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Economic Commission for Africa
Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa

Twelfth meeting
Addis Ababa (hybrid), 19–23 October 2026

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Organizational matters

Draft programme of work

Twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa

Date/time East Africa Time (UTC+3)		Agenda item and documentation	Proposed amount of time to be spent on each item (minutes)
Monday, 19 October 2026		**Strategic avenues for implementing the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework**	
9–10.35 a.m.[1] CR.2	**Session I**	**Workshop opening** Welcome and introductions • Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo • Co-Chair, High Level Group on Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), Fernand Isseri • Director, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC), Li Pengde [Virtual] • Chair, Executive Board, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast	95

* E/ECA/GGIM-A/12/1.
[1] All times are East Africa Time (UTC+3).

A. 26-00619 (E)

		• Director, African Centre for Statistics, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Samuel Annim	
		Introduction of participants	
	Session II	**Making the case: strengthening awareness and political commitment for geospatial information management in support of Agenda 2063** Practical approaches to demonstrating the value of geospatial information to decisionmakers, building on General Assembly resolution A/80/L.104 and cooperation with the African Union; identification of priority use cases and policy briefs for high-level engagement	
		• Director, AIC Mindful, Derek Clarke	
		Interactive discussion	
10.35–11 a.m.		Break	
11 a.m.–noon	**Session III**	**Developing and financing business cases for the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework** *Moderator: Sandro Semedo* Exploration of pathways towards sustainable funding for national geospatial information management, including approaches to identifying funding needs and priorities and relevant financing instruments; strengthening participants' understanding of how sustainable funding can be identified and mobilized to support country-level implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework	60
		• Director, Centre for Study, Research and Production of Information for the Environment and Sustainable Development (CERPINEDD), Andre Bassole	
		Interactive discussion	
Noon–1 p.m.	**Session IV**	**National financing situations and constraints** Identification of country-specific constraints and needs, as a direct input to the tools being prepared by the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre for national implementation of the sustainable funding guide	60
		• Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo • Countries experience: Burkina, Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mali	
		Interactive discussion	
1–2 p.m.		Lunch	
2–3.30 p.m.	**Session V**	**Documenting implementation: the case study series of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre on the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, and policy briefs for decision-makers**	90

		Objectives of the series, presentation of the structured case-study template and illustrative cases from the region • Expert in Geomatics and information communication technology, Geomatics Center of Burundi, Eng. Julius Niyongabo Interactive discussion	
3.30–4 p.m		Break	
4–5 p.m.	**Session VI**	**Breakout session: preparation of country case studies** Breakout groups undertake the scoping and initial drafting of a national implementation case study on the structured template, with facilitation provided • Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo Interactive discussion	60
5–5.30 p.m.	**Session VII**	**Peer learning: country experiences and knowledge sharing** How knowledge sharing across the region can be made more effective, including arrangements for the continued collection of case studies • Director: National Spatial Information Framework, Secretariat: Committee for Spatial Information, Maroale Martha Chauke Interactive discussion **Wrap-up and conclusions** Consolidated conclusions of the workshop, submitted as a strategic input to the main conclusions of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa and to the joint agenda with the Statistical Commission for Africa • Chief, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma **Closing of the workshop** • Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo • Chair, Executive Board, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast	30

Date/time East Africa Time (UTC+3)		Agenda item and documentation	Proposed amount of time to be spent on each item (minutes)
Tuesday, 20 October 2026		**Workshop on land administration and administration**	
9–10.40 a.m. CR.2	**Session I**	**Framework for effective land administration in Africa** Keynote address: Why land matters for African development • Technical Manager, National Geographic Institute – France International (IGN FI), Camille Pinet Interactive discussion **Leadership and advocacy in land administration** • Acting Director-General, South African Department of Land Reform and Rural Development, Clinton Heimann **Member States experiences** • Representatives of two or three countries – Senegal, South Africa Interactive discussion **Modernization of land administration services: principles and promises** • Technical Manager, National Geographic Institute – France International (IGN FI), Camille Pinet **Towards sovereign global/national integrated land modernisation administration projects: Case studies** • Representatives of two or three countries. • Eswatini: Challenge of digitalising survey information and linking up to digital deeds registry. • Côte d'Ivoire, Uganda Interactive discussion	70
10.40–11 a.m.		Break	
11 a.m. 12 p.m.	**Session II**	**Land management frameworks** **Using spatial data for effective land management** Presentation and Panel discussion: From basic activities to strategic, coherent and impactful frameworks: creating a policy-to-practice matrix • Managing Director for Africa, Xcalibur Smart Mapping, Rochelle Mountany **Panellists** • Acting Director-General, South African Department of Land Reform and Rural Development, Clinton Heimann	60

