



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Geneva, 17 January 2014

STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

The Group on Earth Observation,
Ministerial Summit, Geneva, Switzerland

On the behalf of the Government of Croatia, I would like to express sincere appreciation to the Government of Swiss Confederation for the excellent hosting of the GEO X meeting and GEO 2014 Ministerial Summit.

We are honoured to indicate that Croatia has contentiously participated as a member of the GEO and GEOSS since 2004.

Croatia highly appreciates the progress towards GEOSS Strategic Targets for 2015, and concurs with the recommendations for the governance, role and future work of GEO beyond 2015.

We clearly understand GEOSS as the unique environment that is assembling numerous global observational networks. On one hand, we could witness suitable observational performance - while on the other - there is still a need for better coordination in a wider range of observations at the global, regional and national levels.

Croatia is taking efforts to contribute to GEOSS in several areas, just to mention:

- strengthening of our meteorological, hydrological and air quality observation networks through modernisation by using European Union Funds for the period 2014-2020; then
- building capacities for the - Regional Marine Meteorological Centre for the Adriatic Sea Area as a JCOMM entity in a WIS and WIGOS environment, bringing thus together meteorological, oceanographic and hydrological community; and finally
- reporting on observation of essential climate variables within UNFCCC National Climate Reports

Croatia is looking forward for the continuation of the GEO mission up to 2025 with understanding of needs to explore resourcing mechanism and their modifications but still preserving current nature of the partnership based on voluntary contributions.

Croatia strongly supports Draft GEO Geneva Declaration - with a hope in expansion and interlinking of existing observation systems and developing new technologies as way ahead to achieve the GEOSS vision.

Ivan Čačić

Head of Delegation authorized by the Government of Croatia
GEO Principal and Permanent Representative with WMO