

Our Ref.: 2010GEO/13th STC

GEO Science and Technology Committee

Geneva, 28 January 2010

Dear GEO Science and Technology Committee member,

It is my pleasure to extend an invitation to you to attend the 13th Science and Technology Committee meeting on 24-26 March 2010. The Scientific and Technological Research council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) has kindly offered to host the meeting at their headquarters in Ankara, Turkey.

Items on the agenda include a review of recent activities under the two tasks of the Science and Technology transverse area: ST-09-01 "Catalyzing Research and Development Resources for GEOSS;" and ST-09-02 "Promoting Awareness and Benefits of GEO in the Science and Technology Community." Progress on implementation of the Science and Technology Roadmap (available at: http://www.earthobservations.org/ag_stc.shtml) will also be discussed. A highlight of the meeting will be a task-by-task review of the GEO Societal Benefit Area (SBA) pertaining to Disasters, part of the on-going efforts of the STC to examine each SBA from the perspective of having the requisite access to science and technology necessary to carry out its contributions to GEOSS implementation. A keynote address on a topic pertaining to disaster management in Turkey will be delivered by the host. Rounding out the meeting will be discussions on STC contributions to preparations for the Ministerial Summit in Beijing, November 2009, and proposals for new STC activities: compilation of a "First Assessment Report on the state of global Earth observations," and drafting of a "GEOSS in support of Science and Technology" report.

For travel planning, the meeting will start after noon on 24 March and end by noon on 26 March 2010. The full draft agenda is available at: earthobservations.org/com_stc_me.shtml ; other meeting details will be posted as well, as soon as they are confirmed. If you intend to participate, kindly inform Douglas Cripe at the Secretariat (dcripe@geosec.org) by 1 March 2010 at the latest.

Yours sincerely,


José Achache
Secretariat Director