

6TH GEO EUROPEAN PROJECTS' WORKSHOP



ROME, 7 & 8 MAY 2012

Update on the preparation
of GEO post-2015

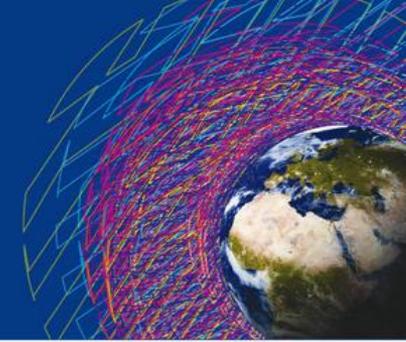
Gilles OLLIER
Head of Sector "Earth Observation"
Management of Natural Resources – Unit I.3.
Directorate General for Research and Innovation
European Commission



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Article 7 of the Beijing declaration

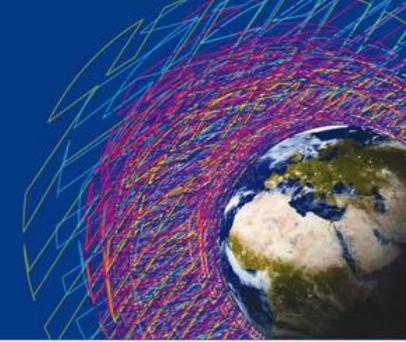
"Resolve to meet before the end of 2013 to review the progress of implementation against the GEOSS Strategic Targets and the recommendations for the governance, role and future work of GEO beyond 2015 and to take the necessary decisions"



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The GEO Post-2015 Working Group

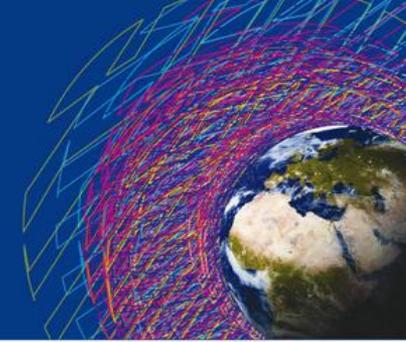
- The GEO Post-2015 Working Group was established by the GEO-VIII Plenary in November 2011
- Sixteen GEO Members and nine Participating Organizations nominated individuals to participate in the Working Group
- Co-chairs US – EC – SA



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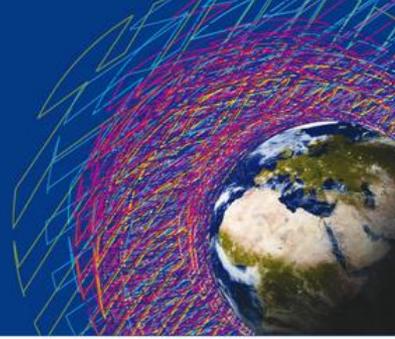
Mandate GEO Post-2015 Working Group

- the Post-2015 Working Group will assess options and scenarios for the next phase of GEOSS
- the scope of activities, institutional arrangements, internal governance and resourcing of GEO.
- consider the findings of the Mid-Term Evaluation
- produce recommendations under the guidance of the Plenary that will be forwarded to the GEO-X Plenary and 2013 Ministerial Summit for decisions.

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Schedule

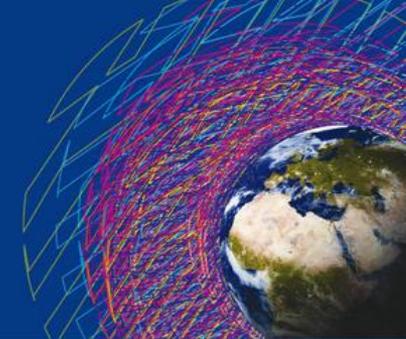
- 1. First meeting of the GEO post-2015 working group : 21-22 March**
- 2. Co-chairs send first draft of document to entire Working Group on 27 April**
3. Working Group teleconference on 24 May
4. Revised document sent by 1 June to Working Group and to Executive Committee for comment
5. Comments due by 15 June
6. Co-chairs to finalize document by Excom documents deadline of 29 June
7. July/August: Working Group teleconferences as decided. Distribution of document to other GEO bodies for comment as decided.
8. Second meeting of the Post-2015 Working Group: First week of September
9. GEO-IX documents deadline: 12 October



