**Minutes V1.0**

**326th CEOS SECRETARIAT MEETING**

Thursday 10th October 2024

Chaired by CSA

**Participants**

**CEO Team:** Steven Ramage, Irena Drakopoulou

**CSA:** Eric Laliberté, Frederic Fournier, Matt Steventon,Libby Rose, Harvey Jones

**EUMETSAT:**  Robert Husband

**GISTDA:** Poramet Thuwakham

**JAXA SIT Chair Team:** Osamu Ochiai, Stephen Ward, Satoshi Uenuma

**LSI-VC:** Ake Rosenqvist

**NASA:** Christine Bognar

**NOAA:** Chuck Wooldridge, Katy Matthews, Adria Schwarber

**SEO:** David Borges

**UKSA:** Beth Greenaway, Harshbir Sangha, Niall Bradshaw, PatrickGibson, Shaneigh Turner

**WGCapD:** –

**WGCV:**  Philippe Goryl

**WGClimate:** Jeff Privette

**WGDisasters:**  Laura Frulla

**WGISS:**  Tom Sohre, Nitant Dube

1. **Welcome and Action Review**

Eric Laliberté (CSA, CEOS Chair) welcomed participants to SEC-326, and reviewed the agenda. No additional items were proposed.

Matt Steventon (CEOS Chair Team) reviewed the following open actions:

* 324-06: *CEOS SEC members to confirm to the WGClimate Chair (CC: CEOS SEC) whether their agencies have received an invitation to the Space Leaders’ Summit planned for UNFCCC COP 29 and to share plans regarding attendance.*
	+ Jeff Privette (NOAA, WGClimate Chair) hasn’t received any further information related to this action.
	+ Philippe Goryl (ESA, WGCV Chair) noted that ESA has received an invitation, but will not participate.
	+ Christine Bognar (NASA) noted that the invitation would likely go to the NASA Administrator’s department. She would have to double check with the NASA Office of International and Interagency Relations. There might be a scheduling conflict anyway for NASA and they are unlikely to attend.
	+ Steven Ramage (CEOS Executive Officer) included Wenying Su (NASA, WGClimate Vice Chair) on the thread with Azercosmos.
	+ Charles Wooldridge (NOAA) received a copy of the draft Space Leaders’ Pledge from the U.S. Department of State. The earlier version covered a lot of topics and raised concerns about purpose and goal for the pledge. The current version is much shorter, but not substantial. NOAA recognised that the pledge doesn’t mention any other stakeholders in the space and climate sector, only UNOOSA. CEOS, GEO, CGMS and others should be mentioned.
	+ Beth Greenaway (UKSA) noted the version of the pledge UKSA has seen had a progress report element.
	+ Osamu Ochiai (JAXA, SIT Chair Team) received the invitation letter and the draft pledge, but won’t participate in the Space Leaders’ Summit as JAXA’s president won’t be attending COP-29. JAXA also had some concerns about the content of the pledge.
	+ The action will be closed.
* 324-08: *WGDisasters Chair to provide details on the contacts that they are missing for the EW4All pillars to CEOS SEC, to see if anyone can help make a connection. This will also be discussed at SIT Technical Workshop.*
	+ The SIT Chair Team and CEOS Executive Officer participated in the WGDisasters-22 meeting last week. WGDisasters is trying to compile CEOS activities and understand the linkages with EW4All. Pillars one and two are most related to CEOS work, in particular pillar one (disaster risk). WGDisasters leadership and the SIT Chair team will report this at Plenary and lead a discussion on what CEOS should do regarding this matter.
1. **CEOS Chair Report**

Frederic Fournier (CSA, CEOS Chair Team) reported:

* The draft Montreal Statement has been updated and shared via the CEOS Plenary agenda. Feedback is welcome.
* The CEOS Chair proposal on biodiversity has also been updated and linked on the CEOS Plenary agenda. The proposal has been simplified based on feedback following SIT Technical Workshop.
* The Joint Communiqué on Biodiversity has been revised significantly in the last few weeks, thanks to receiving input from the UN CBD Secretariat. It is also available on the agenda. This document is not intended to be endorsed, as it is not mature enough. It is presented to CEOS Plenary for information and to get a sense of any barrier to its future acceptability.
* CEOS Plenary currently has about 114 registrants, including 26 virtual.
* The side meeting agenda is nearing completion.
* Any international visitor attending CEOS Plenary at CSA will require their passport at all times.
* There will be buses between the Sandman Hotel and CSA each day.
* Eric Laliberté (CSA, CEOS Chair Team) reminded everyone presenting at CEOS Plenary to focus on how CEOS Principals can help advance their work, rather than meeting reports. He encouraged everyone to optimise the time with the CEOS Principals to advance the CEOS Work Plan.

