption of resolutions by the General Assembly proposed by one or more Member States. The list of international days and weeks currently observed by the United Nations is available here: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/list-days-weeks>.
- Alignment with the United Nations: This initiative is strongly underpinned by the principles and objectives outlined in key United Nations resolutions, which underscore the critical and vital role of geospatial information management in addressing global challenges and promoting resilient and sustainable national development. The establishment of a World Geospatial Day will directly contribute to the goals and objectives outlined in these resolutions and will provide a global platform for taking specific actions on an annual basis.

- **Determining a Title:** The terminology used by the United Nations is usually ‘international’ or ‘world’ day and is typically observed annually. Therefore, the Committee of Experts may wish to consider the title ‘World Geospatial Day’ as a day that encapsulates the entire ‘geospatial’ ecosystem across government and society.
- **Determining a Day:** Several options exist, but ensuring the date is clear and annual will be a requirement. The date could be aligned with the annual sessions of UN-GGIM, United Nations science week concurrent to ‘GIS day’ in November or align with the UN World Geospatial Congress week. The date could also be aligned with ‘quiet’ periods in the existing designated days, for example, January and February have fewer observed days, and 22-28 February is completely clear, and 6 months separated from UN-GGIM sessions in August.

71. The Bureau seeks the views and support of the Committee of Experts with a view to endorsing the proposal for a consensus-based draft resolution being prepared, under the guidance of the Bureau, for submission to the UN General Assembly at an appropriate time.

VI. Working Group on Data Governance of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

72. In September 2024, as part of its Pact for the Future (General Assembly resolution [A/RES/79/1](#)) Member States requested the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) to establish a dedicated working group to engage in a comprehensive and inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue on data governance at all levels as relevant for development. The working group is requested to report on its progress to the General Assembly, by no later than the eighty-first session (2026), including follow-up recommendations towards equitable and interoperable data governance arrangements, which may include:

- Fundamental principles of data governance at all levels as relevant for development.
- Proposals to support interoperability between national, regional and international data systems.
- Considerations of sharing the benefits of data.
- Options to facilitate safe, secure and trusted data flows, including cross-border data flows as relevant for development (all SDGs).

73. The Statistical Commission, along with a number of other intergovernmental bodies, is an [observer](#) of this group. In this context, the Statistical Commission established its own working group on data governance to complement the multi-stakeholder dialogue taking place within the CSTD working group on data governance at all levels, while avoiding unnecessary duplication. The Statistical Commission working group on data governance already started to compile a [compendium](#) of relevant documents in this context.

74. As part of the group appointed by the Statistical Commission, the co-Chair of the Committee of Experts from the United States of America has been appointed to the working group of the Statistical Commission to follow the proceedings and advancements of the dialogue of the CSTD working group on data governance. The Co-Chair will engage and report to the Committee of Experts on the progress as necessary to seek further guidance in engaging the Committee of Experts with the CSTD working group on data governance.

VII. Points for discussion

75. The Committee of Experts is invited to:

- (a) Take note of the present report and express its views on the efforts of the Bureau, the Expanded Bureau and the Secretariat in implementing strategic and practical actions to strengthen and enhance global geospatial information arrangements, and the Committee's operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, in accordance with ECOSOC resolution 2022/24;
- (b) Take note of the present situation related to the recruitment of geospatial positions, in particular for the seven new positions of the Secretariat of the Committee of Experts and express its views on the impact to the programme of work of the Committee on strengthening and enhancing global geospatial information arrangements;
- (c) Endorse the UN-GGIM Strategic Framework 2025-2030 as annexed to the present report and which provides the required strategic direction to guide the programme of work of the Committee of Experts, while acknowledging the need for its continued adjustments to adapt to the changing landscape;
- (d) Note with appreciation the successful convening of the Seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management held in México City in October 2024;
- (e) Note with appreciation the offer from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host and convene the Third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC), to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in late 2026;
- (f) Express its views on the proposal to establish a 'world geospatial day' to raise awareness of the pressing need to advance geospatial information for social, economic, and environmental benefits, and endorse the intent to develop a consensus-based draft resolution, under the guidance of the Bureau, for its submission to the United Nations General Assembly at an appropriate time;
- (g) Take note of the contribution of the translation task team regarding the availability of the UN-IGIF suite of documents, and express its views on the formalization of a translation task team to further support the translation of critical reference documents of the Committee of Experts;
- (h) Take note of and express its views on the various in-kind contributions and partnerships established, including the secondment provided by the United Kingdom, and the contribution by Eurostat; and
- (i) Express its views on means to overcome the lack of sustainable resources and extrabudgetary contributions to the Secretariat for the organization of the annual session and expert meetings, including to support the participation of experts, in particular from the most vulnerable countries.

