**Minutes V1.0**

**314th CEOS SECRETARIAT MEETING**

Tuesday 14 November 2023

Chaired by GISTDA

**Participants**

**CEO:** Marie-Claire Greening

**CSA:** Eric Laliberté, Frederic Fournier

**EUMETSAT:** Paul Counet

**ESA SIT Chair Team:**  Ivan Petiteville

**GISTDA:** Pakorn Apaphant, Tanita Suepa, Poramet Thuwakham, Atipat Wattanuntachai, Raksina Lekthanoo, Matt Steventon, Libby Rose, Stephen Ward

**JAXA:** Takeshi Hirabayashi, Osamu Ochiai, Yuko Nakamura, Satoshi Uenuma

**NASA:** Christine Bognar, Lawrence Friedl

**NOAA:** Charles Wooldridge, Katy Matthews, Kelly Turner

**SEO:** Dave Borges

**WGCapD:** Dan Matsapola

**WGCV:**  Philippe Goryl

**WGClimate:** Jeff Privette

**WGDisasters:**  Helene De Boissezon, Laura Frulla

**WGISS:**  Makoto Natsuisaka, Tom Sohre

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

Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, CEOS Chair) welcomed everyone to CEOS SEC-314, and to Thailand. SEC-314 will be the last CEOS Secretariat meeting chaired by GISTDA. Pakorn thanked the Secretariat for their support over the last year.

No additional items were added to the agenda. All actions arising from previous Secretariat meetings have now been closed.

1. **CEOS Leadership Continuity**

**CEOS Executive Officer**

Paul Counet (EUMETSAT) noted that EUMETSAT has worked with the CEOS Secretariat and various European CEOS Agencies on the first phase of the rotation agreed upon by the 2022 CEOS Plenary to ensure CEOS Executive Officer continuity. With the support of these agencies, EUMETSAT and ESA will ensure the role is covered for the next four years (2024-2027). EUMETSAT recently held an open Invitation to Tender (ITT), and subsequently chose Reseau Consulting, based in Vienna. The role will be supported by two people, with [Mr. Steven Ramage](https://www.linkedin.com/in/stevenr) being the principal. The contract covers an initial two-year term, with an additional two years as an option. EUMETSAT will coordinate with current CEOS Executive Officer, Marie-Claire Greening, to ensure a smooth transition on the development of the next CEOS Work Plan and other matters underway.

**Working Groups and Virtual Constellations**

Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, CEOS Chair) noted three nominations for Working Group Vice Chairs will be presented to the 2023 CEOS Plenary. Each will serve two years as Working Group Vice Chair (2024-2025), followed by two years as Working Group Chair (2026-2027). The CEOS Secretariat was reminded to consider the outlook for future nominations for WGCV and WGClimate; both WGs will transition leadership at the 2024 CEOS Plenary. Pakorn encouraged SEC members to coordinate within their geographic regions to ensure that strong candidates with the backing of their respective agencies are nominated for these positions next year.

Among the seven CEOS Virtual Constellations, SST-VC will transition to a new Co-lead in December 2023. Dr. Ed Armstrong (NASA/JPL), who served as Co-lead for four years will step down and Dr. Misako Kachi (JAXA) will become a Co-lead, joining Dr. Christo Whittle from the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research/Satellite Applications Centre (CSIR/SAC), who will remain as the other Co-lead. Dr. Armstrong will continue to contribute as an SST-VC member.

1. **Membership Application**

Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, CEOS Chair) reported that a letter of nomination to become a CEOS Associate has been received from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). The matter is decisional at this year’s plenary and will be discussed during agenda item 5.1.

1. **UNFCCC COP 28 Update**

Jeff Privette (NOAA, WGClimate Chair) reported that WGClimate will contribute to Earth Information Day at UNFCCC COP 28. Lars Peter Riishojgaard from WMO will present on the Global Greenhouse Gas Watch (GGGW) project.

‘World Cafe’ events will be run throughout COP 28 as rotating groups, giving participants an opportunity to speak with a variety of subject matter experts. Jeff invited experts from CEOS Agencies who are attending COP 28 to contribute to this event.

1. **GEO Week 2023 Report**

Marie-Claire Greening (CEOS Executive Officer) reported on GEO Week 2023, which was held last week, 6-10 November, in Cape Town, South Africa:

* It was a very large and well-attended event. Monday and Tuesday featured many workshops, networking opportunities, and ‘flash talks’. The GEO Plenary was held on Wednesday and Thursday.
* The GEO Post-2025 Strategy was presented and adopted. There was mostly resounding support from members. However, a few concerns remained regarding the use of the term ‘Earth Intelligence’. The tagline for the strategy is “Earth Intelligence for All”. Development of the GEO Post-2025 Implementation Plan will now follow.
* The Cape Town Declaration was also signed by GEO Ministers on November 10. This was sent to the CEOS Secretariat on the same day.
* The CEOS Systems Engineering Office (SEO) hosted the CEOS Exhibition Booth, which was well attended. WGDisasters used the opportunity of the CEOS Exhibition Booth to organise a dedicated event. The support from the SEO ensured strong representation of CEOS at GEO Week.
* Marie-Claire took the opportunity to meet with some of the CEOS Agency Principals from African agencies.
* A Paraguayan representative expressed interest in joining CEOS, and Marie-Claire explained the process.
* The GEO Ecosystems Atlas received substantial promotion, but there was a call for more funding pledges to ensure the activity can be initiated effectively.

1. **2023 CEOS Plenary**

Matt Steventon (CEOS Chair Team) noted that several documents pertaining to decisions that will be asked of the 2023 CEOS Plenary were submitted late. This includes some documents from WGDisasters that still have not been received (Proposal to establish a pre-operational Recovery Observatory 2024-2026; G-VEWERS: Global Volcano Early Warning and Eruption Response from Space proposal).

Helene De Boissezon (CNES, WGDisasters Chair) was under the impression that the G-VEWERS proposal was provided by her colleagues several days ago. Both documents were subsequently submitted during or just after CEOS SEC-314 on 14 November 2023.

Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, CEOS Chair) noted that tomorrow (15 November) the THEOS-2 satellite will fly over Chiang Rai, and the group will gather outside for an attempt at a group photo from space.

GISTDA’s *Satellite Earth Observation & Carbon Accounting* workshop held this morning went well. Pakorn thanked all speakers and contributors from CEOS Agencies for their support. It was an important opportunity for Thai data users and policy makers to meet with CEOS Agency representatives and learn from their experience. Pakorn encouraged CEOS to consider similar events in the future.

Poramet Thuwakham (GISTDA, CEOS Chair Team) shared some logistical information for the coming two days of the CEOS Plenary meeting. He thanked his GISTDA colleagues for their support.

1. **AOB**

Eric Laliberté (CSA, 2024 CEOS Chair) noted that SEC-315 will be held immediately following adjournment of the CEOS Plenary. The goals for SEC-315 will be to address any urgent issues resulting from the 2023 CEOS Plenary and to present the proposed schedule of SEC meetings for CSA’s term as 2024 CEOS Chair.

## Next Meeting and Adjournment

Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, CEOS Chair) thanked everyone for participating in SEC-314, and for their support during GISTDA’s term as CEOS Chair.