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Geneva, 31 March 2010

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to inform you of a special event for the Balkan region.

The Black Sea Catchment is internationally known as one of ecologically unsustainable development and inadequate resource management, which has led to severe disruption and attendant undesirable impacts across the environmental, social and economic sectors.

The Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), being created by the international Group on Earth Observations (GEO), provides a framework for the coordination of Earth observations and information globally, to inform environmental management and decision-making. Within this framework, the EnviroGRIDS project, funded by the European Commission's 7th Framework Programme, addresses these issues by taking advantage of emerging information technologies that are revolutionizing the way we are able to observe our planet. EnviroGRIDS aims to enhance GEOSS by building the capacity of scientists to assemble such a capability in the Black Sea Catchment, the capacity of decision-makers to use it, and the capacity of the general public to understand the important environmental, social and economic issues at stake.

In this connection, a workshop is being organized to provide a high level overview of GEOSS and data interoperability in the context of the EnviroGRIDS project as they relate to the needs of senior government officials and decision-makers in the Black Sea area.

We invite you to join us at this workshop which will be held on Tuesday, 4th of May 2010, 8:30 –11:30, Aula of the Romanian Academy Library, 125, Calea Victoriei, Bucharest, Romania. For more information and to register, please see <http://www.ieee-earth.org/category/events/featured/workshops>.

For questions, please contact the GEO Secretariat or envirogrids@soresma.be.

We look forward to seeing you in Bucharest.

Yours sincerely,


José Achache
Secretariat Director