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Item 12 of the provisional agenda\*

### Integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management

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### Note by the Secretariat

#### Summary

The present paper contains the report of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management for consideration by the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

At its fourteenth session, held from 7 to 9 August 2024, the Committee of Experts adopted decision [14/110](#), in which it welcomed the continuing focus on communicating, promoting and raising awareness of the merits and benefits of effective land administration, acknowledged the importance of addressing the integration of the terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains and understanding the complexities of the land-sea interface, and in that regard expressed appreciation for the ongoing collaborative efforts of the expert group with regional committees and functional groups of the Committee together with relevant international and regional partners and organizations.

The Committee of Experts reiterated that the Framework for Effective Land Administration was an important element of the Committee's work that provided guidance to Member States in developing, reforming, strengthening and modernizing effective and efficient land administration systems. The Committee welcomed the implementation of the Framework by Member States in accordance with national circumstances.

The Committee noted the proposed considerations and preparations for a paper addressing the integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains, and requested the expert group to consider and include land registration, the use of new technologies and innovation, and to engage Member States and relevant stakeholders on use cases and lessons learned in the proposed paper.

The Committee of Experts commended the expert group for its collaborative approach and requested the deepening of engagement and collaboration with the regional committees, functional groups, thematic networks and other relevant international organizations and stakeholders in its efforts and activities and to include the views and perspectives of Indigenous communities.

In the report, the expert group provides information on its activities, including the organization of virtual and in-person meetings to engage its members and advance its workplan. The expert group also highlights its collaboration with the regional committees, functional groups, thematic networks and international organizations of

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

the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management. Of particular note were partnerships with the United Nations global geospatial centres, the working group on marine geospatial information, the International Federation of Surveyors and EuroSDR on, and joint contributions towards, promoting the Framework for Effective Land Administration and assisting Member States in their efforts to develop and modernize land administration systems.

The report contains a summary of progress made on the integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains, which includes the development, in collaboration with the working group on marine geospatial information, of a comprehensive guide designed: (a) to demonstrate to policymakers the value of geospatial information for sustainable development; (b) to provide technical experts with strategies aligned with the nine strategic pathways of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework; and (c) to promote innovative approaches for Member States and the geospatial community. To support the development and ensure the relevance of the guide, the expert group invited Member States to complete a questionnaire in order to collect experiences, identify challenges and good practices and analyse how the Framework's strategic pathways support integration.

The report provides a summary of the international workshop entitled "Joining land and sea", held in December 2024 in Bogor, Indonesia, which brought together experts to support Member States in addressing the technical and governance complexities of integrating terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains. The report also provides an overview of the expert group's activities to promote and implement the Framework for Effective Land Administration, with a particular focus on priority regions, including Africa, Latin America and the Arab States.

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## I. Introduction

1. Land administration relates people to land and informs on the “how”, “what”, “who”, “when” and “where” of land tenure, land use, land value and land development. Land administration systems are the basis for recording the complex range of rights, restrictions and responsibilities related to people, policies and places. Effective land administration must be fit-for-purpose, appropriate and adequate, interoperable and sustainable, flexible and inclusive, and able to accelerate efforts to document, record, recognize and monitor people-to-land relationships in all forms. Effective land administration provides humanity with better access to and security of land and property rights. Noting that not all actors can be satisfied with every land administration decision, effective land administration helps mitigate issues related to land as a root cause of conflict, and supports leaving no one behind, the central commitment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. The Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA), with its nine strategic pathways, provides reference and guidance for Member States when establishing, strengthening, coordinating and monitoring their land administration at national or sub-national levels. FELA aligns directly with the overarching United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) – it effectively implements the UN-IGIF for the land sector. The nine pathways of FELA present a mechanism to achieve effective leadership, advocacy, mobilization and actions to document, record and recognize people-to-land relationships in all forms, for the well-being of society, the environment and the economy.

3. At its thirteenth session in August 2023, the Committee of Experts adopted decision [13/109](#), which included two significant developments. First, the Committee formally renamed this agenda item to “Integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management”. Second, it provided strategic direction to the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management (EG-LAM), tasking it to address the inventory of issues it had identified, and specifically to examine how effective land administration can support climate change initiatives. The decision also emphasized integrating terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains through strategic partnerships with international organizations, reflecting a more comprehensive and collaborative approach to land administration.

