

TO: Mr. Antonio M.A. Pedro, Acting Executive Secretary
A: Economic Commission for Africa

DATE: 19 January 2023

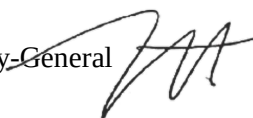
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THROUGH:

CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified

S/C DE:

FROM: for Atul Khare, Under-Secretary-General
DE: for Operational Support



SUBJECT: **Strengthening national capacity development on geospatial information and the impact of the**
OBJET: **September 2022 Workshop in Bamako, Mali**

1. The Department of Operational Support (DOS) and the Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT) wish to extend their appreciation to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) for the contribution through its Geoinformation Systems Section (GiSS), in supporting the holding of the week-long workshop in Bamako, Mali, from 12 to 16 September 2022, organized by the Geospatial Information Section of the OICT, in a close collaboration with the *Institut Géographique du Mali* (IGM).
2. The focus of the workshop was on strengthening the national management of geospatial information in Mali. The event was officially authorized by the Cabinet of Ministers in Mali, informed to the Prime Minister, with opening remarks presented by the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, and was covered extensively in the press, as well as the national TV news broadcasts.
3. The workshop brought together senior experts from across Mali's geospatial information ecosystem, including the National Transition Council (NTC), Statistical, Cadastral, Defense, Forestry, Health, Development, Interior and other agencies and international partners. Participants agreed to re-establish an inter-ministerial committee to coordinate geospatial information and decided to develop a Geospatial Country Action Plan.
4. Other recommendations from the workshop included a call to the United Nations to uphold and carry achievements of the workshop, and support of the development of its future action plan in accordance with the integrated geospatial information framework, and other capacity building activities for the actors of geospatial information in Mali, in particular the IGM.
5. Based on the success of this approach, efforts are now underway to identify extra budgetary funding to leverage the experience in Mali and replicate it in other locations. We look forward to our continued collaboration, as the Secretariat to United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) and in Africa, towards the development of Mali's action plan and other future capacity building activities for the advancement of geospatial information for the benefit of national economies, societies, and the environment.

cc: Oliver Chinganya
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