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Dear Colleagues,

**Second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC 2022)  
10 – 14 October 2022, Hyderabad, India**

We are pleased to provide you updated information on the Second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC 2022) that will be convened in **Hyderabad, India** from 10 to 14 October 2022. The Congress is being organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) with the support of the Government of India through its Ministry of Science and Technology. The venue is Hyderabad International Convention Centre.

The Congress will promote comprehensive dialogue on global geospatial information management with all relevant governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and academia, as mandated by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, a subsidiary body of ECOSOC. With an overarching theme “**Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind**”, the programme has developed significantly over the last few months and includes a high-level Opening Ceremony, three Plenary Sessions and a comprehensive programme of Parallel Sessions related to the themes of the Congress. The Plenary Sessions will be dedicated to how geospatial information is important for: Supporting Sustainable Development and the Wellbeing of Society; Environmental and Climate Challenges; and Embracing Digital Transformation and Technological Development. Two Special Sessions focus on the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework as a mechanism for strengthening of nationally integrated geospatial information management towards transformative change. The International Advisory Committee of the Congress has also developed a parallel session programme that is anchored on the nine Strategic Pathways of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.

The closing session includes short summaries from the thematic viewpoints of the plenary, special and parallel sessions, and the outcome of the Congress will inform the global geospatial information management agenda for the coming years. On 14 October there will also be a number of formal meetings of representatives and experts, including the 11<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP and the annual meeting of the UN-GGIM Expanded Bureau.

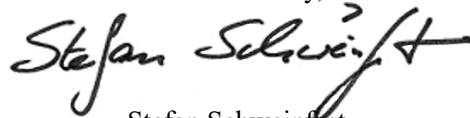
You may wish to note that many senior officials from across the world will attend. Some will take part in plenary sessions, others in special and parallel sessions that discuss the societal, economic and environmental benefits of reliable, timely and quality geospatial information, particularly important for national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and consider its role in creating a more sustainable and equitable world for all, where no one is left behind.

We trust you will join us and participate in the Congress. The registration process for the Congress is now open through the registration link at: <https://ggim.un.org/2unwgic/>. Please register promptly as requests for participation will close on **23 September 2022**. In an effort to inform a wide cross section of our professional geospatial information management community, we ask that you share this information and updates with relevant government agencies and related stakeholders in your country, private sector and academia. Information about the Congress, including an updated Information Note, thematic areas, special, parallel and plenary sessions are posted on the Congress website at: <https://ggim.un.org/2unwgic/>.

Should you have any questions regarding the Congress, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Greg Scott and Ms. Vilma Frani (Email: [ggim@un.org](mailto:ggim@un.org)) at the UN-GGIM Secretariat, Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. For information on local logistical arrangements in Hyderabad, India, please contact [unwgic2022@iiit.ac.in](mailto:unwgic2022@iiit.ac.in).

We look forward to welcoming you to the Second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress as we work to advance the critical role of integrated geospatial information management in the implementation of national and global development objectives for a shared future and a more inclusive world.

Yours sincerely,



Stefan Schweinfest

Director

UN-GGIM Secretariat

United Nations Statistics Division/DESA