

Finland  
Mr. Heikki Tuunanen,  
Ambassador

**EO summit IV statement by Finland**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates

Environmental issues and global change are considered as very important issues in Finland. Due to our northern location the effects of the climate change are forecasted to drastically change the environment of Finland. Finland has strongly invested in development of technologies that will help us to save our precious environment and adapt us to the global change. Earth observation has shown its capabilities in observing and monitoring the environment and global change. Therefore, it has a specific role in our space programme and Finland will continue strongly its participation to international collaboration in this field.

Finland has supported the GEO initiative since it's beginning for instance through placing a secondment in the secretariat and we affirm our support to the 10-year Implementation Plan and the Reference Documents for the creation of GEOSS, and we are fully in line with the Resolution of this EO Summit IV.

We strongly support the principles of GEOSS plan, especially, in support of global co-ordination of EO satellite missions and easy availability of satellite data. Finland strongly endorses the GEOSS Data Sharing Principles and has already made decisions to deliver environmental data owned by the national Environmental Administration free of charge through network services.

We are confident that GEOSS shall gain support globally. A coordinated global approach shall yield significant benefits in many of the application fields and for the mankind.

Thank you.