International Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Information Beijing, China

Head of sector of the Department of Data Dissemination of the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan - Azer Ahmadov participated in the International Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Information organized by United Nations Statistics Division, as the Secretariat of the UN Statistical Commission and the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), and the National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation (NASG) of China held on 9-12 June, 2014 in Beijing, China.

Representatives of Azerbaijan, USA, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, UAA, People's Republic of China, Fiji, France, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Japan, Cambodia, Kenya, Kuwait, Cape, Verde, Laos, Mexico Mongolia, Moldova, Marrakesh, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Philippine, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Republic of South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swedish, Thailand, Tunis, Turkey and Yemen participated in the workshop.

The International Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Information provided a platform for discussing priority issues related to developing and advancing the implementation of a global statistical-geospatial framework as a standard for the integration of statistical and geospatial information. The workshop consisted of a number of themes and sessions that enabled participants to engage with leading international experts to share experiences and methodologies, including in the following areas: Country experiences in the integration of socio-economic and environmental information using geography; Practices and approaches used to determine and represent geographical units, including geocoding, for statistical purposes; Comparison, including advantages, benefits, and issues, of grid-based versus population/administrative approaches to the collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics; The importance of international standards development, and what existing standards are relevant for both geospatial and statistical communities; Statistical analysis of geospatial (environmental, social, and economic) information, and examples of how national SDI developments can support statistical operations; and Future challenges and trends to be considered by both the statistical and mapping organizations in integrating statistical and geospatial information. These included: technology; big data; the 2020 Round of Censuses; an emerging need for agriculture and economic censuses; environmental-economic accounting; and the post-2015 development agenda.