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## EuroGeographics General Assembly 2020

### 1. Introduction

The 2020 General Assembly was due to be hosted by the Federal Administration for Geodetic and Real Property Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and ongoing travel restrictions and continuing social distancing measures, it is not practical to hold a physical event in October. Therefore, this year's General Assembly will be held online and the face-to-face General Assembly in Sarajevo will be postponed until Spring 2021, and is intended to be held from the 16-18<sup>th</sup> May.

This paper outlines the structure for the online GA2020, provides the GA2020 webinar agenda and details the remote voting procedure for the items of formal business.

### 2. GA2020

The General Assembly will be delivered through a series of webinars starting on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October and concluding on October 22<sup>nd</sup> with formal business, when the result of the votes on resolutions will be announced.

The first webinar on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October will introduce members to the GA2020 webinar series and will include presentations on the formal business of the Association. The following webinars will utilise the now 'regular' webinar slots on Thursday mornings for the first three weeks of October. The agenda for the GA2020 online webinar series is detailed at [Annex 1](#).

### 3. Formal Business

Formal Business is conducted at the General Assembly each year and is an important part of the Association's governance. The following items of formal business will be conducted at this year:

1. **Management Board report to the General Assembly**
2. **Strategy 2020-2023**
3. **2021 Operating Plan**
4. **2021 Budget and Subscriptions**
5. **Election of Management Board**

Due to the exceptional circumstances as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the votes required for formal business will be conducted remotely, as already implemented at the Extraordinary General Assembly to approve the 2019 EuroGeographics Accounts.

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#### 4. Papers

The following papers are circulated for the General Assembly:

1. GA 2020 Introduction and Agenda (this paper)

**Papers for Formal Business of the Association – members only**

2. GA 2020 Management Board Report
3. EuroGeographics Strategy 2020-2023
4. GA 2020 Paper on Subscriptions
5. 2021 Operating Plan, Budget and Subscriptions
6. GA 2020 Management Board Membership

We invite written comments or questions on these papers before October 5<sup>th</sup> 2020. Any questions received and their answers will be shared with all members as required by the Articles of Association. Please send your questions or comments to [sallie.payne@eurogeographics.org](mailto:sallie.payne@eurogeographics.org) by 17.00 CET on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

Formal business papers will be presented at the first of the webinar series on 6<sup>th</sup> October. The vote will commence on 17.00 CET on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October and conclude at 17.00 CET on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020, allowing time to count the votes and for their independent validation. The results of the vote will be announced at the Formal General Assembly webinar on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and will also be communicated to all members by email following this webinar.

The Articles state that votes for Management Board candidates must be 'secret'. As this cannot be done with the remote voting procedure detailed in our Articles, this will have to be deferred until the Spring 2021 General Assembly. Paper 5 on Management Board Membership details the proposed approach.

#### 5. Voting

Members will be asked to vote to approve the following resolutions:

- **The General Assembly approves the EuroGeographics AISBL Strategy 2020-2023.**
- **The General Assembly approves the 2021 Operating Plan.**
- **The General Assembly approves the subscriptions for 2021 and agrees that a review and recalibration of future membership subscriptions is deferred until next year.**
- **The General Assembly approves the 2021 Budget.**
- **The General Assembly approves the extension of the terms of current Management Board members.**

Background information and an explanation about how this vote will be conducted can be found at **Annex 2**.

**Annex 1 – GA2020 Agenda**

**GA Webinar Series 1 – Introduction**

<b>Tues 06 Oct</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b><u>Chair/Speakers</u></b>
<b>10.00 – 10.10</b>	Welcome & Introduction	Mick Cory, Secretary General & Executive Director
<b>10.10 – 10.35</b>	EuroGeographics Management Report to the General Assembly	Colin Bray, President EuroGeographics
<b>10.35 – 11.00</b>	EuroGeographics Strategy 2020-2023	Mick Cory, Secretary General & Executive Director
<b>Comfort break</b>		
<b>11.15 – 11.45</b>	2021 Operating Plan 2021 Budget and Subscriptions	Sallie Payne Snell, Head of Operations & Association Management Martin Salzmann, EuroGeographics Treasurer
<b>11.45 – 11.55</b>	Voting procedure	Sallie Payne Snell, Head of Operations & Association Management
<b>11.55 – 12.05</b>	Questions via Slido	
<b>12.05 – 12.15</b>	GA2020 Webinar series	Mick Cory, Secretary General & Executive Director
<b>Close</b>		