Annex

UN-GGIM

Strategic Framework 2025-2030

AMBITION & FOCUS	VISION	A WORLD WHERE GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOLVES LOCAL TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES					
	MISSION	Ensure geospatial leadership, resources and capabilities are coordinated, integrated, sustainable, accessible, and useable by Member States and society to effectively address national priorities, and ensure sustainable development, beyond 2030, leaving no one behind.					
	STRATEGIC GOALS & OBJECTIVES	Leading global geospatial information management policies, frameworks & arrangements.	Fostering effective partnerships & collaborations for Member States and the global geospatial community.	Enhancing the global availability, accessibility & application of geospatial data to bridge the geospatial digital divide.	Accelerating the use, integration, & implementation of geospatial data, standards, current and emerging technologies, and methods.	Implementing United Nations geospatial mandates in the context of current and future development agendas.	Strengthening the Committee's global architecture & global geospatial cooperation.
DRIVERS & PRIORITIES	GLOBAL POLICY AGENDAS	TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD: THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT					
		Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030	Paris Agreement on Climate Change	Sevilla Commitment on Financing for Development	New Urban Agenda	Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action	ABAS: A Renewed Declaration for Resilient Prosperity for SIDS
	GLOBAL TO NATIONAL DRIVERS	Sustainable Development Economic Growth Social Wellbeing Environmental Protection Transboundary Collaboration					
		Resilience Energy Prosperity Employment Governance Security Education Health Climate Land Oceans and Water					
		Innovation Digital Infrastructure Finance Mobility Equity Inclusion Nature Ecosystems					
	GLOBAL TO NAT. GEOSPATIAL PRIORITIES	Guidance Policy Governance Capacity Communication					
		Digital Ecosystems Integration Knowledge Technology Solutions					
		Demographics Land Administration Geodesy Data Earth observations Marine information Resilience & Risk					

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Strategic Framework 2025-2030

PRINCIPLES & BENEFITS	OPERATING PRINCIPLES	Global Thought Leadership	Strategic Engagement & Communication Across Sectors	Digital Transformation & Safeguarding	Guidance & Good Governance	Data-Driven Decision-Making	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	Accessibility, Interoperability & Transparency	Collaborative Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships	Capacity Development & Knowledge-Sharing
	DIRECT NATIONAL BENEFITS & EFFICIENCIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Societal value: Leadership to enhance and sustain value of geospatial information and knowledge for social, economic and environmental benefits • Bridging the geospatial digital divide: Empower digital transformation, reducing inequalities in geospatial access and use • Authoritative and reliable data: High-quality, managed and current geospatial data available at scale for decision-making • Enhanced return on investment: Coordinated use and reuse of data and technologies for increased return on investments • Stronger evidence-based policies: Reliable integrated data and systems to enhance science- and data-driven policy, decisions & implementation • Efficient and accountable governments: Open, responsive, coordinated and enhanced capacity in governments and institutions • Empowered workforce and innovation: Strengthened skills, diversity, and innovation in human capital, jobs and entrepreneurship • Improved stakeholder engagement: Greater communication and awareness foster understanding and organizational value • Integrated knowledge sharing: Strategic data integration and knowledge exchange support government and resilient societies • Strengthened regional and cross-border cooperation: Enhanced collaboration for shared goals and sustainable development 								
DELIVERABLES	WORK STREAMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage the leadership, commitment and resources in geospatial information of Member States, regional, thematic networks and others • Strengthen the contribution and role of geospatial information towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and other global agendas • Enhance the coordination, coherence, financing and capacities of global-to-local geospatial information management arrangements • Improve geospatial governance and guidance, aligning national and global frameworks and good practices • Guide the transparent, diverse, equitable and inclusive availability, access and use of geospatial information management for society • Oversee the strategic orientation and guide the activities of the global geospatial centres of excellence • Foster direction and readiness to utilize emerging technologies towards determining the future geospatial information ecosystem • Provide strategic leadership towards the adoption and implementation of integrated geospatial information management and frameworks • Lead the coordination and collaboration to enhance and strengthen the global geodetic reference frame and geodesy supply chain • Promote the use of geospatial information data, methods, tools and services for climate, environment and resilience • Integrate geospatial and statistical information through implementation and operationalization of related frameworks • Advance the role of integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management • Guide and encourage the availability, accessibility and integration of marine geospatial information • Address policy and legal issues in geospatial information management including related to emerging technological advancements • Demonstrate the benefits of implementing and adopting geospatial standards for the global geospatial community • Strengthen synergies and partnerships particularly with other intergovernmental processes, international organizations related to science, technology, innovation, geographical names, statistics, data to maximize the impact of geospatial information in all its forms 								