

Statement - Brazil

GEO-XI

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **the** Swiss Confederation and the GEO Secretariat for this very successful Plenary.

Brazil has been in many ways contributing to fulfill GEO's objective to promote full and open access to Earth observations, data and information, aiming at assembling a more comprehensive picture of our planet.

The Center for Remote Sensing Data of the Brazilian Institute for Space Research (INPE) contributes up to now with more than 800 Terabytes of satellite data for the GEO Portal.

The recent cooperation agreement signed between the Brazilian Space Agency (AEB) and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) provides for the direct reception and distribution of ResourceSat-2 data, which will enhance our capability of Monitoring, in real time, **Amazon** deforestation

The agreement between INPE and USGS (United States Geological Services) provides for the receipt of data from the Landsat-8, from November 2014, in accordance with the policy of free data, benefiting thousands of users in Brazil and part of South America.

At the same time, Brazil has been actively contributing to the GEONETCast through the free distribution of products of environmental satellites and user training of Latin American and African countries. INPE has been making available meteorological and environmental data and products through its channel for data dissemination at GEONETCast Americas. INPE is negotiating with NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) an agreement to expand the GEONETCast band, thus becoming a full partner of NOAA, participating in decisions for data distribution to Latin America.

I am glad to inform that the launch of CBERS-4, originally scheduled for December 2015, was anticipated in a year due to the failure which occurred with the launching of CBERS-3 in late 2013. The final revision of the CBERS-4 proved that the Chinese-Brazilian satellite successfully met all phases of assembly, integration and testing, conducted jointly by teams from both Brazil and China. The CBERS-4 is scheduled to be launched on December 7th, from the base in Taiyuan, China.

Brazil believes that global initiatives, such as the Global Forest Observation Initiative (**GFOI**) and the GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring (**GEOGLAM**) constitute important dimensions of GEO's work that must be strengthened. In the scope of

USGS/SilvaCarbon Program for Capacity Building, Brazil will be hosting, in January of 2015, the Workshop in Early Warning Systems for Deforestation. Brazil has also been actively participating in the GEOGLAM Crop Monitoring Report that presents the status of agriculture in the world.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

In our view, capacity building programs for developing countries constitute a crucial dimension of the work of GEO and must be given priority.

INPE has a large experience in capacity-building in the framework of programs coordinated in the context of GEO, mainly those led by the INPE's Amazon Regional Center, whose focus is training in the use of technology for orbital monitoring of tropical forests and transfer of Brazilian forest monitoring technology to interested countries. The Brazilian policy of open source technologies has been allowing other countries to adapt the tools to meet their specific conditions. We attach great importance to the AfriGEOSS initiative and are willing to share best-practices with our African partners.

Thank you.