



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

13 August 2020

Subject: Draft resolution entitled “Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session and provisional agenda and dates of its tenth session”

Excellency,

I wish to draw your attention to one of the pending issues from the 2020 session of the Council, namely the draft decision entitled “Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session and provisional agenda and dates of its tenth session” (E/2020/L.10).

I have been informed by the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Experts, Ms. Rosamond Bing (Tonga) and Mr. Fernand Isseri (Cameroon), that the draft decision has been further revised to address the concerns raised by members of the Council.

In this regard and in accordance with Council decision 2021/203 of 29 July 2020 extending the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic until the end of August 2020, I am pleased to place under silence procedure until Tuesday, 18 August 2020, at 12:00 PM, the attached draft decision entitled “Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session and provisional agenda and dates of its tenth session”, to be issued as document E/2021/L.3 under agenda item 18 (i) (Economic and environmental questions: Geospatial information).

Given the time constraints, I have requested the Secretariat to submit the draft decision for review of its programme budget implications and will update Member States in due course.

Members of ECOSOC wishing to make statements in explanations of vote or non-members of the Council wishing to make general statements in connection with the draft decision are invited to refer to the procedure annexed to this letter.

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations, New York

Objections to draft decision E/2021/L.3 by a member of ECOSOC should be done via a letter or note verbale addressed to the President of the Council. Such correspondence should be sent via email to: rajeelmohsin79@hotmail.com / miklodhi@gmail.com. Please clearly indicate the title of the draft resolution in the subject line of the communication.

Let me take this opportunity to once again express my solidarity with Member States who are fighting COVID-19 and extend my sincere condolences for their loss.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Munir Akram

President of the Economic and Social Council

ANNEX

Explanation of vote/position

Members of the Council wishing to make an explanation of vote/position and other Member States wishing to make a general statement in connection with the proposal, may do so in either of the following ways, without prejudice to the delegations' rights under the rules of procedure to explain their vote/position or the practice to allow delegations to deliver a general statement in connection with the proposal at the first plenary meeting to be held in order for the Council to take note of the decision after the cessation of precautionary measures and as soon as circumstance allow:

- a. **Option 1:** Electronic versions of the statements in explanation of vote/position or general statements in connection with the draft proposal will be posted on the [e-deleGATE](#) portal, under ECOSOC announcements. Please indicate the title of the draft decision/resolution and document symbol in the subject line of the email to be sent to the Economic and Social Council Affairs Branch, DGACM (Catalina De Leon, email: leonc@un.org).
 - b. **Option 2:** Council members and other Member States can address their communication to the President of the Economic and Social Council (to be sent to his office as per the details in the letter), which can then be circulated in a subsequent letter from the President to all members of the Council, with a copy to all other Member States for their information. Please indicate the title of the draft decision/resolution and document symbol in the subject line of the communication.
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**Economic and Social Council**

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23 July 2020–22 July 2021

Agenda item 18 (i)

Economic and environmental questions: geospatial information**Draft decision submitted by the President of the Council, Munir Akram (Pakistan)****Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session and provisional agenda and dates of its tenth session***The Economic and Social Council,*

- (a) *Takes note* of the report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session;¹
- (b) *Taking into account* the continued impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements for the 2021 session of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies, and the letters dated 27 May 2020 and 29 July 2020 from the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Experts to the President of the Economic and Social Council, *decides* that the tenth session of the Committee of Experts shall be held in a scaled-down informal format using a virtual platform and *requests* simultaneous interpretation into all UN six official languages to be provided on an if available basis, on 26 and 27 August and 4 September 2020 and *decides*, furthermore, that decisions of the Committee of Experts shall be adopted through a silence procedure;
- (c) Approves the provisional agenda of the tenth session of the Committee of Experts as set out below²:

¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2020, Supplement No. 26 (E/2020/46).*

² As recommended by the Committee of Experts in its report, taking into account the letter dated 27 May 2020 from the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Experts to the President of the Economic and Social Council.

Provisional agenda of the tenth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

1. Election of officers.
 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
 3. Strengthening geospatial information management.
 4. Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda.
 5. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
 6. Global geodetic reference frame.
 7. Geospatial information for sustainable development.
 8. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
 9. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management.
 10. Geospatial information and services for disasters.
 11. Marine geospatial information.
 12. Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
 13. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.
 14. Collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
 15. Programme management report.
 16. Provisional agenda and dates of the eleventh session of the Committee of Experts.
 17. Report of the Committee of Experts on its tenth session.
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