4. At its fourteenth session in August 2024, the Committee of Experts adopted decision [14/110](#), welcoming the Expert Group’s continued progress in promoting effective land administration and particularly acknowledging the successful fifth meeting of the Expert Group (held in Aguascalientes, Mexico, April 2024). The Committee emphasized the critical importance of integrating terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains to address climate challenges and enhance coastal resilience and endorsed the development of a guiding document to support this integration. While reaffirming FELA as a fundamental framework, the Committee underscored the need for flexible implementation based on national circumstances. The decision encouraged the Expert Group to maintain its coordinated, cross-cutting and inclusive approach, and to deepen collaboration with regional committees, functional groups and international organizations. Furthermore, the Committee supported the Expert Group’s initiatives to enhance outreach in underrepresented regions through webinars and knowledge-sharing activities, reflecting a commitment to advancing integrated geospatial information management with inclusive and effective implementation across Member States.

5. The present report describes the Expert Group’s progress and the implementation of its 2024–2025 workplan, highlighting key activities and

collaborations with regional committees, functional groups and international organizations during the intersessional period. The report concludes by outlining planned future activities and strategic considerations going forward.

6. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of this report and express its views on the activities and progress of the Expert Group – focusing on improving leadership, advocacy and awareness of FELA and the merits and benefits of effective land administration at the country level; the promotion and implementation of FELA alongside the UN-IGIF at the country level; the integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains; and the Expert Group’s efforts in addressing its inventory of issues and executing its workplan for 2024–2025. Points for discussion and decision are provided in paragraph 45.

## II. Workplan 2024 – 2025

7. During the intersessional period, the Expert Group began implementing its workplan, convened in-person and virtual meetings, supported various activities, and collaborated with regional committees, functional groups of the Committee of Experts, and international and regional organizations. The workplan defines five focus areas: (1) leadership and advocacy in effective land administration; (2) promotion and implementation of FELA at the country level; (3) integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains; (4) innovation in land administration and management to strengthen resilience and sustainability; and (5) engagement and collaboration, including efforts to further anchor FELA in the Committee’s programme of work.

8. The next section highlights activities undertaken to drive the implementation of the Expert Group’s workplan (see Table 1).

Table 1: Summary of activities

S/N	Activity	Date
1	Fourteenth session of UN-GGIM: Side event on Integration of terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains	6 August 2024
2	Regional Seminar on Effective Land Administration and Management – New Delhi, India	26 November 2024
3	Geoinformation Week Malaysia 2024	24–26 September 2024
4	COBRAC (Brazilian Congress on Cadastre) – Brazil	November 2024
5	UN-GGIM-AP Working Group 2 – Cadastre and Land Management	29 November 2024
6	UN-GGCE International Workshop on Integration of Terrestrial, Maritime, Built and Cadastral Domains (“Joining Land and Sea”) – Bogor, Indonesia	2–5 December 2024
7	12th Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States – Presentation on EG-LAM activities and FELA	2–6 February 2025
8	Arab Land Conference 2025	18–20 February 2025
9	5th Plenary Meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy	10–14 March 2025
10	Compilation Report on the Integration of Terrestrial, Maritime, Built and Cadastral Domains (Part 1: Terrestrial and Maritime Domains)	Ongoing
11	FELA Framework Global Virtual Webinar (planned)	17 July 2025 (scheduled)

### III. Activities and progress

#### **Leadership Update and Domain Integration Forum at the fourteenth session of UN-GGIM**

9. During the intersessional period, at the Expert Group's nineteenth virtual meeting (27 May 2025), Singapore (Singapore Land Authority) stepped down as co-Chair after having jointly led the Expert Group alongside Chile. The Expert Group expressed its sincere appreciation to Singapore for its valuable contributions and dedicated leadership. The Netherlands (Kadaster International) volunteered to assume the co-Chair role and was confirmed as the new co-Chair, with Singapore remaining an active member of the Expert Group.

