"Fostering effective participation at UN-GGIM and other meetings"

Guidelines for preparing and delivering statements/interventions

Thursday 11 November 2021

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Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM)
Outline

1. Brief Introduction to the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
2. Role of the Conference Secretariat
3. Sessions of the Committee of Experts
4. Preparing for the session 4-6 weeks in advance
5. Opportunities to Speak
6. Statements/Interventions
7. Drafting resolutions and decisions
8. References
9. Negotiations
10. Q&A
Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

• A subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
• Reports directly to ECOSOC
• Expert body composed of Experts appointed by States Members of the UN
• The Committee is the apex intergovernmental mechanism for making joint decisions and setting directions with regard to the production, availability and use of geospatial information within national, regional and global policy frameworks.
• Address global issues and contribute collective knowledge as a community with shared interests and concerns.
• Develops effective strategies to strengthen geospatial capacity particularly in developing countries
• Addresses global challenges regarding the use of geospatial information, including in the development agendas are and serves as a body for global policymaking in the field of geospatial information management.
The UN-GGIM could not function without the interpretation and translation of documents, without someone scheduling meetings, and without procedural guidance— all done by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM).

The conference secretariat (DGACM):
- is responsible for procedural matters of the session
- provides procedural and technical advice to the Chair and bureau;
- prepares the script for the Chair — a detailed sequence of the proceedings and suggested remarks — and supports him/her during the meetings with advice on the application of the GA Rules of Procedure
- drafts organizational papers that may be required, including the draft report of the body,
- Prepares daily submissions to the Journal of the United Nations
- Interfaces with the substantive secretariat and other offices involved in documentation and meetings planning and organization,
- The Conference services secretariat includes the:
  - Secretary, who leads the team;
  - Deputy Secretaries;
  - Meetings Servicing Assistants,
Committee of Experts sessions

The proceedings of all intergovernmental bodies are bound by their established rules of procedure. The Committee of Experts sessions are structured into three distinctive stages:

- **Organizational**
  - Elections of the Bureau, programme of work and timetable

- **General debate/Thematic discussion**
  - General debate on all items under consideration for the session. Delegations make group statements and statements in their national capacity as per the programme of work on the agenda and report under consideration.
  - The Committee is guided by the Informal Papers issued by the Secretariat which contains the draft resolutions and decisions on which action is taken each day during the action phase e.g. Informal Paper from 10th session.

- **Action on all draft decisions**
  - A draft provisional programme of work and timetable for the next year, is issued as a conference room paper, and circulated for the Committee’s consideration and action.
Preparing for the session 4- 6 weeks in advance

1. Visit the session webpage
2. Download the reports relevant to your national interest
3. Read and analyse the reports paying specific attention to the Points for Discussion
4. Consult with relevant experts and national stakeholders to determine country position. The consultation and engagement process will vary per country
5. Conduct additional research if necessary.
   1. You may need to review past session reports, supporting background reports, GA and ECOSOC resolutions.
6. Prepare statement reflecting national position, answering/responding to the Points for Discussion
Interventions from the Americas, UN-GGIM Sessions 6\textsuperscript{th} to 9\textsuperscript{th}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>No. of Countries</th>
<th>6th session</th>
<th>7th session</th>
<th>8th session</th>
<th>9th session</th>
<th>Total 6th-9th</th>
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<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>61</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Americas</strong></td>
<td><strong>35</strong></td>
<td><strong>49</strong></td>
<td><strong>78</strong></td>
<td><strong>49</strong></td>
<td><strong>37</strong></td>
<td><strong>213</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total UN-GGIM Global</strong></td>
<td><strong>170</strong></td>
<td><strong>265</strong></td>
<td><strong>211</strong></td>
<td><strong>240</strong></td>
<td><strong>886</strong></td>
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<td>% Interventions Americas of Global</td>
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<td>29%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>23%</td>
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Interventions/statements delivered during a meeting is considered as participation. There are on average 12-15 substantive agenda items per session on which delegations can make their interventions.
Opportunities to speak at UN-GGIM Sessions

There are several opportunities to speak throughout the session:

- To introduce a report under an agenda item;
- Making a policy statement on behalf of a group of Member States or in national capacity (List of Speakers – in case of GGIM no formal/established list of speakers except during the exceptional circumstances relating to the pandemic and time constraints of virtual meetings);
- During moderated discussions per agenda item. Delegates indicate the wish to speak by pressing the microphone button and wait to be called by the Chair.
Statements

