

United Nations

E/ ECA/GGIM-A/0/10



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
12 December 2014

Original: English

Economic Commission for Africa

United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM: Africa)

Inception meeting

Tunis, Tunisia, 10-12 December 2014

Item 17 of the provisional agenda *

Recommendations

UN-GGIM: Africa

Regional Committee Inception Meeting

Recommendations

* E/ECA/GGIM-A/0/1.



II. Resolutions and recommendations

Session 6 – Resolution on the establishment of UN-GGIM: Africa

Recommendation to be included in the StatCom Outcomes and Resolutions

Acknowledging that geospatial information science and technology and related disciplines are now commonly found as the driving force of many applications and services in industrial and socio-economic development, offering a radically different way in which we produce and use information required to manage our communities and economic activities.

Acknowledging the key role of ECA in providing a regional focus and leadership for geospatial information activities in Africa,

Noting decades of ECA and Members States' efforts and progress in building Spatial Data Infrastructures in Africa,

Taking cognizance of the global initiative to bring statistics and geospatial information together through the Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM) initiative,

Taking into account the specificities of legal frameworks existing in each participating country,

Realising the need for the African voice to continue to be heard in the global arena of geospatial information management,

The Participants at the inception meeting of Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM) concluded and resolved as follows:

- (1). Expresses support for mainstreaming geospatial information infrastructures (all the way through training, data and processes) into national statistics offices activities in Africa and their linkages with national statistical development strategies (NSDS) in line with the GGIM initiative and the recommendation of StatCom Africa.
- (2). Declare the creation of the African Caucus of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management initiative, so-called UN-GGIM: Africa, with ECA as Secretariat of the entity.
- (3). Recommends that UN-GGIM: Africa take over the functions of CODIST-Geo in line with the resolution of the former geoinformation subcommittee of CODIST (ECA/CODIST/1/INF/3).
- (4). Reiterate the request to ECA to retain specific programmatic activities in the field of geoinformation, particularly the advance of holistic geospatial information management and governance, the promotion of national spatial data infrastructures, the development of partnership and international and regional cooperation on space science and technology, the promotion of geographical names standardization and common geodetic reference frames (AFREF), the fostering of streamlined online applications, the development of core and fundamental datasets in support of regional initiatives, the promotion of geospatial standards and interoperable common tools, and the building of a comprehensive, holistic, vision-driven, long-term transformative development of capacities.
- (5). Encourages member States to participate in and contribute to the work of the UN Committee of Experts on GGIM.

- (6). Request StatCom to bring these recommendations to the consideration of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development for adoption and endorsement.

Recommendation to UN-GGIM for cooptation of UN-GGIM: Africa

We, delegates from member States, representatives from regional organisations, partners and observers, met, agreed and resolved:

- To create the African caucus of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, hereafter referred to as UN-GGIM: Africa,
- To establish the Economic Commission for Africa of the United Nations as the caucus Secretariat.
- To request the formal endorsement of the African cluster of UN-GGIM during UN-GGIM-5.

Recommendation: ECA to draft terms of reference for each working group and distribute to member States for review, expressions of interest and willingness to participate.

Recommendation: ECA to send letter requesting countries to support the GGRF.

Conclusions

The meeting recalled the importance of the UN-GGIM initiative and endorsed African participation to the overall process. It was agreed that ECA as the Secretariat should continue to coordinate and provide the necessary support to the African participation in the global initiative through the UN-GGIM: Africa chapter.

It was underscored that the UN-GGIM: Africa initiative shall ensure the consolidation of previous efforts, building upon the achievements of existing initiatives and strive to establish synergies and linkages with other networks and initiatives at regional and national level.