

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA Circulated 18 April 2019

# Group on Earth Observations Sixteenth Plenary Session – GEO-XVI Canberra, Australia 6-7 November 2019

Note 1: [Square brackets] are used to present options.

Note 2: Feedback should be provided to secretariat@geosec.org

Wednesday, 6 November 2019		Comments
9:00 – 10:00	Session 1: Opening Session	
1.1	Welcome from Australia	Highlight the host country's views on the importance of GEO to Australia's economy and society. Highlight the Indigenous people of Australia as first Earth observers.
1.2	Opening Remarks	
	China Co-Chair (Plenary Chair)	Provide context on what GEO has achieved and what it faces in the future. Highlight
	European Commission Co-Chair	the importance of the Plenary and Ministerial Summit given the progress in implementing GEO Strategic Plan 2016-
	South Africa Co-Chair	2025.
	United States Co-Chair	Foreshadow the key topics and issues that delegations will need to engage with and respond to. Highlighight that feedback from
	Director, GEO Secretariat	delegations of the need for more time for discussion and debate has been heeded.
1.3	Welcoming of new Members and Participating Organizations	The Chair will welcome new Members and Participating Organizations (POs) to the community.
1.4	Approval of Agenda	
1.5	Approval of Draft Report of GEO-XV	
1.6	Opening Keynote Presentation	Highlight the increasingly critical role that EO data will play in driving economic growth in a global economy that is more connected, more dynamic and more exposed to the changing Earth.
		Highlight the linkage between deeper

Wednesday, 6 November 2019		Comments
		integration of Earth observation data into the digital economy, and how doing so will support delivery of global agendas on sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk reduction.
		GEO-XV-1.3: Draft Agenda (for decision)
	Session 1 Documents and Information Documents	GEO-XVI-1.4: Draft Report of GEO-XV (for decision)
		GEO-XVI-1.4-Inf-01: New Members, Participating Organizations and Observers (for information)
10:00 – 10:15	Opening of Exhibition	
10:15 – 10.30	Group Photograph	
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00- 12:30	Session 2: Action on Climate Change	
2.1	Session Objectives: Principals provide guidance on the actions that GEO needs to take to accelerate its efforts to support implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement.	Chair nominates a session facilitator (a GEO Principal from a Member or PO most likely) to facilitate the discussion and debate.
	Session Facilitator	Session facilitator introduces the session and provides a summary of the views expressed to date by the GEO community on opportunities and challenges in the area, referencing the Discussion Paper. Approx. 5 minutes.
	External Speaker	External speaker providers a substantive keynote presentation that emphasises the 'real world' nature of the need, helping emphasise to attendees that action is not an abstract concept but something that GEO needs to take. Approx. 10 minutes.
	Delegations	The session facilitator requests contributions from delegations. Delegates discuss how the GEO community should address the challenges and embrace the opportunities. Approx. 55 minutes.
	Member or PO	While the session facilitator summarises the outcomes of the discussion, a Member or PO provides a brief presentation on an example of what GEO is doing in this area, showing how GEO is already moving forward to engage with new challenges and opportunities. Approx. 10 minutes.

**Comment [RJ1]:** Note for Sessions 2, 3 and 4.

A key piece of feedback from previous meetings has been to balance the use of panel sessions with allocation of time for interaction and deliberation. Fortunately, the Kyoto Plenary included a series of panel sessions that elegantly framed the views of the GEO community on the challenges and opportunities for progress on the key priority areas: Sendai, Paris and the SDGs.

This draft agenda leverage off these outcomes, and on the work of the Programme Board, to guide the three sessions proposed for these topics. A methodology that balances maximising time for discussion, debate and decision making with the need to ensure the discussion is put in context is proposed.

2.2	Session outcomes and recommendations  Session 2 Information documents:	The session facilitator will summarise the actions supported by Principals for formal adoption by the Plenary. Approx. 10 minutes.  GEO-XVI-2-Inf-01: Discussion Paper The discussion paper will be developed by the GEO Secretariat and the Programme
	Session 2 Information documents:	The discussion paper will be developed by
	Session 2 mornation documents.	Board. It will highlight the current state of GEO's engagement in this area, and identify the key challenges and opportunities to further progress. It will include a specific section on the challenges and issues related to developing nations. It will pose 3-4 key questions to prompt Principal interventions.
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30	Session 3: Action on Disaster Risk Reduction	
(	Session Objectives: Principals provide guidance on the actions that GEO needs to take to accelerate its efforts to support implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.	Chair nominates a session facilitator (a GEO Principal from a Member or PO most likely) to facilitate the discussion and debate.
	Session Facilitator	Session facilitator introduces the session and provides a summary of the views expressed to date by the GEO community on opportunities and challenges in the area, referencing the Discussion Paper. Approx. 5 minutes.
1	External Speaker	External speaker providers a substantive keynote presentation that emphasises the 'real world' nature of the need, helping emphasise to attendees that action is not an abstract concept but something that GEO needs take. Approx. 10 minutes.
,	Delegations	The session facilitator requests contributions from delegations. Delegates discuss how the GEO community should address the challenges and embrace the opportunities. Approx. 55 minutes.
,	Member or PO	While the session facilitator summarises the outcomes of the discussion, a Member or PO provides a brief presentation on an example of what GEO is doing in this area, showing how GEO is already moving forward to engage with new challenges and opportunities. Approx. 10 minutes.
3.2	Session outcomes and recommendations	The session facilitator will summarise the actions supported by Principals for formal adoption by the Plenary. Approx. 10 minutes.
	3/10	

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	Session 3 Information documents:	GEO-XVI-3-Inf-01: Discussion Paper The discussion paper will be developed by the GEO Secretariat and the Programme Board. It will highlight the current state of GEO's engagement in this area, and identify the key challenges and opportunities to further progress. It will include a specific section on the challenges and issues related to developing nations. It will pose 3-4 key questions to prompt Principal interventions.
15:30- 16:00	Coffee	
16:00 – 18:00	Session 4: Action on Sustainable Development	
4.1	Session Objectives: Principals provide guidance on the actions that GEO needs to take to accelerate its efforts to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.	Chair nominates a session facilitator (a GEO Principal from a Member or PO most likely) to facilitate the discussion and debate.
	Session Facilitator	Session facilitator introduces the session and provides a summary of the views expressed to date by the GEO community on opportunities and challenges in the area, referencing the Discussion Paper. Approx. 5 minutes.
	External Speaker	External speaker providers a substantive keynote presentation that emphasises the 'real world' nature of the need, helping emphasise to attendees that action is not an abstract concept but something that GEO needs take. Approx. 10 minutes.
	Delegations	The session facilitator requests contributions from delegations. Delegates discuss how the GEO community should address the challenges and embrace the opportunities. Approx. 55 minutes.
	Member or PO	While the session facilitator summarises the outcomes of the discussion, a Member or PO provides a brief presentation on an example of what GEO is doing in this area, showing how GEO is already moving forward to engage with new challenges and opportunities. Approx. 10 minutes.
4.2	Session outcomes and recommendations	The session facilitator will summarise the actions supported by Principals for formal adoption by the Plenary. Approx. 10 minutes.
	Session 4 Information documents:	GEO-XVI-4-Inf-01: Discussion Paper



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		The discussion paper will be developed by the GEO Secretariat and the Programme Board. It will highlight the current state of GEO's engagement in this area, and identify the key challenges and opportunities to further progress. It will include a specific section on the challenges and issues related to developing nations. It will pose 3-4 key questions to prompt Principal interventions.
19:00	Gala Dinner (National Arboretum)	During the Gala Dinner, Australia's GEO Principal will acknowledge special contributions made to the work of GEO particularly by those people who go 'above and beyond' what they may be formally paid/required to do as a result of their passion for GEO's mission. Nomination process to be managed by the Programme Board.

