

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA

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Group on Earth Observations

Ministerial Summit

Note 1: [Square brackets] are used to present options.

Note 2: Feedback should be provided to [secretariat@geosec.org](mailto:secretariat@geosec.org)

Note 3: The Ministerial Summit Working Group is continuing to discuss how Caucus meetings (at ministerial and/or non-ministerial level) can be best facilitated.

| Friday, 8 November 2019                    |  | Comments  |
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| 9:00 – 10:00                               | Session 1: Opening Session   |   |
| <i>Session Chaired by Chinese Minister</i> |  |   |
| Item 1.1<br>(9.00-9.10)                    | <b>Welcome by Australian Host Minister</b><br><u>Speaker</u> : Host Minister (Australia)   | <i>Objective: Highlight the host country's views on the importance of GEO to Australia's economy and society - 'Big data for a big and diverse country'.</i><br><br><i>Includes Acknowledgement of Country, highlighting the Indigenous people of Australia as first Earth observers.</i> |
| Item 1.2<br>(9.10-9.30)                    | <b>Opening statement by GEO Co-Chair ministers</b><br><u>Speaker 1</u> : Chinese Minister<br><u>Speaker 2</u> : South African Minister<br><u>Speaker 3</u> : United States Minister<br><u>Speaker 4</u> : European Commission Minister | <i>Objective: Establish desired outcomes for the Summit; decisions and commitments that progress Members' joint commitment to the future of GEO.</i>  |
| Item 1.3<br>(9.30-9.45)                    | <b>Delivering on GEO: Overview of achievements and developments since last Ministerial Summit</b><br><i>Keynote presentation</i>   | <i>Objective: Highlight what the investments of Members and the broader GEO community have already delivered, and what is there to build on.</i><br><br><i>Note: this item may be delivered by two speakers; one from a developed economy and one from a developing economy.</i>          |

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| <p>Item 1.4<br/>(9.45-10.00)</p>   | <p><b>Keynote presentation: <i>Earth Observations: Investments in the Digital Economy</i></b><br/><br/><i>Keynote presentation</i></p>   | <p><i>Objective: Highlight the critical role EO data will play in driving economic growth in a global economy that is more connected, more dynamic and more exposed to the changing Earth.</i></p>  |
| <p><b>10:00 – 10:30</b>      <b>Group Photograph</b></p>   |  |   |
| <p><b>10:30 – 11:00</b>      <b>Coffee Break</b></p>   |  |   |
| <p><b>11:00– 13:00</b>      <b>Session 2: Strategy</b></p>   |  |   |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Calls to Action:</b><br/>The need for GEO to take an inclusive, collaborative approach to support uptake of Earth observations into the digital economy</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Session Chaired by European Commission, South Africa or United States Minister</i></p>   |  |   |
| <p><i>Discussion on each of these topics is expected to be placed within the context of the three GEO Priorities: Climate, Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development.</i></p> <p><i>Each topic will be introduced with 5-minute remarks by a facilitating minister with deep interest in the given topic. This will be followed by three 3-minute slots for ministers nominated by a caucus, followed by discussion facilitated by the facilitating minister who will provide a wrap-up on conclusions. Ministers encouraged to cite examples.</i></p> <p><i>A short background paper / fact sheet will be provided for each topic. These papers will be developed by the Ministerial Summit Working Group, with drafting led by the GEO Secretariat in consultation with subject matter experts from the GEO community.</i></p> |  |   |
| <p>Item 2.1<br/>(11.00-11.30)</p>  | <p><b>EO as a critical driver of sustainable economic development [adapted to a dynamic and changing world]</b></p> <p>Scene setting remarks by Facilitating Minister</p> <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 1</p> <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 2</p> <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 3</p> <p>Followed by 15 minutes discussion by all ministers and summary by the Facilitating Minister.</p> | <p><i>Objective: Highlight how GEO's work must be linked to the multilateral economic and political architecture, now that EO is a recognised – and important - driver of inclusive economic growth.</i></p> <p><i>Context:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The economy (be it local, national, regional) supports people and their businesses – and EO is now key to the economy.</i></li> <li>• <i>GEO must not only link with the United Nations, but also be tied into and engaged in multi-lateral economic cooperation</i></li> </ul> |

