

## GEO-X PLENARY / STATEMENT FROM SPAIN

Firstly, Spain would like to thank the GEO Secretariat for their great efforts and hard work in preparing the GEO-X Plenary and the 2014 Ministerial Summit and to the Swiss Government for their kind hospitality and all the arrangements made.

The purpose of this intervention is to inform the Plenary about the recent developments of GEO within Spain. With the objective of providing an active leadership, and a common policy and strategy, Spain has created a management structure for GEO at a national level, intended to provide solid foundations for GEO Spain in the near future.

Under this new approach, all the contributions to GEO can be channelled through an open, flexible and useful mechanism. Now information flows in any direction and the participation of any national organization related to GEO objectives is facilitated, thus enabling the discovery of synergies and leverage of current organizational structures.

To cope with these objectives, any related matter is previously discussed and agreed upon consensus by a “GEO Spain Group”. This group is based on two main pillars:

1. the GEO-Spain Committee, composed by public institutions covering all the areas of interest related to obtaining, processing and exploiting any type of Earth observation data, as well as the aerospace industry; and
2. two user’s fora integrating public or private organizations working with Earth observation data. They will provide an efficient way to interact with universities or research centres and to link GEO with other Earth observation initiatives at a national level.

Spain strongly supports GEO and GEOSS and with this change of paradigm, we expect to contribute better and in a more solid, open and efficient way to achieve GEO objectives.