

DRAFT AGENDA

Group on Earth Observations Sixteenth Plenary Session – GEO-XVI Canberra, Australia 6-7 November 2019

Wednesday, 6 November 2019		Comments
9:00 – 10:00	Session 1: Opening Session	
1.1	Welcome from Australia	<i>Highlight the Indigenous people of Australia as first Earth observers.</i>
1.2	Opening Remarks	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> China Co-Chair (Plenary Chair) Pengde Li European Commission Co-Chair Patrick Child South Africa Co-Chair Mmboneni Muofhe United States Co-Chair James Reilly Director, GEO Secretariat Gilberto Camara 	<i>Highlight the importance of the Plenary and Ministerial Summit given the progress in implementing GEO Strategic Plan 2016-2025.</i>
1.3	Welcoming of new Members, Participating Organizations and Associates	
1.4	Approval of Agenda	
1.5	Approval of Draft Report of GEO-XV	
1.6	Opening Keynote Presentation Sameh Wahba, Global Director, Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, World Bank	<i>Highlight the increasingly critical role that EO data will play in i) driving economic growth in a global economy that is more connected, dynamic and exposed to the changing Earth; and ii) supporting delivery of global agendas on sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk reduction.</i>

Wednesday, 6 November 2019		Comments
1.7	Introduction of the Canberra Ministerial Declaration	<i>The Chair highlights the key themes and issues identified in the Declaration, to be adopted by Ministers (and designated representatives of Ministers) at the Ministerial Summit on 8 November.</i>
	Session 1 Documents and Information Documents	GEO-XV-1.3(Rev2): Draft Agenda (for decision) GEO-XVI-1.4: Draft Report of GEO-XV (for decision) GEO-XVI-1.4-Inf-01: New Members, Participating Organizations, Observers and Associates(for information)
10:00 – 10:30	Group Photograph	
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00– 12:30	Session 2: Action on Climate Change	
2.1	<p><i>Session Objectives: Principals provide guidance on the actions that GEO needs to take to accelerate efforts that support climate action, including relevant objectives under the Paris Agreement.</i></p> <p>Session Facilitator Patrick Child, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission</p> <p>External Speaker Nga Puna, Director, Tu’anga Taporoporo, National Environment Service, Cook Islands</p> <p>Delegations</p> <p>Member or PO David Oehmen, Programme Officer for Digital Strategy and Innovation, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)</p>	<p><i>Session facilitator introduces the session and provides a summary of the views expressed to date by the GEO community on opportunities and challenges in the area, referencing the Discussion Paper.</i></p> <p><i>Keynote presentation emphasizes the ‘real world’ nature of the need, helping attendees understand that action is not an abstract concept but something that GEO needs to take.</i></p> <p><i>Delegates discuss how the GEO community should address the challenges and embrace the opportunities.</i></p> <p><i>Member or PO provides a brief example of what GEO is doing in this area, showing how GEO is already moving forward to engage with new challenges and opportunities.</i></p>
2.2	Session outcomes and recommendations	<i>The session facilitator summarizes the actions supported by Principals for formal adoption by the Plenary.</i>

Wednesday, 6 November 2019		Comments
Session 2 Information documents:		<p>GEO-XVI-2-Inf-01: Discussion Paper on Action on Climate Change (for information)</p> <p><i>The discussion paper has been developed by the GEO Secretariat drawing on input from the Programme Board. The paper highlights the current state of GEO's engagement in this area, and identifies the key challenges and opportunities to further progress. It includes a specific section on the challenges and issues related to developing nations, and poses 3-4 key questions to prompt Principal interventions.</i></p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30	Session 3: Action on Disaster Risk Reduction	
3.1	<p><i>Session Objectives: Principals provide guidance on the actions that GEO needs to take to accelerate its efforts to support implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.</i></p> <p>Session Facilitator Yoshiyuki Chihara, Deputy Director-General, Research and Development Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)</p> <p>External Speaker Lisa Robinson, BBC Media Action</p> <p>Delegations</p> <p>Member or PO Tiziana Bonapace, Director Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)</p>	<p><i>Session facilitator introduces the session and provides a summary of the views expressed to date by the GEO community on opportunities and challenges in the area, referencing the Discussion Paper.</i></p> <p><i>Keynote presentation emphasizes the 'real world' nature of the need, helping attendees understand that action is not an abstract concept but something that GEO needs to take.</i></p> <p><i>Delegates discuss how the GEO community should address the challenges and embrace the opportunities.</i></p> <p><i>Member or PO provides a brief example of what GEO is doing in this area, showing how GEO is already moving forward to engage with new challenges and opportunities.</i></p>
3.2	Session outcomes and recommendations	<i>The session facilitator summarizes the actions supported by Principals for formal adoption by the Plenary.</i>

