**Minutes V1.0**

**311th CEOS SECRETARIAT MEETING**

Thursday 7 September 2023

Chaired by GISTDA

**Participants**

**CEO:** Marie-Claire Greening

**CSA:** Eric Laliberté, Carmen Marcu, Frederick Fournier

**EUMETSAT:** Paul Counet, Robert Husband

**ESA SIT Chair Team:**  Eleni Paliouras, Stephen Briggs, Stephen Ward

**GISTDA:** Pakorn Apaphant, Tanita Suepa, Poramet Thuwakham, Matt Steventon, Riza Singh, Libby Rose

**JAXA:** Osamu Ochiai, Yukio Haruyama, Satoshi Uenuma, Sato Teppei

**NASA:** Julie Robinson, Christine Bognar

**NOAA:** Charles Wooldridge

**SEO:** Dave Borges

**WGCapD:** Jorge Del Rio Vera

**WGCV:**  –

**WGClimate:** Jeff Privette

**WGDisasters:**  Laura Frulla

**WGISS:**  Makoto Natsuisaka

1. **Welcome and Introductions, Review of Agenda, Review of Actions**

Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, CEOS Chair) welcomed everyone to CEOS SEC-311.

## UNFCCC COP28 Preparation

Jeff Privette (NOAA, WGClimate Chair) reported:

* WGClimate is preparing a statement on behalf of CEOS and CGMS to SBSTA. This space agency statement is typically a one- or two-page briefing that highlights the progress towards achieving UNFCCC goals. The draft statement has been completed, and it will be reviewed by GCOS and CEOS SEC later this week.
* CSA will be the Chair of CEOS at the time of COP28. CSA will have the option to deliver the statement orally. WGClimate is waiting for CSA’s response on this matter.

Earth Information Day

* There have been multiple attempts in planning meetings for Earth Information Day. However, the schedule, agenda and format remain unsettled. WGClimate is still not clear on the level of participation required. It is unclear whether there will be interactive discussions, poster presentations, panel sessions or other formats.
* Travel from WGClimate leadership is not yet certain, as travel approval requires specific details on the activities, which are not yet clear. The date is also not officially confirmed.

Space Leaders’ Summit

* UAESA has distributed invitations for the Space Leaders’ Summit to CEOS Agencies, however some have reported that the invitation has not been received. UAESA was planning to provide a list of who those invitations went to, but the list hasn’t been received yet. ESA and NOAA have confirmed they did not receive the invitation.
* WGClimate will circulate the Space Leaders’ Pledge to CEOS SEC for review, seeking to achieve concurrence on the language among space agencies.

Space Declaration

* There is the option to also update the ‘Space Declaration’, which was first prepared for COP12. The document is a longer form document, spanning 14 pages, and is a visually polished document, containing statements of relationship with GCOS and providing some examples.
* Jeff was not clear on the purpose and value of the document. With various other documents now regularly produced, the Space Declaration is perhaps redundant. While updating it is possible, it would require effort and time. The question of whether to proceed to prepare an update needs to be discussed further at SEC today.

*Discussion*

* Eleni Paliouras (ESA, SIT Chair Team) thanked Jeff and noted that she has discussed the Space Leaders’ Summit invitation issue with UAESA. It appears that some agencies did not receive the invitation due to clerical reasons. Some agencies were invited to the Space Pavilion before the invitation to the Space Leaders’ Summit was finalised. There was an assumption that this prior invitation covered the space agency's participation, but this was not the case. UAESA are reportedly reviewing the invitation list and will resolve the issue.
* JAXA and ESA have engaged in a discussion regarding the Space Leaders’ Pledge. They are planning to request amendments to the pledge and will organise a workshop in October 2023 to finalise the pledge. The intention of organising the workshop is to create a more purposeful pledge by receiving additional input from agencies.
* Eleni noted that the next version of the CEOS Earth Observation Handbook (EOHB) which focuses on the Global Stocktake (GST) will be ready for COP28 and is another key space agency resource for the event.
* Osamu Ochiai (JAXA, SIT Vice Chair Team) suggested that perhaps a recommendation to the organisers of future Space Leaders’ Summits is to ensure that CEOS receives its own invitation.
* Osamu thanked Jeff for organising the space agency statement for SBSTA. JAXA is willing to substitute for CSA at COP28 to read the statement if CSA/Canada is unable to do so.
* Jeff Privette (NOAA, WGClimate Chair) underscored the urgency of UAESA issuing the additional invites, as there is extra overhead involved in coordinating delegation members for COP28.

