

UN-GGIM: PSN Board Meeting

09 October 2025. Online Meeting.

Attendees

1. Dr. Valrie Grant
2. Dr. Zaffar Sadiq Mohamed-Ghouse HonFGCA FRGS FIEAust
3. Dr. Saad Alhamlan
4. Dr. Kumar Navulur
5. Dr. Nadine Alameh
6. Dr. Peter Bauman
7. Ms. Megha Datta (PSN Secretariat)

Updates

- The new Chair of the PSN Board shared their views on PSN as a catalyst for the geospatial ecosystem, actively supporting and contributing to initiatives such as the One UN Situation Room, and as a key enabler of the UN-GGIM mission.
- PSN members aspire to deeper engagement and more meaningful contributions to the UN-GGIM Working Groups and the UN-IGIF mission through sharing of case studies, mentorship, and partnerships.

Regional updates

Asia Pacific

- The **UN-GGIM Asia-Pacific 14th Plenary Meeting** was held in Goyang, Republic of Korea, from 24–26 September, where **South Korea** and **India** were elected as new co-chairs for the region.
- **PSN hosted a panel discussion** with participation from government and industry representatives.
- PSN was commended for its contributions to the UN-IGIF, Land Administration, and Geodesy Working Groups.
- China established a new **Working Group on AI and Applications**.

Arab States

- The **UN-GGIM Arab States 13th Plenary Meeting** is scheduled for February 2026. PSN is actively engaged in developing the agenda with the regional executive board.

Americas

- Planning is underway for the **UN-GGIM Americas 12th Plenary Session**, to be held in Santiago, Chile, from 5–7 November 2025.
- PSN will host a joint side event with the Academic Network during the Plenary Meeting.
- PSN has also been invited by the UN-GGIM Americas GeoAI Community of Practice to host a training session on GeoAI in January 2026, covering topics such as data management, data requirements, documentation standards, skills development, and infrastructure.
- **UN-GGIM Africa will host its 11th Plenary Session** in Ghana from 17–21 November 2025.

Other Updates

- At the **Third Expert Meeting of the Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks** for Geospatial Information Management, held from 7–9 October 2025 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, discussions focused on AI policy and how the community can proactively contribute to its development.

3rd UN-WGIC

- The **third UN-WGIC** is scheduled for **October 2026** in **Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**, immediately following the World Data Forum. It is expected to attract over 2,000 delegates. The first two UN-World Geospatial Information Congresses (UN-WGIC) were held in China (2018) and India (2022), respectively.
- The International Advisory Committee (IAC) for the 3rd UN-WGIC met recently, introducing its members and discussing the IAC Terms of Reference.
- As the local host, GEOSA will establish a National Organizing Committee (NOC).
- PSN has the opportunity to contribute a paper and a training program on policy imperatives that the private sector can bring to the table at the upcoming UN-WGIC.

Communications and Outreach

- The PSN website (<https://unggim-psn.wgicouncil.org/>) will be updated and hosted by WGIC. Planned enhancements include session reports, regional pages, and other PSN publications.
- A committee led by the PSN Chair, supported by the Chair of the Asia-Pacific PSN and the PSN Secretariat, will collaborate with WGIC on the website update. The relaunch is planned for January 2026. A discussion on this timeline will be had with WGIC.
- Board members are encouraged to post updates from the PSN LinkedIn page.

Strategic Planning

- The PSN Board will develop a **Strategic Vision 2026**, outlining engagement plans, partnerships, and contributions to regional and thematic groups — highlighting how PSN supports the SDGs and the UN-IGIF.

Action Items

- Board members to prepare inputs for the Strategic Vision 2026, leveraging regional synergies.
- Board members to share updated photos and credentials for inclusion on the new PSN website.

Next Board Meeting

- The next PSN Board Meeting is proposed for **Thursday, 11 December 2025**, at **7:00 a.m. ET**.
- This will be an extended session dedicated to discussing the PSN Strategic Plan for 2026.