Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Philippine Space Agency

BAGONG PILIPINAS

08 October 2025

Dr. PAUL BATE
Chief Executive Officer,
United Kingdom Space Agency and
Chairperson,
Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

Subject: Member Application for the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS)

Dear **Dr. Bate**:

Greetings from the Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA)!

PhilSA is the national space agency of the Philippines, tasked with addressing all issues and activities related to space science and technology applications (SSTA). For the downstream applications of space data, PhilSA has been providing maps and other products derived from satellite images to various national government agencies, local government units, and educational institutions to support their activities and enhance the delivery of their services. We believe this aligns with CEOS' activities with regard to the promotion of exchange of data to optimize social benefit and inform decision making for securing a prosperous and sustainable future for mankind.

In this regard, PhilSA would like express its intent to apply as a **Member** of CEOS, complementing the Agency's existing activities on space data mobilization for disaster risk reduction (DRR), food security, forest and environmental monitoring, urban change detection, and maritime domain awareness, among other activities. Access to CEOS datasets would greatly support the production of maps related to the aforementioned applications, alongside increased exchange of best practices in the field of Earth observation.

Membership to CEOS would complement existing cooperation agreements of PhilSA, such as the *National Copernicus Capacity Support Action Programme for the Philippines (CopPhil) with the European Commission (EC)*. This year, PhilSA and the EC unveiled the CopPhil Data Centre, the first Copernicus Earth observation data storage and processing facility in Asia. This positions the Philippines as a central hub for Earth Observation in Southeast Asia. The CopPhil Data Centre provides pilot services tailored to the Philippines, including land cover mapping, ground movement monitoring, and

marine environment tracking. These data support disaster preparedness and response, policy development, sustainable tourism, and smart agriculture.

Similarly, PhilSA in cooperation with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), has enabled the comprehensive monitoring of air quality in the Philippines through ground-based and satellite measurements through the *Pan-Asia Partnership for Geospatial Air Pollution Information and the Pandora Asia Network (PAPGAPI-PAN) Philippines Project*. Pandora instruments deployed in the country continuously measure air quality and are complemented by data from the Geostationary Environment Monitoring Spectrometer (GEMS) satellite of the Republic of Korea, providing hourly air quality data during daylight hours for the Philippines.

Currently, PhilSA is developing an Earth observation (EO) satellite for the country, the Multispectral Unit for Land Assessment (MULA) satellite, which will have the capability to capture satellite images that support periodic updating of land use, agricultural crops, water resources, and built infrastructure maps in the country. Further, data from MULA shall also be used to acquire satellite images over other areas, opening opportunities for commercialization and international diplomacy.

The Agency has demonstrated capability in operating satellites and other ground infrastructure, with two (2) satellite ground stations serving past Philippine satellites. In preparation for MULA, PhilSA is set to establish an additional ground station, expanding the country's operational capabilities.

By joining CEOS, PhilSA is keen to participate in its various working groups, particularly, the Working Group on Disasters (WGDisasters) and the Coastal Observations Applications Services and Tools Virtual Constellation (COAST-VC). PhilSA's utilization of EO data for mapping the impacts of disasters such as the extent of floods caused by typhoons aligns with the WGDisasters' objective of increasing the use of EO in support of disaster risk management. PhilSA would like to contribute by sharing current DRR workflows and benefit by learning from other members as well. PhilSA collaborates with various government agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to map out various coastal resources such as mangroves and seagrass. Similar to WGDisasters, it would also be beneficial for PhilSA to be involved with COAST-VC to improve the current workflows and research methodologies in mapping out coastal resources.

As part of the application requirements, the following are our nominees:

A. Principal Representative:

1. **Gay Jane P. Perez, Ph.D.**
   Officer-in-Charge
   Philippine Space Agency
   gay.perez@philsa.gov.ph; odg@philsa.gov.ph

B. Contact Personnel:

1. **Izrael Zenar C. Bautista, Ph.D.**
   Chief Science Research Specialist
   Space Mission Control and Operations Division
   Space Information Infrastructure Bureau
   izrael.bautista@philsa.gov.ph; smcod@philsa.gov.ph

For any questions or concerns, you may reach out to **Mr. Julius M. Judan,** Senior Science Research Specialist of the Space Information Infrastructure Bureau – Space Mission Control and Operations Division, via email at **julius.judan@philsa.gov.ph.**

Thank you very much and we look forward to joining CEOS.

Very truly yours,

GAY JANE P. PEREZ, Ph.D.
Officer-in-Charge
Philippine Space Agency

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Copy furnished: **Dr. Steven Ramage**
Executive Officer, Committee on Earth Observation Satellites