

Economic and Social Council

07 July 2025

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial

Information Management

Fifteenth session

New York, 6–8 August 2025

Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda

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Note by the Secretariat

Summary of the report

The present paper contains the report jointly prepared by the regional committees of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, the Americas, the Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe 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 13/102, in which it congratulated the five regional committees on their work and achievements during the intersessional period, including convening their annual plenary meetings between 2022 and 2023. The Committee recognized the efforts of the regional committees to strengthen engagement and alignment among the five regions. The Committee also recognized the active commitment of the regional committees and the regional commissions, with the inputs of relevant stakeholders from the four thematic networks, to continue to support Member States by providing forums for their representatives to meet, discuss and collaborate on the implementation of the global frameworks of the Committee, and encouraged Member States to continue contributing to, and taking advantage of, the possibilities offered by the Committee to discuss, coordinate and improve the availability and use of geospatial information, including Earth observations, across all regions. The Committee further encouraged Member State representatives in the regions and Chairs and/or representatives of regional committees to attend and actively contribute to those plenary meetings.

In the report, the regional committees, following decision 13/102, in which the Committee of Experts recognized the efforts of the regional committees to strengthen engagement and alignment among the five regions, inform the Committee of their meeting on the margins of the thirteenth session of the Committee and their decision to hold a meeting of Presidents and Chairs of the five regional committees. That meeting was held on 7 November 2023 in Bali, Indonesia, during the twelfth plenary meeting of the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific. At the meeting, participants agreed that: (a) the regional committees shall meet, in person, at least twice a year, with one meeting held at the annual session of the Committee each August at United Nations Headquarters, and the other meeting to be hosted by a regional committee, on a rotational basis, during its annual plenary

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

meeting; and (b) the regional committees shall coordinate the preparation of their joint report to the Committee under agenda item 4. In this regard, the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific was nominated to coordinate the preparation of the joint report to the Committee at its fourteenth session. Thereafter, this task will be done by another regional committee on a rotational basis.

The joint report of the regional committees is divided into six sections: (a) introduction; (b) intersessional activities and achievements of the regional committees; (c) plenary meetings of the regional committees; (d) interregional partnerships and collaborations; (e) concluding remarks; and (f) points for discussion.

In the first section, information is provided to the Committee of Experts on the objectives, organizational structures, and administrative arrangements of each of the five regional committees. In its second section, the report contains information on the respective intersessional activities and main achievements of the regional committees, covering the main substantive areas addressed by the committees' working groups, including capacity-developing initiatives and actions taken to support Member States. The proposed dates of each regional committee's next plenary meeting are highlighted in the report.

The third section of the report features the main decisions adopted at the plenary meetings of the five regional committees. In addition, the report provides information to the Committee of Experts on the actions taken to ensure that their programmes of work are in alignment with the global development agendas; the global geospatial information agenda and frameworks, in particular, the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework; the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework; and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The report provides an examination of some major challenges faced by the regional committees and the strategies and approaches adopted to address them, including planned activities.

The report, in its fourth section, highlights the contributions of the regional committees to the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, the Subcommittee on Geodesy, the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence, the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre and other regional meetings and activities. The report also highlights the upcoming in-person interregional committee meeting, which will be hosted by the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas on the margins of its eleventh plenary meeting, and the seventh High-level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, to be convened in October 2024 in Mexico City.

The fifth section of the report includes a reiteration of the commitment of the regional committees and their continued support to ensure that their work programmes are in alignment with the work of the Committee of Experts and any future substantive activities aimed at advancing the global geospatial information agenda.

The report concludes with a set of points for discussion, in which the Committee of Experts is invited to note and express its views on the joint report prepared by the five regional committees. The regional committees, in the report, request the Committee to take note of the dates of their next plenary meetings, and to encourage Member State representatives to attend these regional plenary meetings and to continue contributing to advancing the global geospatial information agenda and the programme of work of the Committee.

I. Introduction

1. Each regional committee under the Committee of Experts plays a vital role in liaising with the Secretariat on topics of interest and major developments between sessions of the Committee of Experts, facilitating regional discussion and progress, and formally feeding into the work of the Committee of Experts. All five regional committees have strong and streamlined arrangements that bring important national perspectives to the global level and disseminate the outcomes and benefits of the global activities to Member States in each region. The regional committees have pivotal functions within the Committee's architecture, as they directly interface with Member States, and supports the understanding of geospatial information management needs and support the implementation of fit-for-purpose solutions.

2. During this intersessional period, the regional committees continued to implement their regional work programmes and contributed to the global activities of the Committee of Experts. Regional committees continued to prioritize developing capacities and capabilities, strengthening coordination and coherence in geospatial collaborative activities across regional committees, and alignment with the global work programme of the Committee of Experts. Regional committees also continued to prioritize the adoption and effective implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), with emphasis on the preparation of Country-level Action Plans.

3. The present report highlights the main achievements of the five regional committees, including their plenary meetings, capacity development initiatives, and actions taken to support Member States during the intersessional period. The Committee is invited to take note of this report and its supporting background documents, and points for discussion and decision are provided in paragraph 38.

Objectives

4. In aligning with the global agenda, the objectives of each regional committee vary depending on their specific capacities, challenges, and regional contexts and are summarized as follows:

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
Africa	The main objective of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa) is to examine the policies, measures and steps that African countries could use or take to strengthen, sustain or amplify: (a) the legal and regulatory frameworks required to guide the efforts of its members to achieve a better coordination mechanism for cooperative geospatial information management at the national level; (b) the technological and innovation infrastructure with the necessary tools, applications and solutions to source, capture, curate and build purpose-oriented datasets and spatially-enabled services for informed decision-making; (c) the holistic and long-term transformative development of capacity in Africa, with spatially-aware citizens who are empowered with the essential technological skills and ability to participate and contribute critically to the digital transformation and an information society; and (d) the mechanism for partnership and collaboration within the geospatial information community worldwide.

Americas	The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas (UN-GGIM: Americas) determines the relevant regional issues for the management of geospatial information, and takes the necessary measures to maximize the economic, social, and environmental benefits. The foregoing is based on the knowledge and exchange of experiences and technologies by the Member States, which allows for the sustainable and equitable implementation of the Integrated Framework for Geospatial Information in the Americas and other national initiatives, in addition to contributions to the debates in UN-GGIM.
Arab States	The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Arab States (UN-GGIM: Arab States) plays its role as the formal Arab chapter of the UN-GGIM initiative with the core objective of coordinating, facilitating, and enhancing the regional cooperation in the realm of geospatial information management as well as cooperating with other regional and international entities to promote best practices in geospatial information management across the region.
Asia and the Pacific	The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) aims to promote the use of geospatial information for identifying problems and finding solutions, so that the economic, social and environmental benefits of geospatial information will be maximized in Asia and the Pacific region.
Europe	The aim of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe (UN-GGIM: Europe) is to contribute to the more effective management and availability of geospatial information in Europe and ensuring that the work of the Regional Committee is aligned with the global programme of work of the Committee of Experts. The new UN-GGIM Europe Strategy 2025-2030 outlines the mission of UN-GGIM: Europe, which is to maximize the use of geospatial information in Europe for a safer and more sustainable world.