Wednesday, 6 November 2019		Comments
Session 3 Information documents:		<p>GEO-XVI-3-Inf-01: Discussion Paper on Action on Disaster Risk Reduction (for information)</p> <p><i>The discussion paper has been developed by the GEO Secretariat drawing on input from the Programme Board. The paper highlights the current state of GEO's engagement in this area, and identifies the key challenges and opportunities to further progress. It includes a specific section on the challenges and issues related to developing nations, and poses 3-4 key questions to prompt Principal interventions.</i></p>
15:30– 16:00	Coffee	
16:00 – 17:30	Session 4: Action on Sustainable Development	
4.1	<p><i>Session Objectives: Principals provide guidance on the actions that GEO needs to take to accelerate its efforts to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</i></p> <p>Session Facilitator Sasha Alexander, Policy Officer, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)</p> <p>External Speaker Claire Melamed, CEO, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD)</p> <p>Delegations</p> <p>Member or PO Fang Chen, Deputy Director, Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth, (RADI)</p>	<p><i>Session facilitator introduces the session and provides a summary of the views expressed to date by the GEO community on opportunities and challenges in the area, referencing the Discussion Paper.</i></p> <p><i>Keynote presentation emphasizes the ‘real world’ nature of the need, helping attendees understand that action is not an abstract concept but something that GEO needs to take.</i></p> <p><i>Delegates discuss how the GEO community should address the challenges and embrace the opportunities.</i></p> <p><i>Member or PO provides a brief example of what GEO is doing in this area, showing how GEO is already moving forward to engage with new challenges and opportunities.</i></p>
4.2	Session outcomes and recommendations	<i>The session facilitator summarizes the actions supported by Principals for formal adoption by the Plenary.</i>
Session 4 Information documents:		GEO-XVI-4-Inf-01: Discussion Paper on Action on Sustainable Development (for information)

Wednesday, 6 November 2019		Comments
		<p><i>The discussion paper has been developed by EO4SDG leadership, drawing on input from the Programme Board and Secretariat. The paper highlights the current state of GEO's engagement in this area, and identifies the key challenges and opportunities to further progress. It includes a specific section on the challenges and issues related to developing nations, and poses 3-4 key questions to prompt Principal interventions.</i></p>
19:00	Gala Dinner (National Arboretum)	<p><i>During the Gala Dinner, Australia's GEO Principal will acknowledge special contributions made to the work of GEO particularly by those people who go 'above and beyond' what they may be formally paid/required to do as a result of their passion for GEO's Mission. Nomination process to be managed by the Programme Board and the EO4SDG Initiative.</i></p>

