

# China

Dear Representatives of GEO Asia-Oceania Regional Member Countries, Distinguished Guests,

Good day! I am Professor Liao Xiaohan from the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences. It is my honor to attend this session and present the country report as the representative of the Lead Co-Chair and GEO China Alternate, and I would like to express my gratitude to the organizer, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan for extending the invitation to me.

As a stable and enduring platform for exchange and mechanism for cooperation, AOGEO has been a long-term responder to the four GEO engagement priorities, and a continuous promoter of capacity development and collaborative network construction in Integrated Priority Study (IPS) regions. Over the past year, with the support of countries across the Asia-Oceania region, GEO China has made remarkable achievements.

In 2023, with the strong support of Japan, Australia, and South Korea, China successfully hosted the 6th AOGEO Workshop, which attracted more than 80 representatives from 18 countries and various international organizations, along with over 6,700 online participants. The workshop covered diverse areas such as data fusion, global ecological and environmental monitoring, and capacity building. The 6th AOGEO workshop successfully concluded with the adoption of 2023 AOGEO Announcement, which advocated all stakeholders in AO region should enhance the cooperations in technological innovations, ecological and environmental monitoring, and data sharing, and emphasize the

importance of youth training. By doing so, 2023 AOGEO Announcement will make contribution to regional development.

In terms of international cooperation and exchange, in early June 2023, China hosted 2023 International Training Workshop on Earth Observation for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries, attracting over 570 young scholars from 37 countries across Asia, Europe, and the Americas. The 2023 AOGEO Training will prioritize Integrated Priority Study (IPS) area to promote sustainable development through Earth Observations. Closely aligned with Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing on the development of EO technologies in the Himalayan and island regions, and emphasizing their critical applications in disaster reduction, urban and ecological monitoring. In late September, 2023 AOGEO Regional Seminar cum Training on Earth Observation for Advancing Regional Sustainable Development in HKH was successfully held in Kathmandu, Nepal. This training focused on glacier, water resources, ecological environment, agricultural resources, and disaster monitoring in mountainous scenes, with over 400 participants joining online from 22 countries, and more than 70 participants attending in person.

Regarding data sharing, during the 2023-2024 period, China's National Integrated Earth Observation Data Sharing Platform (GEOSS) has shared 32 curated datasets with GEOSS, UNEP, and other international institutions, adding 160,000 new metadata entries. Additionally, the platform has provided data emergency response services for 13 international disasters, including the Turkey-Syria earthquake, New Zealand

hurricane, and floods in Peru.

In the realm of practical applications and capacity building, over the past year, China has focused on the critical needs for food security and agricultural water security within the Belt and Road Initiative. In this context, China has developed highly reliable global remote sensing monitoring platforms for crop conditions (CropWatch), water resources (ETWatch), and drought (DroughtWatch). Through close cooperation with international organizations, capacity building, training, and system customization have been carried out for seven countries, including Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia. Furthermore, a snow disaster monitoring system was established for Mongolia, which played a significant role during the 2023 winter season. These efforts have received high recognition from various international organizations, like the United Nations, serving as a successful model of South-South scientific and technological cooperation, and paving the way for using technology to support food security.

Looking ahead, AOGEO will stay committed to promoting the sharing of Earth observation resources in the Asia-Oceania region, and nurturing more young talents by capacity building and international cooperation, so as to achieve sustainable regional development.

Finally, I wish this Symposium a great success. Thank you!