



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
28 July 2026

Original: English

Economic Commission for Africa
Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial
Information Management for Africa
Twelfth meeting
Addis Ababa (hybrid), 19–23 October 2026

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Organizational matters

Draft programme of work

Twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa

Monday, 19 October

Workshop segment: Strategic avenues for implementing the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

9–10.35 a.m.¹

Session I

Workshop opening

Welcome and introductions

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo
- Chair, Executive Board, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast
- Director, African Centre for Statistics, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Samuel Annim

Introduction of participants

Overview of the workshop and its programme

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo

* E/ECA/GGIM-A/12/1.

¹ All times are East Africa Time (UTC+3).



Session II**Situating the challenge: the evidence on financing**

Global survey by the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre on financing for geospatial activities: key findings, challenges, opportunities

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo

Interactive discussion

10.35–11 a.m.

Break

11 a.m.–noon

Session III**Instruments and pathways: sustainable funding guide of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre**

Presentation of the guide, which covers funding pathways, the articulation of a business case and the financing instruments available for national geospatial information management

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo

Interactive discussion

Noon–1 p.m.

Session IV**National financing situations and constraints**

Identification of country-specific constraints and needs, as a direct input to the tools being prepared by the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre for national implementation of the sustainable funding guide

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo

Interactive discussion

1–2 p.m.

Lunch

2–3.30 p.m.

Session V**Documenting implementation: case study series of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre**

Objectives of the series, presentation of the structured case-study template and illustrative cases from the region

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo

Interactive discussion

3.30–4 p.m.

Break

4–5 p.m.

Session VI**Breakout session: preparation of country case studies**

Breakout groups undertake the scoping and initial drafting of a national implementation case study on the structured template, with facilitation provided

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo

Interactive discussion

5–5.30 p.m.

Session VII**Peer learning: country experiences and knowledge sharing**

How knowledge sharing across the region can be made more effective, including arrangements for the continued collection of case studies

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo

Interactive discussion

Wrap-up and conclusions

Consolidated conclusions of the workshop, submitted as a strategic input to the main conclusions of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa and to the joint agenda with the Statistical Commission for Africa

- Chief, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma

Closing of the workshop

- Geospatial Information Officer, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, Sandro Semedo
- Chair, Executive Board, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast

Tuesday, 20 October**Workshop on land administration and management**

9–10.30 a.m.

Session I**Framework for effective land administration in Africa**

Keynote address: Why land matters for African development

- Regional Manager for Central and East Africa, National Geographic Institute – France International (IGN FI), Aude Areste Lamendour

Interactive discussion

Leadership and advocacy in land administration

- Acting Director-General, South African Department of Land Reform and Rural Development, Clinton Heimann

Experiences of members of ECA

- Representatives of: [*countries to be confirmed*]

Interactive discussion

Modernization of land administration services: principles and promises

- Regional Manager for Central and East Africa, IGN FI, Aude Areste Lamendour

10.30–11 a.m.

Break

11 a.m.–12.30 p.m.

Session II

Land management frameworks

Using spatial data for effective land management

Panel discussion: From basic activities to strategic, coherent and impactful frameworks: creating a policy-to-practice matrix

- Managing Director for Africa, Xcalibur Smart Mapping, Rochelle Mountany
- [*other panellists to be confirmed*]

12.30 p.m.–2 p.m.

Lunch

2–3.30 p.m.

Session III

Collaboration and partnerships

Impact, vision and call to action

- President, International Federation of Surveyors, Diane Dumashie

Panel discussion with representatives of Governments, international organizations and entities of the United Nations system on collaboration, partnerships and moving from commitment to delivery and on leveraging opportunities for collaboration and partnerships to enhance African land management infrastructure

Interactive discussion

3.30–4 p.m.

Break

4–5.30 p.m.

Session IV

Wrap-up and conclusions

Main outcomes of the workshop

Way forward and recommendations

Closing remarks

Wednesday, 21 October

Formal segment

9–10.35 a.m

Opening of the meeting (agenda item 1)

(a) Joint opening ceremony of the twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa and the tenth session of the Statistical Commission for Africa

10.35–11 a.m.

Break

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Consideration of agenda items 1–4

(b) Formal opening of the twelfth meeting

Welcome remarks

- Chair, Executive Board, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast
- Representative of the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume Le Sourd

Goodwill message

- President, African Space Council, African Union Commission, Tidiane Ouattara

Opening remarks

- Director, African Centre for Statistics, ECA, Samuel Annim

Organizational matters (agenda item 2)

Election of the Executive Board

Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

Review of the rules of procedure

Presentation of reports (agenda item 3)

For discussion

Report on the activities of the Regional Committee

- Chair of the Executive Board, Kamal Outghouliast

Reports on the activities of the executive working groups

- Working group on the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, Maroale Chauke
- Working group on the integration of geospatial and statistical information, Fernand Isseri
- Working group on the African geodetic reference frame, Aslam Parker
- Working group on land administration and management, Kamal Outghouliast

Contributions of regional committees and thematic groups:

Private sector

- Director, AIC Mindful, Derek Clarke

Academic network

- [*To be confirmed*]

Global geodetic reference frame

- Co-Chair, Subcommittee on Geodesy, United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management, Fernand Bale

Policy issues (agenda item 4)

Geospatial information management in Africa

Recommendations of the eleventh meeting: status of implementation

Framework for itemizing and structuring all resolutions, decisions, and recommendations adopted by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa

- Chief Executive Officer, Apogee Geospatial, Abdoulaye Belem

Interactive discussion

Secretariat and regional committees

- Representative of the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume Le Sourd

Activity plan of the Regional Committee for 2027: issues for consideration

- Chief, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma

Africa geospatial overarching governance: high-level ministerial engagement

- Representative, South Africa [*to be determined*]

Interactive discussion

1–2 p.m.

