



## Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee

HSSC-5

Agenda item 5.7

IHO Participation in the UN Committee of Experts on  
Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM)

IHB

# Background

- ✦ UN-GGIM Committee established by Resolution 2011/24 of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- ✦ Purpose: advance international cooperation in geospatial information management by making accurate and authoritative geospatial information readily available, particularly in support of advancing sustainable development
- ✦ Organization:
  - UN-GGIM reports to the UN Assembly via ECOSOC
  - 5-year work programme 2011-2016
  - Experts from UN Member States
  - Observers from IGO and NGIO
  - Annual meetings & specialized forums



# Background

## ★ Key issues:

- Developing a global strategic framework for geospatial information
- Establishing institutional arrangements, legal and common frameworks
- Building capability and capacity, especially in developing countries
- Assuring the quality of geospatial information
- Promoting data sharing, accessibility and dissemination
- Embracing trends in information technology
- Promoting geospatial advocacy and awareness
- Partnering with civil society and the private sector



# Background

## ✦ IHO interests:

- raise awareness of the relevance and the potential contribution of hydrographic information in the context of global geospatial data infrastructures
- encourage top-down government interest and support for national hydrographic programmes
- Direct IHO involvement in agenda items related to:
  - the status of geospatial standards
  - the status of hydrography and nautical charting
  - the maritime component of geospatial infrastructures



# Report from UN-GGIM 3

(Cambridge - July 2013)

- ✦ Agenda items with IHO input
  - Establishment and implementation of standards for the global geospatial information community
    - Joint ISO-IHO-OGC Report
    - [The Committee] (...) emphasized the importance of implementing and adopting standards within national legal and policy frameworks, and noted the need for developing countries to receive support from the standardization bodies in these efforts.

*Note: this is mainly an issue for the land side!*



# Report from UN-GGIM 3

(Cambridge - July 2013)

## ✦ Agenda items with IHO input

- Critical issues relating to the integration of land and marine geospatial information

➤ IHO & FIG Reports

➤ [The Committee] (...)

- stressed the critical importance of better integration of land and marine geospatial information to facilitate planning and management, especially of coastal areas and waters in a seamless, interoperable and holistic way, and encouraged relevant national institutions to work together on these issues.
- encouraged Member States, in cooperation with IHO, FIG and other relevant national and international actors active in this field, to contribute to developing standardized and coordinated approaches to the integration of land and marine geospatial information, inclusive of identifying, sharing and promoting the use of best practices, including the development of pilot projects.
- noted the need to provide assistance to developing countries where relevant information is lacking.



# Report from UN-GGIM 3

(Cambridge - July 2013)

## ✦ Other agenda items of interest

- Food for thought: Report on “Future trends in geospatial information management: the five to ten year vision”
  - trends in technology and the future direction of data creation, maintenance and management
  - legal and policy developments
  - skills requirements and training mechanisms
  - the role of the private and non-government sectors
  - the future role of governments in geospatial data provision and management



# IHO Perspectives

- ✦ Relevance of the continuing work of the IHO MSDIWG and its task in assisting Member States in their role as custodians of national hydrographic data sets as well as their obvious part in national, regional and global spatial data infrastructures (land-sea integration)
- ✦ Importance of the IHO-IOC GEBCO project as a fundamental part of the global geospatial information infrastructure



# Recommendation (1/3)

- ✦ IHB continues to contribute, on behalf of the IHO, to the UN-GGIM initiative
- ✦ In addition, it is recommended that HSSC tasks the MSDIWG to consider the impact of the UN-GGIM initiative on its work plan, in particular in relation to:
  - Encouraging the involvement of HOs in the development of national/regional/global spatial data infrastructures (SDI)
  - (...)



## Recommendation (2/3)

- ★ *In addition, it is recommended that HSSC tasks the MSDIWG to consider the impact of the UN-GGIM initiative on its work plan, in particular in relation to:*
  - (...)
  - Providing guidance to Member States/HOs to assist them in:
    - raising awareness of the importance of the maritime component in national/regional/global SDI
    - taking advantage of opportunities associated with the development of national/regional/global SDI
    - establishing win-win partnerships with other governmental agencies, academia and industry



## Recommendation (3/3)

- ★ *In addition, it is recommended that HSSC tasks the MSDIWG to consider the impact of the UN-GGIM initiative on its work plan, in particular in relation to:*
  - (...)
  - Monitoring and publicizing best practices and use cases in the development of land-sea interoperability and integration and the provision of related products and services
  - Coordinating the development of MSDI at the regional and global level, in liaison with RHCs and IRCC
  - Assessing capacity-building requirements at the national and regional levels in liaison with RHCs and IRCC

