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## First Announcement

### **The 10th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium**

### **“Accelerating the realization of the SDGs with Earth Observations: Lessons from the Asia-Oceania Region”**

### **Hanoi, Vietnam, 18 – 20 September 2017**

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), it is my pleasure to announce that the 10<sup>th</sup> GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 18 to 20 September 2017. The Symposium is being organized by the Vietnam National Space Center (VNSC) - Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), Japan’s Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), with support from the GEO Secretariat.

The Symposium will provide decision-makers, practitioners, researchers and engineers from the Asia-Oceania region with a forum to exchange information and discuss cooperation on specific initiatives and activities in each of the thematic areas, to promote the effort of GEOSS, and to enhance further collaboration in the region.

The theme of the 10th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium is: “Accelerating the realization of the SDGs with Earth Observations: Lessons from the Asia-Oceania Region”. The Symposium will focus on Asia-Oceania’s especially Vietnam’s needs of Earth observation (EO) information, data sharing and data platforms, regional user engagement as well as thematic topics, toward accelerating the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Actions to be taken forward under the Asia-Oceania GEOSS (AOGEOSS) will be identified in the Symposium

The participants will share information and discuss topics through the following parallel Working Groups:

- Asian Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI);
- Asia-Pacific Biodiversity Observation Network (AP-BON);
- GEO Carbon and GHG Initiative (GEO-C);
- Oceans and Society (Blue Planet); and
- Agriculture and Food Security (GEOGLAM).

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A detailed agenda will be included with the 2<sup>nd</sup> announcement to be sent in August.

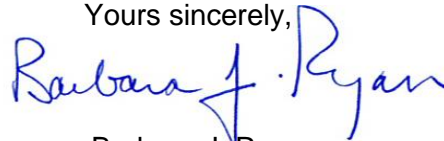
The Symposium will take place at VAST, Hanoi, Vietnam. Details on registration, hotels and related matters are available on the Symposium website at: <https://vnsc.org.vn/geoss-ap10/index.html>.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Symposium Secretariat in Vietnam:

The 10<sup>th</sup> GEOSS AP Symposium Secretariat  
(Vietnam National Space Center)  
E-mail: [geoss-ap10@vnsc.org.vn](mailto:geoss-ap10@vnsc.org.vn)  
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We look forward to seeing you in Hanoi.

Yours sincerely,



Barbara J. Ryan  
Secretariat Director