Break

2 –5.30 p.m.

Technical issues (agenda item 5)

United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

- Representative of the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume Le Sourd

United Nations Geospatial Network

- Representative of the Geospatial Information Section of the United Nations Secretariat
- Chair of the United Nations Geospatial Network, Dejan Jakovljevic

United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre

- Representative of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre

United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence

- Representative of the United Nations Global Geospatial Geodetic Centre of Excellence

Enabling an open geospatial future: How the Open Geospatial Consortium makes geospatial data work in open, interoperable architectures

- Chief Executive Officer, Open Geospatial Consortium, Peter Rabley

Use of geospatial data and technologies to address development challenges

- Representative of Trimble Geospatial

Production of 1:5,000 digital orthographic maps without ground control points

- Vice-President, Strategy, OMEO Space, Wei Sun

Technical cooperation in geospatial information supported by the Government of Japan

- Deputy General Manager, PASCO Corporation, Kaoru Tsuda

Capacity development

- Director General, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development, Emmanuel Nkurunziza
- Executive Director, African Regional Institute for Geospatial Information Science and Technology, Lazarus Ojigi

Thursday, 22 October

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| 9 a.m.–12.30 p.m. | Joint session with the Statistical Commission for Africa (agenda item 6) |
| 9–10.30 a.m. | <p>Keynote address: Second edition of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, Claudio Stenner <p>National experiences in developing and implementing the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of selected African countries [<i>to be confirmed</i>] <p>Interactive discussion</p> |
| 10.30–11 a.m. | Break |
| 11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. | Leveraging of geospatial data for the production of high-quality and accurate national statistics |

- Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, Claudio Stenner

Interactive discussion

Modern census approaches: integrating the geographic information system, administrative data and registers

- Business Development Manager, Official Statistics, Esri, Kate Hess

National experiences

- [*Speakers to be confirmed*]

Interactive discussion

Modern field operations with ArcGIS: accurate, efficient and connected data collection

- Business Development Manager, Official Statistics, Esri, Kate Hess

National experiences

- [*Speakers to be confirmed*]

Interactive discussion

Geospatial information, statistics and artificial intelligence: promise and possibilities

- Director, Executive Program and Geo Experience Center, Esri, Linda Peters

[*End of the joint session*]

12.30–2 p.m.

Lunch

2–3.30 p.m.

Consideration of agenda items 7–11

Special topics (agenda item 7)

Shared vision for geospatial information management

- [*Speaker to be confirmed*]

Looking towards the future of geospatial information management in Africa

- Acting Director-General, South African Department of Land Reform and Rural Development, Clinton Heimann

Next-generation sustainability: advancing the future with geospatial intelligence

- Representative of the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume Le Sourd

From geospatial frameworks to strategic leveraging: call for an African resource intelligence and strategic engagement network

- Research Group Leader in Spatial Information Systems, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa, Sives Govender

	Presentations by countries, partners and other stakeholders
	• [<i>Speakers to be confirmed</i>]
3.30–4 p.m.	Break
4–5.30 p.m.	Adoption of the report of the twelfth meeting (agenda item 8) For discussion Note by the secretariat of the Regional Committee containing the draft report and decisions of the twelfth meeting Main outcomes of the twelfth meeting Recommendations Adoption of the report Proposed dates for the thirteenth meeting (agenda item 9) Other matters (agenda item 10) Closing of the twelfth meeting (agenda item 11) Concluding remarks by representatives of ECA, the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, the Executive Board, countries and partners.

Friday, 23 October

Workshop segment (*resumed*)

	Implementing the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework in Africa: strategic avenues for the integration of geospatial and statistical information
9–9.30 a.m.	Session I Setting the scene Welcome and introduction of participants • Chief, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma Outline of the organization of work and review of workshop discussion topics Progress report on the integration of geospatial and statistics in Africa, followed by interactive discussion • Statistician, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Ayenika Godheart Keynote address: [<i>to be confirmed</i>] • [<i>Speaker to be confirmed</i>]
9.30–10 a.m.	Session II Implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework in Africa Review of progress made by African countries, current challenges and areas where further work is needed

- Statistician, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Ayenika Godheart

Experience of members of ECA

- Representatives of Cameroon, Namibia, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Zambia

Interactive discussion

10–10.30 a.m.

Session III

Institutional coordination and data foundations

Coordination between national statistical offices and geospatial agencies; core datasets required for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring; data quality and accessibility issues

- Geospatial Information Officer, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Aster Deneke

World's largest 30 cm satellite constellation (19 satellites currently in orbit and 45 by 2027): experience of members of ECA

- Representatives of two members of ECA

Interactive discussion

10.30–11 a.m.

Break

11–11.30 a.m.

Session IV

Standards, privacy, and technology

Standards and interoperability; geocoding methods; coordinate pseudonymization; use of cloud platforms and Earth observation data

- Statistician, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Ayenika Godheart

11.30 a.m.–noon

Session V

Capacity development and partnerships

Training requirements, institutional capacity, partnership arrangements and actions that can support wider use of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework

- Statistician, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Ayenika Godheart

Noon–1 p.m.

Session VI

Wrap-up and conclusions

Way forward and recommendations

Review of the main points raised during the workshop and preparation of recommendations for submission to the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information for Africa

- Chief, Geospatial Information Management Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma

Closing of the workshop

- Chief, Geospatial Information Management
Section, ECA, Andre Nonguierma

1–2 p.m.

Lunch

2–4 p.m.

**Joint closing ceremony of the twelfth meeting of the
Regional Committee of United Nations Global
Geospatial Information Management for Africa and
the tenth session of the Statistical Commission for
Africa (agenda item 12)**