		• Chair, Executive Board, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast • Technical Advisor, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Ghana, Jones Ofori-Boadu **AU Border Governance Strategy** • Advisor Geographic Information Systems and Global Navigation Satellite Systems, Border Gorvernance: GIZ support to the African Union Border Programme Yannick Le Gleau Interactive discussion	
12–12.50 p.m.	**Session III**	**Collaboration and partnerships** Impact, vision and call to action • Vice President-Elect, International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), Stephen Djaba Interactive and Panel discussion with representatives of Governments, international organizations and entities of the United Nations system on collaboration, partnerships and moving from commitment to delivery and on leveraging opportunities for collaboration and partnerships to enhance African land management infrastructure	50
12.50 –1.30 p.m.		Lunch Break	
1.3–3.50 p.m.	**Session IV**	**Seminar: Integrated Geospatial Information Framework in an age of artificial intelligence and sovereignty** Introduction building upon conversations in the community on "will artificial intelligence eat geospatial" and sovereignty. • Chief Executive Officer, Open Geospatial Consortium, Peter Rabley Where artificial intelligence native standards fit in the integrated geospatial information framework landscape • Chief Standards Officer, Open Geospatial Consortium, Scott Simmons How to interpret the integrated geospatial information framework in the artificial intelligence context • Chief Standards Officer, Open Geospatial Consortium, Scott Simmons How to interpret the integrated geospatial information in the data sovereignty context (and what does this mean for the Cloud in nations without data centers) • Chief Standards Officer, Open Geospatial Consortium, Scott Simmons GeoAI talk • Founder and Chief Executive Officer, TerraFrame, Nathan McEachen	120

		Interactive discussion | Group discussion: • what tools are you using in artificial intelligence • how are you dealing with artificial intelligence and data sovereignty without controlling much of the infrastructure • what are the greatest risks that you see	
3.50–4 p.m.		Break	
4.–5 p.m.	**Session V**	**Wrap-up and conclusions** Main outcomes of the Workshop Way forward and recommendations Closing remarks	60

Draft programme of work

Formal segment

Date/time East Africa Time (UTC+3)	Agenda item and documentation	Proposed amount of time to be spent on each item (minutes)
Wednesday, 21 October 2026 (Day 1)	**Twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa**	
9 –10.20 a.m. CR.1	**Opening of the meeting** (agenda item 1) **(a) Joint opening ceremony of the tenth session of the Statistical Commission for Africa and the twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa** Opening and keynote remarks	95
10.20–10.50 a.m.	**Break**	
10.50 a.m.–1 p.m. CR.2	Consideration of agenda items 1–4 **(b) Formal opening of the twelfth meeting** Welcome remarks • Chair, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast • Representative of the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume Le Sourd • Co-Chair, United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, Clinton Heimann Goodwill message • President, African Space Council, African Union Commission, Tidiane Ouattara Opening remarks • Director, African Centre for Statistics, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Samuel K. Annim **Organizational matters** (agenda item 2) Election of the members of the Executive Board Adoption of the agenda and programme of work	

Review of the rules of procedure

Presentation of reports (agenda item 3)

For discussion

Report on the activities of the Regional Committee

- Chair, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast

Reports of the Executive Working Groups

- Working group on the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, Maroale Chauke
- Working group on the Integration of Geospatial and Statistical Information, Fernand Isseri
- Working group on the African Geodetic Reference Frame, Aslam Parker
- Working group on Land Administration and Management, Kamal Outghouliast

