

## **Setting up the Union Commission on Data and Information**

The Commission will provide a focused and sustainable organizational structure that supports and strengthens IUGG science through integrated scientific information activities. It would build on the foundation established during the current Electronic Geophysical Year (eGY) and would continue certain functions of eGY after its completion in December 2008. It would encompass, and add some new functions as described below.

- Data science; Earth (including oceans, cryosphere and atmosphere) and Space (geo)-informatics;
- Distributed data systems; virtual observatories; virtual libraries; virtual research communities; virtual organizations;
- Open access to data and information;
- Data semantics and ontologies;
- Data models; metadata & metadata standards; mark-up languages;
- Data discovery; data mining; data archaeology, data rescue; digitisation of old data;
- Data preservation; encouraging contributions to, and use of world-wide repositories;
- Data and information management best practice;
- Modelling, simulation, data assimilation and algorithms as an information science;
- Infrastructure technologies for e-science; grids, sensor-webs, HPC architectures and functions;
- Visualization;
- Data and interface usability, computer/human interaction, socio-technical systems;
- International collaboration on data and information management and use across a broad spectrum of organizations and stakeholders.
- Professional development for informatics practitioners.