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| **311-01** | Osamu Ochiai (JAXA) to contact UAESA and encourage them to re-send invitations for the Space Leaders’ Summit to all CEOS Agencies. | **ASAP** |

## CEOS Chair Report

Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, CEOS Chair) reported:

2023 CEOS Plenary

* Registration for the meeting is now open via the [meeting page on the CEOS website](https://ceos.org/meetings/37th-ceos-plenary/). This page will be updated regularly with meeting information as it becomes available.
* There are side meetings and side events planned for November 14, 2023. [Side meeting registration form](https://ceosdotorg.wufoo.com/forms/z1od6oi90enbw8z/).
* There will be a cocktail reception in the evening of November 14, 2023, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
* A dinner reception will be held on November 16, 2023, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
* SEC are encouraged to make hotel reservations by September 30, 2023. After this date, the hotel will charge more per night. [Booking link](https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1688128462076&key=GRP).

Workshop on Carbon Accounting from Space

* A workshop on carbon accounting from space is scheduled for November 14, 2023, the day prior to the CEOS Plenary (the side meeting day). The workshop aims to demonstrate the state of the art for carbon accounting using space-based Earth observation data. The target audience is local and regional decision-makers and business representatives.
* GISTDA has emailed CEOS Agencies involved in carbon accounting and climate related work, such as Wenying Su from NASA, Jeff Privette from NOAA, and Frank Martin Seifert from ESA. Pakorn would like to arrange a phone call with these people to discuss the workshop objectives in more detail.

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| **311-02** | ESA, NOAA, and NASA teams to help secure a response from their respective experts to the email GISTDA has sent regarding the Carbon Accounting Workshop planned for the CEOS Plenary side meeting day.   * *Wenying Su from NASA* * *Jeff Privette from NOAA* * *Frank Martin Seifert from ESA*   The GISTDA CEOS Chair Team is seeking to confirm the names of presenters and would like to have a phone conversation to discuss the details. | **ASAP** |

Launch of the THEOS-2 (Thailand Earth Observation System-2) Mission

* Thailand is launching a 50 cm resolution Earth observation satellite, THEOS-2 from French Guiana on October 4, 2023 (local time).
* Pakorn will provide further updates via email.
* Due to the launch of THEOS-2, Pakorn will not be able to join the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) being held on October 2-6, 2023, in Baku, Azerbaijan.

*Discussion*

* Jeff Privette (NOAA) acknowledged the request from GISTDA regarding the CEOS Plenary Carbon Accounting Workshop and he will follow up via email.
* Julie Robinson (NASA) confirmed NASA’s receipt of the invitation for the Carbon Accounting Workshop. NASA is determining who from NASA will be able to support and provide a response.
* Eleni Paliouras (ESA, SIT Chair Team) will follow up with Frank Martin Seifert, noting he was on leave until recently.

1. **SIT Chair Report**

Eleni Paliouras (ESA, SIT Chair Team) reported:

SIT Technical Workshop 2023

* The [draft SIT Technical Workshop 2023 Objectives and Agenda](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oUfabBk6_85SeXnrBFNaIe3Nq8-vzVqFoh2DtA--1ec/edit?usp=sharing) have been shared with the CEOS mailing lists following the one week SEC review.

