



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
21 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

Annotated provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

(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

1. The Director of the African Centre for Statistics will give welcoming remarks in his capacity as secretary of the meeting and provide further information on the joint session.

2. That will be followed by statements delivered by the Chair of the Statistical Commission for Africa and the Chair of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa.

(b) Formal opening of the twelfth meeting

3. The meeting will be officially opened by representatives of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Executive Board of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, the secretariat of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, the President of the African Space Council and partner organizations. In the opening statements, the strategic importance of geospatial information for the African sustainable development agenda will be highlighted and the need to strengthen integrated geospatial, statistical and administrative data systems will be discussed.

2. Organizational matters

Documentation

Provisional agenda (E/ECA/GGIM-A/12/1)

Provisional annotated agenda ((E/ECA/GGIM-A/12/2)

Draft programme of work (E/ECA/GGIM-A/12/3)

Rules of procedure (E/ECA/GGIM-A/1/3)



4. The Committee will elect members of the Executive Board, adopt the agenda and programme of work and review procedural arrangements for conducting the meeting. Participants will also consider arrangements for the implementation of decisions and reporting and confirm the applicable rules, procedures and working methods.

3. Presentation of reports

Documentation

Report on the activities of the Regional Committee (E/ECA/GGIM-A/12/5)

5. The Committee will review progress achieved since the eleventh meeting and assess the implementation of previous decisions. Reports will be presented by the Executive Board, working groups and strategic partners addressing such issues as the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework; the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework; the African Geodetic Reference Frame; and land administration and management information systems. The Committee will also hear contributions from academic institutions, private sector thematic networks and international partners.

6. Particular attention will be paid to implementation challenges, good practices and opportunities for accelerating delivery at the national and regional levels.

4. Policy issues

7. The Committee will consider strategic and governance issues affecting geospatial information management in Africa. Discussions will focus on: progress in implementing the recommendations of previous meetings; geospatial governance frameworks; institutional coordination mechanisms; national geospatial policies and strategies; resource mobilization and sustainability; and strengthening African participation in global geospatial initiatives. This session will present an opportunity for the Committee to draw up policy recommendations and guidance on ways to strengthen national and regional geospatial governance frameworks.

8. The item supports the objective of strengthening policy coherence and institutional leadership for geospatial information across the continent.

5. Technical issues

9. The Committee will examine technical developments, innovations and capacity-building initiatives supporting geospatial information management in Africa. Topics will include: implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework; initiatives by the United Nations Geospatial Network; the Global Geodetic Reference Frame and geodetic infrastructure; Earth observation services; geospatial standards and interoperability; geospatial data taxonomies and fundamental geospatial datasets; capacity development and institutional strengthening; and emerging geospatial technologies and innovations such as geospatial artificial intelligence. The Committee may wish to draw up recommendations on technical priorities and actions for strengthening African geospatial infrastructure, operational capabilities and emerging technologies.

10. The session will provide an opportunity for members of ECA and partner organizations to share practical experiences and lessons learned.

6. Joint session with the Statistical Commission for Africa

11. In recognition of the importance of data integration, the joint session will address such issues as the implementation of the second edition of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework; geospatial enablement of official statistics; modernization of census and administrative data systems; geospatial applications for monitoring progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; and artificial intelligence and integrated data environments. The Committee will be invited to draw up recommendations on ways to strengthen collaboration between national statistical offices and national geospatial information agencies.

7. Special topics

12. Participants will discuss future directions for geospatial information management in Africa, with a view to agreeing on a shared strategic vision and priority actions for the next phase in the work of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa. Particular emphasis will be placed on: geospatial intelligence for sustainable development; integration of geospatial, statistical and administrative data; artificial intelligence and advanced analytics; ethical use of emerging data sources; trustworthy and practical geospatial information that is ready to be acted upon; future institutional and financing arrangements; and building a resilient African geospatial environment.

13. The session will also provide an opportunity for members of ECA, regional institutions and development partners to present strategic initiatives and future priorities.

8. Adoption of the report of the twelfth meeting

14. The Committee will consider and adopt the report, decisions and recommendations of the twelfth meeting. Participants will review the main conclusions, priority actions and follow-up arrangements.

9. Proposed dates for the thirteenth meeting

15. The Committee will consider proposals regarding the timing and venue of its thirteenth meeting and provide guidance to the Executive Board and the secretariat regarding preparations.

10. Other matters

16. Participants may raise additional matters relevant to the work of the Committee that are not covered under previous agenda items.

11. Closing of the twelfth meeting

17. Representatives of ECA, the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, the Executive Board and partner organizations will deliver closing remarks which summarize the main messages, decisions and commitments arising from the twelfth meeting. The Chair will formally close the twelfth meeting.

12. 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

18. The Rapporteur of the Bureau of the Statistical Commission for Africa will present the draft main conclusions and recommendations of the tenth session of the Statistical Commission for Africa and the twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa for consideration and adoption. Closing remarks will be made by a representative of the secretariat and by the Chair of the Bureau.
