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**Committee on the Peaceful Uses
of Outer Space**
Fifty-second session
3-12 June 2009

**International cooperation in promoting the use of space-
derived geospatial data for sustainable development**

Note by the Secretariat

In accordance with the multi-year workplan for the period 2007-2009 for the agenda item entitled “International cooperation in promoting the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development” (see A/61/20, para. 302), the Committee would draft a report containing recommendations on ways and means to foster international cooperation with a view to building up national infrastructure to use space-derived geospatial data.

The annex to the present document contains the contribution by Brazil for draft recommendations for the report of the Committee. The draft recommendations will be elaborated among the members of the Committee through intersessional deliberations under the guidance of Brazil and finalized during the fifty-third session of the Committee in 2010, upon which they will be included in the report of the Committee.



Annex

Recommendations on ways and means to foster international cooperation with a view to building up national infrastructures to use geospatial data

1. States should engage in or continue to support international cooperation initiatives covering the most relevant elements for the creation and operation of national spatial data infrastructures (NSDIs). This includes:

(a) Working towards ensuring the global offer of and access to space-derived data and associated application software, as openly as possible and at the lowest possible cost;

(b) Employing efforts in capacity building, including short-term and long-term training, development of associated infrastructure and institutional arrangements.

2. In addition to the above-mentioned aspects, States should pay particular attention to the creation at the national level of the adequate conditions required for the establishment of NSDIs.

3. In building up national infrastructures to use space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development, States should act in accordance with the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of all States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries (General Assembly resolution 51/122).

Actions to foster international cooperation with a view to building up national infrastructures to use geospatial data require actions at both the national and international levels, which should be undertaken in accordance with the specific situations of different States:

At the national level:

4. States should identify and categorize their most relevant national environmental and economical issues, as well as define their geospatial data needs for supporting decision and policy-making processes.

5. States should make special efforts to create or expand databases with national geospatial information, which could be supported by the establishment or employment of networks that integrate national research institutions, academia, the private sector and organized civil society.

At the international level:

6. States should make special efforts to engage in or expand international cooperation initiatives that aim at retrieving, classifying and sharing spatial data from remote sensing sources, ground data acquired to facilitate analysis of remotely sensed data, digital maps from specific studies carried out abroad and other relevant data. This could be achieved through the amplification of the networks mentioned above (Recommendation 3).

7. States should make special efforts to develop and disseminate simple tools, with minimal technical requirements and at the lowest cost possible, for the treatment and analysis of geospatial data, as a means to create or enhance autonomous national capabilities to generate information for supporting decision and policy-making processes.
