

Implementing the Canberra Declaration

51st Executive Committee

GEO Secretariat

Agenda Item 3.1

Geneva, Switzerland

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Overview

- This presentation identifies some of the actions required to implement key ministerial commitments in the Canberra Declaration.
- The Declaration includes 25 numbered paragraphs, in 6 sections, which state what was agreed.
- Many of these paragraphs recognize achievements and ongoing work and do not appear to require specific responses.
- The Secretariat has identified 12 items that suggest either new actions or increased effort in certain areas.
- The Secretariat is already working on many of the actions in the Declaration.
- Members and Regional GEOs should consider the actions they need to take.
- ExCom and Programme Board should discuss the broader strategy for implementation.

Paragraphs suggesting new / increased action

7. “...there is an increasing need to connect GEO to the work of key **global and regional economic cooperation forums.**”
8. “Resolve to work individually, and through GEO, to encourage **use of EO in an inclusive digital economy** that promotes sustainable economic and social development.”
10. “Welcome **new Members from the Pacific and other island nations** to the GEO community and recognize the significant capabilities they have to offer.”
12. “...further encourage the proactive efforts of the GEO community, including space agencies, to **make EO collected from space ready for analysis and easier to use through artificial intelligence, data analytics, and visualization technologies.**”
13. “Call upon the GEO community to develop a strategy to address the challenges [of **in situ data**] and to demonstrate progress in implementation.”

Paragraphs suggesting new / increased action

16. “Resolve to highlight opportunities for the private sector to leverage GEO’s work and encourage the GEO community to do the same. Emphasize the need to create opportunities for small-medium-micro enterprises to leverage EO...”

17. “Highlight the need for the GEO community to accelerate its work to build on the capacity of all countries to exploit EO. Resolve to enhance our efforts to help one another to develop institutional capacity to promote the use of EO for national benefit.”

18. “...consider how [official development assistance programmes] can support greater use of EO at all levels and across all sectors.”

21. “Acknowledge the need for GEO to be proactive and responsive to Members’ needs for EO that help them achieve their respective goals.”

Paragraphs suggesting new / increased action

22. “Resolve to work to enhance collaboration between EO and official statistics communities, including within the UN system.”

23. “Resolve to scale-up our support for the delivery of GEOSS and other elements of the strategic plan, noting the return these investments deliver to our environment, economies and communities.

24. “Call upon the GEO community to redouble its efforts to communicate the value of EO and engage more contributors to GEO’s work.”

Areas of ongoing Secretariat action

- Engaging regional economic cooperation forums. [7]
- Working with CEOS to encourage expansion of analysis-ready satellite data and improved methods of sharing this data. [12]
- Development of the GEO Knowledge Hub. [12, 13, 17, 21, 23]
- GEO Week Industry Track, cloud services announcement of opportunity. [16]
- Engaging international development agencies. [18]
- Engaging statistical agencies and UN-GGIM, in collaboration with EO4SDG. [22]
- Scaling-up support through the resource mobilization strategy. [23]
- Annual highlights reports / Report on Impact, GEO blog. [24]

Areas where GEO Member action is key

- Engaging Pacific and other island nations. [10]
 - Regional GEOs and ExCom/PB members could consider including non-GEO Members in Regional GEO forums and/or peer-to-peer outreach.
- Engaging national statistical and international development agencies in GEO. [18, 22]
 - GEO welcomes participation by national statistical agencies, especially on SDGs, and international development agencies, particularly on capacity development and resource mobilization. GEO Members are encouraged to contact representatives of these agencies in their countries.
- Increased support for delivery of GEOSS and other elements of the Strategic Plan. [23]
 - GEO continues to be dependent on contributions from a small set of Members.

Areas where a broader strategy may be needed

- What are the implications of “encouraging use of EO in an inclusive digital economy”? [8]
 - This is more than just technology; how should GEO look at this holistically?
- What would a strategy for in situ data look like, taking account of the experience of previous GEO efforts in this area and the need to respect the mandates of UN specialized agencies? [13]
 - The current strategy has been to address this within the context of individual GWP activities and through the GKH, although this seems to fall short of what is called for in the Declaration.
- How can GEO best support its members to develop institutional capacity for use of EO? [17]
 - Guidance from Members and examples of good practice would be helpful.

Thank You

Communicate and Collaborate with GEO:

