

28 July 2023

Dear Ms. De Boissezon,

*Nomination for the position of Vice-Chair, Working Group on Disasters (WG Disasters)
of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS)*

As an Associate Member of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) since 1994 and an active Member of the Working Group Disasters (WG Disasters) for a number of years, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) is looking forward to strengthening its contributions to the work of the Committee and its Working Groups.

After consideration of the implications and of the associated commitments for the Office to take a leadership role in the work of WG Disasters, I am pleased to nominate Mr. Lóránt Czárán as the candidate to the position of Vice-Chair for a period commencing at the 2023 CEOS plenary in November 2023 and concluding at the 2025 CEOS Plenary. We also understand that a further 2-year commitment is expected of the Office for continuing as Chair of the Working Group too.

Mr. Czárán is currently providing technical advisory support and leadership to the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) implemented by the Office, a programme established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2006. In his role he manages the UN-SPIDER teams in Vienna and Beijing (temporarily), supporting Member States with better access and use of space technologies for disaster management. He has a long-standing career in the United Nations and has already closely worked with CEOS in various positions too since 1997, including as Vice-Chair of WGISS, as you probably know.

I, therefore, fully trust Mr. Czárán's abilities in assuming the role of Vice-Chair and then Chair, and he will have the Office leadership's full support during his tenure.

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Ms. Helene De Boissezon (CNES)
CEOS WG Disasters Chair (Helene.DeBoissezon@cnes.fr)

cc:

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Laura Frulla (CONAE), CEOS WG Disasters Vice-Chair (lfrulla@conae.gov.ar)

Andrew Eddy (andrew.eddy@athenaglobal.com)

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I understand the expectations this role brings in terms of meeting attendance and in administrative secretariat support (Mr. Czárán will be supported by Mr. Jorge Del Rio Vera, who is already known in the CEOS community); the relevant planning will be integrated into the Office work programme, so the Working Group and Committee processes are duly considered and respected.

I look forward to the decision of the CEOS Plenary on UNOOSA's nomination later this year.

Yours sincerely,



Niklas Hedman
Acting Director
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs