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The Secretariat of the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations and has the honour to request updated information in relation to the Second Administrative Level Boundaries (SALB)¹ programme.

The SALB programme, in collaboration with each Member State, aims to make available a global repository of authoritative information and geospatial data about Member State administrative units. The programme's objective is to provide accessible and reliable geospatial data for the processing, extraction, aggregation and visualization of all forms of data. The data collected in the context of the SALB programme will improve geospatial analysis for the international community, as well as facilitate operational programmes of the United Nations.

Likewise, the programme will facilitate the operationalization of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF)² in providing common geographies for the dissemination of statistics. The availability of administrative units will facilitate monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and improved decision-making, as well as producing evidence for setting national developments priorities. Furthermore, it will contribute to the implementation of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2022/24 on enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements and "improve the availability, quality, timeliness and disaggregation of geospatial data and information processes to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [...]".

A positive response to this outreach will provide impetus to this important programme. To support the programme, Permanent Missions are requested to provide the following information to the Geospatial Information Section of the Office of Information and Communications Technology, via e-mail at geospatial@un.org:

- Contact details (or updates) of the National Geospatial Information Authority responsible for administrative units, or common geographies, in your countries;
- Geospatial data for administrative units and limits, or common geographies, for first and second level below national level; and
- Tables of historical changes of administrative units and names for first and second sub-national level boundaries.

Further information on data specifications are available on the SALB website <https://salb.un.org>, including the attached terms for the contribution of data

The Secretariat of the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

12 January 2023



Enclosure: Terms for the Contribution of Data

¹ <https://salb.un.org>

² https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/9th-Session/documents/The_GSGF.pdf



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TERMS FOR THE CONTRIBUTION OF DATA

The Second Administrative Level Boundaries programme of the United Nations aims to make available an interoperable, accessible, and global repository of authoritative information, tables and geospatial data, about the administrative units and names of countries down to the second subnational level, including through time

(hereinafter the “**SALB Data**”) from information contributed by the relevant authorities of Member States of the United Nations (hereinafter the “**Contributors**”). The SALB Data is provided free of charge to national governments, international organizations, international civil society organizations, as well as statisticians, *geospatial* experts and researchers, and the general public (hereinafter the “**Users**”).

The below shall constitute the terms under which Contributors shall provide data to the United Nations for inclusion in the SALB Data.

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“Guidelines for the Publication of Maps” ([ST/AI/189/Add.25/ Rev.1](#) of 20 January 1997). Such modifications may include, *inter alia*:

- conforming administrative units to the national country limits maintained by the Geospatial Information Section; and
- creating or modifying attribute tables in order to include specific coding scheme(s) developed in the context of SALB Data.

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The United Nations shall acknowledge Contributors as the source of the SALB Data as follows:

- In the Data section of the official SALB website, the originating office name, address and persons of contact will be spelled in full at: <https://salb.un.org/en/data/xxx>, xxx being the ISO alpha 3 Country codes of the Contributors’ country page ; and
- In the metadata of the respective SALB Data, the originating office name will be spelled in full including the country name.

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