

Our Ref.: 2011-783/GEO/EGIDA/INV

Geneva, 11 January 2011

**Subject: GEO/EGIDA “Connecting GEOSS and its Stakeholders in Science and Technology” workshop**

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the joint GEO/EGIDA “*Connecting GEOSS and its Stakeholders in Science and Technology*” workshop, organized by the EGIDA Stakeholder Network and Advisory Board and scheduled to take place May 9-11, 2011, at the University of Bonn, Germany.

EGIDA is a project funded by the European Commission’s Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). EGIDA will work with the Science and Technology Committee (STC) of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) with the goal to implement the GEO Science and Technology Road Map.

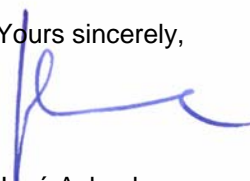
The objective of the workshop is to network representatives of the broad group of stakeholders in Science and Technology (S&T) of GEOSS and to activate contributions from this network towards the implementation of the STC Road Map. In order to achieve this goal, the workshop will primarily:

- inform participating S&T stakeholders as well as members of the EGIDA Advisory Board about the EGIDA project, its first actions and the medium-term approach;
- solicit feedback and contributions from the stakeholders;
- solicit guidance from the Advisory Board members;
- elaborate S&T user requirements and gap analysis.

A particular focus of the workshop will be the dialog between GEO and funding agencies for the scientific research and development needed to fully develop GEOSS and exploit the benefits of GEOSS for the S&T community. The goal is to develop a process for the communication of S&T needs identified by GEO Committees and GEO Work Plan tasks to funding agencies and for the matching of research teams and available funding programs.

All S&T stakeholders of GEOSS are invited to participate in the workshop. The organizers are looking forward to receiving your confirmation by **15<sup>th</sup> March 2011** (due to space limitations, participation is limited to 80 participants). Additional details and registration information may be obtained from the workshop website ([http://www.geo-tasks.org/egida/meetings/snab\\_ws2011](http://www.geo-tasks.org/egida/meetings/snab_ws2011)) or by contacting the workshop organizers as listed on the following page. Further information about EGIDA can be found on the EGIDA website at <http://www.egida-project.eu/>.

Yours sincerely,



José Achache  
Secretariat Director