Dr Julie Black
Deputy director for *Earth Observation & Discovery*
UK Space Agency
Quad 2
Harwell Science and innovation campus
OX11 ODF

Cody Anderson
Chair Working Group on Calibration and Validation
Committee on Earth Observation Satellites
c/o United States Geological Survey

16/10/2026

Dear Cody Anderson,

The UK Space Agency (UKSA) would like to nominate Dr Nigel Fox, from the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), as the UKSA representative, for the role of Vice-Chair and subsequently Chair of the Working Group on Calibration and Validation (WGCV) for the term commencing in November 2026.

Nigel has been associated with Earth Observation (EO) from space for over 35 years and for much of that time been an active member of CEOS WGCV, representing UKSA. For more than 20 years he has chaired the Infrared, Visible and Optical Sensors (IVOS) sub-group of WGCV. His experience in EO calibration and validation, including the application of EO data, primarily stems from the optical domain but his metrology expertise spans all domains and has underpinned initiatives within them.

Amongst his contributions to CEOS and the EO community in general are the foundational QA framework (QA4EO), endorsed by CEOS in 2010, in which he was one of the principal leads and author of much of the resulting guidance documents. He also helped found RadCalNet and more recently leads, through his team at NPL, the development of the CEOS Product Validation Platform (PVP), specifically targeting the needs of the commercial sector. Nigel plays a major role in all EO QA initiatives, organising comparisons and providing input to best practice guides and CEOS-ARD. He recently organised the WGCV/GSICS pre-flight workshop and is co-lead of the FRMSat (formerly SITSat) task group.

Nigel is Chief Scientist for the Earth Observation and Climate team at NPL, the UK national metrology institute which is also supportive of this role.

We understand that the WGCV will confirm the Vice-chair nomination at its October 2026 monthly meeting and present it to the CEOS Plenary in November 2026 for endorsement. We thank you for your leadership of WGCV and reaffirm our support for Nigel's nomination as WGCV Vice-chair, and subsequently Chair.

UKSA understands that the nomination comes with a commitment for the UK to support Nigel's full participation in the role for the Vice-chair term of two years 2026-2028, followed by the two-year Chair term from November 2028 – November 2030.

In view of the cross-cutting role of WGCV, we understand that the commitment includes 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,

interaction and support for other CEOS Working Groups and Virtual Constellations. In addition, during the two-year term as Chair of WGCV, the UK will look to provide support for a Secretariat function for this chairship.

UKSA has a long-standing commitment to CEOS goals and objectives, has provided leadership in various CEOS roles including serving as 2025 CEOS Chair, and we look forward to continuing to provide substantial support for CEOS initiatives through contributions from across UK entities.

Yours Sincerely

Julie Black

UKSA CEOS Principal