10. A major focus during the reporting period was the integration of geospatial information across domains. At the fourteenth session of the Committee of Experts in August 2024, the Expert Group organized a side event on "Integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains". This forum opened with a comprehensive presentation exploring the fundamental aspects of integrating these domains. It was followed by an insightful case study on terrestrial-maritime integration in the Pacific region, presented by representatives from Fiji, Tonga, and the Pacific Community. The Pacific case study highlighted practical lessons learned and good practices, with particular focus on the unique challenges faced by small island developing States in managing their land-sea interface.

11. A moderated discussion during the side event included expert discussants from various working groups. The discussion emphasized the importance of addressing technical complexities at the land-sea interface, the critical role of geodetic reference frames and datums, and the need for integrated approaches to support climate resilience and sustainable coastal management.

12. Key outcomes from this forum included recognition of the need for comprehensive guidance material for Member States and an appreciation that both technical and governance challenges must be addressed to achieve successful domain integration. Discussions stressed the need to consider multiple aspects – including standardized data formats and interoperability standards, legal and policy frameworks, and emerging technologies – to enable seamless integration. The value of international collaboration in developing solutions was highlighted as crucial for advancing this complex work. This well-attended side event represented a significant step forward in addressing the integration of different geospatial domains, and it demonstrated strong support for the ongoing work of both the Expert Group and the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (WG-MGI) in this area.

#### **Regional Seminar on Effective Land Administration and Management**

13. The Regional Seminar on Effective Land Administration and Management, held on 26 November 2024 in New Delhi, India, was a special event convened as part of the 13th UN-GGIM: Asia-Pacific plenary meeting. The seminar was structured around two sessions: the first showcased regional developments in land administration and cadastre, with presentations by seven Member States; the second explored public-private perspectives on driving innovation and capacity-building, with contributions from industry and academia. This format allowed for a thorough examination of both practical implementations and strategic considerations in land administration.

14. The seminar's content aligned closely with several focus areas of the EG-LAM workplan. In terms of leadership and advocacy (Focus Area 1), it provided a platform for Member States to demonstrate leadership by sharing experiences in

modernizing land administration. A presentation dedicated to FELA supported Focus Area 2, by promoting FELA's implementation at the country level. The seminar's emphasis on technological innovation – including discussions on AI-driven geospatial information platforms, modern surveying technologies, and digital cadastre systems – directly addressed innovation in land administration (Focus Area 4). Importantly, the event exemplified engagement and collaboration (Focus Area 5) by bringing together diverse stakeholders from government, the private sector, and academia to exchange knowledge and build partnerships.

15. Through intensive discussions, the seminar identified several critical challenges facing land administration systems in the region. These included regulatory and institutional barriers to innovation, technical and human resource limitations, and significant gaps in capacity and education. The persistent issue of siloed operations between agencies, as well as ongoing challenges with data quality and digitization, emerged as common themes across different Member States.

16. Importantly, the seminar did not only identified problems – it also elicited potential solutions. Participants emphasized the need for standardized geospatial curricula in higher education, the implementation of professional certification programs for surveyors and geospatial professionals, and the adoption of modern technologies to improve public access and participation in land administration processes. The value of global frameworks like the UN-IGIF was highlighted, along with calls to promote open data initiatives to facilitate better integration and cooperation. The success of the seminar was in its practical, solution-focused approach to the EG-LAM workplan, providing actionable insights for improving land administration in Asia and the Pacific. The outcomes of this seminar align with the broader objectives of the Committee of Experts and offer clear direction for Member States seeking to modernize their land administration systems while fostering regional cooperation and knowledge exchange.

#### **UN-GGIM: Asia-Pacific Working Group 2 – Towards Integrated Land Administration**

17. The UN-GGIM: Asia-Pacific Working Group 2 on Cadastre and Land Management met on 29 November 2024 in New Delhi, India, alongside the regional plenary. Notably, the Working Group was renamed to “Integrated Geospatial Information for Effective Land Administration”, aligning its scope and title more directly with the evolving agenda and terminology of the Committee of Experts. The meeting's resolutions emphasized several priorities: engaging young leaders in the geospatial field; aligning effective land administration activities with the UN-IGIF and FELA to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and reaffirming core principles such as fit-for-purpose approaches, interoperability, sustainability, flexibility and inclusiveness. A practical outcome of the meeting was a request for Member States to participate in a terrestrial-maritime integration questionnaire (for the aforementioned guiding document), underscoring the region's commitment to integrated approaches in land administration.

