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Geospatial information for sustainable development

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report jointly prepared by Secretariat and the working group on geospatial information of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, which will be available in the language of submission only from the relevant web page of the Committee of Experts (<http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/9th-Session/>). The Committee is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the efforts to address the availability and application of geospatial information in producing Sustainable Development Goal indicators and in measuring and monitoring the key principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is to leave no one behind.

Summary of the report

At its eighth session, held in New York from 1 to 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 8/110, in which it supported the revised workplan of the working group for the biennium 2018–2019. The Committee acknowledged that geospatial information and earth observations were not yet sufficiently leveraged in statistical production processes and requested that the working group continue to develop and provide expert advice and guidance on the application of geospatial information to achieve national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In the report, efforts are discussed to develop and provide guidance on data disaggregation by geographic location, the aggregation of geocoded unit-level data and approaches to leverage production-ready earth observation time series data sets made available by space agencies, for the production of indicators. The report also includes a discussion of the main outcomes of the fifth expert meeting of the working group, held in Nairobi in December 2018 and which included an international seminar on geospatial information for sustainable development. In addition, the report includes a discussion of the efforts and progress made to ensure that the contribution of the global geospatial information community to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda remains rigorous and relevant, and provides an overview of planned activities for the coming year.

* E/C.20/2020/1.