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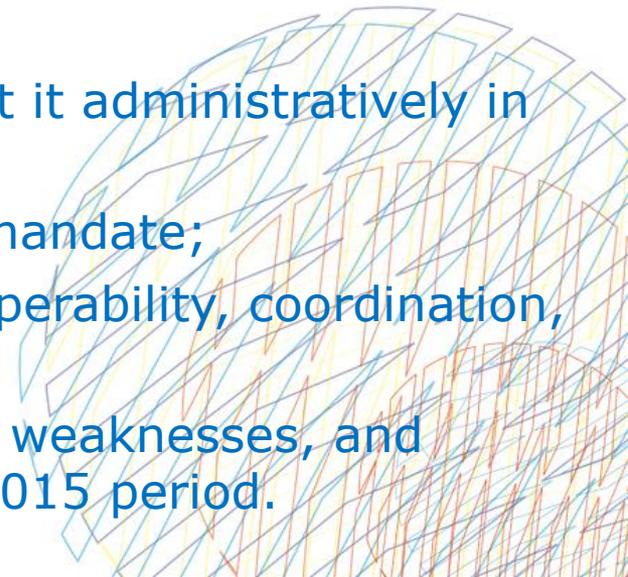
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The general consensus

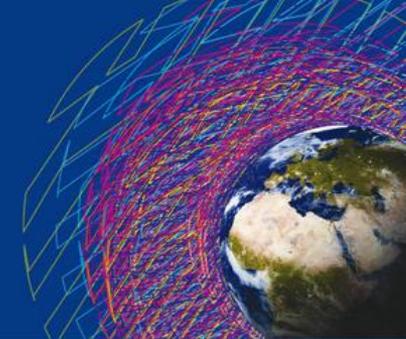
- Since 2005, GEO has established itself as a unique organization that has been generally effective, although there are important challenges that still need to be addressed;
- GEO and GEOSS should both continue in the years after 2015;
- GEO should be non-juridical status;
- WMO should continue to host GEO and support it administratively in the post-2015 period;
- There should be no radical changes to GEO's mandate;
- The central focus of GEO should remain interoperability, coordination, access, and facilitation;
- GEO should build on its successes, address its weaknesses, and make incremental improvements in the post-2015 period.



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Issues for continued discussion

Scope

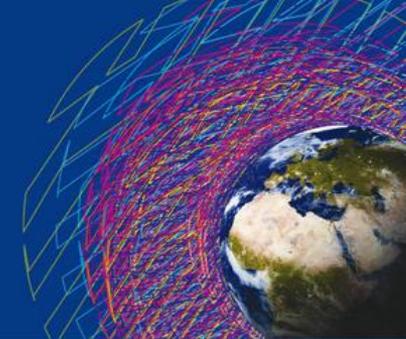
- Whether the scope of GEOSS should include the delivery of information products and services, and the extent to which GEO should seek to ensure or facilitate the operational provision of data.
- The word “operational” has different meanings for different people and must be carefully defined in the GEOSS context.
- The general consensus is that GEO should focus primarily on creating the conditions that facilitate access to Earth observation data by the providers of information services and products.
- It should assure interoperability and the registration of data, products and information, but leave the actual delivery of products and services to others.



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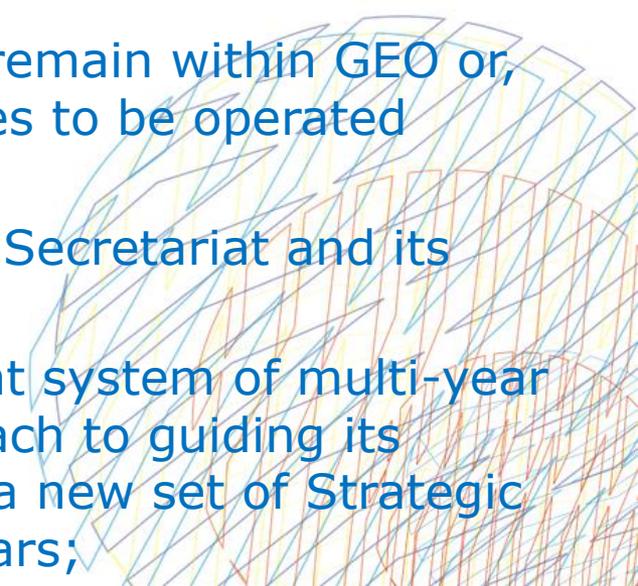


