

Dr. Karen M. St. Germain
CEOS chair
Director, Earth Science Division
Science Mission Directorate
NASA Headquarters
USA

Your Reference	Your letter dated	PT Space Reference	Lisbon
		PTS_CEOS_NA_LE_000157	July 15 th 2021

Subject **Portugal Space CEOS Associate Membership**

Dear CEOS Chair, Dr. Karen St. Germain,

The Portuguese Space Agency – Portugal Space would like to formally apply to CEOS membership, namely, to become its *Associate*. This membership application submission is justified by the fact that Portugal has recently established a national Space strategy, with clear objectives to increase and strengthen the space ecosystem in Portugal. The Portuguese Space Agency is mandated to implement such strategy, where Earth Observation and the Atlantic Ocean are key elements. Priority is Portugal to contribute to improve the science and economics of Space-Earth-Climate-Ocean's interactions, making particular use of Earth Observation related technologies for space-ocean interactions and methods of data science for the benefit of society. This includes the need for closer international cooperation and contribution to groups such as the CEOS.

Portugal Space is the national representative at international space organizations such as the European Space Agency, the European Southern Observatory, European Solar Telescope and the Square Kilometer Array Observatory and is responsible also for the national representation at the European Commission for the Space program. We believe that Portugal Space can contribute to diverse scientific fields, bridging with the national community, and this opportunity to participate and engage with an international working group such as CEOS would be truly beneficial for all agreement partners.

The *Principal Representative* would be Hugo André Costa, Member of the board of Directors of the Portuguese Space Agency, and the *Contact* Carolina Sá, the Earth Observation projects officer. Considering the priorities of our national Space strategy and current national on-going activities we would like to integrate the *CEOS Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy (WGCapD)* and the *Coastal Observations Applications Services and Tools (COAST) Ad Hoc Team*, to which we believe our contribution could be more relevant at this point.

Looking forward to hearing back from you soon.

Best regards,



Ricardo Conde

President of Portuguese Space Agency