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GEO Mexico City Ministerial Summit, Mexico City, 13 November 2015

National Statement from the Government of DENMARK

Your excellency Minister of Foreign Affairs, Claudia Ruiz-Massieu,

Honorable Ministers

Distinguished Colleagues

On behalf of the Danish Government, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to the Mexican Government and to the GEO for hosting this significant summit.

Denmark agrees on the need to collect information and data which can leverage a better understanding, assessment and prediction of the complete Earth system.

We support further development of a comprehensive and coordinated Earth Observation System of Systems, based upon harmonization and coordination of existing services to the widest possible extent.

As such we offer our firm support for the GEO Mexico City declaration.

As a member of the European Union, coordinated European efforts, such as the EUMETSAT and the European system for monitoring the Earth;



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COPERNICUS, reflects the major partly Danish contribution to GEOSS through the EU.

Additionally, in 2015 Denmark had the honor of co-hosting a fruitful and truly inspiring *European GEO projects workshop* together with the European Environmental Agency in Copenhagen.

For Denmark the Arctic and Greenland in particular, is one good example of how valuable earth data information is – and increasingly will be. For centuries the inhabitants in the Arctic region have used the sea ice as the access to hunt, fish or simply transportation. The diminishing sea ice has the potential to further enhance global warming, change climate patterns and perhaps even influence global ocean circulation. Earth observation data and efficient international cooperation play an important role in monitoring the Arctic region.

The North Atlantic area is very important to the weather in Europe and climate in the rest of the world, but still this region is relatively data sparse, due to the inaccessibility. Hopefully, data collection in the North Atlantic is one aspect that will benefit from these Earth Observation initiatives.

Finally; Denmark is a firm supporter of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and as such we fully support the further application of Earth observation data in their implementation, on the path



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towards a humanly- and environmentally sustainable future.

THANK YOU