Thursday, 7 No	ovember	Comments
09:00 - 11:00	Session 5: Broadening the Impact of Earth Observations and GEO	Note: inclusion of this item is subject to a review of progress at the July Executive Committee meeting.
5.0	Review of Day One	Chair will remind attendees of the significant progress of the day before, and the implications it has for the topics of Day 2.
5.1	Introduction to Session  Session Objective: Plenary determines how GEO will accelerate its impact through enhancement of key relationships and implementation of targeted strategies.	Context: GEO is delivering a wide range of pilot and prototype activities, and now needs to employ strategies to ensure the impact of this important technical work is delivered as broadly as possible. Achieving this will require creating new pathways for the work of GEO to reach end users. Each of the four sub-topics will address one of these pathways: connecting the work of GEO to the broader multilateral economic cooperation architecture, harnessing the power of Regional GEOs to ensure more nations benefit from GEO's work, engaging those who work at local levels to tailor solutions to local needs, and tapping in to key communities who can integrate EO into the products and services they develop for end users.
5.2	[Global] Economic Impact  Topic Objective: Agree on how GEO should approach formalizing and structuring its engagement with key multilateral economic cooperation fora (G20, G7/8, ASEAN, APEC, etc.).	A designated Principal will provide an opening intervention that highlights an example of successful linkages between GEO and a multilateral economic cooperation fora, talk about what made it a win-win, and highlight lessons learnt.  Delegations will then discuss and debate the options proposed in the Discussion Paper.
5.3	Regional Impact  Topic Objective: Agree on actions GEO should take to better exploit the downscaling role of Regional GEOs, and their ability to connect GEO to additional countries and communities.	Highlight the value of Regional GEOs and discuss the next steps, with a particular emphasis on how the Regional GEOs will reach out to the least developed economies in their caucus.  A designated Principal will provide an opening intervention that highlights an example of where a GEO activity has been tailored to meet the needs of a region, engaging countries in that region who don't otherwise engage with GEO. Highlight lessons learnt that might apply to other activities and other Regional GEOs.  Delegations will then discuss and debate the options proposed in the Discussion Paper.
5.4	Local Impact  Topic Objective: Agree on actions GEO should take to better enable delivery of impact at a local scale, in particular actions that draw on expert advice and feedback from the development experts and commercial sector actors most skilled at deploying solutions at this scale.	A designated Principal will provide an opening intervention that highlights an example of where GEO outputs have been taken and tailored to meet local needs, and lessons learnt from the process.  Delegations will then discuss and debate the options proposed in the Discussion Paper.

Topics will include how GEO can highlight the role of the commercial sector in developing solutions to meet local needs, what GEO can do

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to address barriers to greater commercial sector involvement, modalities for linking GEO's efforts to national and multilateral development programs, and the need to recognize the critical role of in-situ data in delivery of solutions that meet local needs.

#### 5.5 Engaging and Enabling Communities

Topic Objective: Agree on actions GEO should take to better leverage the power of key 'enabling communities', those communities who can bridge the EO community with end-user communities who typically need products and services of which EO data is only one part.

A designated Principal will provide an opening intervention that highlights an example of the successful linking of GEO and an 'enabling community', including lessons learnt on topics such as bridging the "language" gap between different technical communities

Delegations will then discuss and debate the options proposed in the Discussion Paper.

Priority enabling communities for discussion:

- The 'tech' and 'apps' communities
- The economics community and finance industries
- Official Statistics community (incl. big data for official statistics)
- Ecosystem Accounting

Session 5 Information documents:

GEO-XVI-5 Discussion Paper on Broadening the Impact of Earth Observation and GEO

The GEO Secretariat will prepare a paper that summarises how effectively GEO is achieving impact through each of the four key pathways to be discussed. The paper will pose options for broadening and deepening GEO's impact in each area, for consideration by Principals.

describes the anticipated benefits to GEO, and includes and implementation plan and description of required resources. The linkages

11:00 – 11:30	Coffee	
11:30 - 12:30	Session 6: Implementing a Results- Oriented GEOSS	Note: inclusion of this session is subject to GEO Secretariat development of a proposal that is satisfactory to the GEO Executive Committee.
6.1	Introduction of proposed strategy to implement Results-Oriented GEOSS  Session Objective: Plenary determines the scale and nature of GEO's future strategy to implement a Results-Oriented Global Earth Observation System of Systems.	A truly results-oriented GEOSS will better position GEO to deliver solutions that address sustainable development, climate and disaster risk reduction challenges.  A results-oriented GEOSS will transform the way GEO works and ensure the benefits of Earth observation data and technology reach developing countries.  The Secretaria Director, supported by a panel of key Expert Advisory Group members, will introduce the proposed strategy and describe it in detail, including responding to any requests for clarification from delegations.  Session supported by a detailed proposal that

