



68th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

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Statement by Australia

Agenda Item: 11 – Space and climate change (for delivery)

Thank you Chair, distinguished delegates.

This is an abridged version of our statement. The full version will be available on the UNOOSA website.

Climate change is a defining global challenge, and space technologies are indispensable in the coordination and realisation of our response to it. While the role of space in climate monitoring is well established, it is essential to recognise that space-based technologies like positioning and earth observation are equally critical to climate action and climate security more broadly. Their potential to support both **mitigation** and **adaptation** is significant but, in many areas, underutilised. Access to advanced satellite imagery and geospatial data can improve environmental monitoring and disaster response.

Australia has a longstanding record of using space to support climate action domestically, regionally and globally. Through initiatives such as **AquaWatch**,

Global Forest Observations Initiative, the Copernicus Climate Change Service and Early Warnings 4 All we are active contributors to global efforts.

At home, our own national system of carbon accounting is underpinned by the use of satellite data through our **Full Carbon Accounting Model** methodology.

We are continuing to invest in new capabilities – through initiatives such as the **Geoscience Australia’s Earth Observation Program, Positioning Australia,** and **CSIRO’s Earth Analytics Science and Innovation data analytics platform** – to further leverage space technologies in support of climate outcomes.

And all our investments are with partnership in mind.

For example, we continue to partner with the United States of America in our nearly 50-year partnership in Earth observation, unlocking new science and innovation through the Landsat satellite land imaging program. We also have deep partnerships with others, including Japan, India and the European Union.

Addressing climate change necessitates a global effort involving the collaboration of relevant organizations and expertise, working in a coordinated manner to achieve consensus. This includes the United Nations system, of course, but critically depends on partnerships with world-leading expert bodies such as the **Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), the Group on Earth Observations,** and the **Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites.**

These groups play a critical role in operationalising strategies and delivering

practical outcomes, and their work is supported, including through political forums like the Conference of the Parties.

Australia is honoured to be assuming the **Chair of CEOS in 2026**, following the United Kingdom. CEOS plays a vital role in ensuring that space-based data is effectively applied to support climate action.

Australia is committed to working with Member States and partners to ensure that space technologies continue to serve as a powerful and practical tool in our shared response to climate change, resilience and adaptation.

Thank you.