

GEO PLENARY
CIUDAD DE MEXICO, 12 NOV. 2015

Luciano Parodi, GEO Principal of Chile

Thank you Mr. Chairman

On behalf of the Government of Chile, I reiterate our thanks to México - for hosting this Meeting, as well as the Secretary of GEO for its dedicated work.

We welcome and congratulate all the new members of GEO.

Appreciating the achievements of GEO, we welcome its new strategic lines and the necessary transition steps to address, during the next decade, the current challenges and demands.

We welcome, the enhanced contribution and unique role that GEO can play in the international affairs, in the societal benefit areas, in which the earth observations are essential elements, while maintaining its core principles, characteristics and flexibility.

We welcome too the AmeriGEOSS initiative, as a step toward a stronger regional involvement, focusing concrete activities in the four priority areas identified by the Americas, and at the same time, with a global perspective of partnerships for implementing a System of Systems of Earth Observations.

Mr. Chairman,

The participation of Chile has been focused on few initiatives, which we think is positive, in order to have a more permanent contribution and concrete results.

Chile has participated actively in the architecture implementation pilot project (GEOSS-AIP), which has focused on capacity building, data access, search ability and connectivity and management of images, and more recently the development of disaster management applications. This multi-year pilot exercise concentrates on disaster risk reduction: earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic activities and wild fires, in seven selected areas of major events in Chile. This working group, has incorporated gradually over the years, various Chilean services and universities, with the support of the Secretariat of GEO, experts from NASA and the

Italian Centre for Research (CNR). It has facilitated the link of the Chilean IDE/SNIT geoportal with the GEO portal.

Likewise, scientists from the University of Magellan and the Chilean Antarctic Institute contribute to the GEO initiative on mountain ecosystems (GEO-GNOME), incorporating their expertise and monitoring of Andean glaciers and the Antarctic region.

Chile has been actively present in the work of GEO-CIEHLYC, Comunidad para la Información Espacial e Hidrográfica en Latinoamérica y el Caribe / Community of Hydrologic and Spatial Information for Latin America and the Caribbean, with the participation of national experts from the water, oceans and remote sensing, governmental organizations and academia. I would emphasize the valuable collaboration among the experts and the capacity building activities.

In addition, in coming months the University of La Serena will start the operation of a GEONETCAST receiving station.

Chile will continue promoting the knowledge about GEO and GEOSS, as it did:

- last September, in Santiago, during a special session about GEOSS in the "International Seminar on Geospacial Information for the Public Management and Citizen Access", organized by the SNIT-IDE Chile.

- on October 2013, in Santiago, with a special session about GEOSS within the Latin American Remote Sensing Week (LARS 2013).

- and in 2011, organizing in Santiago the GEOSS Americas Symposium.

We know the work is not finish yet and we are willing to complete it.

Thank you Mr. Chairman