



**Eighth Session of the Committee of Experts on
Global Geospatial Information Management**
**Side Event on Legal and Policy Frameworks for
Geospatial Information Management**
“availability and accessibility of geospatial information”

Monday, 30 July 2018

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room E (CR-E)

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Geospatial information is fundamental to support evidence-based policies, decisions and actions, and to achieve the goals of the global development agendas, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. There are issues and challenges regarding the quality, availability, and accessibility of geospatial information, and these issues are common and experienced across many jurisdictions and at various levels. Appropriate legal and policy frameworks on geospatial information management can support Member States to resolve these issues and challenges. Sound legal and policy framework is desirable, and considered ‘sound’ when it creates balance between competing interests, and this balance is determined by national circumstances. Sound legal and policy frameworks proactively support the strengthening of geospatial information management so that policies, decisions and actions lead to the desired public good in a more effective and efficient way.

At its seventh session, the Committee of Experts endorsed the establishment of the working group on legal and policy frameworks for geospatial information management. The working group was requested to analyze complex legal and policy issues regarding geospatial information, including definitions of open data, privacy, security and licensing, and to develop mechanisms for Member States to develop capacity to address legal and policy matters. Recognizing the need to account for cultural and legal differences, and diversity, the working group, agreed to work with a concrete use case as a foundation for the group’s efforts to identify some of the complex legal and policy issues that impact collection, sharing and use of geospatial information to address critical transboundary issues.

The Working Group wishes to engage and interact with delegates attending the 8th session of the Committee of Experts on the present progress in the use case and its initial findings. The side event will allow Member States to appreciate the work and progress, to evaluate and understand through the use case, the complex legal and policy issues impacting geospatial information within the overall aim to improve and strengthen national geospatial information management, system and infrastructure.

“This is an open forum and all Session Attendees are invited”



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Objectives of the Side Event

The side event aims to raise awareness of participants on the importance and need to engage in multi-stakeholder discussions on legal and policy issues that could have an impact on the acquisition, accessibility and application of geospatial information. It will be a moderated interactive session with introductory presentations, interactions and discussions between panelists and participants with opportunities for questions, comments, clarifications and answers.

Proposed Agenda

Moderator:

Ms. Malgorzata Drewniak
Lantmäteriet, Sweden

Panelists

Mr. Tomas Öhrn, Lantmäteriet, Sweden

Ms. Diana Marina Cooper, PrecisionHawk, United States

Ms. Krystal Wilson, Secure World Foundation, United States

Mr. Kevin Pomfret, Centre for Spatial Law and Policy, United States

Moderated interactions with participants and panelists (approximately 30 minutes)

Summary and conclusion by the Moderator

