



Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

# AC-VC Leadership, Terms of Reference, and Other Business

Jay Al-Saadi (NASA), Ben Veihelmann (ESA), and  
Hiroshi Tanimoto (NIES), AC-VC co-chairs

Dave Crisp (CalTech/NASA-JPL), AC-VC GHG Lead  
Shobha Kondragunta (NOAA), AC-VC Aerosol-AQ Lead  
Diego Loyola (DLR), AC-VC O3 Lead

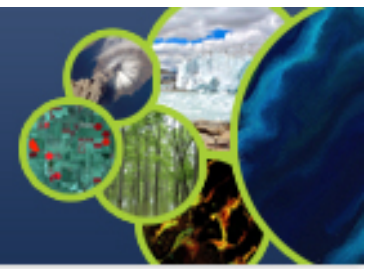
AC-VC-16 Virtual Meeting, 8 – 12 June 2020

Agenda Item 5.11





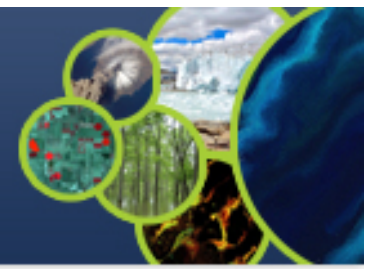
# Background - Governance



- Last year, the CEOS SIT Chair led the revision (standardization) of “Working Team” governing documents
  - Working Teams include Virtual Constellations, Working Groups, Ad Hoc Teams
  - The revision was generally overdue, welcome, and our inputs were accepted
- For reference, all CEOS Governing Documents are available here:  
<http://ceos.org/about-ceos/governing-documents/>
- Refer specifically to the “Virtual Constellations Process Paper”  
[http://ceos.org/document\\_management/Publications/Governing\\_Docs/Virtual-Constellations\\_Process%20Paper\\_rev1-2019.pdf](http://ceos.org/document_management/Publications/Governing_Docs/Virtual-Constellations_Process%20Paper_rev1-2019.pdf)
  - Includes “Leadership Selection and Criteria” and “Terms of Reference”
- Virtual Constellations (e.g., AC-VC) have always been more community-driven (grass roots) than other groups – and remain so!



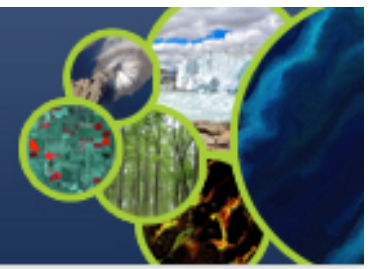
# Virtual Constellation Leadership



- A subset of the leadership criteria from the VC Process Paper:
  - Each Constellation will have at least two and no more than three Co-Leads
  - The expectation is that any Constellation leadership changes will be staggered to ensure leadership continuity and expertise are optimized
  - There are no limits on how long an individual may serve as a Co-Lead
  - At a minimum, Co-Lead positions will be reviewed every two years **by the Constellation membership**
  - **The decision of Constellation leadership resides with the Constellation**
- These criteria helped shape our current leadership team structure – and vice-versa
  - Three Co-Leads (we wanted to go this direction)
  - We view the “Topical Leads” as deputy co-leads, though CEOS SIT denied the word “deputy” because it already has a formal definition in other working teams
- Our approach is that membership will have the open opportunity to “review” AC-VC leadership within the annual AC-VC meetings



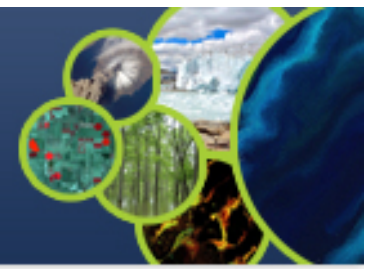
# VC Terms of Reference (ToR)



- The other relevant governing document is the AC-VC Terms of Reference; e.g. scroll to bottom of <http://ceos.org/about-ceos/governing-documents/>
- The requirement imposed on us is that ToR documents be updated every 2 years according to a provided template
- The “current” AC-VC ToR was last updated in 2013 ☹️
- We have agreed to update it this year
- Informational to you at this point – AC-VC leadership team will draft an updated ToR and may reach out to membership for contributions



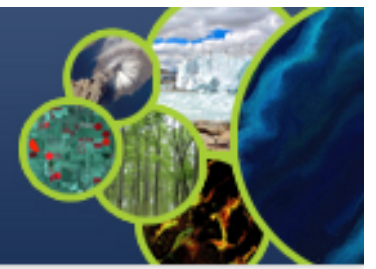
## Other Potential Activities: CEOS Analysis Ready Data (ARD) Initiative



- An oversimplified (and possibly erroneous) description of ARD:  
Meet the rapidly increasing demand from non-scientific end users for accurate data/information by providing provenanced products in easily accessible formats (e.g., GIS)
- Variable attributes
  - Could be near-real-time, but not necessarily
  - Probably subset to user-defined domains
  - Ability to layer/combine with other datasets
- Pilot demos have included land imagery, flood inundation layers
- VC teams are now being asked to propose other pilot activities
  - Many standard AC satellite products, and our new focus topics, could apply
  - The new effort that would be required seems to be in careful re-gridding, formats, and delivery



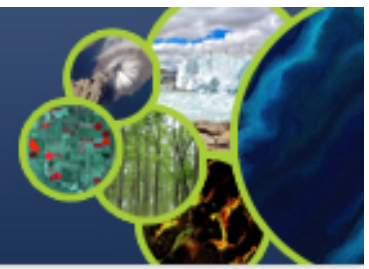
# Other Topics



- Would you be interested in a ~monthly 1-hour AC-VC virtual seminar series?
  - With the virtual AC-VC-16 meeting, we are testing whether the timeslot and the technology are conducive to such a thing
  - We had more requests to make presentations during AC-VC-16 than the compressed schedule allowed, so it seems that content is not an issue
  - We are very interested to hear your thoughts. Would you find it useful, or onerous, to have a recurring event in this timeslot?
- AC-VC-17 Planning
  - At this time, hoping that travel becomes feasible again by next spring, we plan to accept the very kind offer from BIRA to host AC-VC-17 in-person in Brussels in June 2021!



# Summary and Discussion



- Any AC-VC leadership suggestions or concerns?
  - If not, we assume we “pass” our annual review :-)
  - At any time, do not hesitate to contact AC-VC leadership team members with questions, suggestions, or to discuss concerns
- Thoughts on CEOS Analysis Ready Data pilot activities for AC?
  - E.g., DLR GIS Geoservice for GOME-2 and TROPOMI products
  - E.g., agree to provide NRT L3 data following the CEOS interoperability standards to allow easy ingestion into GIS or Data Cube systems
  - E.g., a “wildfires” use case, with multi-constituent information in one package
  - ...
  - ...
- If there is interest in an AC-VC virtual seminar series, we will follow up with a poll
- Any other discussion in the time remaining today