The United States of America on behalf of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) and the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) is pleased to provide this annual update to the 52nd to 55th session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) on the joint CEOS/CGMS response to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) needs for systematic Earth observations as identified by the UN’s Global Climate Observing System (GCOS).

CEOS and CGMS, international organizations of 61 Members and Associates and 16 Members, respectively, coordinate space agency activities that advance the systematic observation of the Earth’s climate system by implementing the Architecture for Climate Monitoring from Space. The Joint CEOS/CGMS Working Group on Climate coordinates these activities in part through its updated Inventory of more than 1,137 climate data records addressing the GCOS Essential Climate Variables (ECV) observable from space. The most recent Inventory analysis focused on ECVs for which GCOS has identified continuity risks and provided substantial input to the 4th GCOS Status Report. Space agencies continue to use this analysis to inform their planning for both Earth observation missions and data product generation to preempt continuity issues in the future.

The data provided by CEOS and CGMS Agencies supports both the climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives of the first Global Stocktake (GST) of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement.

The 47th session of SBSTA noted the increasing capability of satellite and in situ observations to support systematic monitoring of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals. The updated IPCC guidelines on methodologies to assess national GHG emissions and removals noted these evolving contributions. In addition, it acknowledges the capacity for satellite data to contribute further to assessments of carbon stock changes from Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU).

To fully address this potential, CEOS and CGMS defined a space-based constellation architecture for monitoring atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane (CH4) concentrations, as well as their natural and anthropogenic fluxes. This provides a reference for agencies planning space-based CO2 and CH4 missions as well as for the international coordination on the acquisition, analysis, and distribution of their measurements. Further, CEOS and CGMS developed a roadmap to implement a GHG monitoring system that supports the Transparency Framework, Global Stocktakes, and Nationally Determined Contributions activities. The first prototype system has been developed and leverages space-based assets to inform the first Stocktake with a use case on top-down CO2 and CH4 inventories. A follow-on pre-operational system integrates satellite data into a sustainable atmospheric CO2 and CH4 monitoring system to support future Stocktakes in 2028 and beyond. CEOS and
CGMS welcome early engagement with the Parties to ensure the planned products and services are satisfactory and engage with capacity building activities to ensure appropriate uptake of these satellite data.

To address overall system implementation goals, CEOS and CGMS continue to coordinate their activities with other stakeholders such as the WMO Integrated Global Greenhouse Gas Information System (IG³IS) and relevant modelling centres, and maintain partnerships with national emission inventory and policy user communities. To this end, the space agencies of CEOS and CGMS are coordinating with other organizations on the development of a Synthesis Report on contributions of the Systematic Observations community to the first Global Stocktake.

Agencies continue to coordinate space-based monitoring of Earth’s forested areas to support the Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI), and the Global Observation of Forest Cover and Land Dynamics (GOFC-GOLD). CEOS Agencies are also developing a roadmap for providing satellite products that support AFOLU land modeling needs and emissions reporting by the Parties to the UNFCCC. This includes the use of multiple new satellite missions to derive aboveground biomass for the Stocktakes, among other uses.

Finally, CEOS recently developed its Strategy to Support the Global Stocktake of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement encompassing all of the above described measures in support of mitigation and adaptation goals.

Parties are invited to continue supporting the activities of the space agencies.

6 http://ceos.org/document_management/Meetings/Plenary/34/Documents/AFOLU_Roadmap_Discussion_Paper_v1-0.pdf
CEOS and CGMS Agencies

Agence Gabonaise d’Etudes et d’Observations Spatiales (AGEOS), Gabon
Agencia Espacial Mexicana (AEM), Mexico
Agensi Angkasal Negara (ANGKASA), Malaysia
Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI), Italy
Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)
Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO)
Canada Centre for Mapping and Earth Observation (CCMEO)
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)
China National Space Administration (CNSA)**
Chinese Academy of Space Technology (CAST)
Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales (CONAE), Argentina
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) South Africa
Crown Research Institute (CRI), New Zealand
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 (GA)
Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)
Global Geodedetic Observing System (GGOS)
Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)
Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS)
International Science Council (ISC)
International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP)
India Meteorological Department (IMD)**
Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)*
Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (INPE), Brazil
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)*
International Ocean Colour Coordinating Group (IOCCG)
International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)
Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA)**
Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI)
Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA)*
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)/Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)*
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA*
National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER), Korea
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA*
National Remote Sensing Center of China (NRSCC)
National Satellite Meteorological Center (NSMC)/China Meteorological Administration (CMA)*
National Space Agency of Ukraine (NSA)
National Space Research Agency of Nigeria (NASRDA)
Netherlands Space Office (NSO)
Norwegian Space Agency (NOSA)
Polish Space Agency (Poland)
Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring (ROSHYDROMET)*
Russian Federal Space Agency (ROSCOSMOS)*
Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK-Uzay)
South African National Space Agency (SANSA)
Swedish National Space Agency (SNSA)
United Arab Emirates Space Agency (UAESA)
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)*

*Denotes Agencies being Member of both CEOS and CGMS. **Denotes only CGMS Agencies.