



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



Preparation of the GEO 2010 Ministerial (State of Play)

GEO STC Committee meeting

Tuesday 15 – Wednesday 16 September 2009

Melbourne (Australia)

Gilles OLLIER
Head of Sector “*Earth Observation*”
Management of Natural Resources –
RTD.I.4 Research Directorate General -
Environment - RTD.I
EUROPEAN COMMISSION





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



Key actions to be performed in view of the 2010 GEO Ministerial

Basically the main planning needed for the organisation of the 2010 ministerial concerns:

The development of a process towards the implementation of the GEO data sharing principles to be submitted at the GEO 2010 ministerial and which will be prepared by a data sharing task force;

To showcase a limited number of specific achievements of GEOSS

To organise a mid-term evaluation to be made available on the occasion of the 2010 Summit (prepared by the M&E evaluation working group).





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



Way forward for the identification of GEO key achievements discussed at EXCOM 15

- Recommendations provided to EXCOM 15 by the C4 focusing on the process and criteria for selecting mid-term achievements.
- EXCOM decided setting up a dedicated Task Force and asking the Secretariat to invite governments to provide representatives for this effort





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



C4 GUIDELINES FOR IDENTIFYING KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE 2010 MINISTERIAL

Achievements should:

- Focus on services that provide advanced outcomes and impact for users, possibly in all nine SBAs;
- Link to the high-profile “issues of the day” or to topical events (G8 Summit);
- Emphasize outcomes that cut across SBAs where two or more SBAs provide synergistic outcomes;
- Be outcomes of GEO Tasks and demonstrate the effectiveness of the GEO work plan;
- **Relate to issues highlighted by the Cape Town Declaration where possible.**

Process should:

- **Identify ways to nurture and accelerate the identified achievements for sustainable outcomes during the period leading up to the Summit;**
- **Identify the added value of GEO as a coordination mechanism** and the leverage that GEO brings to the allocation of resources by Members and funding organizations;
- Examine economic analysis and societal impact of achievements;
- Anticipate attrition as achievements mature.



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Ministerial TASK FORCE



Members and Participating Organizations have provided nominations for the TF (Chile, China, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Romania, the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA, France, Canada, EUMETSAT and the European Space Agency).

1st meeting of the TF (telecon) week of 14 September to gather inputs before the 6 October deadline for GEO-VI documents

Secretariat encourages the Task Force to agree on holding a physical meeting in early 2010 or, possibly, during GEO-VI

To prepare for these first discussions, the Secretariat is drafting an informal note



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



PAPER OF THE GEO SECRETARIAT: ***“Preparing the 2010 Ministerial Summit”***

THREE PROPOSALS:

ORGANIZE A TASK TEAMS SYMPOSIUM IN JANUARY 2010

to provide the opportunity to identify key achievements in GEOSS implementation as well as trends and priority activities which could be featured in the Summit Declaration

ESTABLISH A “2010 BASELINE” FOR A WIDE RANGE OF EARTH PARAMETERS

Two parts: A first group of data sets, such as the Global DEM or agriculture parameters, could be developed (or sufficiently advanced) before the Summit so that they would be as early deliverables of the GEO 2010 Baseline. A second group would require a longer timeframe for production (To be called for in Summit Declaration).

ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE OF “WISE PERSONS

High-level Committee to assess the progress being made by GEO and to provide recommendations for future action to be presented to the Ministers and heads of delegation at the Summit



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



Some possible discussion items about the Ministerial preparation

Role of the Ministerial Task Force and coherence of the actions (recommendations of the C4 and proposals of the GEO Secretariat) ?

The TF role could range from overseeing the actions proposed by the GEO Secretariat (Task team Symposium, Identify Key data Sets, Committee of wise Persons) to really make different proposals

Progress made should be assessed versus critical Cape-Town Declaration statements such as:

“ We Commit to explore ways and means for sustained operations of the shared architectural GEOSS components and related information infrastructure” (GCI) Or

“We commit ourselves to working together to improve the interoperability of and access to observation and associated prediction and information systems”

Progress to be illustrated through specific case studies which go beyond the simple presentation of dataset ? How to produce those case studies (and to nurture them in a practical way – C4?)



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Conclusions



Earlier discussion of the STC suggested that: *the ministerial should be the occasion to present a limited number of showcases including S&T added value to promote GEOSS.*

Demonstrate for instance the added value of GEOSS in specific areas (GEO-BON, Global Carbon Observing System, Environment and Health, Water.....)

GEO/TF should then define as soon as possible what are going to be the showcases for the ministerial so that they start to be prepared

Timing issue: Paper to be presented about the preparation of the ministerial at the Plenary in Washington – When will the TF meet face to face ?