Thursday, 7 November		Comments
09:00 – 11:00	Session 5: Broadening the Impact of Earth Observation and GEO	
5.0	Review of Day One	
5.1	<p>Introduction to Session</p> <p><i>Session Objective: Plenary determines how GEO will accelerate its impact through enhancement of key relationships and implementation of targeted strategies.</i></p>	<p><i>Context: In addition to delivering a number of operational capabilities, GEO is creating a wide range of pilot and prototype activities. GEO, now needs to employ strategies to ensure the impact of this important technical work is delivered as broadly as possible. Achieving this will require creating new pathways for the work of GEO to reach end users. Each of the four sub-topics will address one of these pathways: connecting the work of GEO to the broader multilateral economic cooperation architecture, harnessing the power of Regional GEOs to ensure more nations benefit from GEO's work, engaging those who work at local levels to tailor solutions to local needs, and tapping in to key communities who can integrate EO into the products and services they develop for end users.</i></p>
5.2	<p>Economic Impact</p> <p><i>Topic Objective: Agree on how GEO should approach formalizing and structuring its engagement with key multilateral economic cooperation fora (G20, G7/8, ASEAN, APEC, etc).</i></p> <p>Nicholas Davis, Director, SWIFT Partners, World Economic Forum (WEF)</p>	<p><i>Presentation highlights example of successful linkages between GEO and a multi-lateral economic cooperation fora, talk about what made it a win-win, and highlight lessons learnt.</i></p> <p><i>Delegations will then discuss and debate the options proposed in the Discussion Paper.</i></p>
5.3	<p>Regional Impact</p> <p><i>Topic Objective: Agree on actions GEO should take to better exploit the downscaling role of Regional GEOs, and their ability to connect GEO to additional countries and communities.</i></p> <p>Phoebe Odour – AfriGEO Angelica Gutierrez - AmeriGEO Xingfa Gu - AOGEO Gilles Ollier - EuroGEO</p>	<p><i>Highlight the value of Regional GEOs and discuss the next steps, with a particular emphasis on how the Regional GEOs will reach out to the least developed economies in their caucus.</i></p> <p><i>Based on an example from the GEO Report on Impact 2016-2019, each Regional GEO will provide an intervention that highlights an example of where a GEO activity has been tailored to meet the needs of a region, engaging countries in that region who don't otherwise engage with GEO. Highlight lessons learnt that might apply to other activities and other Regional GEOs.</i></p> <p><i>Delegations will then discuss and debate the options proposed in the Discussion Paper.</i></p>
5.4	<p>Local Impact</p> <p><i>Topic Objective: Agree on actions GEO should take to better enable delivery of impact at a local scale, in particular actions that draw on expert advice and feedback from the development experts and commercial sector actors most skilled at deploying solutions at this scale.</i></p>	<p><i>Presentation highlights an example of where GEO outputs have been taken and tailored to meet local needs, and lessons learnt from the process.</i></p> <p><i>Delegations will then discuss and debate the options proposed in the Discussion Paper.</i></p>

Thursday, 7 November		Comments
	<p>Valrie Grant, Managing Director, GeoTechVision</p>	<p><i>Topics will include how GEO can highlight the role of the commercial sector in developing solutions to meet local needs, what GEO can do to address barriers to greater commercial sector involvement, modalities for linking GEO's efforts to national and multilateral development programs, and the need to recognize the critical role of in-situ data in delivery of solutions that meet local needs.</i></p>
5.5	<p>Engaging and Enabling Communities</p> <p><i>Topic Objective: Agree on actions GEO should take to better leverage the power of key 'enabling communities', those communities who can bridge the EO community with end-user communities who typically need products and services of which EO data is only one part.</i></p> <p>Rolando Ocampo, Director, Statistics Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC)</p>	<p><i>A designated Principal will provide an opening intervention that highlights an example of the successful linking of GEO and an 'enabling community', including lessons learnt on topics such as bridging the "language" gap between different technical communities</i></p> <p><i>Delegations will then discuss and debate the options proposed in the Discussion Paper.</i></p> <p><i>Priority enabling communities for discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The 'tech' and 'apps' communities</i> • <i>The economics community and finance industries</i> • <i>Official Statistics community (incl. big data for official statistics)</i> • <i>Ecosystem Accounting</i>
	<p>Session 5 Information documents:</p>	<p>GEO-XVI-5-Inf-01 Discussion Paper on Broadening the Impact of Earth Observation and GEO (for information)</p> <p><i>The GEO Secretariat has prepared a paper that summarizes how effectively GEO is achieving impact through each of the four key pathways to be discussed. The paper poses options for broadening and deepening GEO's impact in each area, for consideration by Principals.</i></p>
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee		
11:30 – 12:30 Session 6: Implementing a Results-Oriented GEOSS		
6.1	<p>Introduction of proposed strategy to implement Results-Oriented GEOSS</p> <p><i>Session Objective: Plenary determines the scale and nature of GEO's future efforts to implement a Results-Oriented Global Earth Observation System of Systems.</i></p>	<p><i>A truly results-oriented GEOSS will better position GEO to deliver solutions that address sustainable development, climate and disaster risk reduction challenges.</i></p> <p><i>The Secretariat Director will provide a demonstration of a GEO Knowledge Hub to stimulate a discussion on the policy, programmatic, cultural, technical and other issues involved in transitioning to a results-oriented GEOSS.</i></p>
6.2	<p>Interventions from Delegations</p>	<p><i>Delegations discuss how GEO should move forward, including the potential to task the Executive Committee to oversee development</i></p>

