UN Resolution on GGRF

Markku Poutanen (Finland)

Key words: Reference frames; Reference systems; United Nations; geodesy

SUMMARY

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) decided in 2013 to formulate and facilitate a resolution for a global geodetic reference frame and established a working group on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF). The task of the working group was to formulate the resolution and prepare a roadmap for GGRF for sustainable development. In February 2015 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution on a Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development (A/RES/69/266), recognizing the importance of a globally coordinated approach to geodesy. In August 2016 the UN-GGIM endorsed the GGRF Roadmap and decided to elevate the GGRF working group to a permanent sub-committee on geodesy.

UN-GGIM has established regional entities, including UN-GGIM:Europe. In connection with the implementation of the GGRF roadmap it is assumed beneficial that the regions contribute through regional GGRF working groups. The UN-GGIM: Europe working group “GRF-Europe” (Geodetic Reference Frames – Europe) was established in 2016. GRF-Europe will be working as a GGRF expert group within the UN-GGIM:Europe with close connection to geodesy-related organizations in Europe and actively contribute to the work of the sub-committee on Geodesy. GRF-Europe will provide a link between the geospatial community, scientists and policy makers. We will describe current status and plans of both groups.