18. These outcomes strongly support all five focus areas of the Expert Group's workplan. For example, developing young geospatial leaders and advocating integrated approaches reinforces Focus Area 1 (Leadership and Advocacy). The direct emphasis on FELA implementation corresponds to Focus Area 2. The support for the terrestrial-maritime integration initiative demonstrates a commitment to Focus Area 3 (Domain Integration). The call for interoperability and sustainable solutions aligns with Focus Area 4 (Innovation and Resilience). Finally, the emphasis on avoiding duplication through coordination clearly supports Focus Area 5 (Engagement and Collaboration). Overall, the Working Group's actions reflect a comprehensive approach to advancing effective land administration in Asia-Pacific, in strong alignment with global frameworks and with an eye to developing future leadership in the sector.

### **International Workshop “Joining Land and Sea”**

19. An International Workshop on the Integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains – themed “Joining Land and Sea” – took place on 2–5 December 2024 in Bogor, Indonesia. Hosted by Badan Informasi Geospasial (BIG) and organized by the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (UN-GGCE), the workshop substantially advanced several areas of the EG-LAM workplan. The workshop most directly addressed Focus Area 3 (Domain Integration) by convening experts to examine technical and policy aspects of integrating land-based and marine geospatial information. In addition, the workshop supported Focus Area 1 (Leadership and Advocacy) through high-level discussions and the development of effective communication strategies, Focus Area 4 (Innovation) by exploring cutting-edge approaches and technologies for integration, and Focus Area 5 (Engagement and Collaboration) by bringing together a wide range of domain experts and organizations, including the WG-MGI, the Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks, and other international bodies.

20. A key theme that emerged from the workshop was the challenge of integrating data across traditionally separate domains to address complex real-world questions. It was noted that while experts within specific domains (for example, hydrographers or land surveyors) can make very precise decisions in their own areas, broader issues – such as assessing the impacts of land subsidence in coastal cities – demand expertise and data that span multiple domains. Participants highlighted that, at present, no comprehensive guidance exists for Member States on how to effectively integrate land and sea data to tackle such multidisciplinary challenges.

21. The workshop identified several critical issues and challenges that need to be addressed, including:

- Governance challenges: Many countries have historically managed maritime and terrestrial geospatial information separately, leading to siloed governance and coordination gaps.
- Geodetic reference frameworks: There is a need for better understanding and connection between geodetic reference systems and datasets across the land and sea domains.
- Fit-for-purpose solutions: Integration strategies must be “fit for purpose”, taking into account each nation’s unique circumstances and requirements rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.
- Technical complexities: Differences in vertical datums and other reference standards pose significant technical hurdles for aligning terrestrial and marine data.
- Capacity building: Developing countries, in particular, require capacity development and knowledge transfer to manage and integrate complex geospatial information.
- International collaboration: Sustainable integration of geospatial data will require strengthened international collaboration, to share best practices, technologies and resources.

22. A primary outcome of the workshop was a commitment to develop comprehensive guidance material for Member States on land–sea integration. The forthcoming guidance will provide practical information on establishing common reference levels, requisite geodetic infrastructure, and methods to connect different height and depth models, along with advice on implementation. The guidance will address key technical elements such as choosing appropriate geodetic datums and geoid models, harmonizing land height reference systems with tidal and sea level models, and the importance of storing data at the highest available accuracy and transforming it as needed for various uses.

23. The workshop also established a clear path forward for improving how complex geospatial information is communicated and put into practice. Plans were outlined to develop communication materials that explain technical concepts in accessible terms for decision-makers and the public—these will include cost-benefit analyses, impact assessments, and simplified visual graphics to illustrate the value of integration. Participants furthermore recognized the critical importance of sustaining the global geodetic reference frame and infrastructure (“the global geodesy supply chain”) and emphasized the need to cultivate the next generation of geospatial professionals with relevant expertise. These outcomes reflect a balanced approach between technical advancement and real-world implementation, with a strong focus on capacity-building and effective communication to ensure that integrated geospatial information can support resilience and sustainable development.

