



# **Record of Proceedings**

**The Fifth Plenary Meeting of**

**The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial**

**Information Management for Asia and the Pacific**

**(UN-GGIM-AP)**

**16-20 October 2016, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

## Record of Proceedings

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## **Record of Proceedings**

The Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) incorporating the UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information

16-20 October 2016

ParkRoyal Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

### **A. Introduction**

This record is a summary of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP), incorporating the UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information, held from 16 - 20 October 2016, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The agenda of the meeting is attached as **Annex 1**.

### **B. Attendance**

The meeting was attended by about 100 national delegates and observers from 29 countries and 5 international organizations. The full list of the participants is attached as **Annex 2**.

### **C. UN-GGIM-AP WG1 Workshop**

The Workshop on Geospatial and GNSS CORS Infrastructure was held from 16-17 October as a side event, jointly organized by UN-GGIM-AP WG1, the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), and the Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia (JUPEM). It was attended by 155 participants including 61 international participants. Twenty-two international speakers from the public, academic and commercial circles presented in the six sessions, discussing challenges and priority issues on geodetic reference frameworks for sustainable development. Status reports of geodetic infrastructure were delivered from the Philippines, Myanmar, Brunei, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, and Vietnam. There was unanimous consensus toward the significance of geodetic infrastructure in addressing global challenges and implementing sustainable development goals. Moderators, speakers and participants shared knowledge, experience, techniques and good practices on reference frames and GNSS CORS, as well as geospatial and geodetic infrastructure modernization. There was robust discussion on the role of organizations and sectors in the development of GRF, through which the international organizations' commitment in developing national, regional and global geodesy was further acknowledged, and the representative of manufacturers also gave a commercial perspective. Lastly the Pacific Geospatial Surveying Council (PGSC) presented progress report on modernizing regional geospatial and geodetic infrastructure to discuss sub-regional challenges and actions. The program of this workshop is attached as **Annex 3**.

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#### **D. UN-GGIM-AP WG 4 Workshop**

The Workshop on Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration and STDM was held on 17 October as a side event, jointly organized by UN-GGIM-AP WG4 and the Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia (JUPEM). The workshop provided an excellent opportunity for national cadastre and land administration stakeholders to better understand the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM), and to learn to design a fit-for-purpose approach to building sustainable land administration system. STDM is a pro-poor, gender responsive and participatory land information system developed by the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) of UN-Habitat. At the workshop, moderators, speakers, and participants shared knowledge, operation methods and techniques on STDM, after which demos were conducted to deepen understanding. GLTN introduced the guiding principles of fit-for-purpose land administration under the spatial, legal and institutional framework. The importance of good land administration and management was highlighted as the pillar of good governance and efficient government to address the challenges and opportunities for the 2030 Agenda, specifically supporting the development of fit-for-purpose land administration and geospatial information, particularly in developing countries. The program of this workshop is attached as **Annex 4**.

#### **E. Opening of the Meeting**

Welcome remarks were made by Datuk Sr. Ahmad Fauzi bin Nordin, Director General of Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia, and Dr. Hiroshi Murakami, President of UN-GGIM-AP.

Dr. Hiroshi Murakami, in his capacity as the President, opened the Fifth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP and welcomed the participants. He highlighted the significance of this meeting as the first plenary meeting of UN-GGIM-AP after the cessation of UNRCC-AP.

The full text of the two welcome speeches is attached as **Annex 5**.

#### **F. Adoption of Agenda and Organizational matters**

At its first session of the UN-GGIM-AP Plenary on 17 October, in its consideration of agenda item 1 “Adoption of Agenda and Organizational Matters”, the proposed agenda was accepted as presented.

#### **G. Executive Report of UN-GGIM-AP**

At the same session, in its consideration of agenda item 2 “Executive report of UN-GGIM-AP”, Ms. Jiang Xiaohong, Secretariat of UN-GGIM-AP, reported on the activities of the Committee since the Twentieth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) and the Fourth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP held in Jeju, Republic of Korea from 6-9 October 2015. Highlighted were the Twentieth UNRCC-AP and the Fourth UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting, the Executive Board Meeting held in May 2016 in Christchurch, New Zealand, and the Informal Meeting during the Sixth Session of UN-GGIM held in August 2016 in New York. Also highlighted were the contributions made to UN-GGIM, including substantively

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supporting the Fourth High Level Forum on UN-GGIM and the Sixth Session of UN-GGIM, and being actively involved in the whole consultative process leading up to the ECOSOC's Programme review of the work of UN-GGIM, and to the adoption of the ECOSOC resolution on 27 July 2016 to strengthen institutional arrangements on geospatial information management. The report stressed the commitment of UN-GGIM-AP to carrying out the mandate given by UN-GGIM and contributing to the regional progress. The full report is attached as **Annex 6**.