Contributions of regional committees and thematic groups:

Private sector

- Director, AIC Mindful, Derek Clarke

Academic network

- Emeritus Professor of Surveying & Geoinformatics, Faculty of Environmental Design and Management, Nigeria, Jide Kufoniyi

Global geodetic reference frame

- Co-Chair, Subcommittee on Geodesy, United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, Fernand Bale

Policy issues (agenda item 4

Geospatial information management in Africa

Recommendations of the eleventh meeting: status of implementation

Framework for itemizing and structuring all resolutions, decisions, and recommendations adopted by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa

- Chief Executive Officer, Apogee Geospatial, Abdoulaye Belem

Interactive discussion

Secretariat and regional committees

- Representative, Secretariat of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume le Sourd

	UN-GGIM: Africa Activity plan for 2026: issues for consideration • Chief, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma Africa geospatial overarching governance: high-level ministerial engagement • Representative, South Africa [*to be determined*] Interactive discussion	
1–2 p.m.	Lunch Break	
2–5.30 p.m.	**Technical issues** (agenda item 5) **Geospatial information framework for development** United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework • Representative of the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume Le Sourd United Nations Geospatial Network: Global commitment, local impact • Representative, United Nations Geospatial Network [*to be determined*] United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre • Representative, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation, Sandro Semedo • United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence: Geodetic Capacity Development in Africa • Head of Office, United Nations Global Geospatial Geodetic Centre of Excellence, Nicholas James Brown The Global Geodetic Observing Systems (GGOS Africa) • Director: Radio Astronomy Projects, Department of Science, Technology and Innovation, Aleth De Witt Use of geospatial data and technologies to address development challenges • Representative of Trimble Geospatial Seeing Africa from Space: Building Africa's Earth Observation Infrastructure • Managing Director, Digital Earth Africa, Lisa Rebelo Leveraging Planetary Intelligence to outsmart El Nino • Impact Engagement Manager, Planet Labs, Kenneth Mubea	120

Geospatial Information, Statistics and Artificial Intelligence: Promise, Possibilities

- Senior Business Development Manager, Esri, Lorien Innes

Every Country Needs an Address Project: How Can Geocodes, Grids and the AFA Codes Methodology Help?

- Chief Executive Officer, Address4All, Thierry Jean

Production of 1:5,000 digital orthographic maps without ground control points

- Vice-President, Strategy, OMEO Space, Wei Sun

Cloud based access to imagery and AI powered analytics for Population Census

- Manager for Africa, Vantor, Alex Fortescue

Technical cooperation in geospatial information supported by the Government of Japan

- Deputy General Manager, AERO TOYOTA Corporation (Japan), Kaoru Tsuda

Capacities development

- Director General, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development, Emmanuel Nkurunziza
- Executive Director, African Regional Institute for Geospatial Information Science and Technology, Lazarus Mustapha Ojigi

Thursday, 22 October 2026

(Day 2)

Tenth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa

9–10.30 a.m. CR.1		**Joint session of the Statistical Commission for Africa and the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa)** For information see document E/ECA/STATCOM/9/2	90

Keynote address: Second edition of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework

- Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, Claudio Stenner

National experiences in developing and implementing the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF)

	• Representatives of selected African countries	
	Interactive discussion	
10.30–11 a.m.	Break	
11 a.m. 12.30 p.m.	Leveraging of geospatial data for the production of high-quality and accurate national statistics	90
	• Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, Claudio Stenner	
	Interactive discussion	
	Modern census approaches: integrating the geographic information system, administrative data and registers	
	• Business Development Manager, Official Statistics, Esri, Kate Hess	
	National experiences	
	• Representatives of selected African countries	
	Interactive discussion	
	Modern field operations with ArcGIS: accurate, efficient and connected data collection	
	• Business Development Manager, Official Statistics, Esri, Kate Hess	
	National experiences	
	From National Mapping to Census Readiness: Digital Solutions for Africa’s 2030 Census Round	
	• Geographic Information Systems and Business Associate, Milsat Technologies Limited, Shehu Sani	
	Interactive discussion	
12.30–2 p.m.	Lunch	
	Consideration of agenda items 7–11	
2–3.30 p.m.	**Special topics** (agenda item 7)	90
	Shared vision for geospatial information management	
	• [*Speaker to be confirmed*]	
	Looking to the future of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management in Africa	
	• Acting Director-General, South African Department of Land Reform and Rural Development, Clinton Heiman	
	Next-generation sustainability: advancing the future with geospatial intelligence	

