

February 2011



United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM)

WG on TDFG
Zagreb

Helen Kerfoot
Chair, UNGEGN

Steps in establishing UN GGIM and Committee of Experts

■ Meetings for organizing UN GGIM

- 2009 - Bangkok; May 2010 and April 2011 – New York
 - Support: RCC for Asia and Pacific; Statistical Commission

■ Main steps taken/being taken so far

- Request to ECOSOC in July 2010
- Report to ECOSOC on global vision of GGIM, July 2011
 - Preparation organized by UN Statistics, plus drafting committee
- UN Forum on GGIM, Seoul, Oct 25-28, 2011
 - Agenda and process still being determined
 - Need to create national awareness of importance of GGIM
 - Creation of a committee of experts on GGIM to meet annually

Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM)

- Initiative of UN Statistics Division & Cartography Section
- **UNSD responsible for**
 - Statistics UN Statistical Commission (annual)
 - Regional Cartographic Conference (RCCs)
 - Americas, Asia and the Pacific (every 4 years / 3 years)
 - (UNECA for Africa – CODIST)
 - UNGEGN and UNCSGN (in 5 years: 1 conf.; 3 sessions)
- **Wish for better direction and continuity of RCCs**
 - need a global mechanism for coordination of critical issues
 - need for *global* geospatial data – multinational, multilayered
 - need to involve countries and non-gov. organizations
 - ISPRS, ICA, FIG, EUROGI, IGU, GSDI, OGC, ISO/TC 211, GEOSS

Other UN areas dealing with geospatial data

- **UN Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG)**
 - formed in 2000 (apparently lacks legislated mandate)
 - address common geospatial issues – data; services
 - 5 task groups: core geo-database (and admin. boundaries); remote sensing; interoperable services; GIS map production guidelines; global navigation satellite systems
 - 30 member UN groups: WHO, UNHCR, FAO, OCHA
 - current co-chairs: M. Faye (ECA); D. Stevens (UNOOSA)
- **UN SDI – pan-UN effort to develop a framework to manage and share geospatial information**
- **Second Administrative Level Boundaries (SALB)**
- Concentrating on “internal” UN use, as compared to UN GGIM

UN GGIM and UNGEGN

- Participation in preparatory meetings
 - UNGEGN Chair presented UNGEGN work in May 2010 and aims to help with drafting and work plan, April 2011
 - input from UNGEGN Bureau, WG chairs, other experts on background document, summer 2010
- Website: unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo ... new design
- Position of UNGEGN?
 - presentation on UN GGIM at 26th UNGEGN in Vienna
 - cooperating with GGIM, but retain own mandate
 - where is the balance ?? how do we achieve it ??
 - discussion at Vienna ??
 - thoughts for agenda of UN Forum on GGIM in Seoul ??
 - display by UNGEGN at Seoul forum in October ??