

The 7TH GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium
Benefits for Society from GEOSS Evolution Toward Addressing
Sustainable Development Goals
Tokyo, Japan, 26 – 28 May 2014

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), it is my pleasure to announce that the 7th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from 26 to 28 May 2014. The Symposium is being organized by Japan GEO and the GEO Secretariat, with the support of Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).

This year's Symposium will address the theme of "Benefits for Society from GEOSS Evolution Toward Addressing Sustainable Development Goals". It will focus on the evolution over the next 10 years of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) and how the benefits from GEOSS can contribute to societal requirements such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), as well as trans-disciplinary research initiatives such as Future Earth (FE).

The Symposium will further strengthen international networking within the region and be an opportunity to share Asia-Pacific's experiences globally. Each country will report on the progress it has made in implementing GEOSS since the last Asia-Pacific Symposium in India. To focus the discussions, we are organizing parallel sessions on the following topics:

- Asian Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI);
- Asia-Pacific Biodiversity Observation Network (AP-BON);
- Global Forest Observation Initiative (GFOI) towards long-term carbon management;
- Ocean Observation and Society (toward realization of Blue Planet in AP Region); and
- Agriculture and Food Security (GEOGLAM).

In addition to these parallel sessions, the Symposium will include two Special Sessions for cross cutting and trans-disciplinary issues.

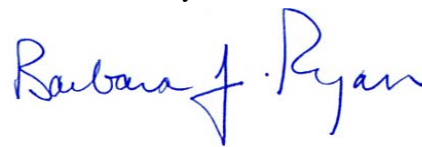
The Symposium will take place at the Kokusai Fashion Center (KFC) Hall in Tokyo. An agenda and details on registration, hotels and related matters are available on the Symposium website at: (<http://www.geoss-ap-symposium7.org/>).

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Symposium Secretariat in Japan at:

The 7th GEOSS AP Symposium Secretariat
(Remote Sensing Technology Center of Japan)
E-mail: geoss-ap7@restec.or.jp
Fax: +81-3-5777-1580

We look forward to seeing you in Tokyo.

Yours sincerely,



Barbara J. Ryan
Secretariat Director

Tentative Agenda

Day 1

- (1) Keynote Speech
- (2) GEOSS Activity Report
- (3) Country and Regional Reports on GEOSS-related activities
- (4) Special Session 1

Day 2

- (5) Parallel Sessions :
 - Asian Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI);
 - Asia-Pacific Biodiversity Observation Network (AP-BON);
 - Global Forest Observation Initiative (GFOI) towards long-term carbon management;
 - Ocean Observation and Society (toward realization of Blue Planet in AP Region);
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Day 3

- (6) Reports from each Parallel Session
- (7) Special Session 2
- (8) Summary of Symposium