

REFERENCE: DOS/OICT/2021/0086

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 for 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 the operational programmes of the United Nations.

Likewise, the programme will facilitate the operationalization of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF2)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 2016/27 for the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management, in capacity-building, norm-setting, data collection, data dissemination and data sharing.

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 email 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 (www.unsalb.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.


10 November 2021

Enclosure: Terms for the contribution of data

¹ www.unsalb.org

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



HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE

NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

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.

Contributors to the SALB Data shall retain all intellectual property rights to their submitted data, and shall grant to the United Nations a universal, non-exclusive, perpetual, and royalty-free license to use, change, reproduce, distribute, display, publish and disseminate such data for the purposes of maintaining the SALB Data, including the right to make their contributed data available as part of the SALB Data and allow third-parties as specified by Contributors to use the data contained therein.

Contributors to the SALB Data further agree on the use, reproduction, distribution, display, publication and dissemination of their data at no cost by Users for non-commercial purposes and in any form whatsoever, as a condition of such data being included in the SALB Data.

The United Nations reserves the right to modify Contributors’ data transmitted for the purpose of incorporating it as part of the SALB Data, in order to conform such data to the United Nations’ internal policies, rules and practices, as governed by the Administrative Instruction of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the

“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.

Contributors hereby acknowledge that all intellectual property rights to the SALB Data, including any modifications of their submitted data, shall vest with the United Nations.

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: www.unsalb.org/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.

The Contributor acknowledges and agrees that the United Nations shall not be liable for any loss, damage, liability, or expense incurred or suffered in connection to the provision of the data by the Contributor under the terms set out herein. The Contributor shall be solely responsible for handling and

resolving any claim brought by third-parties against the United Nations with respect to the data provided by the Contributor and included in the SALB Data.

The Contributor confirms that it has the necessary rights, permissions and licenses, including copyright and other intellectual property rights, in the data provided for inclusion in the SALB Data, which includes the right to upload and distribute the data in the SALB Data and to allow Users to use the data in accordance with the Terms of Use of the SALB Data.

Nothing herein shall a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, which are specifically reserved.