Organizational structure

5. In aligning with the global agenda, the objectives of each regional committee vary depending on their specific capacities, challenges, and regional contexts. They are summarized as follows:

Executive Bureau of UN-GGIM: Africa

Chair: South Africa
 First Vice-Chair: Cameroon
 Second Vice-Chair: Morocco
 First Rapporteur: Uganda
 Second Rapporteur: Burkina Faso
 Secretariat: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
 Website: <https://ggim.un.org/UN-GGIM-Africa/>

Board of Directors of UN-GGIM: Americas

Chair: Chile
 Vice-Chair: Brazil
 Executive Secretary: Chile
 Vocals: Mexico (North America), Panama (Central America), Jamaica (Caribbean) and Argentina (South America)
 Technical Secretary: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
 Website: <http://www.un-ggim-americas.org/>

Board of Directors of UN-GGIM: Americas

Chair: Chile
 Vice-Chair: Brazil
 Executive Secretary: Chile
 Vocals: Mexico (North America), Panama (Central America),
 Jamaica (Caribbean) and Argentina (South America)
 Technical Secretary: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
 Website: <http://www.un-ggim-americas.org/>

Executive Body of UN-GGIM: Arab States

Chair: Saudi Arabia
 Vice-Chair: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia
 Executive Secretary: Saudi Arabia
 Website: <https://www.un-ggim-as.org/>

Executive Board of UN-GGIM: AP

Chair: Indonesia
 Vice-Chair: India, Japan and Singapore
 Board Members: Australia, China, Fiji, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Republic of Korea (the), and the Russian Federation (the).
 Secretariat: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
 Website: <https://un-ggim-ap.org/>

Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe

Chairs: The Netherlands
 Board Members: Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Slovenia, Poland, Serbia, and United Kingdom
 Secretariat: EuroGeographics, through a service-level agreement with The Netherlands (represented by Kadaster)
 Website: <https://un-ggim-europe.org/>

Administrative arrangements

6. There were very few changes in administrative arrangements across the regional committees during the intersessional period. Existing administrative practices remained in place, with executive board member changes as per term limits as stated in their statutes. The following board changes were made.

- (a) UN-GGIM: Africa agreed to extend the current structure of its Executive Bureau — consisting of the Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Rapporteurs — until 2025 in order to ensure continuity. Additionally, representatives from Uganda and Burkina Faso were appointed as Rapporteurs to strengthen accountability and enhance regional reporting.
- (b) UN-GGIM: Americas, no change to report.
- (c) UN-GGIM: Arab States elected a new executive committee during their plenary meeting in Doha in February 2024.
- (d) UN-GGIM: Asia and the Pacific acknowledged that the Executive Board elected during the previous term had undergone changes in its composition. New country representatives from India, Australia, Japan, and Iran had been appointed, resulting in adjustments to the respective Vice President and Executive Board member positions. The Regional Committee also decided to rename the Working Group on Cadastre and Land Management as the Working Group on Integrated

Geospatial Information for Effective Land Administration, in order to better align with the evolving UN-GGIM agenda. It was further noted that the election of the new Executive Board for the 2025-2028 term will be held at the fourteenth Plenary Meeting, scheduled for 26 September 2025.

- (e) UN-GGIM: Europe, at its twelfth Plenary Meeting on 24-25 June 2025, UN-GGIM: Europe elected three new Executive Committee members.

II. Intersessional Activities and Achievements of the Regional Committees

7. The work programmes of regional committees are executed through working groups (WG's). Regional committees support their Member States through the webinars and workshops organized, the development of manuals and toolkits, and other capacity development efforts. The work areas addressed by each regional committee can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1: Work areas of regional committees.

<i>Priority Work Item / Working Group</i>	<i>Africa</i>	<i>Americas</i>	<i>Arab States</i>	<i>Asia Pacific</i>	<i>Europe</i>
1. Data Integration/ Integration of statistical and geospatial data	X	X		X	X
2. Fundamental geospatial data themes and standards					X
3. Disasters		X		X	
4. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework	X	X	X	X	X
5. Global geodetic reference frame	X	X	X	X	X
6. Cadastre and land management	X	X		X	
7. Institutional arrangements and policy and legal framework					
8. Sustainable development goals				X	X
9. Data strategy and policy					X
10. Policy, Strategy, Capacities and Capabilities Development					
11. Geospatial Governance			X		

8. The work programmes of the regional committees remained consistent within the intersessional period:

- (a) UN-GGIM: Africa's work programme is structured to promote the adoption of geospatial standards, support the integration of geospatial and statistical data, strengthen the development and implementation of integrated geospatial frameworks and enhance the use of spatial information for sustainable development and decision-making across Africa. Four Executive Working Groups have been established to steer the Regional Committee's work on the following thematic areas: geodesy, integration of statistical and geospatial information, the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), and land administration and management;

- (b) UN-GGIM: Americas continued the implementation of its Strategic vision and 2021–2025 Work Plan, ensuring that its activities are aligned with the global frameworks established by the Committee of Experts. The regional committee's efforts are carried out through the ongoing work of its five established working groups, four regional vocals, active engagement of the regional academic and private sector networks and the support of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC);
- (c) UN-GGIM: Arab States' three working groups continued to work together to implement and enhance their strategic goals and work plans;
- (d) UN-GGIM-AP continued with the implementation of its 2022 to 2025 work plan and the six priority areas of work. The regional committee also continued its commitments to further advance international and regional agendas in support of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development, the UN-IGIF, the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) and the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA); and
- (e) UN-GGIM Europe continued with the implementation of their 2022 to 2025 work plan and the key priority areas of work, which are aligned with the global programme of the Committee of Experts and the areas of relevance to Europe. The Regional Committee adopted a new UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy at its twelfth plenary in June 2025.

Intersessional Activities and Achievements of the UN-GGIM: Africa

9. The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa), with the support of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), continued to advance the continent's geospatial information agenda by fostering policy development, technical capacity, and international cooperation. The Regional Committee's work programme is structured to promote the adoption of geospatial standards, support the integration of geospatial and statistical data, and enhance the use of spatial information for sustainable development and decision-making across Africa.

- (a) UN-GGIM: Africa provided technical support to member States, advanced holistic geospatial strategies, and encouraged partnerships to leverage data, expertise, and funding. Progress has been made in the development of Country-level Action Plans leveraging the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), notably in Cameroon, Mali, and Mozambique, though many countries remain in the early stages of needs assessment and situational analysis. Expert consultations and capacity development workshops were organized to enhance geospatial management capabilities and promote the integration of geospatial and statistical information, particularly for census and SDG monitoring.
- (b) Further, UN-GGIM: Africa has developed a compendium of climate change data sources and initiated studies on urban spatial frameworks to guide sustainable urbanization in Africa. These initiatives aim to provide evidence-based tools for policymakers, urban planners, and stakeholders, supporting resilient and inclusive urban development across the continent.