### **Geospatial Innovations Week – Egypt’s Cadastre Modernization**

24. Members of the Expert Group and the UN-GGIM Private Sector Network jointly organized the First Geospatial Innovations Week in Cairo, Egypt, from 9 to 13 December 2024. Hosted at the German University in Cairo, this inaugural conference was unique in combining high-level presentations with practical training. Each morning featured international and Egyptian keynote speakers, and each afternoon offered hands-on workshops. A total of 311 attendees from 13 countries participated, marking great success for the first conference of its kind. Plans are already underway to continue this series with a Second Geospatial Innovations Week in December 2025.

25. Two keynote presentations by the Egyptian Survey Authority (ESA) addressed the ongoing modernization of the Egyptian cadastre. The first focused on upgrading Egypt’s geodetic infrastructure – specifically, modernizing the network of GNSS stations to provide centimeter-level positioning via real-time kinematic (RTK) services for cadastral updates. The second keynote outlined the challenges Egypt faces in updating its cadastral records amid rapid building and infrastructure development. To date, only about 9% of Egypt’s total urban areas have up-to-date cadastral information. This underscores the need for new technologies, such as GeoAI, advanced GNSS hardware and software, and automated interpretation of satellite and aerial imagery, to accelerate cadastral surveying and data capture in the near future. In addition, representatives from Kadaster International (Netherlands) and Hexagon/Leica Geosystems delivered keynote addresses on state-of-the-art approaches in modern cadastre and GNSS. Industry experts from Esri and Leica Geosystems (Dubai) also presented new workflows for geospatial information technology and 3D/4D mapping, respectively.

26. During discussions, participants proposed initiating a pilot project involving ESA, Hexagon/Leica Geosystems, the German University in Cairo, Kadaster International and the University of Stuttgart. The pilot, planned to begin in late 2025, will demonstrate how the latest geospatial technologies and methodologies can significantly accelerate Egypt’s cadastre modernization, in alignment with UN-GGIM’s IGIF and FELA principles. A key lesson from the Geospatial Innovations Week was the value of the UN-GGIM network itself: its members and stakeholders proved highly cooperative and supportive, offering a ready platform for knowledge exchange. In particular, the UN-GGIM Private Sector Network was recognized as playing an important role in helping developing countries address geospatial challenges by facilitating access to expertise, technology and training.

### **Outreach in the Arab States**

27. The Expert Group was invited to participate in the 12th Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States, held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, from 2 to 6 February 2025. This opportunity was used to introduce the work of the Expert Group – and the



principles of FELA – to the national geospatial and mapping agencies of the Arab States.

28. The presentation delivered at the Arab States plenary focused on two main areas: an introduction to FELA, and an overview of the Expert Group’s work on geospatial information domain integration. The aim was to raise awareness and encourage Member States in the region to consider implementing FELA in their land administration initiatives. The presentation also highlighted the value and importance of integrating data across terrestrial, marine and built environment domains – an ongoing focus of the Expert Group’s efforts – to support sustainable land and coastal management in the region.

### **Collaboration with the Subcommittee on Geodesy**

29. The fifth plenary meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy took place on 12 March 2025 at the UN Campus in Bonn, Germany. During this meeting, participants reported significant progress in the collaboration between the UN-GGCE, the Expert Group and the WG-MGI to address land–sea domain integration challenges.

30. A key highlight of the discussion was the emphasis on strengthening partnerships and collaborative efforts in integrating land and sea geospatial information. The meeting recognized the importance of leveraging each partner’s unique strengths and expertise, and of incorporating the latest research findings into practical applications. This collaborative approach builds on the outcomes of the “Joining Land and Sea” workshop, held in Bogor, December 2024 and is contributing to the development of a guiding document that will address the complexities of integrating terrestrial and maritime geospatial data.