**GA Webinar Series 2 – European & International Policy Development**

<b>Thurs 08 Oct</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b><u>Chair/Speakers</u></b>
<b>10.00 – 10.10</b>	Welcome and Introduction	Mick Cory, Secretary General & Executive Director
<b>10.10 – 10.50</b>	European Policy Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open data Directive and HVD</li> <li>• Future data requirements of Eurostat / GISCO</li> </ul>	<b>Facilitator:</b> Angela Baker, Programme Manager Jiri PILAR Jiri Pilar, DG Connect Ruxandra Roman-Enescu, Head of Unit Eurostat
<b>10.50 – 11.00</b>	Questions via Sl.ido	
<b>Comfort break</b>		
<b>11.10 – 11.50</b>	International Policy Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key developments in the UN-GGIM</li> <li>• Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence</li> </ul>	<b>Facilitator:</b> Carol Agius, KEN Co-ordinator Tomaz Petek, Chair UN-GGIM: Europe Paul Becker, President, BKG Germany
<b>11.50 – 12.00</b>	Questions via Sl.ido	
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**GA Webinar Series 3 – Business Continuity**

<b>Thurs 15 Oct</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b><u>Chair/Speakers</u></b>
<b>10.00 – 10.10</b>	Welcome and Introduction	Mick Cory, Secretary General & Executive Director
<b>10.10 – 10.50</b>	Business Continuity in the response to the COVID-19 Pandemic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business continuity at OSI</li> <li>• Business continuity at Lantmäteriet</li> </ul>	<b>Facilitator:</b> Carol Agius, KEN Co-ordinator Colin Bray, CEO, Ordnance Survey Ireland Suzanne Ås Sivborg, Director General, Lantmäteriet, Sweden
<b>Comfort break</b>		
<b>11.00 – 11.40</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business continuity at General Directorate for the Cadastre</li> <li>• Business continuity at Rosreestr</li> </ul>	Amalia Velasco, General Directorate for the Cadastre, Spain Elena Martynova, Deputy Head Rosreestr, Russia
<b>11.50 – 12.00</b>	Questions via Sl.ido	
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**GA Webinar Series 4 – Business Models and General Assembly 2020 Formal Business**

<b>Thurs 22 Oct</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b><u>Chair/Speakers</u></b>
<b>10.00 – 10.10</b>	Welcome and Introduction	Mick Cory, Secretary General & Executive Director
10.10 – 11.30	Business Models and sustainability in an open data environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new era of National Mapping Services in Great Britain</li> <li>• From Product to Platform – Open Data in Denmark</li> <li>• Evolution of IGN’s Business and Funding Model with the Introduction of Open Data</li> <li>• The Latvian experience in light of the opening of data to all users</li> </ul>	<b>Facilitator:</b> Angela Baker, Programme Manager David Henderson, Chief Geospatial Officer, Ordnance Survey GB  Kristian Møller, Director General, Agency for Data Supply and Efficiency, Denmark  Claude Penicand, Deputy Director, IGN France  Martiņš Liberts, Director, Latvian Geospatial Information Agency
<b>11.30 – 11.45</b>	Questions via Slido	
<b>Comfort break</b>		
<b>General Assembly Formal Business</b>		
<b>11.55 – 12.15</b>	The results of the formal business votes announced and, if agreed, the resolutions adopted	Mick Cory, Secretary General & Executive Director
<b>12.15 – 12.30</b>	Handover to the New Secretary General & Executive Director	Colin Bray, President EuroGeographics
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## Annex 2: Background information & voting procedure

### Background

- Article 12.2. of the Articles of Association states that the Ordinary General Assembly shall meet once each year. The Ordinary General Assembly shall vote on the items set forth in the agenda and, in particular, vote on the coming year's annual budget, approve the annual financial statements, elect the elected members of the Management Board as well as the President in accordance with articles 11.2. b) and 11.4., fill vacancies in elected members of the Management Board, approve any new member application, vote on the modification of Rules and Regulations.