Statements/Interventions
No Member State may address Committee without the permission of the Chair.
The Chair may call a speaker to order.
A Member State can request to reply to a statement of another Member State (Right of Reply)

Introduce Yourself
Hook: An engaging way to grab your audience’s attention
Point: Your country policy on the topic
Call to Action: Your possible solutions to the topic

you can also start by responding
to another delegate, by saying “In response to the comments of the delegate of Germany”, for example
Statements/Interventions

• Be short and concise in your interventions by highlighting key points from your national or group perspective
• Speak to the Chair of session
• Come prepared to the meeting
• Coordinate with other delegations to find common grounds for consensus making
• Suggest a way forward when faced with a challenge by identifying convergence in positions
Public Speaking at the UN

- Knowing how to prepare and deliver well-organized and thoughtful speeches is key
- 20 public speaking skills every UN Delegate should have

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice does not make perfect</th>
<th>Let your personality come through</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eliminate your fear of rejection</td>
<td>Get organized</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don’t be afraid to read from the page</td>
<td>Focus on the speech not the audience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use humor, stories and emotionally charged language</td>
<td>Return to your core message</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not fear redrafting</td>
<td>Be easy to understand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plan for time constraints</td>
<td>Don’t rush</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make the nervous energy work for you</td>
<td>Be aware of your breathing</td>
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<td>Omit nervous gestures</td>
<td>Don’t be afraid to pause</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use audiovisuals sparingly</td>
<td>Don’t let passion rule you</td>
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<tr>
<td>Call other delegations by name</td>
<td>Start strong and close stronger</td>
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Taken from: https://www.wisemee.com/mun-public-speaking/
GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS
Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

• Each year, the Committee of Experts at its annual session in August, considers and adopts its report and decisions on a range of issues from Strengthening geospatial information management to the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.

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• Over its ten year of existence the Committee has adopted 136 decisions and 3 resolutions which have served to strengthen geospatial information management capacity-building, norm-setting, data collection, data dissemination and data sharing particularly in the areas of geodesy and disaster risk management for Member States.

• Consensus is sought for the adoption of decisions and resolutions.

• The Committee’s Rules of Procedure, Section VI, Rule 25 outlines the guidelines for voting, which has never been used in the body’s 10 year history.
What is a Decision and Resolution

• Resolutions are formal expressions of the opinion or will of UN organs.

• Decisions are another type of formal action taken by UN bodies. They often concern procedural matters such as elections, appointments, time and place of future sessions. They are sometimes also used to record the adoption of a text representing the consensus of the members of a given organ.

• General Assembly resolutions and decisions have the same legal status. General Assembly resolutions reflect the views of the Member States, provide policy recommendations, assign mandates to the UN Secretariat and the subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly and decide on all questions regarding the UN budget. With the exception of decisions regarding payments to the regular and peacekeeping budgets of the UN, General Assembly resolutions/decisions are not binding for Member States. The implementation of the policy recommendations contained in resolutions/decisions is the responsibility of each Member State. (Source GA Handbook)
B. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council

2. The following decisions adopted by the Committee of Experts are brought to the attention of the Council:

Decision 11/101
Strengthening of geospatial information management

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Secretariat and the expanded Bureau (see E/C.20/2021/4) and noted with appreciation the considerable efforts in continuing to take strategic and practical action to champion and strengthen geospatial information management and related interlinkages for Member States, in line with the mandate of the Committee pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/27 of 27 July 2016;

(b) Noted the efforts to improve and strengthen national geospatial information capacity-building and cooperation in countries, especially developing countries, including through the provision of extrabudgetary resources through several funding options and mechanisms, and the need to ensure that those resources be made available in an even more transparent manner to scale up efforts to avoid widening the geospatial digital divide and to avoid duplication of efforts;

(c) Recognized the considerable achievements and increasing importance of the Committee of Experts, whose multiple workstreams had had demonstrably positive impacts on both the global geospatial landscape and national development programmes over the past 10 years, but which needs to be sustainably resourced to effectively guide and support Member States in their efforts towards building and maintaining integrated geospatial information capabilities going forward;

(d) Noted that the Committee of Experts was considering ways towards an even stronger global geospatial ecosystem, including a comprehensive programme to encourage the modernizing of national geospatial information agencies and to address the growing geospatial needs of developing countries;

(e) Welcomed the convening of the second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress, with the theme “Geo-Enabling the Global Village: no one should be left behind”, planned for the week of 10–14 October 2022, at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre in Hyderabad, India, and hosted by the Government of India through its Ministry of Science and Technology;

(f) Appreciated the efforts by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to establish a global geospatial knowledge and innovation centre in Beijing, China, and a global geodetic centre of excellence at the United Nations...
Drafting a resolution text

• The resolution is the main result of the work of the committee and is meant to do exactly what the name implies: “resolve” the problem that your committee is focused on.

