

## Statements from The Netherlands to Beijing Ministerial Summit

The Netherlands is very pleased to see the good progress that the GEOSS initiative is making, especially in the fields of open data policy, capacity building, carbon monitoring, water management, all Societal Benefit Areas where Dutch organisations are contributing substantially.

Following up on our statement at the previous Ministerial in Capetown on the Dutch initiative to build a new satellite instrument, TROPOMI, I am pleased to inform you that this programme is progressing well, in close cooperation with the European Space Agency. Flying on GMES Sentinel 5 precursor, TROPOMI will provide from 2015 onwards, much needed continuation of global observations of atmospheric constituents needed to follow air pollution all over the globe and to monitor essential atmospheric climate variables.

The Netherlands delegation is further committed to make data free and open available to allow maximum utilization of investments in observational infrastructure and to help other GEO members states and organisations to break down barriers that still prevent free access. The Netherlands, in close collaboration with international partners, is for instance hosting portals for atmospheric composition, soil mapping, soil moisture mapping and ground water, where a large number of users find actual and historic satellite and in-situ data, which is used for research, monitoring and operational applications.