

## Announcement for 12<sup>th</sup> Plenary

Korea, republic of

The world is facing serious environmental challenges such as climate change, sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, and disaster risk reduction. In order to tackle those complex global environmental problems and to achieve the implementation targets in each sector it is very essential to make the right decision at the right time based on the correct analysis about the real world and the scientific prediction of expected future progress.

As a member as well as Executive member, the Republic of Korea strongly advocates the objectives and strategies of GEO and we greatly empathize the importance of data sharing.

The Republic of Korea in pursue of Government 3.0 has established the legal legislation to make government data accessible to the public. Based on this, national organizations as well as central and local governments are preparing to provide access to their large volume of data. This will have a positive impact on civil society to encourage their participation in the policy making process.

Data and Information sharing will also boost job creation and spur economic growth. Government-held data in such fields as weather, transportation and health care has considerable commercial value. It will help small and medium entrepreneurs to start up a new business.

Facing the new decade of GEO, the Republic of Korea will promote Korean Group on Earth Observation to enhance the common infrastructure for data and information sharing through the innovative Research & Development in science. Particularly, there will be an intensive cooperation on earth observation data standardization among related administrations and research institutes. This will be a great contribution to enlarge the earth observation from national to regional as well as global scale.

During the last years, Korea has actively participated in GEO activities in such fields as Climate Change, Biodiversity, Agriculture, and Disaster Management. In the future, K-GEO will be expanding its involvement.