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## **Economic and Social Council**

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**Economic Commission for Africa**

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

Second meeting

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 30 November – 02 December 2016

Item 17 of the provisional agenda \*

**Recommendations**

### **UN-GGIM: Africa**

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### **Regional Committee Second Meeting**

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### **Recommendations**

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\* E/ECA/GGIM-A/2/1.



## **II. Resolutions and recommendations**

### **Resolutions 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,

*Noting* the UN General Assembly Resolution 69/266 on “A global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development” and the ECOSOC Resolution E/RES/2016/27 on “Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management”,

*Noting* with appreciation the key role of ECA and AUC in providing a regional focus and leadership for geospatial information activities in Africa,

*Noting* decades of ECA and Member States’ efforts and progress in building Geospatial Data Infrastructures in Africa,

*Considering* the natural interaction between geospatial information and statistics, and the need to strive for a concerted action towards the delivery of information products and services bearing advantages and benefits from both sides for development challenges in Africa,

*Recognising* the recent adoption of the African Space Policy and Strategy by the Heads of State of African countries:

We, the representatives of National Mapping Authorities (NMAs) of African States, supported by the African Union Commission (AUC), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the United Nations Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Secretariat, and other partners, gathered in Grand-Bassam, Côte d’Ivoire from 30 November to 02 December 2016 during the Second Meeting of the Regional Committee of the United Nations Geospatial Information Management for Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa), deliberated and resolved as follows:

#### **1. Recommendations for the endorsement of the regional committee on UN-GGIM: Africa**

Recommend that the African Conference of Ministers responsible for Finance, Economic and Social Development and Planning, endorses the establishment of Regional Committee of the United Nations Geospatial Information Management for Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa), as an overarching governance framework in the field of geospatial information management, science and technology, in order to ensure that UN-GGIM: Africa is able to mould policy and strategic actions, suited to African issues and ensure that national bodies are capable of addressing their unique concerns. This body, re-aligning the functions of previous intergovernmental mechanisms, will maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits of geospatial information by providing a forum for African countries to leverage the benefits of geospatial information management, science and technology for a people-centered, free market based and export-oriented socio-economic development.

#### **2. Recommendation on the integration of geospatial information and statistical information in Africa**

Call upon National Statistics Offices (NSOs) and Systems and National Mapping Agencies (NMAs) to encourage the integration of geospatial and statistical information and the improvement of institutional coordination between the two communities in the context of the African Vision 2063, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the 2020 Round of Censuses.

Invite Member States to move from NSDS 1.0 to NSDS 2.0, an innovative new generation of Geo-enabled National Strategies for the Development of Statistics that fully incorporates National Spatial Data Infrastructures (NSDI).

Encourage member States to advance geospatial enablement of all services that the society needs, fostering Geospatially-Enabled Government Services (GSEGS) that evolves to become an enabling platform, helping to link services across jurisdictions, organizations and disciplines.

Urges member States to adopt the paradigm of the Development Information Infrastructure and to develop their respective National Development Information Infrastructure.

### **3. Recommendation on the engagement with ECA and AUC**

Requests the ECA and the AUC to work collaboratively in the furtherance of advocating the importance of geospatial information in the achievement of the sustainable development objectives at national, regional and international levels among member States, NGOs, academia, private sector and other stakeholders.

### **4. Resolution on the African Action Plan on Geospatial Information Management (AAP-GGIM/GI4SD)**

Resolves to adopt the African Action Plan on Geospatial Information Management – Geospatial Information for Sustainable Development in Africa (GI4SD), with the focus on four key areas, namely, Geospatial Information Policy and Governance; Common Framework and Tools; Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer; and, International Coordination and Cooperation in Meeting Global Needs. In addition, there is a specific action area on Integration of Geospatial Information and Statistics.

Requests ECA and AUC to formulate an African Geospatial Information Policy as a framework policy for formulating national policies for geospatial information.