

CEOS-ARD Oversight Group Meeting – 24 April 2026

Decisions and Actions v1.0

Decisions

April 2026 Decision 01	Endorsed new ‘patch’ versions of the optical Product Family Specifications (SR, ST, NLSR, and AR) confirming the transition of the PFS to GitHub is accurate and consistent.
April 2026 Decision 02	Endorsed version 1.3 of the Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) PFS which incorporates additional requirements for composite backscatter products.
April 2026 Decision 03	It was agreed that ‘patch’ updates (i.e., 1.1.X) to make minor non-breaking updates such as typos and grammar do not need CEOS-ARD OG approval. These updates can be handled via a notification only.
April 2026 Decision 04	Major (i.e., X.0.0) and minor (1.X.0) PFS version updates require endorsement by the CEOS-ARD Oversight Group, and where necessary, the relevant CEOS Virtual Constellation or other authoring group. The proposal should be submitted as a pull request via the CEOS-ARD GitHub Editor Tool and via email to the CEOS-ARD Oversight Group. These PFS version updates may consist of a bundle of changes, taking the version (major, minor, patch) of the highest precedence change.
April 2026 Decision 05	Rename requirement 3.1 (‘Measurement’) in all optical PFS to ‘Measurand’ as a patch update (issue #67).
April 2026 Decision 06	Rename the ‘Traceability’ requirement to ‘Metrological Traceability of the Measurand to SI’ and add a note referring to requirement 3.1 (Measurand) as a patch update (issue #66).
April 2026 Decision 07	Agreed the need to add a parameter/requirement to capture self-assessment PFS version in CEOS-ARD product metadata (as done in the AR PFS), however this is a breaking change for the SAR PFS and should also wait until we have a mechanism to reference the URI of the PFS version used (issue #41).
April 2026 Decision 08	Remove the ‘Metadata Machine Readability’ requirement from the Per-Pixel Metadata section of all PFS, since it is redundant with the General Metadata section. This is a non-breaking change that can be covered by a Patch update (issue #61).

Actions

April 2026 Action 01	CEOS-ARD Secretariat and Matthias to publish the new GitHub-based patch versions of the optical PFS on the Github and ceos.org/ard website.	COMPLETE
-------------------------	--	----------

April 2026 Action 02	Chris to migrate any outstanding editorial issues from the optical PFS building block transition consistency check to the CEOS-ARD GitHub issue tracker.	May 2026
April 2026 Action 03	Dave and Chris to share the boilerplate text for engaging national standards bodies on the issue of the ISO 19176-1 discontinuation motion, and ARD Oversight Group to provide further edits and share with national standards body contacts.	COMPLETE
April 2026 Action 04	CEOS-ARD Oversight Group and LSI-VC Leads to prepare a statement that can be communicated to CEOS Principals via the SIT Chair regarding the need for additional funding, support, and developers to advance and provide redundancy for the CEOS-ARD GitHub and Building Blocks development.	May 2026
April 2026 Action 05	Harvey to publish the recording of Matthias' overview of the CEOS-ARD GitHub and tools as a tutorial.	May 2026
April 2026 Action 06	CEOS-ARD Secretariat to add to the 2026 CEOS-ARD Strategy an initiative/task regarding the need to consider partial Goal compliance / implementing different gradations of requirement. <i><u>Note:</u> There is also a need to understand which requirements are able to be assessed automatically and those that need a full panel assessment, and to adjust rules about review panel necessity. There could be an additional flag in the building blocks noting that the specific requirement needs to be reviewed by an expert panel.</i>	COMPLETE
April 2026 Action 07	WGCV Chair and Vice Chair to work with WGCV to provide to the CEOS-ARD Oversight Group a list of the (approx. 4) specific requirements that require expert assessment at the Goal level.	June 2026
April 2026 Action 08	CEOS-ARD Secretariat to add to the 2026 CEOS-ARD Strategy an initiative/task regarding the need to require some level of uncertainty in the CEOS-ARD PFS. To be delegated to the WGCV and Cody Anderson. <i><u>Note:</u> Providing uncertainty metrics is necessary to give users confidence in data, and will provide an alternate means for addressing issues with the need to provide proprietary information to meet e.g., requirement 1.13 on Algorithms. Evidencing uncertainty is the core requirement of users, not necessarily seeing inside the proprietary 'black box' that generates the data.</i>	COMPLETE
April 2026 Action 09	CEOS-ARD Secretariat to add to the 2026 CEOS-ARD Strategy an initiative/task regarding alignment of CEOS-ARD and the	COMPLETE

	ESA-NASA-USGS Joint Quality Assessment Framework, as a means to implement a grading approach, either recognising partial goal compliance or introducing intermediate compliance levels.	
April 2026 Action 10	CEOS-ARD Secretariat to work with Matthias to see if the legacy PFS versions can be published on the CEOS-ARD GitHub for the purposes of URI and facilitating addition of a compliance version requirement to the PFS (see Decision 07 above).	COMPLETE <i>Agreed to use the website as the point of reference</i>
April 2026 Action 11	Ake to propose a statement that could be added to PFS regarding recommendation for Cloud-optimised formats to be adopted for CEOS-ARD products.	June 2026
April 2026 Action 12	Ferran and Peter to propose a revision to requirement 4.1 of the Surface Reflectance PFS (Geometric Correction) to resolve the issue of having absolute performance requirements, which is unique to this requirement and causing issues with compliance for high resolution datasets.	June 2026
April 2026 Action 13	CEOS-ARD Secretariat to submit the various changes to PFS agreed in the Decisions record of this meeting and close the associated issues in the GitHub.	July 2026