<i>Working Group</i>	<i>Activities and Achievements</i>
Integrated Geospatial Information Framework	<p>UN-GGIM: Africa endorsed the establishment of a Working Group on the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF). The primary objective of the Working Group is to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the UN-IGIF across Member States. The resolution adopted by UN-GGIM: Africa mandated the Executive Bureau to oversee the allocation of Member States to the Working Group and to facilitate the nomination of its Chair. Following consultations with member states, South Africa was appointed as the Convenor and Chair, with technical and secretarial support provided by AFRIGIST. Voting members of the Working Group include Cameroon, Burundi, Morocco, Burkina Faso, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Observer members include Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, and the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD).</p> <p>In March 2025, an Expert Consultation on the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) for Southern Africa was held in Maputo, Mozambique, with support from the UN Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre of Excellence. The meeting convened several Member States at different stages of UN-IGIF implementation, fostering regional collaboration and knowledge exchange.</p> <p>First-time participants—including Burundi, Comoros, Lesotho, Malawi, and Zimbabwe—shared their initial experiences, highlighting both the challenges faced and innovative approaches adopted to advance national implementation. Meanwhile, countries such as Cameroon, Eswatini, Mozambique, and South Africa presented updates on the development of their Country-level Action Plans.</p> <p>UN-GGIM: Africa also contributed to the First UN-GGIM Interregional Webinar on the UN-IGIF, offering regional perspectives and drawing on lessons from global implementation efforts.</p> <p>Looking ahead, planned activities include continued support to Member States in addressing key implementation challenges, as well as the convening of a regional UN-IGIF workshop in Ghana, to be held alongside the 11th Session of UN-GGIM: Africa.</p>
Integrated of Statistical and Geospatial Information	<p>UN-GGIM: Africa approved the establishment of a Working Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information. The primary objective of the Working Group is to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) among Member States. Following consultations on the proposed structure, Cameroon was appointed as the Convener and Chair, with technical and secretarial support provided by AFRIGIST. Voting members of the Working Group include Comoros, Algeria [to be confirmed], Mozambique, Nigeria, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Observer members include Burkina Faso, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa,</p>

	<p>and the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD).</p> <p>In 2025, Cameroon led pilot initiatives on smart census techniques, integrating innovative geospatial approaches and the use of geospatial layers for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) reporting, showcasing national leadership in the modernization of statistical operations.</p> <p>Significant progress was made in advancing the African Geospatial Statistical Framework (AGSF), which supported the harmonization of workflows between National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and National Mapping Agencies (NMAs), promoting greater interoperability and data integration across institutions.</p> <p>Additionally, a draft model legislation was prepared with the aim of standardizing the roles and responsibilities of spatial and statistical authorities, contributing to improved governance and regulatory alignment in the production and use of geospatial and statistical data across African countries.</p>
African Geodetic Reference Frame	<p>UN-GGIM: Africa approved the establishment of a Working Group on the African Geodetic Reference Frame. The primary objectives of the Working Group are to coordinate, support, and monitor the implementation of the geodetic reference frame across Member States. Following consultations on the proposed structure, Côte d'Ivoire was appointed as the Convener, with technical and secretarial support provided by the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD). Voting members of the Working Group include Cameroon, Madagascar, Tunisia, South Africa, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Observer members include Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Morocco, Nigeria, Uganda, AFRIGIST, and Trimble.</p> <p>In 2025, African experts actively contributed to global geodetic efforts by participating in the Joint UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy 5th Plenary and the 3rd Meeting of the UN-GGCE International Advisory Committee, held from 10 to 14 March at the UN Campus in Bonn, Germany.</p> <p>As part of regional capacity-building efforts, a Capacity Development Workshop for Africa on Transitioning to a Modern Geospatial Reference System was successfully held in Nairobi in May 2025, co-hosted with the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (UN-GGCE).</p> <p>In addition, requests from Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Togo to upgrade and strengthen their geodetic infrastructure and develop national expertise in the use of modern geodetic techniques were acknowledged, with the expectation that the UN-GGCE will provide support and follow-up.</p> <p>Furthermore, a significant milestone was achieved with the launch of a CORS network pilot in Senegal, implemented in collaboration with Japan, marking a concrete step towards enhancing geodetic capabilities in the region.</p>

Land Administration and Management	<p>UN-GGIM: Africa approved the establishment of a Working Group on Land Administration and Management. The primary objectives of the Working Group are to coordinate, support, and monitor the implementation of the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) by Member States. Following consultations on the proposed structure, Morocco was appointed as the Convener and Chair, with technical and secretarial support provided by the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD). Voting members of the Working Group include Congo [to be confirmed], Uganda, Eswatini, Ghana, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Observer members include Burkina Faso, South Africa, and AFRIGIS.</p>
Integration of Geospatial and Statistical Information	<p>In 2025, Cameroon led pilot initiatives on smart census techniques, integrating innovative geospatial approaches and the use of geospatial layers for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) reporting, showcasing national leadership in the modernization of statistical operations.</p> <p>Significant progress was made in advancing the African Geospatial Statistical Framework (AGSF), which supported the harmonization of workflows between National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and National Mapping Agencies (NMAs), promoting greater interoperability and data integration across institutions.</p> <p>Additionally, a draft model legislation was prepared with the aim of standardizing the roles and responsibilities of spatial and statistical authorities, contributing to improved governance and regulatory alignment in the production and use of geospatial and statistical data across African countries.</p>

- (c) UN-GGIM: Africa continued to strengthen geospatial information management in the continent focusing on robust governance frameworks, consensus building, capacity development, technological innovation, and strategic partnerships to harness geospatial data for sustainable development and regional integration. The regional committee carried out and participated in the various activities during the reporting period.
- (d) Organization of a workshop on the integration of geography and statistics. The workshop allowed to gain an invaluable understanding of the principal issues, potential solutions and the way forward concerning efforts to integrate geography and statistics, and allowed to note the good progress that had been made in that regard. Participants examined a next-generation smart census, the role of geospatial data in addressing statistical challenges, and a federated system for tracking progress towards attaining the Sustainable Development Goals.
- (e) Advance the production and use of disaster-related statistics for risk-informed development. UN-GGIM: Africa is building a Compendium of Disaster-related Indicators with the aim to significantly enhance the availability and usability of disaster related statistics in Africa, promoting informed decision-making for better disaster risk management, climate resilience and sustainable development across the continent. When completed, the compendium will be a vital tool for providing a standardized set of indicators, ensuring consistency in data collection, reporting, and comparison across regions.

- (f) Support to the implementation of the African Union Space strategy. The Regional Committee continues to play a pivotal role in facilitating consensus among stakeholders by sharing strategic insights and experiences that highlighted shared objectives and challenges in the African space sector. The Regional Committee's active engagement contributes to strengthening alignment among participants, enhancing mutual understanding, and supporting efforts toward more coordinated regional approaches in advancing space-related initiatives across the continent.
- (g) Educational programs remain essential for enhancing geospatial professional qualifications and cultivating a skilled workforce to advance geospatial technologies across Africa. UN-GGIM: Africa continuously collaborates with the regional centers of excellence, notably the African Regional Institute for Geospatial Information Science and Technology (AFRGIST) and the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), to develop best practices aligned with regional needs. These efforts promote the integration of geospatial science and technology into institutional governance and management, addressing emerging challenges and opportunities continent-wide.

Intersessional Activities and Achievements of the UN-GGIM: Americas

10. UN-GGIM: Americas continued to implement its Work Plan 2021-2025. Objectives include supporting the implementation of global frameworks at the national level, monitoring national geospatial information management processes, strengthening capacities in key areas, increasing information repositories through geospatial knowledge management, and promoting the adoption of standards at the national level. These objectives are pursued through the coordinated efforts of its five working groups and with the support of its Executive and Technical Secretariat, the latter hosted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Some of the main activities and achievements are described below.

