



Australian Government

Geoscience Australia

8 August 2024

Philippe Goryl,  
Chair, Working Group on Calibration and Validation  
Committee on Earth Observation Satellites  
c/o European Space Agency

Cnr Jerrabomberra Avenue  
and Hindmarsh Drive,  
Symonston ACT 2609

GPO Box 378,  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Australia

+61 2 6249 9111  
[www.ga.gov.au](http://www.ga.gov.au)

ABN 80 091 799 039

Dear Philippe,

Geoscience Australia would like to nominate Medhavy Thankappan for the role of Vice-chair and subsequently Chair of the Working Group on Calibration and Validation (WGCV) for the term commencing in November 2024. Geoscience Australia understands that the nomination comes with a commitment to support Medhavy's full participation in the role for the Vice-chair term of two years, followed by the two-year Chair term. Geoscience Australia has a long-standing commitment to CEOS goals and objectives, has provided leadership in various CEOS roles, and continues to provide substantial support for CEOS initiatives.

In view of the cross-cutting role of WGCV within CEOS, we understand that the commitment to support Medhavy's nomination covers participation in relevant major CEOS meetings including Strategic Implementation Team (SIT), SIT-Technical Workshop, and CEOS Plenary, in addition to the regular WGCV Plenary meetings, as well interaction and support for other CEOS Working Groups and Virtual Constellations. During the two-year term as Chair of WGCV, Geoscience Australia will provide the Secretariat function to support the role.

Medhavy has been associated with Earth observations (EO) from space for over 35 years. His experience in EO calibration and validation, including the application of EO data, spans both optical and microwave domains across terrestrial and marine environments. Medhavy has been an active member of the CEOS WGCV over several years and continues to coordinate assessments for CEOS ARD submissions as the WGCV point of contact, supports RADCALNET reviews and contributes to the SITSat Task Team. Medhavy currently serves as Director, Operations Science and Quality at Geoscience Australia, in Canberra.

We understand that the WGCV will confirm the Vice-chair nomination at its October 2024 Plenary and present it to the CEOS Plenary in November 2024 for endorsement. We thank you for the leadership of WGCV and reaffirm our support for Medhavy's nomination as WGCV Vice-chair, and subsequently Chair.

Sincerely,

Jonathon Ross

Geoscience Australia Principal to CEOS

