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Dear Chair,

Thank you for your recent correspondence in relation to the role of CEOS Chair, including the invitation for nominations by CEOS Agencies. CSIRO, Geoscience Australia and the Bureau of Meteorology wish to jointly nominate for the position of CEOS Chair in 2026, the year notionally identified for rotation to the Asia/Pacific region.

Our three organisations are active supporters of the strategic vision and objectives of CEOS, with a full commitment to supporting the coordination of civil satellite Earth observation programs for the benefit of CEOS Agencies, their governments, and broader society. Through the Bureau we are also actively engaged with WMO. We are significant contributors to CEOS activities including in the areas of calibration/validation, information systems and services, analysis-ready data and interoperability, land imaging coordination, ecosystems and sustainable development goals.

We have experience in providing leadership in a CEOS context, including during CSIRO's Chair Period in 2016 and the joint GA-CSIRO SIT Chair period in 2020-21. Our proposed joint CEOS Chair team will include individuals experienced with the required roles, responsibilities and procedures. We do not underestimate the level of responsibility entailed in being Chair nor do we underestimate the demands it places on resources and time. We are committed to delivering as Chair for the whole CEOS community.

While the final decision on the venue for the UNFCCC COP in 2026 has not yet been settled, Australia has put forward a strong proposal to be Host Country in partnership with the Pacific. Should this occur an Australian Chair period would present a unique opportunity to connect CEOS's work even more deeply into the international Climate agenda.

Should our nomination be accepted we would warmly welcome the opportunity to host the CEOS community for a Plenary in Hobart, Tasmania. Hobart is Australia's gateway to Antarctica. We would seek to use this opportunity to strengthen CEOS connections with polar issues, noting the importance of Antarctica (and other polar regions) to the challenge of climate change the criticality of satellite Earth observations in this context.

Should you, or other representatives of the CEOS Secretariat, wish to discuss this further we stand ready.

Sincerely,

Alex Held

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