<i>Working Group</i>	<i>Activities and Achievements</i>
Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (WG ISGI)	<p>The Working Group has continued to strengthen the Statistical-Geospatial Framework for the Americas (MEGA), conceived as a common framework for regional integration. In this context, the adoption of the principles of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) has been promoted within the geospatial and statistical community of the region. As part of these efforts, a regional virtual workshop on GSGF Principle 5 ("Accessible and Usable Geospatially Enabled Statistics") was held in May 2025, with the participation of 128 individuals and noteworthy presentations from representatives of Argentina, Chile, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic, as well as from the United Nations Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information.</p> <p>Additionally, with technical support from ECLAC, a protocol was designed to enable the automated updating of MEGA's geographic levels, accompanied by a regional survey on the availability of geographic data services linked to census databases. The results of this survey contributed to the design of an interoperable system aligned with international standards, which will facilitate access to and collaborative management of geospatial data in the region, while promoting its integration with statistical data through the CEPALSTAT platform.</p>

	<p>Furthermore, in accordance with Principle 3 of the GSGF—related to the use of common geographies for the dissemination of statistics—a pilot proposal was developed for new levels of geographic disaggregation, considering official territorial boundaries or statistical geographies and population size criteria. This proposal draws on experiences such as the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) and the GEOSTAT initiative, developed by Eurostat. These technical tests are expected to serve as a basis for defining common specifications that will enable the expansion of the model throughout the region, promoting the standardization and comparability of geospatial and statistical data, and supporting more precise, inclusive, and evidence-based decision-making.</p>
Disasters	<p>The Working Group has carried out various activities aimed at strengthening geospatial disaster management in the region. The identification of national focal points responsible for emergency management in the Member States was completed, and progress was made in validating the information contained in the Disaster Events GeoHub¹, a regional platform that enables the visualization of natural events that have occurred over the past ten years. Additionally, the process of disseminating and validating the “Catalogue of Natural and Anthropogenic Hazard Objects for Disaster Management” (version 1.0), available in Spanish, English, and Portuguese, was initiated and implemented. This catalogue aims to establish a standardized reference for the region. Finally, the Group supported the organization of the regional virtual workshop “Geospatial Information for Disaster Risk Management,” which featured representatives from six countries and over 200 participants. A follow-up in-person workshop is scheduled for management.</p>
Geodesy	<p>The Working Group has made significant progress in consolidating an integrated regional geodetic framework, in alignment with the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF). Key achievements include the incorporation of Jamaica into SIRGAS, expanding Caribbean integration, and institutional strengthening in Costa Rica and Bolivia through the establishment of new GNSS Processing Centers. Capacity-building and technical cooperation initiatives were also developed, such as the Third SIRGAS Real-Time School and the SIRGAS 2024 Symposium, which brought together over 400 specialists. Educational activities included the Virtual School on Geodynamic and Atmospheric Monitoring, and a new school on advanced geodetic data processing is scheduled for July 2025. Collaboration with the UN-GGCE and the Subcommittee on Geodesy was also reinforced through the active participation of the SIRGAS Chair in international bodies. Finally, in partnership with IPGH and ECLAC, actions are being taken to safeguard the valuable historical archive of GNSS data from the region, ensuring its preservation as a scientific asset for the geospatial community.</p>

¹ https://www.geoportaligm.gob.ec/html_hub_eventos_america/.

United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework	<p>The Working Group has promoted actions to enhance the understanding and implementation of the UN-IGIF in the region. As part of its awareness and capacity-building efforts, the group organized virtual discussions focused on the UN-IGIF's strategic pathways, highlighting replicable national experiences and good practices. Specifically, two discussions were held: the first in November 2024 on Strategic Pathway 4: Data, and the second in June 2025 on Strategic Pathway 6: Standards.</p> <p>In addition, the group has developed regional communication tools such as informational bulletins aimed at disseminating progress, resources, and events related to the UN-IGIF. The first bulletin was published in May 2025 in Spanish, English, and Portuguese, with support from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) and the Academic Network for the Americas. These actions have significantly contributed to strengthening institutional capacities and enhancing regional coordination around the implementation of the UN-IGIF.</p>
Land Administration	<p>The Working Group has focused its efforts on promoting the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) approach in the region. Among its main achievements is the implementation of a diagnostic survey on the current state of land administration in 21 member countries, the results of which were consolidated into a publicly available technical report.</p> <p>The group has also expanded country participation and organized sessions for the exchange of national experiences, featuring presentations from countries across the Americas. In the area of international cooperation, links have been established with the Ibero-American Permanent Committee on Cadastre (CPCI), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), and the EuroSDR network, with whom experiences and documents have been shared to support the development of tools such as regional surveys aligned with FELA. The Working Group has also contributed to organizing a global webinar on land administration, held in July 2025.</p>
Secretariats	<p>The Executive Secretariat of UN-GGIM: Americas coordinates the Regional Committee, fostering connections and collaboration among Member States and with other regional organizations. It provides support to the working groups, vocals, and thematic networks in carrying out the activities outlined in the annual Work Plan. Additionally, it develops content for the official website and social media channels. The Executive Secretariat has also worked closely with Member States to update and maintain the content of the SDI Americas platform².</p> <p>Moreover, the Secretariat supported the organization of the Eleventh Session of UN-GGIM: Americas and contributed to the implementation of the Interregional Work Plan of the UN-GGIM Regional Committees.</p> <p>The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), serving as the Technical Secretariat of</p>

² https://geo.cepal.org/ide_americas/.

	<p>UN-GGIM: Americas, collaborates with the Executive Secretariat to achieve the objectives and actions of the regional annual Work Plan. The Technical Secretariat provides both technological and human resources for the maintenance of the UN-GGIM: Americas website and the SDI Americas platform.</p> <p>Furthermore, ECLAC has provided interpretation services for webinars organized by the Working Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (ISGI), and has offered financial support to facilitate the participation of Member States in the annual sessions of the Regional Committee.</p>
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11. UN-GGIM: Americas continued to make steady progress in the implementation of its Work Plan and in strengthening geospatial governance in the region. Through the coordinated work of its subregional spokespersons, working groups, and thematic networks, the Regional Committee achieved tangible advances in the adoption and implementation of global strategic frameworks promoted by UN-GGIM, with particular emphasis on the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF).

12. Effective coordination among Member States and regional partners enabled the development of national workshops, technical meetings, training courses, and subregional gatherings, contributing to the strengthening of institutional capacities, promoting data interoperability, encouraging the use of open-source tools, and consolidating national geospatial initiatives.

13. Sustained collaboration with key organizations such as the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), ECLAC, and other international entities has been essential for financing and implementing these strategic actions, amplifying their impact across the region.

14. UN-GGIM: Americas strengthened its communication and participation mechanisms by updating Member States' focal points and ensuring that its content and official events are available in both Spanish and English. Additionally, extra efforts have been made to incorporate Portuguese, with the aim of fostering broader and more inclusive participation across the region.

15. In line with its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, gender equality, innovation, and inclusion, UN-GGIM: Americas promoted new initiatives aimed at raising visibility of women's participation in the geospatial field and exploring emerging technological opportunities such as geospatial artificial intelligence (GeoAI). These efforts included the establishment of a Community of Practice on GeoAI and dedicated dialogue spaces that enrich the regional agenda.

16. Furthermore, the Member States of UN-GGIM: Americas will continue to actively participate in the global groups and initiatives of the Committee of Experts related to geodesy, the UN-IGIF, land administration, disaster management, marine geospatial information, and the integration of statistical and geospatial information. The region will also continue to contribute to the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre through the International Advisory Committee and to the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence.

Intersessional Activities and Achievements of the UN-GGIM: Arab States

17. During the intersessional period of 2024-2025, the UN-GGIM: Arab States activities focus on regional cooperation and good practices in geospatial information management to support national development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The key objectives are to coordinate regional efforts, enhance collaboration with international entities, and promote best practices in geospatial data use for sustainable development. Key activities included the 12th Plenary Meeting of the UN-

GGIM: Arab States was held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The meeting aimed to follow up on the committee's work, review the experiences of Arab countries in managing geospatial information, and establish the executive plans for the working groups.

18. Eighty-five participants from twelve Arab countries attended the meeting, along with the Secretariat of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, representatives from regional committees (Africa, Americas, Asia and Pacific and Europe), geospatial information experts, experts on the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, the Statistical Center for the Gulf Cooperation Council States, and several international consultants and experts. The meeting was accompanied by a gathering of the High-Level Group on the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and the meeting of the Bureau and its expanded bureau of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

19. The meeting concluded with support for the working groups in preparing their executive plans and approval of the future directions of the UN-GGIM: Arab States, including attracting global geospatial organizations and companies as observer members, rationalizing expenses for committee meetings, ensuring the participation of official geospatial entities from their countries, and emphasizing the integration of the committee's work with international efforts at the United Nations.

Intersessional Activities and Achievements of the UN-GGIM-AP

20. The work program of the Regional Committee of UN-GGIM-AP was supported by four working groups and the Secretariat. The Secretariat, UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), provided coordination and collaboration with the Regional Committee, and also supported the preparation of publications and the organization of activities. A summary of activities and achievements of the four working groups and the UN-GGIM AP Secretariat is as follows.

<i>Working Group</i>	<i>Activities and Achievements</i>
Geodetic Reference Framework	<p>This Working Group aims to develop a regional geodetic reference frame and related geodetic capacity in the region and has four main activities in the term 2022-2025: (1) the Asia-Pacific Reference Frame (APREF) project; (2) the Asia Pacific Regional Geodetic Project (APRGP); (3) support to transition to modernized national height systems; and (4) the Asia-Pacific Geodetic Capacity Building (APGCB) project.</p> <p>APREF welcomes new GNSS CORS stations from the member countries and continues providing and improving access to the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF) through continuous and campaign GNSS observations and analysis. The WG was also actively involved in the initiatives of the UN-GGCE in order to support a sustainable Global Geodesy Supply Chain, and the WG chair and vice chairs participated in the UN-GGCE meetings to further enhance the network between geodetic experts in the region and the global community. Together with the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the WG organized geodetic capacity development events, specifically Capacity Development Workshop on Sustainable Operation of GNSS CORS Network during the period of the thirteenth Plenary meeting of the UN-GGIM-AP in November 2024, and FIG Technical Seminar Reference Frame in Practice during the period of the FIG Working</p>

	Week in April 2025.
Integrated Geospatial Information for Effective Land Administration	<p>The Working Group aims to identify and determine the key regional issues for the management of land and cadastre, and take necessary measures to secure the social, economic and environmental benefits. The working group focuses on advocating the importance and pertinence of land and its administration and management at the global, regional and national levels for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>The WG held a Regional Seminar on Effective Land Administration & Management during the period of the thirteenth Plenary meeting of the UN-GGIM-AP on 26 November 2024. The seminar highlighted recent advances in land administration and cadastral systems across Member States—sharing both successes and challenges—to provide practical insights for countries at all stages of modernizing their land administration frameworks.</p>
Integrated Geospatial Information Framework	<p>The Working Group held a Regional Seminar on Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) during the period of the thirteenth Plenary meeting of the UN-GGIM-AP on 27 November 2024. The seminar promoted geospatial data integration for sustainable development, focusing on awareness, best practices, and implementation challenges. Discussions covered global progress, funding strategies, case studies, governance models, and SDG alignment.</p>
Secretariat	<p>The UN-GGIM-AP Secretariat, ESCAP's third compendium in the "Geospatial Practices for Sustainable Development" series—Geospatial Practices for Sustainable Development in East and Northeast Asia 2024: A Compendium—was officially published on the ESCAP website in October 2024. It brings together over 100 country and subregion level case studies across six thematic areas—Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience; Natural Resource Management; Connectivity; Social Development; Energy; and Climate Change—to showcase how satellite imagery, GIS, AI and related tools are being used to modernize national operations, bridge development gaps and strengthen resilience in East and Northeast Asia.</p> <p>The UN-GGIM-AP Secretariat remains committed to sustaining and enhancing the regional geospatial network to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It consistently maintains and updates the UN-GGIM-AP website—ensuring seamless links to other Regional Committee and UN-GGIM portals—and actively shares information on free online geospatial courses, webinars, e-Learning programme, virtual training, and funded scholarships.</p> <p>In addition, the Secretariat has facilitated the roll-out of key regional surveys—including the UNGEGN/UN-GGIM collaborative project questionnaire, a survey on integrating land, marine, and cadastral domains via geospatial technologies, and an assessment of National Geospatial Information Management (NGIM) adoption among Small Island Developing States (SIDS)—to foster stronger collaboration, guide capacity building, and inform policy across Asia and the Pacific. In addition, the secretariat is devoted to the UN-GGIM-AP network maintenance and information sharing to foster stronger ties and</p>

	collaborations in the region for better achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The secretariat is also committed to providing information on free and online geospatial information related courses and webinars, GSGF e-Learning courses, virtual training programmes, and funded scholarship programs.
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21. Financial and budgetary constraints remain ongoing challenges in the region. The thirteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP identified priorities including strengthening geospatial capacity in developing countries and Pacific SIDS, accelerating UN-IGIF implementation, supporting land administration through FELA, enhancing cross-regional collaboration, promoting real-time data sharing for disaster management and climate resilience, and engaging youth through the Young Geospatial Leaders Network. Tailored support for Pacific SIDS and the potential establishment of a Geospatial Information Service Centre were also noted. Member State contributions and regional forums remain essential for institutional strengthening.

22. At the fourteenth Plenary Meeting in September 2025, Member States will elect a new Executive Board and consider restructuring the Working Groups to better align with current and future priorities.

Intersessional Activities and Achievements of the UN-GGIM: Europe

23. At the twelfth plenary, the regional committee considered the progress of the UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan 2022 – 2025 which had been agreed by the Regional Committee at its eighth plenary session as meeting the strategic needs and requirements of Europe within the global programme of the Committee of Experts. This work plan focused on the five key priority areas and an overview of their activities is outlined in the table below. At its twelfth plenary a revised UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy 2025 – 2030 was adopted by the Regional Committee, providing the vision and direction of UN-GGIM: Europe for the next 4 – 5 years.

24. At the Expanded Bureau Meeting in February 2025, UN-GGIM: Europe volunteered to support the UN-GGIM Secretariat to progress the Strategic Framework 2025-2030. The regional committees have come together to provide a task group supporting the development and refresh of the Strategic Framework.

25. All these lines of work have been active during the intersessional period, an overview of the progress and activities is as follows.

<i>Working Group</i>	<i>Activities and Achievements</i>
Data Integration	<p>Over the intersessional period, the Line of Work (LoW) Data Integration focused on reviewing previous recommendations from the groups outputs and reports since 2014 to identify barriers to communication and to simplify messaging for political decision-makers. A report, <i>Relevance of Data Integration Line of Work</i>³, has been published and presented at the GISCO meeting in March 2025.</p> <p>The group on Data Integration also explored possible case studies and themes for future work in anticipation of the</p>

³ https://un-ggim-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-03-17_UN-GGIM-Europe_Relevance-of-DI-Line-of-Work_SummaryPaper_v1.0.pdf.

	development of the new UN-GGIM: Europe work plan.
Sustainable Development Goals	<p>This working group hosted three webinars on three different indicators: 6.6.1 – Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time; 15.3.1 – Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area; and 11.7.1 – Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age, and persons with disabilities.</p> <p>The webinars had brought together contributions and the participation of several national, European and global institutions and of some custodian agencies, including public institutions, the private sector and academia.</p>
Integrated Geospatial Information Framework	<p>The UN-GGIM: Europe Working Group is focusing on four main deliverables: expert contributions, avoiding duplication, sharing knowledge, and promoting regional successes. The group contributed 11 regional priorities to the Fifth HLG-IGIF meeting in February 2025, which helped shape the global discussion of 83 priorities that were later prioritized to 36 key items. Following the global UN-IGIF Capacity Development Questionnaire results, the Working Group is developing a regional questionnaire to better understand lower uptake rates in Europe and align future activities with regional needs. The group is also creating a Sustainable Financing Podcast series and actively participating in interregional collaboration, including contributing to webinars organized by other regional committees to promote coordinated UN-IGIF implementation.</p>
Data Strategy and Policy	<p>The main aim of this working group is to understand relevant policy and data strategies regarding the management and use of geospatial data and how these are used in addressing the challenges of a green, sustainable, and digital Europe, and to understand the linkages of European policy with UN-GGIM frameworks such as the UN-IGIF. Following the June 2024 European Parliamentary elections that launched a new European Commission cycle emphasizing data and digitalization, the working group has focused on analytical work during the inter-plenary session and aims to complete a report by November 2025.</p>
Geodetic Reference Frame Europe	<p>Geodetic Reference Frames - Europe (GRF Europe) has continued to mature as a regional platform for dialogue and coordination on geodetic reference frame topics. The group has strategically positioned itself as a platform for policy, coordination, and user-focused dialogue while actively contributing to international initiatives including the UN-GGCE capacity development workshop in February 2025 and supporting global geodesy implementation efforts. GRF Europe has strengthened engagement with multiple European organizations including EUREF, EuroSDR, EUPOS, and CRAF, while developing a European contact point register to improve regional coordination and delivered technical contributions such as a report to EUROCONTROL on geodetic reference frame interoperability. The community has been actively involved in awareness-raising efforts, organized well-attended webinars discussing UN-GGCE findings, and participated in strategic planning processes including</p>

	reviewing their work plan and Terms of Reference to align with the changing global landscape.
Secretariat	<p>Over the intersessional period UN-GGIM: Europe worked on reviewing its strategy which was adopted at the eighth plenary meeting. The revised UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy 2025- 2030 has been updated taking into consideration the direction of the UN-GGIM Strategic Framework 2025 - 2030 being drafted, the responses of a regional consultation of the UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy and the views of the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe. The revision has not changed key elements of the previous strategy, but is a refresh, to ensure that the vision and direction of UN-GGIM: Europe for the next 4 – 5 years is in alignment with the regional context and landscape. The UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy 2025- 2030 was adopted at the twelfth Plenary Meeting.</p> <p>The next step following the adoption of the UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy 2025- 2030 will be a revision of the work plan to implement this new strategy. This will be developed in consultation with our working groups, lines of work and interested members in the coming months, to be presented to the Regional Committee at the Thirteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe in 2026.</p> <p>UN-GGIM: Europe continues to align its work with the programme of work of the Committee of Experts, while also committing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - work with the other four UN-GGIM Regional Committees to continue cross and inter-regional cooperation and collaboration and to implement the inter-regional work plan; - supporting and engaging with the three UN-GGIM Global Centres of Excellence and advocated for the community to participate in the IACs of the Centres to provide collective guidance and ensure impactful, active collaboration and participation; - committing to ensuring that Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) are included across the broad programme of work of the committee.

III. Plenary Meetings of the Regional Committees

26. The annual meetings of the regional committees provide a forum for Member States and other relevant geospatial stakeholders to share and exchange knowledge, technologies and best practices, network, and gain updates on the activities of their regional working groups. This section of the report features the main decisions adopted at the plenary meetings of the five regional committees, which informs the Committee of the actions taken to ensure that their work programmes are aligned with the global agendas, in particular, the implementation of UN-IGIF, GSGF and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The report also examines some major challenges faced by the regional committees and the strategies and approaches adopted to address them.

27. As is required by statute and rules of procedure, all regional committees convened their annual meeting during the intersessional period. The Regional

Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe, during the intersessional period, held two plenary meetings. Table 2 shows plenary meetings/sessions held by the regional committees during the intersessional period.

Table 2: Plenary meetings of regional committees during the intersessional period 2024-2025

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Mode and Host</i>
Africa	10 th Session	28 October to 1 November 2024	In person in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in conjunction with the 9 th session of the Statistical Commission for Africa.
Americas	11 th Session	25-26 September and 7 October 2024	Virtual Session (25-26 September) In person in Mexico City, Mexico. Hosted by the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) (7 October).
Asia and the Pacific	13 th Plenary	29 November 2024	In person in New Delhi, India, hosted by the Survey of India (SOI) in conjunction with an international conference themed Geo-enabling the Data Economy for Sustainable Development.
Europe	12 th Plenary	24-25 June 2025	In person in Brussels, Belgium. Sponsored by Eurostat.
Arab States	12 th Plenary	4-6 February 2025	In person, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

28. The number of attendees and Member States that participated in the past two plenaries of each regional committee can be seen in Table 3. It also shows the increased or decreased in the number of attendees and Member States participating. The number of attendees at each annual plenary meeting is important, as the regional committee's governing statutes or rules of procedure generally require a quorum to designate the meeting as valid and official. Please note that a Member State may be a member of more than one regional committee. For example, UN-GGIM: Europe has 16 members who are also members of UN-GGIM: Asia and the Pacific and UN-GGIM: Americas. Therefore, the total number of Member States per region as shown in Table 2 is not based on regional geographical demarcation.

Table 3: The number of attendees and Member States who participated in plenary meetings of regional committees.

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Total Member States</i>	<i>Intersessional Period 2023-2024 Plenary</i>		<i>Intersessional Period 2024-2025 Plenary</i>		<i>Change in No. Attendees and Member States</i>	
		<i>Attendees</i>	<i>Member States</i>	<i>Attendees</i>	<i>Member States</i>	<i>Attendees</i>	<i>Member States</i>
Africa	54	80	25	100	28	+20	+3
Americas	36	115	22	116	27	+1	+5
Asia Pacific	56	80	19	110	29	+30	+10
Arab States	22	65	14	85	12	+20	-2
Europe	56	48	18	60	23	+12	+5

Decisions of the regional plenary meetings on the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF)

29. Decisions of the regional committees on their contribution to support the implementation of the UN-IGIF are as follows.

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Main Decisions</i>
Africa	<p>UN-GGIM: Africa encouraged the secretariat and Member States to: (1) design solutions that began with clear, realistic short-term objectives and grew incrementally, in accordance with political and market needs, to ensure flexibility and scalability in the implementation of the Framework; (2) prioritize end-user needs by providing products and services that would meet the expectations of government entities, the private sector and the general public; (3) foster ongoing stakeholder engagement, including periodic consultations with the main user groups and stakeholders to gather input and refine framework solutions, ensuring alignment with evolving requirements.</p> <p>UN-GGIM: Africa further requested the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre should: (4) Organize subregional capacity-building workshops to enhance national geospatial information arrangements in collaboration with partners, including the secretariat of the Committee of Experts, the SDG Data Alliance and others; and (5) provide technical and financial support to countries that have expressed a need for assistance in initiating the development of country-level action plans of the Framework, including Burkina Faso, the Congo, Ghana, Lesotho, Mali, Nigeria, Togo and the United Republic of Tanzania.</p>
Americas	<p>UN-GGIM: Americas: (1) urged Member States to commit to ongoing training in the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), in order to strengthen technical and geospatial information management capacities in the region; (2) encouraged Member States to continue promoting technical cooperation and the exchange of knowledge on geospatial matters, through existing communication mechanisms, to create synergies that ensure the successful implementation of the UN-IGIF in the region; (3) welcomed the commitment of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) to provide technical support to countries in the implementation of the UN-IGIF, as well as the commitment of academic and private sector networks in supporting these efforts; (4) recognized the importance of the UN-GGIM Global Consultation on the implementation of the UN-IGIF and proposed aligning this activity with the Regional Consultation for the Americas, in order to improve the efficiency and harmonization of both initiatives; (5) appreciated and took note of the recommendations to establish regular monitoring of the nine Strategic Pathways of the UN-IGIF, using defined indicators to measure the effectiveness of its implementation by Member States, and emphasized the importance of disseminating best practices and actions that demonstrate positive progress in the management of geospatial information; and (6) urged Member States to take advantage of in-person forums, such as the meetings of UN-GGIM: Americas, to organize and convene side events and workshops aimed at advancing the implementation of the UN-IGIF and promoting the exchange of good practices.</p>

