

Declaration of IAG / GGOS

GEO Ministerial Summit in Beijing, November 5, 2010

The International Association of Geodesy – IAG – gratefully acknowledges China for having hosted the GEO-VII Plenary Session and hosting the Ministerial Summit. IAG is pleased to recognize the significant developments taking place within GEO towards the realization of GEOSS. IAG confirms its constructive contribution to GEOSS by providing the basis for the maintenance as well as for the necessary technological developments of the global geodetic space and terrestrial infrastructure realizing GGOS, the Global Geodetic Observing System, the metrological basis of all Earth observation. The observations made openly available through GGOS are unique for the definition of the International Terrestrial Reference Frame, which is key for accurate information about fundamental processes in the Earth's system as they change over time. IAG/GGOS will continue contributing to the GEO activities by providing improved realizations of the International Terrestrial Reference Frame. Accurate geodetic measurements of the Earth's shape, rotation and gravity field are essential to improving our understanding of – and enhancing our ability to respond to, or even predict, the processes behind many natural disasters, as well as climate change, sea-level rise, and landscape changes.