

United Nations  Nations Unies

SECRETARIAT OF UN COMMITTEE ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
UN STATISTICS DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
TWO UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, DC2-1670, NEW YORK, NY 10017  
TELEPHONE NO: 1 (917) 367-4130; FAX NO: 1 (212) 963-9851  
Internet location: ggim.un.org

27 September 2012

Dear Colleagues,

**Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:  
Issues Related to Setting of Standards**

I am pleased to inform you that the report on the second session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), held in New York from 13-15 August 2012, is now available on our website (ggim.un.org). I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your valuable contributions to the meeting and commitment to advance the work related to geospatial standards.

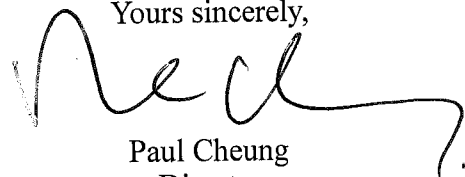
Subsequent to the meeting and in furthering the work of the Committee, we wish to bring to your attention decision 2/103, *Inventory of Issues to be addressed by the Committee*, in context of identifying existing efforts by international entities. Specifically, I refer to the kind offer made by the representative of ISO/TC211 to prepare a joint paper, in collaboration with OGC and IHO, on the issues related to standards setting in the geospatial community.

The objective of the inventory of issues exercise is to guide the work of the UN-GGIM Secretariat and the Committee of Experts for the next 3 to 5 years, as well as to guide regional activities. I hope that, in due course priorities will be established based on the inventory of issues being compiled. In this regard, I am writing to acknowledge the offer by ISO/TC211 and encourage the organizations to prepare the joint paper on standards setting issues which could be discussed at the High Level Forum in Doha in 2013.

I would be grateful if the paper could be submitted to Ms. Cecille Blake from my office on or before **December 14<sup>th</sup> 2012**. Should you need clarification and or assistance in completing this request, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Blake at e-mail [blake1@un.org](mailto:blake1@un.org) or telephone 1-212-963-5823.

The Secretariat is appreciative of your commitment and work in advancing global geographic information management and welcomes your input in this exercise.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Cheung  
Director  
UN-GGIM Secretariat  
United Nations Statistics Division/DESA

Chairman, ISO/TC211 Committee  
President, OGC  
President, IHO