	• Representative of the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume Le Sourd	
	From geospatial frameworks to strategic leveraging: call for an African resource intelligence and strategic engagement network	
	• Research Group Leader in Spatial Information Systems, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa, Sives Govender	
	Proposed Thematic Network on Earth Observation and GeoAI for Actionable Intelligence	
	• Head, Nigeria's National Geospatial Data Infrastructure (NGDI) Secretariat, Tubolayefa Warekuromor	
	Proposed Africa Youth Geospatial Constituency (GeoYouth Africa). Young Minds. Spatial Intelligence. Africa's Future.	
	• Geographic Information Systems and Cartographer, Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency, Joyline Dzomba	
	Presentations by countries, partners and other stakeholders	
	• Representatives of selected African countries	
3.30–4 p.m.	Break	
4–5.30 p.m.	**Adoption of the report on the twelfth meeting** (agenda item 8)	90
	For discussion	
	Note by the secretariat of the Regional Committee containing the draft report and decisions of the twelfth meeting	
	Main outcomes of the twelfth meeting	
	Recommendations	
	Adoption of the report	
	Proposed dates for the thirteenth meeting (agenda item 9)	
	Other matters (agenda item 10)	
	Closing of the twelfth meeting (agenda item 11)	
	Concluding remarks by representatives of ECA, the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, the Executive Board, countries and partners.	

Proposed programme of work

Workshop segment (continued)

Date/time East Africa Time (UTC+3)		Agenda item and documentation	Proposed time to be spent on each item (minutes)
Friday, 23 October 2026		**Implementing the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework in Africa: strategic avenues for the integration of geospatial and statistical information**	
9–9.30 a.m. CR.2	**Session I**	**Setting the scene** Welcome and introduction of participants • Chief, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma Outline of the organization of work and review of workshop discussion topics Progress report on the integration of geospatial and statistics in Africa, followed by an interactive discussion • Statistician, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Ayenika Godheart Keynote address: Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Data • Business Development Manager, Official Statistics, Esri, Kate Hess	30
9.30–10 a.m.	**Session II**	**Implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework in Africa** Review of progress made by African countries, current challenges and areas where further work is needed • Statistician, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Ayenika Godheart Experience of members of ECA • Representatives of Cameroon, Namibia, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Zambia Interactive discussion	30
10–10.30 a.m.	**Session III**	**Institutional coordination and data foundations** Coordination between national statistical offices and geospatial agencies; core datasets required for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring; data quality and accessibility issues • Geospatial Information Officer, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Aster Denekew	30

		World's largest 30 cm satellite constellation (19 satellites currently in orbit and 45 by 2027) • Vice-President, Strategy, OMEO Space, Wei Sun Experience of members of ECA • Representatives of two members of ECA [*to be confirmed*]	
10.30 - 11 a.m.		Break	
11–11.30 a.m.	**Session IV**	**Standards, privacy, and technology** Standards and interoperability; geocoding methods; coordinate pseudonymization; use of cloud platforms and Earth observation data • Statistician, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Ayenika Godheart	
11.30 a.m–12 p.m.	**Session V**	**Capacity development and partnerships** Training requirements, institutional capacity, partnership arrangements and actions that can support wider use of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework • Statistician, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Ayenika Godheart	
12–12.30 p.m.	**Session VI**	**Wrap-up and conclusions** Way forward and recommendations Review of the main points raised during the workshop and preparation of recommendations for submission to the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information for Africa • Chief, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma	
12.30–1.30 p.m.		Lunch	
1.3–4 p.m.		**Closing session of the Tenth Session of the Statistical Commission** *For information only* Official closing by the guest of honour	90