

GEO-X Ministerial Statement EEA

Note: text in italic was not read out loud due to the reduced time slot of maximum 1 minute for each participating organisation.

Distinguished guests,

The European Environment Agency is looking forward to the next stage of building GEOSS and the development of the new GEO Implementation Plan. During the next period of GEO, a key goal for the EEA will be to support the implementation and evaluation of Europe's 7th Environmental Action Programme with timely, relevant information. Increasingly, the scope of the information required to support these assessments, is global in nature, and we are convinced that GEO can bring significant added value by focusing on specific initiatives, with a clear user base.

We are also convinced that the availability of Sentinel data and Copernicus services will be a major European contribution to GEOSS.

Fully in line with the Geneva Declaration, key elements for GEO for the forthcoming period should be:

Firstly, a continued growing of data sharing by members, especially of in-situ data.

Secondly, data made available through GEOSS, geared more explicitly and comprehensively used in support of environmental policy and assessment of trends in the state of the environment.

Lastly, to explore the potential role of observations, to support green growth and responding to emerging environmental challenges.

We hope that GEO will continue to provide a flexible framework for cooperation and partnerships, involving stakeholders from all sectors. The EEA will work towards reinforcing partnerships, and further developing stable cooperation with national, regional and global bodies. Thank you.

Thank you.

Chris Steenmans
Head of Programme Monitoring, Data and Information.
European Environment Agency