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		between the proposal and the GEO Work Programme and existing GEO infrastructures (such as the GEOSS Platform) will be clearly articulated.
6.2	Statements from Delegations	Indications from Delegations of support for the proposal, and their ability to contribute the resources necessary for its implementation.
6.3	Next Steps	Facilitated by GEOSEC Director, who then presents summary of consensus view, ensuring delegations have a clear understanding of proposed next steps and how they will be engaged.
		Formally proposed to Plenary by Chair (China) for adoption.
	Session 6 Documents:	GEO-XVI-6.1 Detailed Proposed Strategy for Implementation of Results-Oriented GEOSS (for decision)
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30	Session 7: Delivering on the Strategic Plan – The GEO Work Programme	
	Session Objective: Plenary expresses its commitment to GEO by demonstrating concrete support for a strong and diverse Work Programme through which GEO can deliver on the GEO Strategic Plan 2016-2025.	
7.1	The Impact of the first GEO Work Programme	Highlight what has already been achieved by having a strategically structured GEO Work Programme, and what the key limitations / weaknesses have been to date.
		This item will be structured to ensure it is not duplicative with the presentation in Session 1. This item is expected to be more detailed. A number of delegations have expressed a desire to have more detailed information on the progress of Flagships and Initiatives in particular.
7.2	The contents of the proposed second work Programme	Recognition of what activities are continuing and/or growing.
		Recognition of what is new, who is contributing to it, and how it relates to delivering the Strategic Plan.
		Links to what was discussed on Day 1 re: Sustainable Development, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change. Highlighting where the Work Programme is strong and where it needs attention if GEO is to deliver on

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		the actions it has endorsed as necessary.
7.3	Statements from Delegations	New commitments (noting some may be formally announced at Ministerial Summit)     Suggestions for incremental improvements for the 2020 review of the Work Programme.     Issues with the work programme as proposed.
7.4	Formal Endorsement of the 2020-2023 Work Programme	Formally proposed for Plenary approval by the Chair (China)
	Session 7 Documents and Information documents:	GEO-XVI-7.2 2020-2022 Work Programme (for decision)
	Session / Documents and information documents.	GEO-XVI-7-Inf-01 – GEO Report on Impact 2016-2019
15:30-16:00	Coffee	
16:00 – 17:30	Session 8: GEO Business	
8.1	Report of the Secretariat Director	Provide the Plenary with a solid understanding of the performance of the Secretariat against its defined responsibilities (from the Rules of Procedure) and identified priorities (as set by Plenary and ExCom).
8.2	Review of the Ministerial Summit Agenda	Final items requiring coordination and discussion by Plenary before Ministerial Summit.
		Note: the role of Plenary in discussion the draft Ministerial Declaration is still under discussion by the Ministerial Summit Working Group.
8.3	2018 Financial Statements and Audit Report	
8.4	Proposed 2020 GEO Trust Fund Budget, including Pledges and Approval	Includes opportunity for trust fund contributions announcements by delegations.
8.5	Update of the GEO Rules of Procedure	Note: The changes implemented to create the 'Associates' category will be highlighted to Plenary. It is unclear if other changes will be proposed.
8.6	Announcement of 2020 Lead Co-Chair and Slate of 2020 Executive Committee Members	
8.7	GEO-XVII Announcements	

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8.8	Any Other Business		
8.9	Summary of Plenary Outcomes		
8.10	Closing Remarks		
	GEO Secretariat Director		
	European Commission Co-Chair		
	South Africa Co-Chair		
	United States of America Co-Chair		
	Australian GEO Principal		
	China Co-Chair		
		GEO-XVI-8.3: 2018 Financial Statements and Audit Report (for decision)	
		GEO-XVI-8.4: Proposed 2020 GEO Trust Fund Budget (for decision)	
	Session 8 Documents and Information documents:	GEO-XVI-8.5: Update of the GEO Rules of Procedure (for decision)	
		GEO-XVI-8-Inf-01: Interim Report on Income and Expenditure as of 31 August 2019 (for information)	
		2019 (for information)	





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## **Group on Earth Observations**

**Ministerial Summit** 

Note 1: [Square brackets] are used to present options.

Note 2: Feedback should be provided to secretariat@geosec.org

Note 3: The Ministerial Summit Working Group is continuing to discuss how Caucus meetings (at ministerial and/or non-ministerial level) can be best facilitated.

Friday, 8 November 2019		Comments
9:00 - 10:00	Session 1: Opening Session	
	Session Chaired by Chinese Minister	
Item 1.1 (9.00-9.10)	Welcome by Australian Host Minister  Speaker: Host Minister (Australia)	Objective: Highlight the host country's views on the importance of GEO to Australia's economy and society - 'Big data for a big and diverse country'.  Includes Acknowledgement of Country, highlighting the Indigenous people of Australia as first Earth observers.
Item 1.2 (9.10-9.30)	Opening statement by GEO Co-Chair ministers  Speaker 1: Chinese Minister  Speaker 2: South African Minister  Speaker 3: United States Minister  Speaker 4: European Commission Minister	Objective: Establish desired outcomes for the Summit; decisions and commitments that progress Members' joint commitment to the future of GEO.
Item 1.3 (9.30-9.45)	Delivering on GEO: Overview of achievements and developments since last Ministerial Summit  Keynote presentation	Objective: Highlight what the investments of Members and the broader GEO community have already delivered, and what is there to build on.  Note: this item may be delivered by two speakers; one from a developed economy and one from a developing economy.





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Item 1.4 (9.45-10.00)	Keynote presentation: Earth Observations: Investments in the Digital Economy  Keynote presentation	Objective: Highlight the critical role EO data will play in driving economic growth in a global economy that is more connected, more dynamic and more exposed to the changing Earth.	
10:00 – 10.30	Group Photograph		
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break		
11:00- 13:00	Session 2: Strategy		
	Calls to Action: The need for GEO to take an inclusive, collaborative approach to support uptake of Earth observations into the digital economy		
	Session Chaired by European Commission, South Africa or United States Minister		
Item 2.1 (11.00-11.30)	Discussion on each of these topics is expected to be placed within Priorities: Climate, Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Deve Each topic will be introduced with 5-minute remarks by a facilitat the given topic. This will be followed by three 3-minute slots for followed by discussion facilitated by the facilitating minister who conclusions. Ministers encouraged to cite examples.  A short background paper / fact sheet will be provided for each to developed by the Ministerial Summit Working Group, with draftic consultation with subject matter experts from the GEO communication with subject matter experts f	lopment.  ting minister with deep interest in ministers nominated by a caucus, will provide a wrap-up on opic. These papers will be ng led by the GEO Secretariat in ty.  Objective: Highlight how GEO's work must be linked to the multilateral economic and political architecture, now that EO is a recognised – and important - driver of inclusive economic growth.	
	Remarks by Nominated Minister 2 Remarks by Nominated Minister 3 Followed by 15 minutes discussion by all ministers and summary by the Facilitating Minister.	The economy (be it local, national, regional) supports people and their businesses – and EO is now key to the economy.  GEO must not only link with the United Nations, but also be tied into and engaged in multi-lateral economic cooperation	

Comment [RJ1]: Alternative proposal: EO as a critical driver for transitioning towards an economic growth and development adapted to a globally changing Earth



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		forums  GEO's future work must have an economic lens, underpinned by an evidence base. This session will draw on economic studies on the value of Earth observation.
Item 2.2 (11.30-12.00)	EO to support sustainable growth and development of developing nations  Scene setting remarks by Facilitating Minister Remarks by Nominated Minister 1 Remarks by Nominated Minister 2 Remarks by Nominated Minister 3 Followed by 15 minutes discussion by all ministers and summary by the Facilitating Minister.	Objective: Highlight Minister's willingness to back GEO to urgently mobilise and work more closely with those notions most vulnerable to climate, disaster risk and sustainable development challenges. Highlight the need to support such nations to take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the digital economy.  Context:  • Engagement of all nations with GEO must be win-win (mutually beneficial). • Value that least developed countries (LDCs) can provide to GEO must be recognized. • Methods for linking national development programs, international financial institutions, philanthropic organizations, commercial sector and local institutions should be clarified. • The role of regional GEOs in providing an important mode of engagement in GEO that complements its global structures is recognized.
Item 2.3 (12.00-12.30)	Growing an inclusive and diverse GEO Scene setting remarks by Facilitating Minister Remarks by Nominated Minister 1	Objective: Recognising that the success of GEO depends on an inclusive and diverse GEO, and ministerial backing for actions that GEO can take to become more inclusive.





