

**Statement from the
Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) for the
UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), 67th Session,
19 - 28 June 2024, Vienna, Austria**

The Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) is proud to have been an observer organisation to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) since 2002. Now in its 40th year, CEOS is an active international forum dedicated to the coordination of civil space-based Earth observation programmes and to the promotion of the exchange of data to optimise societal benefits and inform decision making for a prosperous and sustainable future for humankind. I am pleased to present this statement as 2024 CEOS Chair from the Canadian Space Agency (CSA).

As we look to the future, the CEOS collective of 34 space agencies and 30 associate organizations worldwide reaffirms its commitment to addressing global challenges through enhanced international cooperation in advancing space-based Earth observations. Our long-term strategic priorities remain focused on support to 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.

The Canadian Space Agency (CSA), as the current CEOS Chair, has prioritised the theme of Biodiversity from Space for 2024. This priority involves looking at ways to better leverage space-based Earth observations to assess and monitor biodiversity while engaging stakeholders involved in nature-based conservation efforts. This focus aligns with global efforts, such as the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UN CBD) and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, to monitor and preserve diverse ecosystems and address biodiversity loss.

Under the leadership of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) as the 2024-2025 Strategic Implementation Team (SIT) Chair, for the next two years, CEOS is also specifically focusing on ways to further enhance the accuracy and reliability of climate data and greenhouse gas measurements from space. This initiative is critical for informing climate policy and supporting international climate agreements and CEOS is working closely with the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the World Meteorological Organization's Greenhouse Gas Watch, and others, to ensure that CEOS has an appropriate role in shaping and supporting future policy in this area.

To support its priorities and to ensure that CEOS is responding to continuing data user needs, CEOS continues to advance the accessibility and interoperability of reliably calibrated and validated, and well-curated space-based EO data resources and tools. Ensuring that data of reliable provenance is easily accessible and interoperable is crucial for enhancing global understanding of Earth as an integrated system and for informed decision making on multiple spatial and temporal scales.

The Space 2030 Agenda is reflected well across the CEOS Work Plan of activities. There is extensive alignment with the Strategic Vision, the overarching Objectives, and the four core objectives, notably, with Space Economy and enhancing space-derived economic benefits, with Space Society and unlocking the potential of space to improve quality of life, and Space Accessibility by improving access to space for all for the achievement of the SDGs. In terms of the fourth core objective, Space Diplomacy, building partnerships and strengthening international cooperation have been at the heart of the work of CEOS since 1984. CEOS is ready and willing to contribute to the mid-term review of the Space 2030 Agenda implementation in 2025 and the final review in 2030. In terms of Space 2030 Agenda tools, where UN Member States benefit from international and regional mechanisms, programmes, projects, and platforms, CEOS is pleased to be included via the Recovery Observatory, developed within the CEOS Working Group on Disasters, as a means to increase the contribution of satellite data for recovery from natural hazards and disasters.

CEOS remains dedicated to advancing the frontiers of space-based Earth observation. By focusing on long and short term strategic priorities, and fostering international cooperation, we seek to continue to contribute to a more resilient and sustainable future for all.

Thank you for your attention

CEOS Members and Associate Members

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'Études Spatiales (CNES), France
 Centro para Desarrollo Tecnológico 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)
 Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
 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 (TÜBİTAK---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)