

Dear Delegate



Greetings from a very wet England, after one of the most miserable summers on record. Whilst we here may grumble about not being able to go to the seaside, the exceptional weather around the world this year – hurricanes in the Caribbean, drought in Australia, floods in India - present ever more important challenges to the worldwide GIS community.

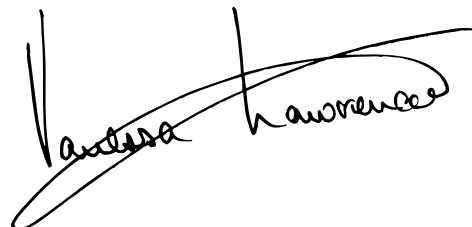
The exchange of ideas and support for countries less resourced for the management of their environmental and emergency programmes is a vital task for our community and, with this in mind, I am delighted to announce that the second **CC: The Exchange** conference will be held from **12 to 16 July 2009**.

The conference takes much of its style from the Cambridge Conference, but will be more focussed on the development of action plans for the community as a whole, for regional groups of countries as well as individual ones. As with Cambridge, the delegates are from the highest levels of national mapping and cadastral organisations from around the world, ensuring that resolutions made carry the full authority of those organisations.

Plans for the conference are at an early stage, but it will be held in the Southampton area and will be packed with guest speakers and workshop sessions that will enable the global GI community to take a leading role in the reaction to – and prevention of – environmental and humanitarian disaster. You can follow developments on the Cambridge Conference website, www.cambridgeconference.com

Make a note in your diary now – **CC: The Exchange, England, 12 – 16 July 2009**.

With very best wishes



Vanessa Lawrence CB
Director General and Chief Executive Ordnance Survey

