



Seventh Session of the Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM

SIDE EVENT

Global Geodetic Reference Frame

Tuesday, 1 August 2017

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Venue: Conference Room 11 (CR-11)

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Background

The Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) is a fundamental spatial dataset supporting the collection, integration and utilization of all other spatial data. Its application extends from extremely precise decade long Earth monitoring programs, through to Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) guidance and control of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV's) used for the collection of spatial imagery. Much has been written about the application of GNSS to survey, mapping and navigation fields, but increasingly location-based positioning applications are becoming critical for civil engineering, industrial automation, agriculture, construction, mining, recreation, financial transactions, intelligent transport systems, disaster response and emergency management, environmental studies and scientific research. This GNSS capability cannot occur without the availability of an accurate and sustainable GGRF.

Objectives

Member States and observers will be briefed on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) and the substantial progress achieved since the adoption of the General Assembly resolution on Global Geodetic reference frame for sustainable development (A/RES/69/226). A clear indication of this progress, and the dedicated and professional communication work undertaken, is the production by the Norwegian film company, Nova Vision, of the film "Quest for the Exact Position" which documents how an accurate, accessible and sustainable GGRF supports science and society. Among the experts interviewed in the documentary are Ambassador Peter Thomson of Fiji, elected President of the United Nations General Assembly for its 71st session, and a number of participants at the sixth session of UN-GGIM. This side event will include a world premiere (outside of Norway) of this international documentary film.

The briefing will also provide a description of the transition from the GGRF Working Group to the Subcommittee on Geodesy; initial findings and lessons learnt on attributes of an appropriate governance structure for the GGRF; and reflect on possible challenges and opportunities in the next five years.

"This is an open forum and all Session Attendees are invited"



Agenda:

Moderator: Mr. Gary Johnston, UN-GGIM Interim Subcommittee on Geodesy Co-Chair, Australia

1. Welcome and Introduction

2. "Quest for the Exact Position": World preview of the international documentary film on GGRF and global geodesy

Ms. Anne Anne Jørgensen, Senior Communications Adviser, Geodetic Division - Norwegian Mapping Authority

3. Reflections on the GGRF challenges and opportunities the next five years

Ms. Akata Takala, Geospatial Information Management, Ministry of Lands & Mineral Resources, Fiji

4. Short briefing on the transition from the GGRF Working Group to the Subcommittee on Geodesy

Mr Gary Johnston, Co-Chair GGRF Working Group, Branch Head, Geodesy and Seismic Monitoring, Geoscience Australia

5. Attributes of an appropriate governance structure for the GGRF

Ms. Laila Løvhøiden, Co-Chair GGRF Working Group, Senior Advisor, Geodetic Division - Norwegian Mapping Authority

6. Open Discussion

Moderated and interactive discussion and questions from the floor

7. Summary and Conclusions

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