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Mr Tom Sohre
CEOS WGISS Chair
Data Center and Services
Branch Chief
United States Geological Survey
Sioux Falls
South Dakota
USA

Our ref. ESA-DEOP-LE-2025-63

Frascati, 30 April 2025

Subject: ESA Nomination for CEOS Working Group on Information Systems and Services (WGISS)

Dear Mr Sohre

The European Space Agency (ESA) is pleased to nominate Damiano Guerrucci for leadership of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Working Group on Information Systems and Services (WGISS), effective from the close of the 2025 CEOS plenary in November.

ESA recognises the important and cross-cutting role that WGISS plays within CEOS and the important contribution that WGISS makes to the satellite EO community. We understand that this nomination comprises a four-year commitment to support Mr Guerrucci as WGISS Vice-Chair for two years (2026-2027), followed by a further two years as WGISS Chair (concluding at the 2029 CEOS Plenary). We also note that, as well as supporting Mr Guerrucci's contribution at WGISS meetings throughout his leadership tenure, during his two-year term as WGISS chair (2028-2029), ESA commits to his participation at the three major annual CEOS meetings (Strategic Implementation Team (SIT), SIT Technical Workshop, and the Plenary) and to the provision of the WGISS secretariat functions to support the working group.

Mr Guerrucci has over 25 years of experience at ESA, initially involved in the design, deployment and operations of control systems for Earth observation satellites, and since 2014 leading the unit responsible for the design and deployment of services for the discovery, access and preservation of ESA and third party Earth observation data. His primary focus has always been the identification and definition of common practises and interfaces (also in liaison with OGC and ISO organisation) aiming at maximising standardisation and interoperability.

Mr Guerrucci has a longstanding commitment to WGISS and has led the WGISS Data Discovery and Access Interest Group for the last 5 years. His participation within international collaborative activities for ESA makes him a suitable choice to maintain the established open and constructive attitude within this important CEOS working group.

It is understood that this nomination will be presented first to WGISS for approval at the next WGISS plenary and then, if approved, to CEOS Principals for decision at the 39th CEOS Plenary in November 2025.

Finally, I would like to extend ESA's thanks for your steadfast guidance and leadership of WGISS over the past few years. We look forward to continuing engagement with you, with USGS, and with our WGISS colleagues. ESA reaffirms that we fully support Mr Guerrucci as nominee for WGISS Vice Chair and subsequent Chair for the next period.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'S. Cheli'.

Simonetta Cheli
Director of Earth Observation Programmes