

COSPAR Statement to the GEO Ministerial Summit

Ministers, Distinguished guests, Dear colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

COSPAR, the international Committee on Space Research, is proud to be a Participating Organization within GEO since 2007. The scientific community involved in Earth observation from space has welcomed the significant progress achieved during the first ten years of GEO, particularly as regards the establishment and generalization of the Data Sharing Principles. Timely and open access to high-quality data forms the necessary basis for the development of new scientific research and applications.

COSPAR strongly supports the continuation of GEO and the further extension of the Data Sharing Principles in the years to come. In conformance with its remit, COSPAR has initiated a study of a scientific roadmap for the decade 2015-2025. This study aims at identifying the strategic scientific objectives that could be achieved in terms of global and regional Integrated Earth System Science, thanks to the progress made in the deployment of GEOSS and the parallel advances in modeling and observations and understanding of the Earth as a system. COSPAR has convened an international group of about twenty distinguished scientists and this group is at work with the objective to deliver a report at a dedicated GEO session to be held during the next COSPAR Scientific Assembly in Moscow in August of this year. COSPAR intends to publish and distribute widely the results of the study, which will be presented to the next GEO Plenary in Gabon. With this initiative COSPAR wishes to strengthen the necessary interaction between GEO and the scientific communities involved in research and observation of the integrated Earth's atmosphere, ocean and land system.

Long live to GEO! Thank you for your attention