### Special arrangements due to Covid-19 Pandemic

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic a physical general assembly is not possible this year.
- Article 12.3 permits the Management Board, if it believes it to be necessary or pragmatic, to conduct the formal business by written means (including by electronic mails) with proposed written resolutions and voting form(s). Full Members are required to indicate whether they agree, disagree or abstain with these resolutions on the voting form, and are required to sign them and send them back to the President within seven (7) calendar days following receipt of the written resolutions. Failing any response from a Full Member within the period of time mentioned above, such Members shall be deemed to have voted for and signed the proposed written resolutions.
- The Belgian government has also adopted special measures as a result of COVID-19, relating to not-for profit associations; Royal decree number 4, dated 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020, permits an association to set aside the requirements of its Articles, if required, to:
  - prohibit a physical meeting of members,
  - organise a virtual general assembly,
  - and allow voting to be undertaken remotely by correspondence.
- Voting by correspondence includes sending to the association's address by all means, including by sending an accompanied electronic mail a scanned or photographed copy of the voting form.
- The following arrangements have been designed to conform to the requirements of our Articles of Association, and are consistent with the Royal Decree number 4 of 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020 for Belgian Associations.

### EuroGeographics arrangements for the approval of formal business

- At its MB 04-20 meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 the EuroGeographics Management Board agreed that the requirement for the approval of items of formal business will be achieved through a virtual system.

This will be conducted as follows:

1. The General Assembly planned for 4-6<sup>th</sup> October in Sarajevo has been changed to a series of virtual webinars.
2. At the first webinar on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October, EuroGeographics will describe how the voting will be conducted, and launch the voting procedure
3. Voting will be carried out remotely between 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 (see below planned timeline)
4. The Formal General Assembly webinar will be to be held from 10.00-12.00 CET on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 at which the results of the vote will be announced, and if agreed, the resolutions adopted.

The Management Board must attend this meeting, along with the Secretary General and Executive Director. Members of EuroGeographics are encouraged to attend, as it forms part of the GA2020 webinar series.

### **Planned Timeline**

- A voting form will be sent by email to eligible members by 17.00 CET after the webinar on 6<sup>th</sup> October. A voting form will also be available in the members only area of our website.
- Members will be given seven (7) days to vote as required by the Article of Association: The vote must therefore be completed and received at the following email address [Anne-Claire.Bourdessol@eurogeographics.org](mailto:Anne-Claire.Bourdessol@eurogeographics.org) by 17.00 on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October:
- The following counting process has been designed to meet the requirements of our Articles and Belgian Law. The voting forms received will be printed, and an initial count will be carried out by the Finance Manager by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October. The Head of Operations will carry out a second count, to validate the Finance Manager count. The voting forms will be taken to the Head of NGI Belgium who will act as an independent check on behalf of members and verify the count by Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October, sending the results to the President and Secretary General.

### **Resolutions to be voted on**

- Members will be asked to vote on the following resolutions :
  - The General Assembly approves the EuroGeographics AISBL Strategy 2020-2023.
  - The General Assembly approves the 2021 Operating Plan.
  - The General Assembly approves the subscriptions for 2021 and agrees that a review and recalibration of future membership subscriptions is deferred until next year.
  - The General Assembly approves the 2021 Budget.
  - The General Assembly approves the extension of the terms of current Management Board members.

### **How to Vote**

- Instructions will be provided in the email sent on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October which will contain the voting form. Members vote yes, no or to abstain for each of the resolutions.
- Once the voting form has been completed it must be emailed to [Anne-Claire.Bourdessol@eurogeographics.org](mailto:Anne-Claire.Bourdessol@eurogeographics.org)
- When it is received an email receipt will be sent for confirmation.