

Statement by France – GEO-XI – Geneva – 4 November 2014

The French delegation would first like to update the GEO General Assembly on the development of the SPOT World Heritage programme announced at GEO-X in January. The initial phase of processing of the first 100,000 images has been successfully completed with additional processing and open distribution for non commercial use anticipated for the end of the first quarter of 2015. Going forward it is anticipated that time from identifying scenes to orthorectified products becoming available will be significantly reduced once this operational processing chain has been validated. A significant proportion of the 100,000 images already processed have been identified as a result of input from global scientific and non commercial users coming through the GEO community among others. Processing of a second set of 100,000 images is scheduled to begin shortly and zones of interest defined by the user community through GEO Initiatives are welcomed. GEO and the GEO Secretariat must be congratulated for their efforts in mobilising the community with a special mention for the work to encourage “in kind” participation with additional processing resources from former SPOT Direct Receiving Stations which has been led by AfriGEOSS.

In addition to several on-going participations to GEO programmes and activities, two specific contributions from are worth mentioning:

- The support provided to GEOGLAM with the funding of the project officer made available to the Secretariat
- The contribution to the development of the GEOCAB portal which was presented yesterday to the plenary. This contribution is based on developments undertaken by the IRD (Research Institut for Development) in collaboration with the private society Geomatys, facilitating discovery of spatial data and metadata.