31. The collaboration with the Subcommittee on Geodesy demonstrates a coordinated approach to solving the technical challenges of domain integration, with geodesy providing the fundamental reference framework needed for seamless land–sea data integration. These efforts align with the broader objectives of improving geospatial information management, while ensuring technical accuracy and reliability. The initiative directly supports Focus Area 3 (Integration of domains) and Focus Area 5 (Engagement and collaboration) of the EG-LAM workplan, exemplifying the Expert Group’s commitment to fostering meaningful partnerships and advancing technical solutions for integrating geospatial information across domains.

### **Compilation Report on Terrestrial and Maritime Domain Integration**

32. The Expert Group, in collaboration with the WG-MGI, has made substantial progress in developing a Compilation report on the Integration of Terrestrial, Maritime, Built and Cadastral Domains - Part 1: Terrestrial and Maritime Domains. This joint initiative aims to gather Member States’ perspectives on terrestrial–maritime integration and to put forward key recommendations for achieving effective geospatial information management across these domains. The report will provide a foundation for the Committee of Experts to identify and discuss priority actions needed to achieve seamless integration between land and sea, while also laying the groundwork for future efforts to integrate other domains, such as the built environment, in a comprehensive manner.

33. The development of the report followed a structured, inclusive approach. A detailed questionnaire was designed and circulated to Member States to capture a range of insights. The questionnaire comprised three main sections: (a) establishing the conceptual understanding of “domain integration” within national geospatial information management; (b) exploring practical applications and benefits of terrestrial–maritime integration, including how such integration supports national development priorities and contributes to the SDGs; and (c) leveraging the nine

strategic pathways of the UN-IGIF to identify the three pathways most crucial for successful integration in each country, as well as the three pathways where additional support or guidance is needed. The Expert Group received 47 responses from 40 Member States (several Member States submitted more than one response, through different national agencies).

34. Member States have been actively engaged through the questionnaire, sharing their challenges, success stories and good practices in terrestrial–maritime integration. These responses form the evidence base for the forthcoming report. Through a systematic analysis of the inputs – structured around the nine strategic pathways of the IGIF – the report examines conceptual understanding, practical benefits, and implementation approaches under various dimensions, including technical workflows, legal and policy frameworks, institutional coordination and capacity gaps. Starting with fundamental definitions and frameworks, the report then presents detailed analyses of the benefits and challenges of terrestrial–maritime integration, and concludes with six key recommendations. These recommendations cover critical areas, including:

- establishing clear definitions and terminology for geospatial domain integration;
- documenting and sharing successful use cases and applications of land–sea integration;
- developing governance frameworks to enable integrated terrestrial and marine geospatial information management;
- addressing technical gaps (e.g., data interoperability and reference frame alignment) that hinder integration;
- building national capacity and skills for integrated geospatial data management; and
- enhancing communication and stakeholder engagement to underscore the importance and benefits of domain integration.

Together, these recommendations represent significant steps toward achieving more effective and integrated approaches to land and marine administration and management.

### **Global Webinar on the FELA Framework**

35. In line with Focus Area 2 of the workplan – promoting and encouraging the implementation of FELA at the country level – the Expert Group has identified a need to broaden global awareness and understanding of the framework. To address this, the Expert Group plans to increase the number of virtual outreach events. These events aim to raise awareness, promote knowledge exchange, and facilitate access to information about FELA for Member States, institutional stakeholders, and the broader geospatial community.

36. As a first step, a global virtual webinar on FELA is being organized to provide comprehensive information on the framework’s value and use. The primary objective of the webinar is to highlight the benefits of FELA, its relevance to the geospatial and land administration community, and practical examples of its implementation at national and regional levels. To ensure broad accessibility and inclusivity, the session will be conducted in both English and Spanish, supported by financial contributions from UN-GGIM: Americas. The webinar is conveniently organized within the series of webinars leading up to the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts, providing a good opportunity for outreach in the geospatial community.

37. The webinar program will feature thematic discussions covering key elements of the FELA framework, challenges in regional and local implementation, enabling technologies and platforms for effective land administration, and

illustrative case studies from different countries. Renowned researchers and practitioners in the field of land administration and FELA will share insights on current initiatives and innovations.