• Most draft resolutions are initially written by a Member State. Upon request, the UN Secretariat may assist Member States in the drafting process.

• The Member State initiating and drafting a resolution text is called the “sponsor” of the resolution, or the “main sponsor” if there are co-sponsors.
ECOSOC Decision

**Decision text:**
On 18 August 2020, following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection, the Economic and Social Council:
(a) Took note of the report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session (E/2020/46);
(b) Taking into account the continued impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements for the 2021 session of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies and the letters dated 27 May and 29 July 2020 from the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Experts to the President of the Economic and Social Council, decided that the tenth session of the Committee of Experts shall be held in a scaled-down informal format using a virtual platform and requested simultaneous interpretation in all six official languages of the United Nations to be provided on an if available basis, on 26 and 27 August and 4 September 2020, and decided furthermore that decisions of the Committee of Experts shall be adopted through a silence procedure;
(c) Approved the provisional agenda of the tenth session of the Committee of Experts as set out below:

1. Provisional agenda of the tenth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:
   1. Election of officers.
   2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
   3. Strengthening geospatial information management.
   4. Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda.
   5. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
   7. Geospatial information for sustainable development.
   8. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
   9. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management.
   10. Geospatial information and services for disasters.
   12. Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
   13. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.
   15. Programme management report.
   16. Provisional agenda and dates of the eleventh session of the Committee of Experts.

1 As recommended by the Committee of Experts in its report, taking into account the letter dated 27 May 2020 from the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Experts to the President of the Economic and Social Council.

[Ref: E/2021/L.3 and letters from ECOSOC President (Pakistan) dated 13 and 18 August 2020]
Parts of a Resolution

• Resolutions relate to an agenda item, they have a title, and contain a number of **preambular paragraphs** (informally called “PPs”), followed by a number of **operative paragraphs** (informally called “OPs”).

• **Preambular Paragraph:** These paragraphs constitute the Preamble of a resolution, and explain why the UN-GGIM is discussing this issue. Also known as **Preambulatory Clauses**.

• **Operative Paragraph:** These paragraphs constitute the actual actions to come from a resolution, and say what the United Nations and Member States will do about it. Also known as **Operative Clauses**.
The Preamble

• The goal of the preamble of a resolution is to set the scene for the resolution. Here, you can talk about why the resolution is being written, for example by talking about how serious the issue and who it is impacting. You can also refer to past UN Resolutions, Treaties, and International Actions related to the topic.

• Preambular paragraphs each start with “preambular phrases”, which should be italicized in your resolution. Each preambular paragraph should end in a comma.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acknowledging</th>
<th>Expressing concern</th>
<th>Noting</th>
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<tr>
<td>Affirming</td>
<td>Expressing its appreciation</td>
<td>Reaffirming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alarmed by</td>
<td>Fully aware</td>
<td>Recalling</td>
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<td>Bearing in mind</td>
<td>Guided by</td>
<td>Recognizing</td>
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<td>Deploring</td>
<td>Having considered</td>
<td>Regretting</td>
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<td>Emphasizing</td>
<td>Mindful of</td>
<td>Taking into consideration</td>
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The Operatives

• Operative paragraphs determine what action the UN will take on the issue. This can mean directing members of the UN Secretariat what to do, or requesting actions by UN Member States. Each paragraph takes action, so it’s important to be careful with each of the operative paragraphs in a resolution.

• Operative paragraphs start with operative phrases, which should be italicized. Each operative paragraph should also be numbered, and end in a semicolon, except for the final operative which ends in a period.

