Peter Denton, MGS Regional Representative for North America On behalf of the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group

Thank you, Chair.

We applaud the work done on GEO 6, and strongly support the increased role of major groups and other stakeholders in the process, especially the inclusion of indigenous local knowledge, citizen science, and grey literature.

While there needs to be further work done on this aspect of the Science-Policy interface, particularly through the UNEP Live process, we hope to see more inclusive and extensive involvement of a wider group of such sources in support of the environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda and fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals.

We strongly endorse the experiment this year of the Science Policy Forum before UNEA-2 and would like to see this essential initiative continued and expanded, especially with the inclusion of discussion on the important relationship between science and values.

Thank you.