**Comment [RJ1]:** Alternative proposal: EO as a critical driver for transitioning towards an economic growth and development adapted to a globally changing Earth

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|                                   |   | <p><i>forums</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>GEO's future work must have an economic lens, underpinned by an evidence base.</i></li> <li>• <i>This session will draw on economic studies on the value of Earth observation.</i></li> </ul>  |
| <p>Item 2.2<br/>(11.30-12.00)</p> | <p><b>EO to support sustainable growth and development of developing nations</b></p> <p>Scene setting remarks by Facilitating Minister</p> <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 1</p> <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 2</p> <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 3</p> <p>Followed by 15 minutes discussion by all ministers and summary by the Facilitating Minister.</p> | <p><i>Objective: Highlight Minister's willingness to back GEO to urgently mobilise and work more closely with those nations most vulnerable to climate, disaster risk and sustainable development challenges. Highlight the need to support such nations to take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the digital economy.</i></p> <p><i>Context:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Engagement of all nations with GEO must be win-win (mutually beneficial).</i></li> <li>• <i>Value that least developed countries (LDCs) can provide to GEO must be recognized.</i></li> <li>• <i>Methods for linking national development programs, international financial institutions, philanthropic organizations, commercial sector and local institutions should be clarified.</i></li> <li>• <i>The role of regional GEOs in providing an important mode of engagement in GEO that complements its global structures is recognized.</i></li> </ul> |
| <p>Item 2.3<br/>(12.00-12.30)</p> | <p><b>Growing an inclusive and diverse GEO</b></p> <p>Scene setting remarks by Facilitating Minister</p> <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 1</p>   | <p><i>Objective: Recognising that the success of GEO depends on an inclusive and diverse GEO, and ministerial backing for actions that GEO can take to become more inclusive.</i></p>   |

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|                                   | <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 2</p> <p>Remarks by Nominated Minister 3</p> <p>Followed by 15 minutes discussion by all ministers and summary by the Facilitating Minister.</p>  | <p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>There are barriers to a more inclusive GEO, and action is required to overcome them.</i></li> <li>• <i>GEO can only deliver its vision if it is inclusive of individuals from all backgrounds, including women, indigenous peoples, people with a disability, etc.</i></li> </ul>   |
| <p>Item 2.4<br/>(12.30-13.00)</p> | <p><b>Session outcomes and recommendations</b></p>   |  |
| <p><b>13:00-14:00</b></p>         | <p><b>Lunch</b></p>  |  |
| <p><b>14:00– 15:30</b></p>        | <p><b>Session 3: Action</b></p> <p><b>GEO Ministers’ Response:<br/>Contributions and investments in the digital economy that promote inclusive economic growth and sustainable development</b></p> <p><i>Session Chaired by European Commission, South Africa or United States Minister</i></p>                |  |
| <p>Item 3.1<br/>(14:00-14:50)</p> | <p><b>Members investing in the success of GEO</b></p> <p>Announcement/intervention 1 by minister</p> <p>...</p> <p>Announcement/intervention 10 by minister</p> <p><i>Each minister may make a 5-minute announcement or intervention. 50 minutes total time allows for approximately 10 announcements.</i></p> | <p><b>Objective: Facilitate announcement of major new investments by GEO Members, highlighting the link between these investments and accelerated delivery of the GEO Strategic Plan 2016-2025.</b></p> <p><i>Announcements may highlight partners from development banks, the commercial sector and/or NGOs.</i></p> <p><i>At the Chair’s prerogative, interventions may be grouped based on the topic they relate to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>SDGs</i></li> <li>2. <i>Paris</i></li> <li>3. <i>Sendai</i></li> <li>4. <i>New Urban Agenda</i></li> <li>5. <i>The global EO value chain (digital infrastructure to enable scaling and</i></li> </ol> |

