

Israel Statement to GEO general assembly, GEO –XII meeting in Mexico City, November 12, 2015.

Israel wishes to put on the GEO's table the importance of soil and soil security from EO perspective. This statement is supported by Greece, Italy, Finland and i-BEC and we hope that by other countries and organizations as well.

Soil carries out a number of key environmental functions that are essential for human subsistence. Recognizing the importance of soil ecosystems is essential for:

- Food security
- Carbon sequestration
- Water cycle
- Timber production,
- Biodiversity conservation
- Climate change processes
- Ecosystem control

We are looking forward to work with GEO secretariat and interested countries as well as participating organizations to include soil more explicitly in key activity of GEO.