Carbon & Biomass

* Stephen Ward (ESA, SIT Chair team) highlighted that there will be substantial sessions on Greenhouse Gases (GHG) and carbon/climate policy at the SIT Technical Workshop, on the first day. He mentioned collaborating with the GHG Task Team and Biomass Harmonisation team to prepare the agenda for this session, indicating that the agenda is shaping up nicely.

CEOS Analysis Ready Data (CEOS-ARD)

* CEOS-ARD leadership continues to join the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) ARD Standards Working Group (SWG) meetings to ensure this activity is proceeding in a manner that is compatible with CEOS-ARD. CEOS is advocating that the group undertake broad community consultation to ensure any resulting standards have maximum utility.
* LSI-VC-14, which will have a substantial focus on CEOS-ARD will be held the week before SIT Technical Workshop, October 10-12, 2023, also at ESRIN. All are welcome to attend.

New Space Task Team

* The New Space Task Team is consolidating their white paper and considering recommendations ahead of the SIT Technical Workshop. The team has one more teleconference to work through the recommendations ahead of the meeting in Frascati.
* A side meeting will take place at the SIT Technical Workshop to refine the presentation to the Technical Workshop, during which it is expected that the draft recommendations and the future of the topic in CEOS will be discussed.

2023 CEOS Earth Observation Handbook for the First Global Stocktake

* There has been good progress on the draft, with the web design well underway.
* The SIT Chair Team thanked all CEOS colleagues who provided comments on the drafts.
* The primary focus is on the Global Stocktake (GST) and the use of Earth observation data for various stakeholders.
* A unique approach has been taken this time with the handbook being presented in a scrolling website format with multimedia animations. The Earth observation Graphics Bureau of ESA has done a great job implementing a complex vision. The scrollytelling website should be ready ahead of the 2023 CEOS Plenary and COP28.
* There will also be a detailed PDF version available, but the main deliverable will be a dynamic and engaging web version of the handbook.

1. **CEOS Executive Officer Report**

Marie-Claire Greening (CEOS Executive Officer) reported:

* Marie-Claire is currently attending the WGDisasters meeting, in Yellowstone National Park, hosted by USGS. The meeting has been very productive and useful.

2025 CEOS Chair Nomination

* UKSA have self-nominated as the 2025 CEOS Chair. The nomination letter was circulated to the CEOS SEC on August 3, 2023. This nomination is well-received and ensures CEOS’s long-term leadership resilience whilst also aligning with CEOS inclusion aims through geographic rotation of leadership offices. The UKSA’s nomination will be brought to CEOS Principals for consideration and to seek their endorsement at the 2023 CEOS Plenary in November.

International Astronautical Congress (IAC)

* The 74th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan from October 2-6, 2023. Pakorn Apaphant, CEOS Chair was invited to provide an opening session presentation on the first day but cannot attend due to the launch of THEOS-2. Tanita Suepa, who leads GISTDA’s Strategic Alliance Office, will represent CEOS and deliver the presentation in person in Baku.

Group on Earth Observations Updates

*GEO Programme Board*

* The GEO Programme Board (PB) took place virtually from September 5-6, 2023. CEOS was represented by the CEO. CEOS is a full member of the Programme Board (PB). The SIT Chair is the Programme Board Principal and the CEO Alternate. Key highlights from the meeting are as follows:
  + Post-2025 GEO Work Programme and Incubators: At the last Programme Board (PB) meeting in June 2023, a group of Programme Board (PB) members were tasked with providing guidance on the structure of the incubator model and adoption criteria to be applied when deciding to involve such an initiative within the GEO Work Programme. Once established, the remit of this volunteer group was expanded to include discussion and consideration of how the GEO Work Programme would necessarily evolve considering the post-2025 Strategy. While this group has met only once so far, its mandate is now considerable. CEOS should maintain a watching brief on this specific aspect in the coming year to ensure that CEOS member interests are considered in the next phase of the GEO Work Programming and in the specific case of GEO incubator choices.
  + Foundational Tasks 2023-2025: Some changes to the GEO Foundational Tasks were suggested at the last Programme Board (PB) meeting in June, and these were approved at this Programme Board (PB) meeting. These may undergo further changes as we move into 2025 and the post-2025 GEO strategy is implemented.
  + GEO Infrastructure Development Task Team (GIDTT): In response to an Expert Advisory Group on GEOSS, the GEO Infrastructure Development Task Team (GIDTT) is being re-established and will begin its mandate this month. This is an important aspect for CEOS as the team will look at data infrastructure and architecture from all aspects and will work towards an implementation plan that will be presented at GEO Plenary 2025. CEOS will be represented in this group by Dave Borges (NASA, SEO), Mirko Albani (ESA) and Alex Held (CSIRO).

