



ORGANIZACION HIDROGRAFICA INTERNACIONAL

Dossier del BHI N° S1/5051-TA-005-3

CARTA CIRCULAR N° 04/2015
13 de Enero del 2015

PRINCIPIOS RECTORES COMUNES PARA LA GESTION DE INFORMACION GEOESPACIAL

Referencias:

- A. CC. de la OHI N°56/2014 del 12 de Agosto - *Informe sobre la 4ª Sesión del Comité de Expertos de las NU sobre la Gestión Mundial de la Información Geoespacial;*
- B. CC. de la OHI N° 02/2015 del 6 de Enero - *Principios para la Gestión de los Datos de la GEOS.*

Estimado(a) Director(a),

1. Según se mencionó en el informe del BHI relativo a la 4ª sesión del Comité de Expertos de las Naciones Unidas sobre la Gestión Mundial de la Información Geoespacial (UN-GGIM), el Comité de Expertos ha estado desarrollando “una declaración común de principios sobre la gestión de información geoespacial” (Carta Circular de la Referencia A). Los objetivos son “*aclarar las obligaciones sociales distintivas inherentes a las prácticas profesionales de la comunidad de la información geoespacial, y aumentar la confianza del público en la información geoespacial*” y, a este efecto, “*proporcionar una serie de valores para orientar las decisiones y las acciones de las organizaciones geoespaciales, en el seno de los Estados Miembros*”¹.

2. Basándose en los resultados de la 4ª sesión del UN-GGIM, un Grupo de Trabajo sobre la elaboración de una declaración de principios comunes, compuesto por representantes de Australia, Francia, México, Nueva Zelanda y de la Federación Internacional de Geodestas (FIG), ha preparado el proyecto que se adjunta a la presente, para una consulta mundial.

3. El Comité Directivo aprueba la orientación general de los principios propuestos, observando que son conformes a las resoluciones y a las recomendaciones pertinentes de la OHI. Sin embargo, consideramos que sería oportuno mejorar adicionalmente el proyecto, para facilitar la comprensión de los principios en vista de su implementación. También observamos que la iniciativa del UN-GGIM está vinculada al desarrollo paralelo, por el Grupo de Observaciones de la Tierra (GEO), de “Principios relativos a la Gestión de los Datos”, sobre el que se informó en la Carta Circular de la Referencia B, y que una coordinación adicional entre las dos actividades sería beneficiosa para todas las partes asociadas.

4. La Secretaría del UN-GGIM ha fijado como fecha límite para la sumisión de comentarios sobre el proyecto de *declaración de principios comunes* el 28 de Febrero del 2015. Se invita a los Estados Miembros a someter sus comentarios, de haberlos, o bien directamente a la Secretaría del UN-GGIM (punto de contacto: Sra. Cecille BLAKE, email: blake1@un.org) **antes del 28 de Febrero**, o a través del BHI (info@iho.int) **lo más tardar el 20 de Febrero**. Los Estados Miembros pueden considerar también el ponerse en contacto con sus representantes nacionales en el UN-GGIM.

¹ Extractos del documento E/C.20/2014/10/Add.1, sometido a la 4ª sesión del UN-GGIM (ver: http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html).

5. Se invita también al Grupo de Trabajo de la OHI sobre las Infraestructuras de Datos Espaciales Marítimos a examinar y a hacer sus comentarios sobre el proyecto, cuando sea pertinente.

6. Está previsto que un proyecto revisado de *declaración común de principios* sea difundido para su revisión final y posteriormente sometido para su adopción por el UN-GGIM en su 5ª sesión, del 5 al 7 de Agosto del 2015.

En nombre del Comité Directivo
Atentamente,



Robert WARD
Presidente

Anexo:

A Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management - Proyecto fechado el 15 de Diciembre de 2014 (*en Inglés únicamente*).

Distribución:

- Estados Miembros de la OHI;
- Presidente y Vice-Presidente del MSDIWG de la OHI (por e-mail).

A Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management

Preamble

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management acknowledges:

- (a) High quality geospatial information is critical for evidence-based analysis and informed policy decision-making in support of sustainable development, economic growth, poverty eradication, peace and security, disaster risk reduction, and addressing the adverse impact of climate change;
- (b) The opportunity to use geospatial information to foster mutual knowledge and cooperation among the Member States and peoples of an increasingly connected world, demanding openness and transparency;
- (c) The essential trust of the public in the reliability of authoritative geospatial information is essential and depends on recognition of and adherence to fundamental values and principles that are the basis of any society. In this context, professional independence and accountability of geospatial organizations are crucial;
- (d) The need for precepts, values and beliefs that clarify the distinctive social responsibilities of geospatial information authorities, encourage and support stakeholders at all levels to make the right choices that foster public trust and inspire confidence in geospatial information, and to attract partners and investment;
- (e) In order to be effective, guiding principles have to be enshrined in the institutional frameworks that govern geospatial information organizations and understood at all political levels and by all stakeholders in national agencies.

Shared Guiding Principles

of a strong, successful and relevant geospatial information organization:

Innovation

1. **Geospatial advocacy:**

is reinforced by steadfast advocates promoting applications of geospatial information that support sustainable development, economic growth, poverty eradication, peace and security, disaster risk reduction, and addressing the adverse impact of climate change.

2. **Collaboration and coordination:**

encourage national, regional and global collaborations fundamental to the facilitation of improvements in the development, management and use of geospatial data as well as the integration of statistical data and other information in order to supply services meeting user needs.

3. **Continuous development and recognition of work:**

commit to policies and practices that ensure the continuous development, professional competence and ethical practices of geospatial information practitioners.

4. **Agility and adaptiveness:**

address and take advantage of institutional, technological and other advancements in support of the development and delivery of products and services.

5. **Open data access:**

adopt access policies that maximize the use of geospatial information, and promote efficiency and effectiveness of decision making.

Governance

6. **Use of and adherence to geospatial standards:**

embrace the development of, adherence to, and use of nationally and internationally recognized geospatial standards. Utilization of standards will facilitate the effective and efficient creation, sharing, exchange and use of

geospatial data, the open transfer of data among organizations, platforms and applications, and encourage innovation, reduce transaction costs, increase transparency, allow international compatibility and cooperation within the marketplace.

7. **Ownership and accountability:**

facilitate trust amongst geospatial data creators and providers, have a clear understanding and use of geospatial data through the publication of metadata, including ownership information and technical specifications (i.e. in particular currency, data models, quality and accuracy definitions). This will support informed and fit-for-purpose use and interpretation of geospatial data. Data creators and providers are responsible for compliance to the specifications of geospatial data sets made available for consumption and use.

8. **Transparency:**

identify sources and the processes that are used to create and provide official geospatial data.

9. **Respect and confidentiality:**

exhibit high levels of regard and consideration to their stakeholders in the execution of their daily operations. Particular care is to be exercised to protect the confidentiality of geospatial information that may adversely impact an individual, community and/or Member States. Personal data is to be especially respected and protected.

10. **Standards of service:**

employ geospatial information management best practices and solutions, and pursue excellence in the delivery of geospatial data and services. Appropriate access, fairness (value for money) and equity are to be accorded to all stakeholders.

11. **Institutional framework:**

encourage and create inclusive and participatory legal, policy and administrative frameworks to manage data ownership, data quality, intellectual property and confidentiality issues.

12. **Expertise:** value national expertise in geospatial information and knowledge, in order to, where appropriate, comment on and validate the accuracy of geospatial datasets covering the national territory, seeking their overall consistency, in order to advise on matters of application, interpretation or use of geospatial information.

13. **International Cooperation and Harmonization:** engage in bilateral and multilateral cooperation in geospatial information management to foster effective and efficient geospatial management systems in all Member States. Harmonization of national geospatial data and services at regional and global levels is encouraged in order to meet the needs of supranational users.

Compliance

14. **Sovereignty of Member States:**

avail authoritative geospatial data, that is, official and accurate data, to support public policies and administrative procedures, is an essential requirement of Member States' autonomy, sovereignty and economic development. These data should be considered and treated as a base infrastructure for each country, to be created and maintained as other base infrastructures.

15. **Adherence to law:**

observe laws, regulations and administrative practices of the Member States, within which they operate, as well as international laws and conventions, and their stakeholders made aware of those laws and conventions which govern and are related to their operations. The intellectual property of geospatial data creators are to be protected and geospatial data received from non-primary sources must be acknowledged.