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	Remarks by Nominated Minister 2 Remarks by Nominated Minister 3 Followed by 15 minutes discussion by all ministers and summary by the Facilitating Minister.	Context:  • There are barriers to a more inclusive GEO, and action is required to overcome them. • GEO can only deliver its vision if it is inclusive of individuals from all backgrounds, including women, indigenous peoples, people with a disability, etc.
Item 2.4 (12.30-13.00)	Session outcomes and recommendations	
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-15:30	Session 3: Action	
	GEO Ministers' Response:  Contributions and investments in the digital economy that promote inclusive economic growth and sustainable development  Session Chaired by European Commission, South Africa or United States Minister	
Item 3.1 (14:00-14:50)	Members investing in the success of GEO Announcement/intervention 1 by minister Announcement/intervention 10 by minister  Each minister may make a 5-minute announcement or intervention. 50 minutes total time allows for approximately 10 announcements.	Objective: Facilitate announcement of major new investments by GEO Members, highlighting the link between these investments and accelerated delivery of the GEO Strategic Plan 2016-2025.  Announcements may highlight partners from development banks, the commercial sector and/or NGOs.  At the Chair's prerogative, interventions may be grouped based on the topic they relate to:  1. SDGs 2. Paris 3. Sendai 4. New Urban Agenda 5. The global EO value chain (digital infrastructure to enable scaling and



		innovation) 6. Sustainable GEO (unlocking the convening power)
Item 3.2 (14.50-15.10)	Inspiring industry investment in the success of GEO Announcement/intervention 1 by minister Announcement/intervention 4 by minister  Each minister may make a 5-minute announcement or intervention. 20 minutes total time allows for approximately 4 announcements.	Objective: Enable ministers to welcome and acknowledge the role that the commercial sector is playing in realizing the vision of GEO. Ministers commit to work to address barriers (of all kinds) to commercial sector participation.  Ministers hear from the commercial sector that they want to contribute to GEO and see significant growth opportunities, but need key barriers to entry addressed.  Context: GEO needs the
		commercial sector to thrive - particularly in developing sustainable tailored regional and local solutions for diverse user needs – obvious.
Item 3.3 (15.10-15.30)	Open data to boost the digital economy and support our collective response to [climate change] [global change]	Objective: Enable Ministers to showcase newly opened Earth observation resources (such as
	Announcement/intervention 1 by minister Announcement/intervention 4 by minister	data and software).  Opportunity to highlight the impact this will have on economic growth in their country and globally.  Context:
	Each minister may make a 5-minute announcement or intervention. 20 minutes total time allows for approximately 4 announcements.	<ul> <li>GEO is founded on ongoing efforts to increase full, free and open access to publicly-funded data collections</li> <li>A particular focus is needed on opening access to non-satellite datasets to complement the many open satellite datasets.</li> <li>Better access to non-satellite data sets will increase ability to develop products and services that meet local needs, and will create opportunities</li> </ul>

Comment [RJ2]: Alternative suggestion: Open Earth Observation data in support to a sustainable climate transition





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		for small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs).
15:30-16:00	Afternoon tea	
16:00 – 17:30	Session 4: Closing Business  Chaired by European Commission, South Africa or	
	United States Minister	
Item 4.1 16.00-16.20	Final remarks by ministers/representatives Intervention 1 by minister/representative Intervention 13 by minister/representative Each minister/representative may make a 90 second announcement or intervention. 20 minutes total time allow for approximately 13 interventions.	Objective: provide an opportunity to cover any other matters/topic by those ministers/representatives who have not yet had a speaking role elsewhere on the agenda.
Item 4.2 16.20-17.00	Formal adoption of the Declaration Introduction by Chair Statement by minister representing Asia-Oceania Caucus Statement by minister representing Europe Caucus Statement by minister representing CIS Caucus Statement by minister representing Americas Caucus Statement by minister representing Africa Caucus Interventions from ministers/representatives Adoption of the declaration by the Chair	Objective: adopt the Ministerial Declaration.  Format:  The Chair will introduce the draft Declaration and highlight any unresolved issues requiring discussion.  Caucus-nominated ministers will present Caucus views on the unresolved issues.  Other ministers and representatives will have the opportunity to comment.  The Chair will provide the declaration for adoption, with consideration of any modifications required to reflect outcomes of the discussion.  The declaration and Chair's summary remarks should provide effective and clear political guidance to the GEO community and GEO Executive committee in particular.
17.00-17.10	Closing remarks by Co-Chair Ministers	Objective: Highlight those who have stepped up with new





		investments, and their example to others. Recap of key areas of agreed action.
17.10-17.20	Farewell by Host Minister and Host Principal	
Formal Close		
17.20-18.00	Press Conference for Host Minister and Co-Chair Ministers	Suitable spaces will be made available for other ministers wishing to hold their own press conferences, e.g. to talk about an announcement/pledge made at the Summit or at GEO Week 2019