

Statement of the Russian Federation for Ministerial Summit

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Ladies and Gentlemen!

Russian Federation has been participating in GEO activity since GEO establishment. The special national commission is founded for coordination of GEO activity in our country. It is of great importance GEO activity connected with weather, climate, water resources, natural hazards, agricultural monitoring, forestry and etc.

The Russian Federation is participating in different areas of GEO activity.

The national space component of Earth observation currently consists of three high resolution satellites and two hydrometeorological satellites.

This year three Earth observation satellites will be launched. Two spacecrafts of ARCTICA system on highly elliptical orbits are planned to be launched in 2015. This system allows providing the coverage of whole Arctic region every 15-30 minutes.

The ground system of receiving, processing, archiving and distribution of Russian and foreign satellite data based on the whole Russian territory distributed system is under the process of modernization to provide the data to end-users.

There are some other areas of Russian activity for GEO. These are MITRA system – Russian segment of GEONETCast. The most important task for the near future is strengthening MITRA system integration in the common infrastructure of GEONETCast system.

The process of the Russian information resources registration in GEO Common Infrastructure (GCI) is underway. The following information resources – such as Unified State Automated System for Monitoring Radiation Situation, Unified State System of information on the Global Ocean have been already registered. This process will be continued. The registration of the Russian information resources such as resources of world and international centers for sea ice, solar radiation, data for lakes and reservoirs will be registered in the near future.

The Russian exhibition booth displays the detailed information on these systems, including the system of meteorological data for Olympic Games in Sochi.

Despite the intensive development of space systems, the ground-based observations continue and will continue to play the key role for the solving lots of challenges in the weather, water, climate and other Social Benefits areas. So we strongly support GEO efforts for urging all the governments and organizations to take the necessary measures to sustain and enhance in-situ observation systems and networks.

We think also that GEO progress is restricted in some cases by linguistic limitations and problems existing for some non English-speaking countries.

The Russian Federation as a member of Executive Committee from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) informs the Members of CIS on GEO activity annually for the coordination of the work in CIS countries. The website in

Russian language devoted to GEO activity works in operative mode. Networks of ground-based observations as the important components of GEOSS are developed in the countries of CIS successfully.

In general, keeping in mind the benefits for GEO members and participating organizations through improvement the access to the data and different GEO information systems, we support principles, presented in the Geneva Declaration.

We would like to add that we highly appreciate the efforts of hosting country – Swiss Confederation to provide the effective work of GEO Secretariat.

In conclusion I'd like to express gratitude to the Swiss Confederation for hosting the Tenth Plenary session and Ministerial Summit.

Thank you for your attention.