

# Nigeria Inaugurates NGDI Committee

On 9th September 2004, a 27-member Committee took charge of the implementation of the Geo-Information (GI) Policy and National Geospatial Data Infrastructure (NGDI) in Nigeria. During the inauguration ceremony, the Honourable Minister of Science and Technology, Prof. Turner T. Isoun, said that the availability of NigeriaSat-1 has been one of the driving forces to adopt policies for promoting greater awareness and public access to standard and co-ordinated geospatial data production, management and dissemination. He further reiterated that the Nigerian government "is determined to build infrastructure for geo-information to make it as important as the building of roads and telecommunication networks". The Committee, among its other functions, is to:

- develop the phases of implementation, and streamline and enforce standards and policies
- co-ordinate GI-related activities
- sensitise and mobilise all stakeholders
- appraise the manpower potentials
- collate the inventory of geo-data
- mobilise local funding and foreign assistance
- sustain the tempo or momentum of change
- create subcommittees for specific tasks
- co-opt any relevant person(s).

The GI policy also provides for the establishment of the apex NGDI Council. Its function shall be to develop all policy guidelines. For further information contact NASRDA, through Dr J. Akinyede, e-mail: [jakinyede@yahoo.com](mailto:jakinyede@yahoo.com) or Dr Ganiy I. Agbaje, e-mail: [gagbaje@nasrda.gov.ng](mailto:gagbaje@nasrda.gov.ng). See also [www.nasrda.gov.ng](http://www.nasrda.gov.ng) and [www.rectas.org](http://www.rectas.org).