• If at any point an operative is broken into sub-operatives, you would use a colon to introduce those suboperatives, which start with lowercase letters.
### Operative Phrases

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Acknowledges</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adopts</td>
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<td>Reminds</td>
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<td>Affirms</td>
<td>Demands</td>
<td>Invites</td>
<td>Requests</td>
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<td>Approves</td>
<td>Determines that</td>
<td>Notes that</td>
<td>Resolves</td>
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<td>Authorizes</td>
<td>Emphasizes</td>
<td>Demands</td>
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<td>Believes that</td>
<td>Endorses the Declaration</td>
<td>Determines that</td>
<td>Supports</td>
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<td>Establishes</td>
<td>Realizes</td>
<td>Takes note</td>
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<td>Calls upon Member States</td>
<td>Expresses its appreciation</td>
<td>Recalls</td>
<td>Urges</td>
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<td>Condemns</td>
<td>Expresses its concern</td>
<td>Recognizes</td>
<td>Welcomes</td>
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Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 22 July 2021
[In the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/2021/30)]


The Economic and Social Council,
Recalling its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes an offence and a serious threat to human dignity and physical integrity, human rights and sustainable development,
Reaffirming the commitments by Member States to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate all forms of trafficking in persons,
Recalling the relevant United Nations resolutions and special sessions on trafficking in persons,
Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, containing the 2000 Initiative on Sustainable Development, including its goals and targets relevant to trafficking in persons,
Recalling further the importance of eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other forms of exploitation, as well as ending abuse, exploitation and trafficking of and all forms of violence against and torture of children, also in support of the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,
Reaffirming the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime1 and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplemented by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, taking into consideration the important role of the international community in the fight against trafficking in persons, and also urges States parties to make full and effective use of those instruments;
1. Urges Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, taking into consideration the important role of the international community in the fight against trafficking in persons, and also urges States parties to make full and effective use of those instruments;
2. Encourages States parties to the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, in the context of the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, to consider measures in support of the full and effective use of the Protocol;
3. Urges Member States and other stakeholders mentioned in the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, and invites the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and other relevant subregional, regional and international organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to contribute to the full and effective use of the Global Plan of Action, including by means of strengthening cooperation and improving coordination among themselves in achieving that goal;
4. Invites Member States to address the social, economic, cultural, political and other factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons;
5. Invites all Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to continue to actively observe the annual World Day Against the Trafficking in Persons and to share best practices and lessons learned from the various initiatives and mechanisms;
6. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue, in close cooperation and collaboration with Member States, to collect, in a balanced, reliable and comprehensive manner, information on patterns, forms and flows of trafficking in persons at the national, regional and international levels for use in the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons and to share best practices and lessons learned from the various initiatives and mechanisms;
7. Also requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to integrate the Global Plan of Action into its programmes and activities and continue to provide, at the national and regional levels, technical assistance to countries, upon their request, aimed at strengthening their ability to ensure the full and effective use of the Global Plan of Action;
8. Encourages Member States to make every possible effort to improve the exchange of information in the context of the Global Plan of Action and to consider developing standard operating procedures to allow law enforcement, immigration and other relevant authorities of Member States, as appropriate, to promptly send official information about identified victims to the destination countries, countries of origin and transit countries, including information on the acts and crimes used for the purpose of trafficking in persons, in order to initiate a joint investigation, in accordance with national law;
9. Invites the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within the framework of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, to continue to increase the activities of the Group related to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action;
10. Invites Member States, in the context of the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action, to consider developing and implementing national policies, in line and in accordance with their domestic laws, to prevent trafficking in persons in government procurement and global supply chains, and to consider, where appropriate, promoting partnerships and engagement of the business community, non-governmental organizations, in developing and implementing sustainable initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in supply chains, bearing in mind the primary role and responsibility of Member States in that regard;
11. Requests the relevant agencies of the United Nations system to ensure that United Nations procurement is free from trafficking in persons;
12. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as focal point of the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, to continue to encourage contributions to the trust fund and all other relevant stakeholders to the trust fund;
References

- E/C.20/2021/INF/1 - Documentation for the Session

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
E/C.20/2021/1 - Provisional Agenda
E/C.20/2021/2/Rev.1 - Organization of Work (revised)
E/C.20/2021/3 - Rules of Procedure
E/C.20/2021/CRP.1 - Entities invited to participate in the session as observers

- Webpage for documentation of the 11th session of GGIM:
  - https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/11th-Session/documents/
Negotiations

• Define national interest and core priorities
• Identify common interests with regional and global negotiating blocks and align your interests with the group, find convergence and resolve divergence, use shared interest to create value
• Exercise flexibility and build trust in unlikely situations (For e.g. bridge the traditional divides; North-South)
• Call on the right partners, build partnerships, grow the size of your team and get them committed
• Execute the right strategies
• Guard your info.
• Preserve your reputation
• Respect and question the authorities
• Stay Calm amid angry attacks
• Celebrate the consensus
Thank you for your attention.