*GEO Post-2025 Strategy*

* A near-final version of the GEO post-2025 Strategy was circulated to CEOS SEC on August 21, 2023. It is anticipated that there will be no further changes to this document and this version is close to the one intended for submission to Ministers for approval during GEO Week in November. No further comments are being accepted to this document. The CEO will distribute the final version of the strategy as soon as it is received.
* GEO Week 2023: GEO Week 2023 will be held in Cape Town, South Africa and includes the GEO Ministerial, GEO Plenary and ExCom meeting. Registration to the meeting is now open via the meeting [web page](https://www.earthobservations.org/geoweek2023.php). CEOS’s delegation will include in-person attendance from the SIT Chair, CEO and SEO. The SEO team is planning on hosting a CEOS booth during the event.
* Given the scheduling complications that the GEO SEC have had around the timing of GEO Week this year, GEO is proposing to shift subsequent GEO Weeks to the March timeframe, aligning with the annual Earth Day. If this proposal is approved at this year’s GEO Plenary, it will result in no GEO Week in 2024, with the next one aligned to Earth Day in March 2025. The European Commission (EC) has offered to host the 2025 GEO Week in Brussels.

*GEO Cape Town Declaration*

* The GEO Cape Town Declaration is being finalised. The last draft was circulated to CEOS SEC for comment on August 21, 2023, with a September 1, 2023, deadline. No further comments are therefore being accepted to this document. The CEO will circulate the final version of the strategy as soon as it is received.

*CEOS Statement to GEO Week 2023*

* As is normal practice, CEOS has been offered the opportunity to provide a statement to the GEO Plenary and Ministerial. This is not read but will appear on the GEO Ministerial website in its written form. This has been drafted and circulated to the CEOS SEC for comment and feedback on September 1, 2023. The text thus far focuses on the two Chair priorities for this year, namely the Global Stocktake and New Space. Comments are requested to the CEO by September 15, 2023, the final deadline for submission to the GEOSEC is October 13, 2023. It would be good to finalise the statement before the SIT Technical Workshop.

**CEO Continuity**

Paul Counet (EUMETSAT) provided an update on the search for a new CEOS Executive Officer (CEO).

* At the 2022 CEOS Plenary, EUMETSAT proposed a solution to ensure the continuity of CEO staffing.
* It has been a long process but has progressed recently. EUMETSAT has confirmed the intent of most European CEOS agencies to contribute to funding the CEO position and they are currently in the process of formalising this commitment through the exchange of letters.
* The closure of the CEO invitation to tender (ITT) was August 31, 2023. The first standard evaluation board meeting took place this morning. Three expressions of interest for the position have been received and the final decision depends on the outcome of the evaluation board.
* It is anticipated that someone will be recruited for the position before the end of 2023. The plan is to conclude the selection process soon and formalise the funding agreement with the European agencies ahead of the 2023 CEOS Plenary. This appointment would cover the period from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2027.

*Discussion*

* Christine Bognar (NASA) thanked Paul for the update and for mentioning the importance of having the candidate in place for the 2023 CEOS Plenary. It is important for the incoming CEOS Chair and SIT Chair. Some overlap with Marie-Claire Greening as the current CEO would be helpful in the closure of the current work plan and the early stages of the development of the next one.
* Paul Counet (EUMETSAT) had foreseen the start of the contract on January 1, 2024. Any type of overlap would depend on the willingness of ESA.
* Eleni Paliouras (ESA, SIT Chair Team) agreed that having a period of overlap between the existing and incoming CEO would support a smooth handover. ESA had not considered that the new candidate would need to travel to the 2023 CEOS Plenary but will investigate options.

1. **Working Group Reports**

**WGDisasters**

Laura Frulla (CNES, WGDisasters Vice Chair) reported:

* Helene de Boissezon (CNES, WGDisasters Chair) is running the WGDisaters-20 meeting at Yellowstone this week, as mentioned by Marie-Claire Greening (CEOS Executive Officer).
* The Wildfires Pilot survey has closed with over 2509 responses. A detailed report was prepared and presented at the WGDisasters-20 meeting.
* Formal proposals have been developed for the 2023 SIT Technical Workshop and the CEOS Plenary regarding the International Virtual Volcano Observatory (from USGS) and Pre-operational Recovery Observatory (from CNES). This has also been presented at the WGDisasters-20 meeting.
* Lorant Czaran from UNOOSA has been nominated as WGDisasters Vice Chair for 2024-2025.
* The GSNL biennial reports for Ecuador, China and Nicaragua Supersites were sent in August 2023 and are being evaluated by agencies.
* The WGDisasters-21 meeting is planned to be held in Buenos Aires either in April or March 2024.

**WGClimate**

Jeff Privette (NOAA, WGClimate Chair) reported:

GCOS Coordination

* WGClimate is working with GCOS on the Space Agencies’ Response to the GCOS Implementation Plan (SARGIP), which is updated every 4-5 years. One of WGClimate’s major deliverables as a Working Group is to provide responses to the actions that GCOS has provided on observing needs and requirements.
* A different approach has been adopted this year. Instead of having a single consolidated report, a collaborative approach has been adopted, involving close collaboration with GCOS to determine the specific requirements for each action. Each WGClimate subgroup is tasked with addressing a single action item. The delivery of responses to these actions will be stratified based on the required response timelines.
* The subgroups have decided that they will respond to 21 actions in 2023. The target completion date is October 6, 2023. Responses to a further 19 actions will be delivered in 2024 and responses to 8 actions are yet to be determined.
* WGClimate attended the alignment meeting with GCOS Secretariat Panel Leads on 9 August 2023. A strategic approach was considered to manage inevitable observation gaps.
* GCOS representatives will participate in WGClimate-19, scheduled for October 16-17, 2023.
* GCOS also raised the issue of updating the GCOS Monitoring Principles Document. GCOS and WGClimate discussed updating the document and merging general principles and monitoring principles on satellites into a single update.
* Mr. Nir Stav will be replacing Anthony Rea as Director of the Infrastructure Department at WMO on October 1, 2023. Plans are underway to coordinate a meeting with Mr. Nir Stav.

Greenhouse Gas Cal/Val Network Coordination Meeting

* The meeting with WGCV and the GHG Task Team leads took place on August 31, 2023. The focus of the meeting was the need to sustain critical GHG Cal/Val networks: NDACC/FTIR, TCCON, and COCCON. A follow-up side meeting is planned for the SIT Technical Workshop and the topic will be included in the GHG session of the Technical Workshop.

Upcoming Meetings / Events

* The WMO Observation in Global Greenhouse Gas Watch meeting will be held on October 3-5, 2023, in Geneva, Switzerland.
* WGClimate-19 will be held from October 16-17, 2023 (preceding SIT Technical Workshop, at ESA ESRIN)
* COP28 and Earth Information Day will be held from November 30 to December 12, 2023, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
* AGU Session: Planning for Observation Continuity: Scientific Needs, Decision-Support Value, and the Practical Challenges will be held on December 11-15, 2023, in San Francisco, CA, USA.

**WGISS**

Makoto Natsuisaka (JAXA, WGISS Chair) reported:

* WGISS Chair attended the New Space Task Team meeting on July 27 and August 23, 2023. A request was made to all the members of the Task team to review the description of the CEOS interoperability framework. The Chair also requested all WGISS members to review the framework.
* A Technology Exploration Interest Group *ad hoc* meeting regarding the AI/ML White Paper initiative was held on August 2, 2023. Use cases are being gathered and additional use cases are welcome. The draft for the AI/ML white paper is in progress.
* The WGISS Executive meeting took place on August 7, 2023, during which there was a discussion regarding agenda coordination for the upcoming WGISS-56 meeting. CGMS and SEO will be invited to present on cloud use.
* A workshop led by Esther Conway from UKSA on *“Jupyter Notebooks as a shareable resource for CEOS”* will also be organised on October 26-27, 2023. Detailed information on the workshop is available in the SEC-311 written reports. All interested individuals are welcome to join the workshop.
* The monthly meeting of the CEOS Interoperability Framework was held on August 23, 2023. Further refinement of the Interoperability Framework Factors was achieved by reconsidering duplication and overlap of topics. Associated groups for the work plan activities were also assigned. The focus areas are now as follows:

1. Vocabulary (Semantics)
2. Architecture
3. Interfacing (Accessibility)
4. Quality
5. Policy

* The WGISS Chair participated in the WGDisaster-20 meeting and introduced ongoing activities within WGISS. The discussion led to the identification of potential collaboration areas for CEOS Earth Analytics Interoperability Lab and pilot projects related to AI/ML. WGISS and WGDisasters will continue to communicate with each other to progress collaboration areas.
* The WGISS-56 meeting will be hosted by CNES in Paris, France, on October 24-26, 2023.

**WGCapD**

Jorge Del Rio Vera (UNOOSA, WGCapD Chair) reported:

* The group welcomed the nomination for incoming WGCapD Vice Chair, Julio Cesar Castillo Urdapilleta from the Mexican Space Agency.
* A webinar session was organised with the National University of Itapua, with speakers from NASA, NOAA, and the European Copernicus program where WGCapD was invited to give a presentation. The session was declared of national interest for Paraguay.
* Presentation of the results of the recent SELPER training is attached to the WGCapD written report for SEC-311.
* Presentation of the upcoming UN/Austria Workshop will take place next week. The presentation has been attached to the WGCapD written report for SEC-311.
* The latest activities of EOTEC DevNet are available on the website [here](https://eotecdev.net/).
* Registration for the EOTEC DevNet Drought Working Group Meeting is now open: <https://eotecdev.net/taking-action-on-drought-kick-off-meeting-of-our-new-working-group/>
* There will be a joint WGISS and WGCapD technical session on Jupyter notebooks with the aim of preparing a catalogue and identifying gaps. The meeting will be held during the WGISS-56 meeting on October 24-26, 2023.

**WGCV**

Matt Steventon (WGCV Secretariat) reported on behalf of Philippe Goryl (ESA, WGCV Chair):

