

## Salzburg Declaration on GMES-related Research

Participants from research, academia, industry, government agencies, present at the *Academy Roundtable* held in Salzburg from 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2012 on the occasion of the launch of the GMES Academy under the GMES4Regions Initiative, and after exchange with European Commission and European Space Agency,

*recognizing* that the evolution of EO & GI services – the improvement of GMES Services and the development of Downstream Services in particular – can largely benefit from innovation and constructive criticism from academia as well as from continuous education and training of all GMES stakeholders (students, researchers, SMEs and industries innovation managers, end-users including Local and Regional Authorities),

*noting* that:

- related research activities and educational programmes are still un-connected across the European Research Area
- the improvement of quality of GMES Downstream Services as well as the necessary awareness, acceptance and adoption by potential end-users and other stakeholders of these services, is strongly dependent on the education and training initiatives that the GMES Academy intends to promote, facilitate and coordinate

hereby

*recommend* to all the involved actors to support the GMES Academy initiative for

- strengthening the interaction between research, academia, service providers, local and regional authorities, and exploring existing mechanisms for funding at the local level
- fostering education and training on GMES in academic and professional programmes

and *call* on EU institutions and stakeholders to continue supporting the development of the GMES Academy through sustained funding and other mechanisms.

Salzburg, September 14 2012