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Issues for continued discussion

Management and implementation

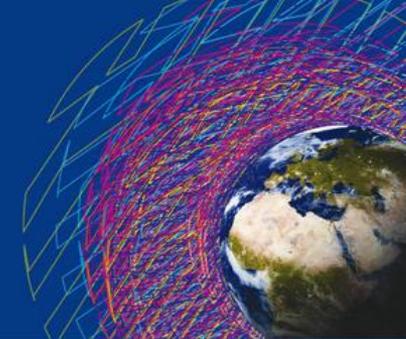
- What kind of management approach GEO should establish for the incubation, funding, and management of global initiatives such as GEOGLAM, GFOI, and GEO BON.
- In particular, whether such initiatives should remain within GEO or, as they mature, be handed off to other entities to be operated outside the oversight of the GEO Plenary;
- Whether GEO should consider changes in the Secretariat and its staffing, funding and responsibilities;
- Whether GEO should continue with the current system of multi-year Work Plans, or should it adopt another approach to guiding its activities, and whether GEO should establish a new set of Strategic Targets to guide its work over the next 10 years;



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Issues for continued discussion

External engagement

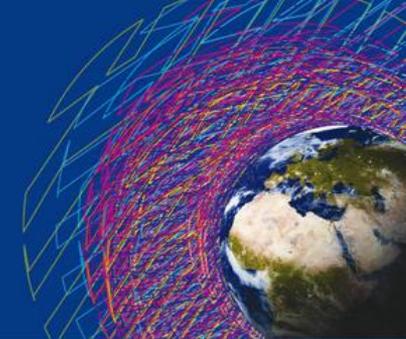
- How GEO should define and improve its relationship with the United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental bodies;
- How GEO should engage the private sector in GEOSS implementation;
- Whether and how GEO should seek to further engage the scientific and R&D technology communities in GEOSS implementation; and
- Whether GEO should adopt new approaches to interlinking its work at the national, regional and global levels.



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Sustaining GEOSS beyond the year 2015: A Framework for Collaboration: Initial Elements, Issues, and Options

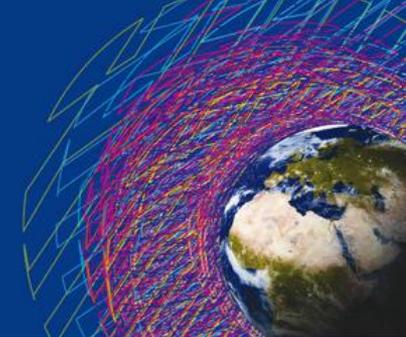
- Renewing the vision for GEOSS
- GEO at work 2015 – 2025
- The future institutional form and governance of GEO



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Renewing the vision for GEOSS

Current: *"The vision for GEOSS is to realize a future wherein decisions and actions for the benefit of humankind are informed by coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations and information."* – GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan.

Future:

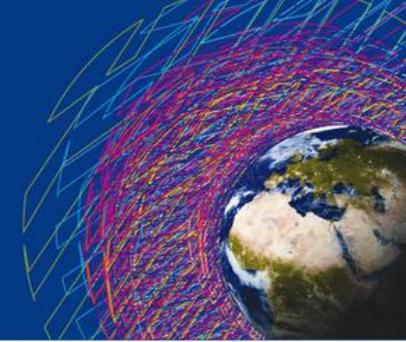
- Promoting full and open access to Earth observation
- Improving the exchange of Earth through the development of the GEOSS Information System
- Establishing a flexible, voluntary framework for the delivery of local, regional and global observational datasets in key Societal Benefit Areas
- Initiating and supporting capacity building programmes designed to empower a wide range of users to access and utilize GEOSS.



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GEO at work 2015 – 2025

1. Advance the implementation of the GEOSS Data Sharing Principles
2. Build a “third generation” GEOSS Information System
3. Strengthen in situ observation networks
4. Cultivate voluntary collaboration in each Societal Benefit Area ?
5. Build capacity for producing, analyzing, disseminating and using Earth observations ?