Arab States	UN-GGIM: Arab States endorsed the strategic plan and term of reference for the UN-IGIF Working Group, chaired by the Kingdom of Bahrain from 2024 to 2028. The goal is to promote the development and strengthening of integrated geospatial information management for UN Member States. Additionally, encourage the use of internationally agreed-upon geospatial frameworks and standards to improve coordination and collaboration between geospatial stakeholders and users.
Asia and the Pacific	UN-GGIM-AP emphasized the potential of establishing a future regional Geospatial Information Service Centre to advance sustainable development, disaster risk management, and informed decision-making. The Committee acknowledged the unique challenges faced by Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS), including resource constraints and limited access to experienced personnel, in implementing the UN-IGIF and adopting advanced geospatial technologies to meet national demands. UN-GGIM-AP agreed to work in close association with the HLG-IGIF, UN-GGIM Thematic Groups, and other active stakeholders to ensure a coordinated and holistic approach to delivering effective solutions. The Committee also discussed the need for short, medium, and long-term plans and strategies to raise awareness, particularly at the political leadership level, about the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) and its components at both regional and national levels through various means.
Europe	UN-GGIM: Europe agreed that European Members contribute where relevant to the HLG-IGIF and to avoid duplication of effort by making sure that activities at the regional level support the global activities. At the twelfth plenary Members agreed to consider how to grow the number of active participants in the Regional Working Group, to respond to the Regional Survey on awareness and uptake of UN-IGIF, and to provide input and support for the development of an in-person workshop and knowledge share event to maximize awareness and adoption of the UN-IGIF across our region.

Decisions of the regional plenary meetings on the implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework

30. Decisions of the regional committees on their contribution to support the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework can be seen as follows.

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Main Decisions</i>
Africa	UN-GGIM: Africa encouraged members (1) explore and implement next-generation smart census methodologies, leveraging geospatial data innovations to address statistical challenges, improve data accuracy and enable more dynamic tracking of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals; and (2) UN-GGIM: Africa further request the Statistics Division of the United Nations and its Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information should develop use cases and publications related to the benefits of integrating geospatial and statistical data to accelerate the attainment

	of the Goals.
Americas	UN-GGIM: Americas (1) appreciated the contributions of Member States in collecting use cases and technical documentation on the implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF), as well as the support of ECLAC in publishing this material; (2) welcomed the efforts of the Regional Working Group, the Global Expert Group, ECLAC, and the Executive Secretariat in organizing three virtual seminars on Principles 2, 3, and 4 of the GSGF; (3) valued the updated administrative level data provided by some countries of the region to the Statistical Geospatial Framework for the Americas (MEGA), and urged other countries in the region to join this initiative to strengthen geographical and statistical comparability; and (4) encouraged Member States to implement lower-level statistical-geospatial units (inspired by the NUTS model), to allow greater disaggregation and consistency of data in MEGA, noting that technical definitions will be developed jointly by the statistical and geospatial communities, with the support of the subregional coordinators.
Asia and the Pacific	UN-GGIM-AP encouraged members: (1) to share address matching techniques, methodologies and technologies, including batch geocoders and national grid systems as one of the main requirements of GSGF; (2) to continue developing and updating geocoded data sets, including point addresses, land parcels and realistic 3-D constructions; and (3) to participate in the global community's discussion organized by the Expert Group of Integration Statistical and Geospatial Information, which can provide implementation strategy and feedback to develop better methods and reduce gaps and harmonize the practices.
Europe	At the twelfth plenary meeting UN-GGIM: Europe noted the progress of the EG-ISGI and the update of the workplan, as well as the two key papers from the Expert Group which will be present as background documents at the fifteenth session. And asked regional members to support the second edition of the GSGF and to express their views on the Expert's Group strategic vision supporting geospatial advocacy within the statistical community and Statistical Commission.

Decisions of the regional plenary meetings on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

31. Decisions of the regional committees on their contribution to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can be seen as follows.

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Main Decisions</i>
Africa	<p>UN-GGIM: Africa encouraged members to establish and promote educational programmes to enhance geospatial professional qualifications, thereby ensuring the development of the skilled workforce needed to advance geospatial technologies and support sustainable development initiatives.</p> <p>UN-GGIM: Africa further urged development partners and all interested parties to support capacity-building initiatives to train statisticians and geospatial experts in the application of data integration techniques, prioritizing programmes that advance data quality standards to meet decision-making needs in essential areas, including disaster management, public health and climate action.</p>

Arab States	UN-GGIM: Arab States acknowledged the coordination between the General Secretariat of the Arab States and Esri to build an open geospatial data platform for the sustainable development goals for the desiring countries of the Arab States (without financial costs).
Asia and the Pacific	<p>UN-GGIM-AP encouraged members, UN agencies, international and regional organizations, to collaborate to mainstream geospatial information applications in all appropriate aspects of sustainable development as national and regional champions, and in multiple capacities across other relevant forums.</p> <p>Recognizing the growing importance of geospatial technologies and expertise in addressing global and regional challenges, the Committee further emphasized the critical need to engage and nurture the next generation of geospatial professionals to ensure sustained innovation and leadership in the field. Member States, stakeholders, and relevant networks are encouraged to support this initiative by nominating young talents, offering mentorship, and contributing resources to foster a vibrant and sustainable community of future geospatial leaders.</p>
Europe	UN-GGIM: Europe agreed on the importance of showcasing the added value of integrating geospatial data with other data to address SDG indicators, with a focus on common problems and technical and methodological solutions. As well as exploring requirements and practices on the use and integration of Earth Observation data, maintaining a close articulation with the IAEG-SDG WG GI. Asked Members maximize the awareness of SDG indicators calculation in support of the 2030 Agenda as well as to prepare for the post-2030 Agenda.

Decisions of the regional plenary meetings on the integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management

32. Decisions of the regional committees on their contribution to support integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management can be seen as follows.

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Main Decisions</i>
America	<p>UN-GGIM: Americas: (1) called for strengthened cooperation between the Regional Working Group on Land Administration and the Global Expert Group on Land Administration and Management, with the aim of harmonizing concepts and guidelines for the implementation of the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) in the region; (2) proposed holding the first in-person meeting of the Regional Working Group on Land Administration during the Twelfth Plenary Session of UN-GGIM: Americas, to be held in October 2025; and suggested developing and strengthening thematic and systematic partnerships on land administration, in collaboration with the Academic Network of UN-GGIM: Americas, the European Academic Network, and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), in accordance with the 2024–2025 Work Plan of the Regional Working Group.</p>

Europe	At the twelfth plenary UN-GGIM: Europe welcomed a proposal for a global hub regarding land administration for knowledge exchange, capacity building, and technical support that would accelerate implementation of frameworks like the FELA, helping countries systematically manage land rights and advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
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Decisions of the regional plenary meetings on the global geodetic reference frame

33. Decisions of the regional committees on their contribution to support the global geodetic reference frame can be seen as follows.

