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## **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

Second Meeting of the Committee  
on Development Information (CODI)

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
4 - 7 September 2001

### **SUB-COMMITTEE ON GEOINFORMATION**

#### **DRAFT PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA “Using Geinformation in Knowledge-based Societies”**

#### **6. Sub-committee on Geo-information**

The meeting of the sub-committee will be organized in plenary sessions, poster sessions, workshops and a technical exhibition. In order to allow enough time for the presentation and discussion of the papers, the secretariat will make a selection of those that will be presented at the plenaries. The remaining papers will be either presented at the poster sessions or will only be distributed for information to the participants.

##### **6.1. Opening**

The meeting will be open by the outgoing Chairman, the representative of Côte d'Ivoire, who presided over the first meeting of the Sub-committee. A world renowned expert in the field will deliver a keynote address on the theme “Using Geinformation in Knowledge-based Societies”

##### **6.2. Introduction, organization of work and election of officers**

The secretariat will make a brief presentation on CODI-and CODI-Geo, its terms of reference and the way the work of the sub-Committee has been organized, including both technical and logistic matters. The meeting will then elect the Chairperson, first and second Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, who will hold office for the duration of the meeting. The agenda and programme of work will be adopted

##### **6.3. Progress reports**

Summaries of national reports covering progress made by the countries in the development of national capabilities in the field of cartography, remote sensing and geographic information systems, and highlighting the status of activities will be presented. Discussions of the country reports will take place at the end the agenda item, after all have been submitted. Full country reports will only be distributed for information to participants.

The secretariat will report on relevant activities it carried out and on the implementation of resolutions and decisions of the first meeting of CODI.

Invited international, regional and sub-regional organizations will report on achievements and current programmes relevant to the African region.

#### 6.4. Policy issues

Under this agenda item, reports and invited papers addressing policy and strategic matters influencing the development and utilization of Geoinformation (GI) in decision-making, would be presented. In particular, reports and papers addressing the following sub-titles should be prepared:

6.4.1. Future orientations of GI Africa. Under this title the secretariat will present a study that was reviewed by an ad-hoc working group of experts that met in November 2000:

6.4.2. Economics of GI

6.4.3. The place of GI within the new Information Technologies (ITs). This agenda item will include a report addressing the role of GI within ITs and the African Information Society Initiative (AIS), its incorporation in the national information policies—in particular within the NICIs that are being developed, adopted and implemented by countries in the region, and the perceived effects of such incorporation.

6.4.4. Land Information Systems. The meeting will receive the report of the Working Group on LIS

#### 6.5. Technical issues: New means for data collection and management.

This agenda item will include reports and invited papers on modern technological developments that facilitates filling datagaps, data organization and access to it, ranging from new space imagery, ground/ photogrammetric / space surveys methods, to the development of SDIs. In particular, reports under the following sub-tittles should be submitted:

6.5.1. New trends and developments, summary by the secretariat, without prejudice of supplementary papers by other organizations/ participants. A particular section should include the Shuttle Radar Topographic Map (SRTM).

6.5.2. National and Regional Spatial Data Infrastructures (NSDIs and RSDIs)

6.5.3. Applications. Under this agenda item, case studies of successful applications of GI would be presented addressing the various sectors of development.

#### 6.6. Workshops:

6.6.1. With the support of GTZ, a workshop on LIS will be held in the last part of the week preceding the meeting of the Committee. The workshop will consist of 3 parts:

(a) African Reference System (AFREF): GPS technology now permits to determine cm-level accuracy reference systems for use as national and continental mapping reference, and for use in monitoring movements of the plates of the earth crust at minimal expense

(b) Land Management and the Cadastre: Land rights are of fundamental economic significance. They need to be spatially referenced and recorded in form of the cadastre. New digital orthomapping technology using digitized aerial or digital satellite images used in conjunction with GPS local surveys linked to digital fieldbooks permit a rapid and economic solution to define and register land with the rights pertaining to it.

(c) Educational Network: establishment of an educational network in Africa to support land management activities. In order to keep the technical innovations such as GPS, digital photogrammetry and GIS sustainable, educational institutions in Africa need improvement and a new focus in the field of geoinformatics, which can easiest be achieved and maintained in a network of academic institutions to be established.

4.6.2. Complementing the reports and papers presented under item 4.5.2, a one-two day workshop/ seminar on SDIs will be organized, whose objective is to provide an overview of policies, concepts, standards and practices associated with the implementation and operation of a SDI, with particular attention to metadata and clearinghouse.

6.7. Report on ECA activities in the area of geo-information during the period 1999-2001 and Programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003

The secretariat will present a report on the status of implementation of the programmes of work on Geoinformation for the biennia 1996-1997 and 1998-1999 for review, and a draft programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001 for consideration and recommendation to the Conference of Ministers.

6.8. Compilation of results and final draft report

6.9. Any other business

6.10. Adoption of the report and closing

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