

## Statement by Republic of Korea

Thank you Chair, distinguished delegates, and ladies and gentlemen.

First of all, on behalf of Korean delegation, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the organizers, the Government of Switzerland and the Secretariat of the GEO for successfully hosting the 11th GEO Plenary Session despite many hardships worldwide.

The Republic of Korea has strived to fulfill the GEO's Strategic objectives and share the information with others.

The Republic of Korea has planning a mid- to long-term strategy on the national space development to get earth observation data and has finished testing its Korea Multi-purpose satellite (KOMPSAT-5) which was launched last year. In 2018, Republic of Korea plans to launch a geostationary satellite installed with meteorological, marine, and environmental monitoring sensor and expects that the satellite will contribute greatly to the efforts to cope with earth observation. Korea also plans to collaborate with developing countries concerning the needs for education and training about the use of satellite-dispatched materials.

Korea has pushed ahead with the REDD+ project designed to prevent forest destruction in developing countries, signed an MoU with the FAO for execution of the forest landscape restoration mechanism, and engaged in efforts for desertification, forestation and reforestation.

In addition, the Republic of Korea hosted the 12th meeting of the

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2014 in an effort to share information on biodiversity with others and gives efforts for establishment of a portal site designed to cope with natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region.

Especially, the data linkage project that Korea has promoted since 2013, involving GISC-Seoul which is one of the WMO Information System and GEOSS is underway with the aim of launching pilot operation next year 2015. It will practically contribute to sharing and integrating a variety of earth observation data such as meteorological and environmental data and so on.

In my view, the launch of GEOSS will contribute to sustainable development by sharing of GEO data and will lead us to better utilize our resources and capabilities, resulting in a greater ability to achieve well balanced development over the globe.

The Republic of Korea will do its utmost to make a practical contribution to GEOSS by sharing our technologies and resources, and our effort will continue to support GEOSS.

Thank you.