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Main Decisions</i>
America	UN-GGIM: Americas: (1) urged Member States to make efforts to link and align their national geodetic infrastructures with those proposed by SIRGAS, in accordance with the guidelines of the International Association of Geodesy; (2) also urged Member States to support the training activities offered by SIRGAS, the Academic and Private Sector Networks of the Americas, and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence; (3) committed to intensifying efforts to raise awareness and promote the finalization and implementation of the joint development plan for global geodesy, with particular emphasis on capacity development; (4) invited Caribbean Member States to join SIRGAS in order to strengthen the capacities of the regional geodetic reference system; and (5) suggested that Member States share open geodetic information and support the maintenance of the global supply chain, in line with the recommendations of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence.
Europe	At the twelfth plenary UN-GGIM: Europe noted the current risks to the accuracy and reliability of satellite services and the impacts to critical infrastructure, national economies and national security due to weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain. Regional members were encouraged to consider discussing the impacts within their Member States including the European Commission and to reach out to the UN-GGCE for assistance with advocacy and raising awareness.

Next Plenary Meeting of the UN-GGIM Regional Committees

34. The regional committees have identified the need to secure sustainable financing to support the participation of Member States at their annual plenary meetings, particularly for representatives from Small Island Developing States. The proposed annual meetings will be held fully in-person or hybrid, as seen in Table 4.

Table 4: Proposed annual meetings of regional committees.

<i>Regional Committee</i>	<i>Date of Upcoming Meeting</i>	<i>Mode and Host</i>
Africa	11th Session, 17-21 November 2025	In-person in Accra, Ghana, in conjunction with the AfricaGIS Conference 2025.

Americas	12th Session, 3-7 November 2025	In person in Santiago de Chile, at headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC.
Arab States	13 th Plenary, 3-4 February 2025	In person in Tunis, Tunisia.
Asia and the Pacific	14 th Plenary, 25-26 September 2025	In person in Ilsan, Republic of Korea, hosted by the National Geographic Information Institute, Republic of Korea.
Europe	13 th Plenary, June 2026	In person, back to back with the Conference of European Statisticians, date and venue tbc.

IV. Interregional Partnerships, Collaborations and Joint Activities

35. In recent years, an increasing amount of support for the Regional Committees is observed. The activities and work of the Regional Committees is increasingly aligned with the overall programme of work, goals and objectives of the Committee of Experts. The commitment of the Chairs and Presidents of the Regional Committees to attend and contribute to other Regional Plenary meetings is a clear demonstration of the willingness of the regional committees to work closely together. The attendance of regional committees to meetings outside their region provides an opportunity for sharing of ideas, good practices, approaches and implementation that enable the Regional Committees to understand each other's priorities. By association, the exchanges and attendance at meetings in other regions allow for peer-to-peer discussions and knowledge exchanges at the level of the Secretariats of the regional committees. The ability to exchange allows external perspectives to be used as a sounding board and to help improve the delivery of global and regional objectives. The good practices and advances in regions can then be propagated more easily between regions, these mutually beneficial exchanges also foster collaboration and a desire to work together. The following are some highlighted interregional activities.

- (a) All regional committees were invited to attend other regional committees' plenary meetings, and this was implemented during the Eleventh Session of UN-GGIM: Americas, the Thirteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, the Twelfth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States and the Twelfth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe. During these meetings, the representatives of each Regional Committee shared its region's activities, progress, and challenges.
- (b) The UN-GGIM: Arab States and UN-GGIM-AP are committed to developing a shared understanding and solutions addressing regional challenges. The collaboration aims to utilize the regional solution to effectively address the unique challenges of the two regions. A work plan covering four areas of collaboration has been developed and the first scope of collaboration was prepared during the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States.
- (c) To synchronize all regional activities and agendas, and to share modalities and resources, all websites of regional committees provide links to other regional committees.
- (d) All regional committees have been actively engaged in programme of work of the Committee of Experts, including the Subcommittee on

Geodesy, the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, and activities of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (UN- GGCE), United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC) and other global activities of the Committee of Experts.

- (e) At the margins of the Eleventh Plenary of UN-GGIM: Americas and the Seventh UN-GGIM High Level Forum, an interregional meeting was held with the participation of the UN-GGIM Secretariat, the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Experts, and the Chairs and Presidents of the Regional Committees. During the meeting, participants provided feedback on the Seventh High Level Forum, shared proposals on joint activities for collaboration between regional committees and devised strategies to implement the joint project agreed between UNGEIN and UN-GGIM. Following that meeting, a proposal for an interregional workplan was elaborated and approved, focusing on holding dialogues and exchange of experiences and challenges of using global frameworks.
- (f) As part of the preparatory activities for the fifteenth session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), and in the context of the Interregional Work Plan, the Regional Committees organized interregional dialogues particularly two which focused on the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) and the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework. These activities provided a space to share regional perspectives and implementation experiences from Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific, the Arab States, and Europe. The roundtable discussions between Chairs, Presidents and representatives of the five Regional Committees, highlighted ongoing collaboration, progress, and future priorities.

V. Conclusion

36. The report presented the ongoing activities of the regional committees, who confirmed their commitment to ensure alignment and continued support to advance the work of the Committee of Experts. The following are some of the key priorities shared:

- (a) To continue to develop awareness and capacities of their Member States, to strengthen the management of geospatial information through the implementation of the Committee's global geospatial frameworks, norms, principles and guide, to remain fit for purpose and to leave no one behind.
- (b) To advocate to continue providing technical, human, and financial support and also contribute to the discussions and use the platforms and opportunities provided through the United Nations to improve the availability and use of geospatial information.
- (c) To remain focused on regional priorities and strengthen regional capacities through inter-agency and international cooperation, making use of technology and innovation.
- (d) To recognize the value of collaboration and partnerships in advancing regional and global work programmes and will continue to build relations and share knowledge, experiences, tools and technical experience among the five regional committees.

37. The annual reports of the regional committees are provided as background documents to this present report.

VI. Points for Discussion

38. The Committee of Experts is invited to:

- (a) Take note of the present report and the reports of the regional committees provided as background documents, and of the coordination by the UN-GGIM: Americas in supporting regional and global geospatial information management activities and in facilitating the preparation of these reports;**
- (b) Take note of and express its views on the initiative to develop series of online interregional dialogue seminars as part of the preparatory activities leading to the annual sessions of the Committee of Experts on relevant agenda items, frameworks and other topics of relevance including on technological advances in the field of geospatial information management.**
- (c) Express its views to further encourage all regional committees to actively contribute to the work of the Committee of Experts, and provide guidance on the potential synergies, avoiding duplication and alignment with the priorities and programme of work of the Committee for the benefit of all Member States.**
- (d) Take note of the proposed dates of the upcoming plenary meetings for all five regional committees, encourage Member States representatives to attend to regional plenary meetings;**
- (e) Take note of the collaborative activities of the five regional committees and their bilateral collaborations and provide guidance to encourage all regional committees to further strengthen their interregional and/or bilateral collaboration to develop synergistic relationships and share knowledge, tools and experience towards strengthening geospatial programmes and advancing the integration of geospatial and statistical information;**
- (f) Express its views and provide guidance on the role of regional committees, with the support of the United Nations Global Geospatial Centres of Excellence, to identify and collate good practices and knowledge related to the successful implementation of geospatial strategies and innovation to be shared with Member States, in particular developing countries; and**