

OGC Statement at Geo Plenary XII:

The Open Geospatial Consortium thanks the government of Mexico for hosting the GEO Plenary this week and for their warm hospitality.

The OGC is an international, not-for-profit consortium representing the collective expertise of representatives from more than 515 government agencies, companies, research organizations, universities and NGOs participating in an open and transparent consensus process to develop publicly available free and open geospatial standards.

OGC leads the GEO endorsed Architectural Implementation Pilot (AIP) program. This program brings together users and technology providers in an agile process to pilot and demonstrate the value of the GEOSS Common Infrastructure (GCI) to improve decision making within and across Societal Benefit Areas. Now in its 8th phase, the AIP has played a significant role in the creation and evolution of the GCI.

Open data policies are central to the success of the efforts of the GEO community. Equally we note the importance of open standards as a critical enabler for GEOSS. Over the next decade, OGC looks forward to continuing our support to GEO as we focus more deeply on applying standards and related best practices to improve access to and use of GEOSS resources across a range of user communities.

OGC endorses GEO Strategic Plan and welcomes the decision to expand the role of Participating Organizations in the GEO process. The OGC and other Participating Organizations have substantially contributed to the success of the first ten years of GEO, and we look forward to further leveraging our resources to address the challenges ahead, as GEOSS moves to a more operational posture.

We also applaud and support the efforts of the Executive Committee in shaping an approach to involve the commercial sector more directly in the GEO process. We believe this to be an important component in engaging the entire Earth Observation community in advancing GEO objectives.