## **H. Report on UN-GGIM activities**

### **1. UN-GGIM**

At the same session, the Plenary began its consideration of agenda item 3, "Report on UN-GGIM Activities". Mr. Chee Hai Teo, Secretariat of UN-GGIM, reported on the major outcomes of the ECOSOC Session and the Sixth Session of UN-GGIM held earlier in 2016, and reviewed the considerations and subsequent decisions on the further modalities of UN-GGIM. Introducing the progress made in implementing the Global Development Agenda and the new urban agenda, as well as the IAEG-SDGs Working Group on Geospatial Information, he stressed the role of geospatial information in the implementation, and UN-GGIM's commitment to make a difference. The IAEG-SDGs Working Group on Geospatial Information is tasked to consider how geospatial information can contribute to the indicators and metadata required to facilitate the implementation of the Global Development Agenda. Lastly he presented the ECOSOC Resolution 2016/27 entitled "Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management" (27 July 2016), which streamlines the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council in the field of geospatial information management, and strengthens and broadens UN-GGIM's mandate as the relevant body to report to the Council on all matters relating to geography, geospatial information and related topics. The presentation is attached as **Annex 7**.

### **2. UN-GGIM WG on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters**

Also at the same session, continuing its consideration of agenda item 3, Mr. John SF Fabric of NAMRIA, the Philippines reported on the activities of the UN-GGIM WG on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters and presented the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters 2016 - 2030. This WG is co-chaired by the Philippines and Jamaica and tasked to formulate a strategic framework aligned with Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. He highlighted the priorities of actions toward geospatial information and services for disasters at all levels including governance and policies, awareness raising and capacity building, data management, common infrastructure and services, and resource mobilization. Member states were called on to contribute in generating, maintaining and providing quality geospatial information and services across all phases of the emergency cycle, and requested and advised the implementation of the priorities of actions. Lastly he pointed out strategic framework's role as a guide in managing disaster risks in future perspective. The strategic framework shall be presented to solicit comments and recommendations, and later ask for endorsement by the ECOSOC. The

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presentation is attached as **Annex 8**.

## **I. Reports from Liaison Organizations**

### **1. UN-Habitat**

At the same session, the Plenary began its consideration of agenda item 4, “Reports from Liaison Organizations”. Mr. Cyprian Selebalo from Land and Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) of UN-Habitat, briefed UN-Habitat from the historical, present and future perspective, and highlighted its priorities and challenges. Introducing the role of land and GLTN in global development agenda, he pointed out its importance in accomplishing the Habitat III ongoing mandate: new urban agenda. As a key driver for inclusive and sustainable urban development, land underpins all the key aspects of the new urban agenda. Lastly he called for regional and country awareness on land tools. The presentation is attached as **Annex 9**.

### **2. UN-GGIM Academic Network**

At the same session, continuing its consideration of agenda item 4, Prof. Abbas Rajabifard introduced the newly established Academic Network of UN-GGIM, which he defined as coalition of recognized universities, research and education centers. It was mandated to provide research and education capabilities for UN-GGIM, as well as a platform for the academic community to input and to support UN-GGIM in achieving its vision and goals. The Addis Ababa Declaration at the Fourth HLF endorsed UN-GGIM facilitating its establishment. The UN-GGIM Secretariat formed Academic Network Task Team to carry out the work relating its establishment and development. The team led by Prof. Abbas Rajabifard now has 10 members from the academic circle and is devoted to the development of the network. The presentation is attached as **Annex 10**.

### **3. GSDI**

At the same session, Prof Abbas Rajabifard, representing GSDI, gave a brief introduction of the GSDI Association and its liaison with UN-GGIM-AP. On behalf of GSDI, he invited the audience to attend the next World Conference of GSDI to be held in Chinese Taipei, from 29 November to 2 December 2016, with the theme of “Spatial Enablement in the Smart Homeland”. The full report is attached as **Annex 11**.

### **4. UN-GGIM Private Sector Network**

Also at the same session, Mr. Sanjay Kumar introduced the Private Sector Network of UN-GGIM, which was established along with UN-GGIM Academic Network during the sixth session of UN-GGIM in August 2016. It works in mutually beneficial collaboration with the members of UN-GGIM for development of global geospatial information and to address key global challenges, enable citizen services and support the initiatives of United Nations. It connects and communicates the private sector with member states. It will be informally structured, free and open globally to all private sector organizations and related industry associations. The presentation is attached as **Annex 12**.

