

EUMETSAT statement at GEO Plenary – 17 January 2014

Mister Chairman, Distinguished Ministers,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address this meeting on behalf of EUMETSAT. EUMETSAT is an intergovernmental organization with 29 Member States from the European Union and beyond, and a CEOS agency. Our mandate is to establish and exploit European systems of weather and climate monitoring satellites and to deliver data services to users worldwide.

EUMETSAT welcomes the long term perspective created by the renewal of the mandate of GEO and the ministerial guidance on the evolution of its activity in the next 10 years.

EUMETSAT is developing with ESA new satellite systems to deliver enhanced observations from geostationary on Low Earth orbits in the 2020-2040 timeframe. We are also partnering with the EU and ESA to establish Copernicus. EUMETSAT will thus contribute to the space component of the GEOSS in the next 10 years.

EUMETSAT will also, in partnership with the Chinese Meteorological Administration and NOAA, consolidate the GEONETCast satellite data dissemination system as one key element of the GEO Core Infrastructure, and make it available to provide real time access to Earth Observation data to GEO, in particular in support of its current and future global initiatives

Thank you for your attention.