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|                                   |   | <p>innovation)</p> <p>6. Sustainable GEO<br/>(unlocking the<br/>convening power)</p>   |
| <p>Item 3.2<br/>(14.50-15.10)</p> | <p><b>Inspiring industry investment in the success of GEO</b></p> <p>Announcement/intervention 1 by minister</p> <p>...</p> <p>Announcement/intervention 4 by minister</p> <p><i>Each minister may make a 5-minute announcement or intervention. 20 minutes total time allows for approximately 4 announcements.</i></p>  | <p><i>Objective: Enable ministers to welcome and acknowledge the role that the commercial sector is playing in realizing the vision of GEO. Ministers commit to work to address barriers (of all kinds) to commercial sector participation.</i></p> <p><i>Ministers hear from the commercial sector that they want to contribute to GEO and see significant growth opportunities, but need key barriers to entry addressed.</i></p> <p><i>Context: GEO needs the commercial sector to thrive - particularly in developing sustainable tailored regional and local solutions for diverse user needs – obvious.</i></p>  |
| <p>Item 3.3<br/>(15.10-15.30)</p> | <p><b>Open data to boost the digital economy and support our collective response to [climate change] [global change]</b></p> <p>Announcement/intervention 1 by minister</p> <p>...</p> <p>Announcement/intervention 4 by minister</p> <p><i>Each minister may make a 5-minute announcement or intervention. 20 minutes total time allows for approximately 4 announcements.</i></p> | <p><i>Objective: Enable Ministers to showcase newly opened Earth observation resources (such as data and software).</i></p> <p><i>Opportunity to highlight the impact this will have on economic growth in their country and globally.</i></p> <p><i>Context:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GEO is founded on ongoing efforts to increase full, free and open access to publicly-funded data collections</li> <li>• A particular focus is needed on opening access to non-satellite datasets to complement the many open satellite datasets.</li> <li>• Better access to non-satellite data sets will increase ability to develop products and services that meet local needs, and will create opportunities</li> </ul> |

**Comment [RJ2]:** Alternative suggestion: Open Earth Observation data in support to a sustainable climate transition

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|   |   | <i>for small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs).</i>  |
| <b>15:30-16:00 Afternoon tea</b>  |   |  |
| <b>16:00 – 17:30 Session 4: Closing Business</b>                              |   |  |
| <i>Chaired by European Commission, South Africa or United States Minister</i> |   |  |
| Item 4.1<br>16.00-16.20   | <b>Final remarks by ministers/representatives</b><br>Intervention 1 by minister/representative<br>...<br>Intervention 13 by minister/representative<br><i>Each minister/representative may make a 90 second announcement or intervention. 20 minutes total time allow for approximately 13 interventions.</i>   | <i>Objective: provide an opportunity to cover any other matters/topic by those ministers/representatives who have not yet had a speaking role elsewhere on the agenda.</i>   |
| Item 4.2<br>16.20-17.00   | <b>Formal adoption of the Declaration</b><br>Introduction by Chair<br>Statement by minister representing Asia-Oceania Caucus<br>Statement by minister representing Europe Caucus<br>Statement by minister representing CIS Caucus<br>Statement by minister representing Americas Caucus<br>Statement by minister representing Africa Caucus<br>Interventions from ministers/representatives<br>Adoption of the declaration by the Chair | <i>Objective: adopt the Ministerial Declaration.</i><br><i>Format:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Chair will introduce the draft Declaration and highlight any unresolved issues requiring discussion.</i></li> <li>• <i>Caucus-nominated ministers will present Caucus views on the unresolved issues.</i></li> <li>• <i>Other ministers and representatives will have the opportunity to comment.</i></li> <li>• <i>The Chair will provide the declaration for adoption, with consideration of any modifications required to reflect outcomes of the discussion.</i></li> <li>• <i>The declaration and Chair's summary remarks should provide effective and clear political guidance to the GEO community and GEO Executive committee in particular.</i></li> </ul> |
| 17.00-17.10   | <b>Closing remarks by Co-Chair Ministers</b>  | <i>Objective: Highlight those who have stepped up with new</i>   |

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|                     |  | <i>investments, and their example to others. Recap of key areas of agreed action.</i>   |
| 17.10-17.20         | <b>Farewell by Host Minister and Host Principal</b>              |   |
| <i>Formal Close</i> |  |   |
| 17.20-18.00         | <b>Press Conference for Host Minister and Co-Chair Ministers</b> | <i>Suitable spaces will be made available for other ministers wishing to hold their own press conferences, e.g. to talk about an announcement/pledge made at the Summit or at GEO Week 2019</i> |