

**Statement from the Japan at the GEO-XII Plenary
(Mexico City)**

November 12, 2015

On behalf of the Government of Japan, I would like to introduce our contribution to GEO since the last Plenary.

Japan leads 12 tasks and has been actively tackling the challenges by utilizing earth observation data and information. Last week, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) launched the new service named as “GSMP Now” to provide global rainfall data in real-time. I hope this service can be utilized more for weather forecast and Disaster Risk Reduction in all countries.

In the framework of GEO, it is important to align with countries, regions and stakeholders who are facing actual challenges. In this regards, Japan successfully held the Working Session at the 3rd United Nation’s World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) with UN

Organizations in March and formulated the report on how earth observation can contribute to the disaster risk reduction. Furthermore, Japan held the 8th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium with China and GEO Secretariat in September and deepened the discussion on GEOSS activities in the region. Japan is keen to promote GEOSS in the region from now on and will hold the 9th symposium in early 2017 in Japan.

As almost 10 years has passed since GEO's establishment, Japan has formulated its 'Implementation Policy for Earth Observations for 10 years' which has the vision of 'Solution Focused Earth Observations' and identified 8 societal challenges which earth observations can contribute to; Climate Change, Global Environment, Natural Disasters, Food Security, Water Management, Energy and Mineral Management, Healthy Life and Progress of Science. In accordance with the policy, Japan would like to actively contribute to the implementation and further development of GEOSS, by conducting space-based and in-situ observation

and by promoting the utilization of earth observation data and information to find solutions to the societal challenges.

Thank you for your attention.