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## **J. Reports from UN-GGIM-AP Working Groups**

### **1. WG1: Geodetic Reference Frame**

At the same session, the Plenary began its consideration of agenda item 5, “Reports from UN-GGIM-AP Working Groups”. Dr. John Dawson, Chair of UN-GGIM-AP WG1, reported on the progress made in Geodetic Reference Frame, including supporting UN-GGIM GGRF efforts, providing access to the GGRF through the Annual GPS campaign (APRGP) and CORS networks (APREF), the Asia-Pacific Regional Height System Unification (APRHSU), geodetic capacity building and technical exchange. The full report is attached as **Annex 13**.

### **2. WG 2: Disaster Risk Management**

At the same session, Mr. Toru Nagayama, Chair of UN-GGIM-AP WG2 on Disaster Risk Management, presented the progress for each working item according to the work plan 2015-2018. WG2 started the process of identifying NGIAs’ contribution areas for Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) and completed the questionnaire survey on the roles of NGIAs. It continued best practices collecting, kept coordination and cooperation with UN-GGIM WG on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters and encouraged the sharing of earth observations infrastructure, technology and data resources among member states. The full report is attached as **Annex 14**.

### **3. WG 3: Regional SDI**

At the same session, Mr. Simon Costello, Vice-Chair of UN-GGIM-AP WG3, presented the progress report on Regional SDI on behalf of Dr. Jiang Jie, Chair of WG3. The Working Group completed the questionnaire survey on the status of NSDI development of the member countries, jointly organized the 1st ISPRS-UNGGIM National Mapping and Cadastral Agencies Forum, completed a pilot portal for Regional SDI Service Interoperation, and conducted pilot projects on data sharing mechanisms. The full report is attached as **Annex 15**.

### **4. WG 4: Cadastre and Land Management**

At the same session, Dr. Byung-Gul Lee, Chair of UN-GGIM-AP WG4, presented the progress report on Cadastre and Land Management. He reaffirmed the WG4 Plan for 2015-2018, and presented the Conceptual Model for Cadastre and Land Management, as well as the WG4 Workflow. He also introduced WG4 Questionnaire Survey I & II and summarized their results. The full report is attached as **Annex 16**.

## **K. Parallel Sessions of UN-GGIM-AP WGs**

After the first session of the Plenary, the four working groups of UN-GGIM-AP organized parallel sessions on geodetic reference frame, disaster risk management, regional SDI, and cadastre and land management to discuss the issues and actions for the next steps of their work plans.

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## **L. UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information**

In conjunction with the 5<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM-AP Plenary, the UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information was held for 1.5 days from 18-19 October. The International Forum was officially opened by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Malaysia. A keynote presentation was made by Mr. Greg Scott of the UN-GGIM Secretariat at the opening. Twenty speakers from the public, private and academic circles spoke in the five sessions, which were moderated to allow for good interactions and discussions.

The International Forum provided a unique opportunity and platform for a very informed dialogue and discussions to better understand the policy, legislative and legal processes and implications pertaining to the availability and accessibility of geospatial information. Participants came from the geospatial information, legal, policy and regulatory communities and included those from the public sector, the private sector and academia.

Session moderators, speakers and participants engaged one another on a range of topics and issues, considered the various drivers, challenges and approaches to ensure that geospatial information enjoys the widest utility while considering issues such as privacy, data protection and national security. Topics addressed ranges from policy and legal challenges around the release and accessibility of official data, legislative and regulatory framework around the use of unmanned systems with increasing machine learning capabilities. The Forum also addressed policy and legal challenges within varied and innovative data collection environment, data sharing, interoperability of standards, systems and legislations, and open data towards whole-of-government efficiencies, national prosperity and in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

There was unanimous consensus on the importance of the topic, and it was reiterated several times that this was the first time ever so many lawyers and geospatial practitioners had been brought together under one roof for an informed dialogue and debate. Participants also unanimously acknowledged the growing need for geospatial practitioners to understand the policy, legal and regulatory processes and their implications. Similarly, the legal practitioners and regulators also need to understand the broader usefulness and benefits of geospatial information. All agreed that there is an urgent need for proactive and sustainable data eco-systems to support and inform sustainable development goals.

The Forum considerably raised awareness and recognition that:

a) There remained significant policy and legal challenges to address, including issues related to the timeliness and comparability, availability and accessibility, privacy and security of data, and open data.

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b) Rapidly changing societal access to information that are location based together with creative and innovative unmanned, remotely sensing and data collection technologies demands geospatial practitioners to confront policy, legal and regulatory challenges upfront rather than later.

c) Policy and legal issues impact geospatial information management at the local, national and thus international levels; and must be addressed and balanced within any national strategies, policies and legislations.

d) Good and effective policy and legal frameworks evolve over time and should respond to societal progress and technological developments, including as machine-learning environments become more prominent.

