



## CEOS Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

# The Montreal Statement

(November, 2013)

We, the assembled participants of the 27<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), taking place in Montreal, Canada, on 5 and 6 November 2013:

**Building** upon our collective commitments to coordinate our Earth observation satellite missions in response to needs expressed by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), UN Conventions on Biodiversity and Desertification, the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO), the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Programmes, the Group of 20 Industrialised Nations (G20), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and other external stakeholders;

**Confirming** our Primary Mission to ensure international coordination of civil space-based Earth observations programs and promote exchange of data to optimize societal benefit and inform decision making for securing a prosperous and sustainable future for humankind; and,

**Recognizing** the major investments made by CEOS Agencies in developing the space-based segment of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems, and global observing systems operated under the auspices of the United Nations;

**Declare that:** With the renewal and strengthening of the organization governance, CEOS Agencies have agreed to continue and enhance their cooperation to respond effectively to Earth Observation users' needs. We will do so by achieving integration across the full range of Earth observations, by closing important observational gaps, and by promoting the sharing, and improving access to and use of, CEOS Agency data. This cooperation will be expressed through global-level initiatives and projects, including:

- In a joint effort with the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS), development and provision of climate data records, in support of climate monitoring, research, and services;
- Coordinated space-based observations to support the effective monitoring and management of the world's forested regions to support any future international climate agreement, including Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, sustainable forest management, conservation and carbon enhancement (REDD+);
- Implementation of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the acquisition strategy for supporting the monitoring of agricultural production at national, regional and global levels which is complementary to the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) initiative;
- Implementation of a strategy for observing and assessing the global carbon cycle;
- Application of space-based Earth observations to support research in biodiversity, the world's oceans, and an improved understanding of the global water cycle; and
- Strengthened support to the disaster management community through both the creation of a new CEOS Working Group on Disasters and the development of a global observation strategy.

CEOS will accomplish these activities through contributions from its Virtual Constellations and Working Groups, among other mechanisms. CEOS will continue to address user needs, for data quality, data discovery and access, and capacity building.

<http://www.ceos.org>



***CEOS plays a vital role in ensuring coordination of Earth observations to enable decisions for securing a prosperous and sustainable future for humankind.***

## **CEOS Members & Associates**

Agencia Spaziale Italiana (ASI)  
Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO)  
Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS)  
Canadian Space Agency (CSA)  
Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES), France  
Centro para Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial (CDTI), Spain  
China Center for Resources Satellite Data and Applications (CRESDA)  
Chinese Academy of Space Technology (CAST)  
Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales (CONAE), Argentina  
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia  
Crown Research Institute (CRI), New Zealand  
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Satellite Applications Center (SAC), South Africa  
Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt (DLR), Germany  
Earth System Science Organisation (ESSO), India  
European Commission (EC)  
European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)  
European Space Agency (ESA)  
Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), Thailand  
Geoscience Australia  
Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)  
Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS)  
Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)  
Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS)  
Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)  
Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (INPE), Brazil  
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)  
International Council for Science (ICSU)  
International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP)  
International Ocean Colour Coordinating Group (IOCCG)  
International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)  
MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology)/Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)  
Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI)  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA  
National Remote Sensing Center of China (NRSCC)  
National Satellite Meteorological Center/Chinese Meteorological Association (NSMC/CMA)  
National Space Agency of Ukraine (NSAU)  
National Space Research Agency of Nigeria (NASRDA)  
Netherlands Space Office (NSO), Netherlands  
Norwegian Space Center (NSC)  
Russian Federal Space Agency (ROSKOSMOS)  
Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring (ROSHYDROMET)  
Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK-Uzay)  
South African National Space Agency (SANSA)  
Swedish National Space Board (SNSB)  
United Kingdom Space Agency (UKSA)  
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 Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)  
United States Geological Survey (USGS)  
Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST)  
World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)  
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)