

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Fourteenth session
New York, 7–9 August 2024

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Agenda Item 10 - Geospatial information for climate and resilience

Thursday, 8 August 2024

Distinguished Delegates, Colleagues,

The Committee of Experts has before it the report of the Task Team on Geospatial Information for Climate Resilience ([E/CN.20/2024/12/Add.1](#)). It provides great pleasure for me to introduce this item on behalf of the Task Team, which informs the Committee of Experts on the significant progress we have made in the intersessional period.

At its 13th session, *the Committee underscored* the potential role that national geospatial and mapping agencies could play in delivering data and technologies that assist countries in mitigating and adapting to climate change. In establishing the task team with the focus on developing a more detailed concept paper that expands on the relevant initiatives, activities and frameworks under the purview of the Committee of Experts, we developed our terms of reference and agreed on an outline for our paper and approach; the Bureau of the Committee welcomed this at its meeting in January 2024.

In the present report provided to the Committee of Experts, we detail the progress made during the intersessional period and provide the draft background paper, “Applying geospatial information to climate challenges” for your consideration, support, and input. I wish to highlight two main areas:

- We have made progress on our paper since January with plans to continue, finalise, and launch at the upcoming High-Level Forum on UN-GGIM in Mexico City. This paper is anchored on two principles:
 1. The UN-IGIF is key for building the institutional capacity necessary to build climate and resilience, and
 2. Acting on climate resilience is not just an imperative for the Committee of Experts; it is an imperative for the world. We welcome the support of the Committee with its finalisation.
- Accompanying the draft paper are 16 examples of how geospatial information is being used to establish efforts on climate resilience. Again, we welcome Member States to liaise with the Convenors and the Secretariat to highlight good practices, which can be both insightful and inspirational to other countries as they grapple with their climate and resilience needs. In this regard, we intend to work with the Secretariat to consolidate them into a Storymap.

In looking forward, we aim to continue our work into the coming intersessional period. We propose to expand the Task Team’s membership to the various groups of the Committee, including its Thematic Networks. In continuing our work we will also focus on the collation of good practices of how geospatial information can be applied to climate and resilience.

With these introductory remarks, I submit the report and thank you.

Mr David McCollin (Barbados)
Convenor, Task Team on Climate Resilience