38. Scheduled for 17 July 2025, the webinar will be open to a global audience and will be actively publicized among land administration institutions worldwide. The intent is to reach professionals and decision-makers who deal with land administration challenges on a daily basis, ensuring they can benefit from the knowledge shared. This initiative is expected to significantly boost awareness of FELA and support more informed, inclusive and integrated land governance practices.

## IV. Next steps

39. The Expert Group continues to implement its agreed workplan and to broaden its outreach, with a strong focus on making key resources available in multiple languages. FELA has already been translated into Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, French and Spanish by Expert Group members, and further voluntary translation efforts are welcomed – both for FELA itself and for the upcoming guiding document on integrating terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains. Such translations are vital for raising awareness, promoting understanding and encouraging the implementation of FELA and geospatial domain integration in countries where English is not widely used.

40. To promote the benefits of effective land administration and the country-level implementation of FELA, the Expert Group (in collaboration with UN-GGIM: Americas) will host the global webinar described above, with live interpretation in English and Spanish. Beyond this, the Expert Group will continue to support and participate in relevant activities organized by its members, partners, regional committees and other functional groups of the Committee of Experts. In particular, the group will leverage virtual platforms to reach the land administration community in all regions of the world, facilitating meaningful dialogue and creating opportunities for regional collaboration and knowledge exchange.

41. Recognizing the complex nature of integrating terrestrial and maritime domains, the Expert Group is committed to supporting efforts to develop comprehensive technical documentation and guidelines for land–sea integration. In parallel, the Expert Group and its partners will intensify capacity-building activities to share technical know-how on datum transformations, geodetic reference frames and other foundational aspects, and to promote the practical benefits of seamless integration between land and marine geospatial information. These efforts will involve working closely with members, regional committees and other groups under the Committee of Experts. They demonstrate the Expert Group’s commitment to providing practical guidance and technical expertise while fostering international collaboration to advance effective land administration.

### **Supporting a Hub on Effective Land Administration**

42. The Committee of Experts has long recognized that frameworks such as FELA – and complementary standards like the Land Administration Domain Model (LADM) – provide essential guidance for building fit-for-purpose, interoperable and sustainable land administration systems. However, many countries, particularly in the developing countries, face challenges in translating these global frameworks into locally implementable solutions.

43. In this context, Expert Group intends to discuss a proposal for the establishment of a global Hub with a focus on operationalizing the framework for effective land administration as a timely and strategic initiative for technical support, innovation and capacity development, and could provide much-needed

assistance to countries in implementing FELA and LADM in line with their unique legal and societal contexts.

44. The Expert Group will further discuss the proposal and contributions to the development of such Hub. The proposed Hub can be a key opportunity to help close the implementation gap – to move from principles and frameworks to on-the-ground improvements. By providing targeted support, facilitating collaboration, and enabling knowledge sharing, the Hub could greatly assist countries in operationalizing FELA and related standards, thereby strengthening their land administration systems.

## **V. Points for Discussion**

45. The Committee of Experts is invited to:

- (a) Take note of the present report and express its views on the work, progress and activities of the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management, and provide guidance on ways to strengthen leadership, advocacy and awareness of the Framework for Effective Land Administration and its implementation, alongside the UN-IGIF, and on the merits of effective land administration at the country level, in accordance with national circumstances;
- (b) Provide views and guidance to accelerate the integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains in geospatial information management, including support for the efforts outlined in the above-mentioned compilation report on land–sea integration, and encourage Member States and relevant stakeholders to consider the recommendations proposed therein;
- (c) Encourage innovation in land administration and management to strengthen climate resilience and sustainability, and consider how new technologies and approaches can be harnessed in this regard;
- (d) Encourage that the Framework for Effective Land Administration be maintained as a living document, cognizant of changing social, economic, environmental, political and technological environments, and be adaptable and evolving in accordance to diverse national needs; and
- (e) Encourage the engagement, collaboration and partnerships – including with UN-GGIM regional committees, thematic groups, and external organizations – to improve awareness and coordination in implementing FELA according to national circumstances and needs; and, take note of the support by partners that have organized, hosted and supported the Expert Group’s activities as mentioned in the present report.