* The organisation of the joint GSICS and CEOS WGCV Pre-Flight Calibration Workshop is progressing. The dates for the workshop have been confirmed as November 19-21, 2024, at ESA ESTEC in the Netherlands. A save the date announcement has been made and the organisation committee will meet in October 2023 to discuss the timeline and programme organisation.
* The SI-Traceable Satellite (SITSat) Task Team Terms of Reference were endorsed at the WGCV-52 meeting. The group composition is being finalised. It will include the participation of GSICS representatives. A kick-off meeting is being planned for late September or early October.
* The IVOS subgroup will meet in September 2023 in Germany, hosted by DLR. Among other discussions, as a response to a JACIE and VH-RODA action, the creation of a radiometric matchup database for very high-resolution sensors will be presented and discussed.
* The Fiducial Reference Measurement (FRM) Assessment Framework is being iterated and will be communicated soon. WGCV will be undertaking some pilot projects to check if they are fit for purpose. Results are expected at WGCV-53. A reference paper was written to present the concept: <https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202308.1421.v1>
* Nominations are welcome for a new Terrain Mapping Subgroup (TMSG) Co-Chair.
* The tentative plan for WGCV-53 is to hold the meeting in Cordoba, Argentina, hosted by CONAE. The preferred dates for the meeting are March 4-8, 2024. This is being confirmed with CONAE. Planning teleconferences are expected to start shortly.

1. **SEO Report**

David Borges (SEO, NASA) reported:

* The CEOS Communication Team, in partnership with JAXA, have published the latest CEOS Newsletter article: [CEOS at IGARSS 2023](https://earth.jaxa.jp/ceos-newsletter/2023/08/31/ceos-at-igarss-2023/). SEC is invited to review.
* The 2023 GEO Week Ministerial Summit will be held in Cape Town, South Africa on November 6-10, 2023. The SEO team will host the CEOS exhibition booth. The CEOS Communications Team is finalising the CEOS Booth design. All CEOS entities are invited to contribute content and are invited to let Dave Borges know if you are attending in person and wish to support the booth. Thanks to WGDisasters as there will be some strong representation from them at GEO Week 2023.
* The monthly SDG Coordination Group meeting was held on August 29, 2023. The Coordination Group confirmed topics for discussion at the SIT Technical Workshop side meeting and during SIT Technical Workshop Sessions 4 and 8. The incoming SIT Chair, JAXA, has been invited to attend SDG Coordination Group meetings to ensure a seamless transition of SDG Coordination Group strategic leadership.
* SEO is contributing to the WGISS Technology Exploration Interest Group AI/ML White Paper, providing feedback and an optional standardised use case template that could be used by all contributors.

1. **AOB**

**COAST Virtual Constellation Proposal**

Charles Wooldridge (NOAA) provided an update on the discussion from SEC-310 regarding the future of the COAST *Ad Hoc* Team and Ocean Coordination Group. He is working together with Paul Di Giacomo and Merry Beth Neely to draft the initial proposal for a COAST Virtual Constellation (VC) which will soon be shared with the Ocean Coordination Group. The aim is to have the proposal ready for presentation at the 2023 SIT Technical Workshop.

**International Coordination Group for Spaceborne Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) Missions**

Eric Laliberté (CSA) noted the activity of the International Coordination Group for Spaceborne Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) Missions, in which several CEOS agencies are represented, and highlighted the potential for overlap and redundancy. He suggested a discussion take place to explore how to better coordinate the efforts of CEOS and this group. More information on the International Coordination Group for Spaceborne Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) Missions can be found on their website: <https://intl-sar-coord-group.space/>

**CEOS and New Space Joint Action on Policy**

Jorge Rio Del Vera (UNOOSA, WGCapD Chair) recalled the recent circulation of information concerning new 5G terrestrial band allocation and the impact on SAR Earth observations. He suggested that this type of interaction with policy matters could be a useful focus for the New Space Task Team report. Consideration could be given to the possibility of forming a united front with New Space for policy-related matters and interventions.

## Next Meeting and Adjournment

Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, CEOS Chair) thanked everyone for participating in SEC-311. SEC-312 will be held on September 28, 2023, at 7 AM US East. The plan for CEOS SEC teleconferences/meetings leading up to the 2023 Plenary is as follows (typically Thursday):

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| SEC-312: September 28, 2023  SEC-313: October 17, 2023 (SIT Technical Workshop)  SEC-314: November 14, 2023 (CEOS Plenary) |  |

The start time for all teleconferences will be 7 AM US East. Face-to-face meeting times will be advised closer to the dates.