The outcome of all these discussions and debates were reflected in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information. The Declaration was unanimously adopted by the participants, and submitted to the second session of the UN-GGIM-AP Plenary. The Declaration is attached as **Annex 17**.

## **M. Reports back from UN-GGIM-AP WG Discussions**

### **1. WG1: Geodetic Reference Frame**

At the second session of the UN-GGIM-AP Plenary on 19 October, continuing its consideration of agenda item 5, Dr. John Dawson reported on the outcomes of the WG1 workshop held on 16-17 October, and the parallel session discussions of WG1 on Geodetic Reference Frame. He pointed out the challenges faced with the development of GRF in the AP region and put forward responding actions. WG 1 will convene a series of workshops in 2017 to assist member states in taking their responsibilities, and continue its technical support to the Pacific Geospatial and Surveying Council (PGSC). The presentation is attached as **Annex 18**.

### **2. WG 2: Disaster Risk Management**

At the same session, Mr. Toru Nagayama summarized the outcomes of the parallel session discussions of WG2 on Disaster Risk Management. He put forward WG2 2016-2017 actions based on the framework of the 2015-2018 work plan. WG2 will complete the identification of potential areas for contribution of NGIAs; compile a collection of best practices on the use of geospatial information for disaster risk reduction in the region; formulate a draft guideline to encourage NGIAs to contribute through geospatial activities; and encourage Member States to share earth observation infrastructure technology and data resources for disasters. The presentation is attached as **Annex 19**.

### **3. WG 3: Regional SDI**

At the same session, Mr. Zhao Yousong, Vice Chair of UN-GGIM-AP WG4, gave a summary on the WG3 parallel session discussions. The current challenges faced with the

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development of SDI in the region were identified. WG3 work plan for the next year was proposed to address these challenges. Actions will include developing understanding of the priorities among Member States, sharing expertise, experience and good practices, conducting case study of more advanced SDIs, and input of geospatial information from Member States and other sources to the pilot portal. The presentation is attached as **Annex 20**.

#### **4. WG 4: Cadastre and Land Management**

At the same session, Dr. Byung-Gul Lee summarized the discussion results of WG4 parallel session on cadastre and land management. He introduced the issues regarding the legal and institutional frameworks for land management, integrated land management for sustainable development, coastal area management, and the WG4 website. The presentation is attached as **Annex 21**.

#### **N. Amendments to the Statutes of UN-GGIM-AP**

At the same session, the Plenary began its consideration of agenda item 6, “Amendment to the Statutes of UN-GGIM-AP”. In accordance to the ECOSOC resolution adopted on 27 July 2016, UNRCC-AP was removed from the UN meeting calendar, UN-GGIM took over its mandates and obligations at the global level, and UN-GGIM-AP assumed its technical and substantive activities at the regional and national levels. Due to this change, the draft amendments to the UN-GGIM-AP Statutes were proposed, discussed and adopted at the meeting. The text of the amendments is attached as **annex 22**.

#### **O. Outcomes of the International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information**

At the same session, the Plenary began its consideration of agenda item 7 “International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information”. Mr. Greg Scott, Inter-regional Advisor, the UN-GGIM Secretariat, reported on the outcomes of the International Forum to the Committee, including the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information. The Declaration was adopted by the Plenary.

#### **P. Resolutions of the Fifth UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting**

At the same session, the Plenary began its consideration of agenda item 8 “Resolutions of the Fifth UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting”. The five resolutions on Geodetic Reference Frame, Disaster Risk Management, Regional SDI, Cadastre and Land Management, and International Forum on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information were presented, discussed and adopted. The full text of the resolutions is attached as **Annex 23**.

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#### **Q. Sixth UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting**

Also at the same session, the Plenary began its consideration of agenda item 9 “Sixth UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting”. Dr. Hiroshi Murakami, Director General of Geospatial Information Authority of Japan, presented a preliminary plan for the 6th Plenary Meeting of the Committee. The Meeting will be held in Kumamoto, Japan from 17-19 October 2017. The UN-GGIM-AP flag was handed over from Malaysia to the next plenary meeting host country Japan. The presentation is attached as **Annex 24**.

#### **R. Adjournment and closing**

Mr. Greg Scott, UN-GGIM Secretariat, Dr. Hiroshi Murakami, President of UN-GGIM-AP, and Sr. Hasan Bin Jamil, Deputy Director General of Survey and Mapping Department Malaysia, gave remarks at the closing of the meeting.

Dr. Hiroshi Murakami expressed gratitude to all the delegates and participants for attending the meeting, supporting UN-GGIM-AP, and contributing to the great success of the meeting. He thanked the host and Secretariat of UN-GGIM for the efforts in organizing the meeting, and all the international organizations that supported this meeting. The meeting was concluded.