

## **GEO Target Task Team (T3)**

### **Draft Strategic Target Document Outline – September 2008**

#### **1 DEFINITION OF GEOSS**

A succinct, one sentence statement that summarizes, without contradicting, the vision, purpose and scope of GEOSS outlined in the GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan

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*The Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) is an integrating framework for Earth observing and information systems, developed and contributed by Members and Participating Organizations of the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO) on a voluntary basis, to support informed decision making for society.*

#### **2 STRATEGIC GOALS OF GEO IN SUPPORT OF GEOSS**

A series of short, high-level statements, based on the Cape Town Declaration of 2007

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- a) *Sustain operation of comprehensive and coordinated Earth observation networks that meet user requirements in support of informed decision making, within the framework of national policies and international obligations;*
- b) *Commit to timely, global and open data sharing across borders and disciplines to maximize the value and benefit of Earth observation investments.*
- c) *Implement interoperability amongst observational, modelling, data assimilation and prediction capabilities;*
- d) *Foster research and development activities and coherent planning for future observation and information systems;*
- e) *Catalyse national, regional and global investments in scientific and technological advances and innovative approaches for upgrading and expanding Earth observations*
- f) *Build the capacity of individuals, institutions and systems to benefit and contribute to GEOSS, particularly in developing countries.*

### **3 STRATEGIC TARGETS FOR GEOSS**

Individual volunteer experts were identified from within the T3 to provide draft strategic targets. Each will be asked to develop a few strategic targets per SBA and per cross-cutting area. Each will be no more than a sentence or two, and will form the link between the negotiated text of the GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan and the text of the emerging GEO Work Plan for 2009-2011. The volunteers should consider the ideas of the original 241 targets, however, the goal is draft new strategic guidance stressing the achievements necessary to achieve GEOSS by 2015.