Thursday, 7 November		Comments
6.3	Next Steps	<i>of, and approve, an Implementation Plan for Results-Oriented GEOSS.</i>
Session 6 Documents:		<p>GEO-XVI-6.1(Rev1) Results-oriented GEOSS: A framework for transforming Earth observation data to knowledge for decision making (for discussion)</p> <p>GEO-XVI-6.2(Rev1) Proposed Design and Proof of Concept of the GEO Knowledge Hub (for decision)</p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30	Session 7: Delivering on the Strategic Plan – The GEO Work Programme	
	<p><i>Session Objective: Plenary expresses its commitment to GEO by demonstrating concrete support for a strong and diverse Work Programme through which GEO can deliver on the GEO Strategic Plan 2016-2025.</i></p>	
7.1	<p>The role of the commercial sector in the delivery of GEO's vision</p> <p>Eva Rodriguez, FrontierSI</p> <p>Yuxiang Wang, Beijing, Piesat</p>	<p><i>Two representatives of the GEO Associate category, give a brief presentation to Plenary on areas where the commercial sector already contribute to GEO's work, and key outcomes/findings from the GEO Week 2019 Industry Track.</i></p> <p><i>The presentation has been prepared by the Industry Track organisers. The presentation highlights the barriers and opportunities for greater engagement of the commercial sector in the GEO Work Programme, as well as discussing ways in which the GEO Work Programme can be enhanced to create new business opportunities for the commercial sector</i></p>
7.2	The Impact of the first GEO Work Programme	<p><i>Highlight what has already been achieved by having a strategically structured GEO Work Programme, and what the key limitations / weaknesses have been to date.</i></p> <p><i>A number of delegations have expressed a desire to have more detailed information on</i></p>

Thursday, 7 November		Comments
		<i>the progress of Flagships and Initiatives in particular.</i>
7.3	Presentation of the 2020-2022 Work Programme	<p><i>Recognition of what activities are continuing and/or growing.</i></p> <p><i>Recognition of what is new, who is contributing to it, and how it relates to delivering the Strategic Plan.</i></p> <p><i>Links to what was discussed on Day 1 re: Sustainable Development, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change. Highlighting where the Work Programme is strong and where it needs attention if GEO is to deliver on the actions it has endorsed as necessary.</i></p>
7.4	Interventions from Delegations	<p><i>Interventions to focus on:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>New commitments (noting some may be formally announced at Ministerial Summit)</i> 2. <i>Suggestions for incremental improvements for the 2020 review of the Work Programme.</i> <p><i>Issues with the work programme as proposed.</i></p>
7.5	Formal Endorsement of the 2020-2022 Work Programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. <i>Formally proposed for Plenary approval by the Chair (China)</i>
	Session 7 Documents and Information documents:	<p>GEO-XVI-7.2 2020-2022 GEO Work Programme (for decision)</p> <p>GEO-XVI-7-Inf-01 – GEO Report on Impact 2016-2019 (for information)</p>
15:30– 16:00	Coffee	
16:00 – 17:30	Session 8: GEO Business	
8.1	Report of the Secretariat Director	<i>Provide the Plenary with a solid understanding of the performance of the Secretariat against its defined responsibilities (from the Rules of Procedure) and identified priorities (as set by Plenary and ExCom).</i>
8.2	Review of the Ministerial Summit Agenda	<i>Final items requiring coordination and discussion by Plenary before Ministerial Summit.</i>
8.3	2018 Financial Statements and Audit Report	
8.4	Proposed 2020 GEO Trust Fund Budget, including Pledges and Approval	<i>Includes opportunity for trust fund contributions announcements by delegations.</i>

Thursday, 7 November		Comments
8.5	Update of the GEO Rules of Procedure	
8.6	Announcement of 2020 Lead Co-Chair and Slate of 2020 Executive Committee Members	
8.7	Slate of the 2020 Programme Board	
8.8	GEO-XVII Announcements	
8.9	Any Other Business	
8.10	Summary of Plenary Outcomes	
8.11	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian GEO Principal • GEO Secretariat Director • European Commission Co-Chair • South Africa Co-Chair • United States of America Co-Chair • China Co-Chair 	
Session 8 Documents and Information documents:		GEO-XVI-8.3: 2018 Financial Statements and Audit Report (for decision) GEO-XVI-8.4: Proposed 2020 GEO Trust Fund Budget (for decision) GEO-XVI-8.5: Update of the GEO Rules of Procedure (for decision) GEO-XVI-8-Inf-01: Interim Report on Income and Expenditure as of 31 August 2019 (for information)