



Promoting Cooperative Solutions for Space Sustainability

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Madame Chair, Distinguished, Delegates,

We would like to thank all of you for inviting us to become an Observer to the Group on Earth Observations. We are very honored to become a part of the GEO family and we are very much looking forward to working on the initiatives relevant to the group.

Secure World Foundation (SWF) is a private operating foundation that promotes cooperative solutions for space sustainability and the peaceful use of outer space. SWF brings together disparate communities – technical, legal, policy – to find new ways to improve the use of space systems for human benefit and environmental security. SWF facilitates discussion and provides a platform for problem solving so that all people can take advantage the benefits of space systems.

SWF strongly believes that space systems can play an important role in improving many aspects of human security. Space systems, including position, navigation and timing (PNT), remote sensing, earth observation, and telecommunications, provide significant benefits for a wide variety of human and environmental concerns. Natural and human-caused disasters call for an efficient, coordinated response to improving the delivery of space benefits to people. SWF is aware that for a variety of reasons, benefits from space systems do not always adequately reach the ordinary citizens who could benefit most from them. The full utility of these important systems is blunted by a variety of institutional, policy, educational, and social barriers. Narrowing the gap between potential and reality requires a combination of technical and policy expertise, which SWF can provide. More specifically:

SWF facilitates dialogue and international cooperation

The Foundation acts as a research body, convener and facilitator to promote space related topics and to examine their influence on governance and international development. More specifically, SWF has been collaborating with:

- United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster



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Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), by holding capacity-building workshops (Germany, Austria) and providing training to assist developing countries (such as Ethiopia and Cape Verde) in responding more effectively to natural disasters

- Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) by participating as an active member in the Working Group on Capacity Building & Data Democracy
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), by working closely organizing several events such as the Global Earth Observation System of Systems Young Professionals Virtual Forum at the International Astronautical Congress
- United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), by supporting events that propose space technologies, applications, information and services that contribute to sustainable economic and social development programmes supporting human and environmental security, primarily in developing countries
- Several national space entities in Poland, Mexico, Chile, Kenya and South Africa focusing on issues such as use of space application in humanitarian operations, space for human and environmental security in the Americas: space policy, long-term sustainability and cyber- health, space technology for socio-economic benefits, climate change and space for human and environmental security.

SWF increases awareness of potential benefits from space assets. Partnership with Imaging Notes magazine informs a wide scientific, commercial, and policy making community about how remote sensing technologies and spatial information can assist in solving the urgent interrelated issues of the environment, energy, and security. The magazine serves as a vehicle for SWF to highlight our work and bring the message of better governance and effective use of space activities to a broader audience. SWF promotes ways to increase effective use of space assets Community Remote Sensing (CRS) is "a new field



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that combines remote sensing with citizen science, social networks, and crowd-sourcing to enhance the data obtained from traditional sources”. It includes the collection, calibration, analysis, communication, or application of remotely sensed information by these community means.

SWF has a permanent observatory status in United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS) and consultative status in Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations, while it is also a platinum sponsor of the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC).

Madame Chair, once again I would like to thank GEO for welcoming SWF to the group. We are looking forward to fruitful partnerships and interesting projects.

Thank you.

Secure World Foundation