

## **CEOS Process Paper for Triggering the Recovery Observatory**

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1. The International Charter is activated after major disasters. The Recovery Observatory Oversight Team (ROOT), which is a CEOS body operating under the WG Disasters, monitors Charter activations and each individual CEOS agency and DRM stakeholder considers whether in their subjective opinion a given event is a good candidate for the Observatory. In deciding whether or not to request a triggering of the Observatory, the ROOT member may consider the size and scale of the disaster, the relevance of using satellite data for recovery planning and monitoring, the size and location of the geographic area of the disaster, the likely success of the Observatory from a technical or political standpoint or any number of other relevant factors.
2. If event is considered to be a candidate event in the subjective judgement of any Team participant, the participant contacts ROOT chair and requests a teleconference to discuss triggering.
3. ROOT secretariat will prepare Summary Event Report in coordination with participant that requested triggering discussion and any interested participants. Summary Event report will present the event, its impact and analyse pros and cons of creating an Observatory for the specific event. In preparing the Summary Event Report, the ROOT Secretariat consults the Data Coordination Team.

In particular, the report:

1. examines predetermined scenarios developed during preparation phase and identifies data acquisition requirements;
  2. considers advice from DRM stakeholders;
  3. identifies possible intentions from the CEOS Agencies to provide data in response to the data acquisition requirements.
  4. identifies potential contribution in kind or resources for value added support;
  5. looks at the scale and scope of the disaster;
  6. identifies any issues associated with triggering;
  7. qualifies expected government support in country;
  8. assesses the appropriateness of triggering in this instance; and
  9. describes the benefits to be derived from establishment of Observatory.
4. The CEOS WG Disasters Chair or the ROOT Chair, with the support of at least three CEOS Oversight Team participants (i.e. from CEOS Agencies) and at least one DRM stakeholder participant, after informing the CEOS Executive Officer, with the agreement of the CEOS Chair and SIT Chair, recommends that the CEOS Chair convene an urgent ad hoc telcon of contributing CEOS agencies, represented by their CEOS principal or the principal's delegate.

This ad hoc telcon shall take place within ten days of the request from the WG Disasters Chair or the ROOT Chair.

5. The ad hoc telcon is chaired by the CEOS Chair or his or her representative. During this telcon, the Chair must determine whether there is support for triggering from three contributing CEOS agencies, who collectively represent a critical mass of required data sets, and support from at least one DRM stakeholder. If the required support is established, the CEOS Chair announces within CEOS the decision to create the Observatory with a call for broader participation from satellite agencies. The ROOT Chair briefs the CEOS SEC on the Observatory at the next available CEOS SEC teleconference.
6. In parallel, the Observatory is announced within the DRM community by the ROOT DRM stakeholders that are participating, with a call for others to join.
7. The Recovery Observatory Oversight Team generates a detailed situation report based on the Summary Event Report and adopts a data acquisition strategy and preliminary list of data products. These documents are approved by a ROOT telcon to be called urgently by the ROOT Chair. The ROOT prepares a Recovery Observatory Operations Plan which is shared with the WG Disasters and CEOS and SIT Chairs.
8. The Observatory is announced publicly with DRM partners.
9. The status of the Observatory is reviewed by the next SIT meeting or Plenary of CEOS. The ROOT seeks formal approval from the CEOS bodies.