Statement from the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) for the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), 66th Session, 31 May - 9 June 2023, Vienna, Austria

The Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), an Observer Organisation to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) since 2002, is honoured to provide to this 66th session an overview of salient CEOS priorities and activities. I come to you today as the 2023 CEOS Chair and Executive Director of Thailand's Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA).

CEOS was established in 1984 as a forum for international coordination of civil space-based Earth observation programmes and to promote exchange of data to optimise societal benefit and inform decision making for a prosperous and sustainable future for humankind. Today, CEOS consists of 63 Member and Associate organisations operating more than 200 Earth observing satellite missions for which CEOS also provides access to data and products across scientific domains for atmosphere, land, and ocean. CEOS advances multilateral space-based Earth observation endeavours that no one country can do alone. As the challenges and natural disasters affecting our planet become more pronounced, more frequent, and more acute, international resolve and cooperation must be decisive and impact driven. CEOS continues to elevate societal benefit at multiple scales through multilateral coordination that supports the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement, in line with the UN Space 2030 Agenda and its overarching objectives.

Under the banner "*Earth Observation for Better Environment, Economy, and Humanity*" for 2023, CEOS asked me to convey to UNCOPUOS a few points on three major priorities for us this year.

First, CEOS international remote sensing experts are providing input to technical dialogues for the Global Stocktake process under the Paris Agreement of the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC). Recognising the global, regional, and national relevance of satellite Earth observation data to the international effort, CEOS agencies are investing significant resources to provide well-calibrated and validated Earth observation data for the systematic assessment of progress on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Through UNFCCC channels, including the COPUOS Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), CEOS is also providing remote sensing input for carbon stocktaking and accounting. These efforts are being advanced in the broader context of the comprehensive *CEOS Strategy for Carbon Observations from Space.*

Second, CEOS is exploring engagement opportunities in the commercial sector that could bring important added value to the public upstream and downstream sectors. Several countries represented in CEOS are currently engaging their national public institutions on ways to foster this innovative and rapidly expanding industrial sector. CEOS will also explore potential partnerships with next-generation non-governmental companies. Sharing experience acquired at a national level has been found to be highly beneficial for the identification of concrete initiatives to drive forward the CEOS agenda within the "New Space" sector.

Lastly, CEOS has intensified efforts to make greater volumes of Earth observation data freely and readily accessible in Cloud environments, thus mitigating challenges that many countries face with respect to data storage and processing. This work is complemented by multi-year capacity building efforts with partner organisations, including UNOOSA, to amplify and accelerate the use of space-based Earth observations for public benefit and decision support. The CEOS Work Plan spans the full range of the Earth observation data information life cycle, from the requirements and metadata definition for the initial ingestion of calibrated and validated satellite data into archives, to the incorporation of derived and fully traceable information into end-user applications. CEOS is actively engaging new and existing data users worldwide with the goal of increasing the use of satellite Earth observation information in decision-making for climate change, disaster management, agricultural monitoring, water resource management, and sustainable development.

Please visit the CEOS website at https://ceos.org/ for in-depth information on our organisation, activities, and the resources we make available to data users worldwide.

Thank you for your attention.

CEOS Members and Associates

Agence Gabonaise d'Études et d'Observations Spatiales (AGEOS), Gabon
Agencia Espacial Mexicana (AEM), Mexico
Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI), Italy
Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), Australia
Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO), Belgium
Canada Centre for Mapping and Earth Observation (CCMEO), Canada
Canadian Space Agency (CSA), Canada
Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES), France
Centro para Desarrollo Tecnólogico Industrial (CDTI), Spain
China Center for Resources Satellite Data and Applications (CRESDA), China
Chinese Academy of Space Technology (CAST), China
Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales (CONAE), Argentina
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia
Deutsches Zentrum für Luft---und Raumfahrt (DLR), Germany
Earth System Science Organisation (ESSO), India
European Commission (EC)
European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)
European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)
European Space Agency (ESA)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Geo---Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), Thailand
Geoscience Australia (GA), Australia
Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)
Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS)
Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)
Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS)
International Science Council (ISC)
Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), India
Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (INPE), Brazil
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
International Ocean Colour Coordinating Group (IOCCG)
International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)
Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI), Republic of Korea
Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA), Republic of Korea
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency / Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (JAXA/MEXT)
Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA), Malaysia
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA
National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER), Republic of Korea
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA
National Remote Sensing Center of China (NRSCC), China
National Satellite Meteorological Center / China Meteorological Administration (NSMC/CMA), China
National Space Research Agency of Nigeria (NASRDA), Nigeria
Netherlands Space Office (NSO), Netherlands
Norwegian Space Centre (NSC), Norway
Polska Agencja Kosmiczna (POLSA), Poland
Portuguese Space Agency (PTSpace), Portugal
Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring (ROSHYDROMET), Russia
Roscosmos State Cooperation for Space Activities (ROSCOSMOS), Russia
Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK---Uzay), Turkey
South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa
South African National Space Agency (SANSA), South Africa
State Space Agency of Ukraine (SSAU), Ukraine
Swedish National Space Agency (SNSA), Sweden
United Arab Emirates Space Agency (UAESA), UAE
United Kingdom Space Agency (UKSA), UK
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)
United States Geological Survey (USGS), USA
Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), Vietnam
World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)