

Statement by the Republic of Bulgaria
At Eleventh Plenary Session of the Group on Earth Observations in Geneva,
Switzerland
12-14 November 2014

Dear Madam Director of GEO,
Honorable Governmental Representatives,
Distinguished delegates and participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Bulgarian Delegation wishes to express its appreciation to the organizers of the GEO-XI Plenary and to the host institution the World Meteorological Organization in Geneva for the excellent organization and the hospitality.

As representatives of Bulgaria, we have the pleasure and honor to inform you that the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria take the Decision on June 11, 2014, and confirmed the intentions of our country to participate in the implementation of the 10-year plan of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO). The Bulgarian Government adopts the Resolution of the Third Earth Observation Summit and undertakes the necessary steps to unite the efforts of national institutions and organizations whose main responsibilities are related to the nine (Disasters, Health, Energy, Climate, Water, Weather, Ecosystems, Agriculture, and Biodiversity) socio-economic benefit areas (SBA) of the GEO.

The Government of Republic of Bulgaria welcomes all the actions for achieving the targets of the 10-Year Implementation Plan as a basis for establishing of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems that satisfied the user requirements and highly appreciates extensive information and data compiled in the GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan Reference Guide.

As an EU Member State, and from this year as a member of the European Space Agency, the Republic of Bulgaria through its ministries, government agencies, research institutions, NGOs and other organizations participates in many international programs and projects, and contributes to the improvement and coordination of monitoring systems on the Planet Earth, open access policies to data, acceleration the process of using Earth observations, and capacity building. Bulgaria welcomes the progress in developing the GEOSS information systems for the benefit of users and supports the GEO community efforts for better interdisciplinary coordination in a wider range of observations at the world, regional, and country level.

It is our privilege to become the 92-th member state of the large GEO family and contribute to the achievement of the main GEO objectives. Of particular interest for Bulgaria are the observations and products that are relevant for the GEO SBAs of Disasters, Climate, Energy, Water and Agriculture.

We express our expectations to meet here, on this high forum, new partners and friends who combine their efforts to build the GEOSS in order to achieve sustainable development and prosperity of the human society.

Thank you for the attention.