

Item 11: Space and Climate Change, United Kingdom

Chair, distinguished delegates,

Earth Observation is central to the UK's efforts to tackle the global climate and biodiversity crisis. Through our National Space Strategy, we are firmly committed to harnessing space technologies to address these global challenges.

The UK is proud to play a leading role in the global Earth observation ecosystem, having actively through the European Space Agency, EUMETSAT, GEO, various international missions, and our own national programmes. In November, the UK was honoured to assume the Chair of CEOS—the international body that coordinates satellite missions worldwide.

As Chair of CEOS, the UK is leading international efforts to 'Unlock Earth observation for Society' through four key priorities. These include unleashing the potential of EO data to enhance public services, championing the use of satellite data in future UNFCCC Global Stocktakes, inspiring the next generation through a dedicated CEOS youth pilot, and jointly leading the development of methane monitoring best practices with our colleagues at NASA. These are intended to be applied across different satellites to ensure trust and transparency in the data to ultimately lead to decisive action being taken to tackle global methane emissions.

The UK's space sector thrives on collaboration, which is key to unlocking the full potential of space for both people and businesses. That's why we're proud to champion Space4Climate—a UK-based partnership uniting government, industry, and academia to harness satellite data for climate action. Through this collaboration, we support the

development of trusted climate services that monitor environmental change, guide sustainable development, and strengthen resilience to climate impacts worldwide

Finally chair,

The UK continues to be at the forefront of developing the next generation of vital Earth observation missions that will contribute to global capabilities and transform how EO data is used. From involvement in the European's Space Agency's Truth mission to providing the scientific leadership for the recently launched Biomass mission, which will monitor global forests to help quantify carbon storage; and partnering with CNES on MicroCarb—a pioneering satellite mission launching next month that will play a key role in tracking global carbon emissions.

Before signing off we would also like to take a moment to pass on our deepest condolences for the passing of Manfredi Caltagirone. He was a true pioneer and champion of the important work of IMEO, his legacy will continue to inspire those who will take forward this work

Thank you for your kind attention.