*Discussion*

* Steven Ramage (CEOS Executive Officer) recognised the Joint Communiqué on Biodiversity places a heavy role on the CEOS Chair. He suggested this should be better balanced between the SIT Chair, CEOS Executive Officer and other members of the CEOS organisation.
* Frederic Fournier (CSA, CEOS Chair Team) noted that the internal CSA Teams system does not allow for presentations from the cloud. CSA will run the slides for all presenters via a central CSA computer. Slide ‘clicker’ devices will be available.
* Katy Matthews (NOAA) suggested that the Biodiversity Study Team proposal should identify potential chairs / co-chairs for the activity.
* Eric Laliberté (CSA, CEOS Chair) confirmed that the co-leads of the Ecosystem Extent Task Team have signalled their intention to continue as co-leads of the new entity. This would just have to be formally confirmed at CEOS Plenary.
* Matt Steventon (CEOS Chair Team) noted that the call for agency reports is still open, and agencies should nominate a presenter if they would like to present. Some expected items from Day 2 of the agenda have recently been cancelled, so the agenda will be rebalanced.
* Beth Greenaway (UKSA) offered to present in more depth on the UKSA themes for 2025 if there is room on the agenda, including the ‘CEOS in Schools’ initiative. She will email the CEOS Chair team to organise this.
* Matt Steventon (CEOS Chair Team) recognised the item previously requested by CNES regarding CEOS support for the UN Ocean Conference has been replaced by an item on the Space4Ocean Alliance. This will be a report on the side meeting held at IAC the week prior to CEOS Plenary. This change was made as CNES was unable to respond to action SIT-TW-2024-11 in time for Plenary:
	+ SIT-TW-2024-11: *CNES to prepare a one-page paper outlining the request for CEOS support of the UN Ocean Conference (UNOC) to be held on June 9-13, 2025, in Nice. The topic will be discussed further at CEOS Plenary. CEOS Chair to invite CNES to discuss it at the next Secretariat meeting.*
1. **SIT Chair Report**

Osamu Ochiai (JAXA, SIT Chair Team) reported:

* SIT Technical Workshop 2024 was held in Sydney on 16-18 September 2024. The SIT Chair team thanks GA and CSIRO for their efficient and generous hosting of the event, and all the participants in-person and online for their contributions to the discussions.
* The SIT Chair Team is following up on the UNFCCC Global Stocktake (GST) items and thanks WGClimate for their continued support to develop the lessons learned from GST1.
* The Greenhouse Gas (GHG) activities are also progressing well, with Issue 2 of the CEOS GHG Roadmap submitted for endorsement at CEOS Plenary.
* Draft minutes and actions have already been shared and actionees are encouraged to undertake the necessary work to support Plenary discussions.
* Attached to the SIT Chair’s written report for SEC-326 was a draft initial response to WMO regarding EW4All, responding to a letter received from WMO on September 20, 2023. The letter addressed CEOS member agencies rather than CEOS itself, so clarity is needed regarding the request for CEOS. It is unclear who to send the response to, advice from the CEOS Secretariat is welcomed.

*Discussion*

* Steven Ramage (CEOS Executive Officer) recognised that the letter was sent by Wenjian Zhang, who was very senior at WMO. Hence, he suggests sending the response to the Secretary General, while ensuring Gianpaolo Balsamo and Natalia Donoho are also copied on the response. The SIT Chair Team will share the proposed communication with Albert Fischer and Natalia Donoho first.

Land Surface Imaging Virtual Constellation (LSI-VC) Report

Ake Rosenqvist (JAXA) reported on behalf of Takeo Tadono (JAXA, LSI-VC Co-lead):

* JAXA (Takeo Tadono) has been added as a co-lead for LSI-VC, recognising the long-term contribution of JAXA to LSI-VC activities, including leadership of the CEOS-ARD for Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) specifications and contributions to Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) topics – particularly related to mangroves and wetlands.
* LSI-VC-16 was hosted by Geoscience Australia in Canberra, the week after the SIT Technical Workshop. The meeting included the second commercial engagement workshop for LSI-VC and CEOS-ARD, following the previous one in Tokyo at LSI-VC-15. Four Australian companies participated, who all showed great interest in CEOS-ARD and engagement with CEOS in general.
* LSI-VC has begun the process of consolidating the optical CEOS-ARD specifications, following the example of the SAR specifications.
* LSI-VC has also been discussing approaches to increase consistency across the different CEOS-ARD specifications and to introduce more rigour into the version and history tracking, via the CEOS-ARD GitHub repository.
* JAXA and ESA are Observer Organisations to the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. STRP is similar to UNFCCC’s SBSTA. At the last STRP meeting in January 2024, there was a recognition of the need for improved mapping of wetlands and to address gaps in coverage of wetlands, to improve the ability of parties to report to the Ramsar Convention. Many parties lack the ability to comprehensively map their wetlands.
* At the Ramsar Standing Committee meeting in June 2024, the following decision was recorded:
	+ SC63-30: “*… requested the STRP, working with the Secretariat, to organise a consultation with the Earth observation community on development of an initiative to foster dialogue, knowledge exchange and guidance for Earth observation in support of wetland inventory, assessment monitoring and conservation.”*
* JAXA, ESA, and GEO Wetlands will coordinate to respond to this decision. EO should become a high priority task in the next Ramsar STRP work plan, which will start being defined next year. This presents an opportunity for CEOS to engage more closely with the Ramsar Convention and to have more recognition of wetland monitoring. CEOS Secretariat awareness and guidance on how to best respond is welcomed.
* The LSI-VC GEOGLAM Subgroup lead, Alyssa Whitcraft (NASA/UMD), will present at CEOS Plenary, as a follow up to the SIT-39 presentation, and the following actions:
	+ SIT-39-05: CEOS Agencies to identify points of contact to contribute to the LSI-VC Subgroup on GEOGLAM (GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring initiative).
	+ SIT-39-06: SIT Chair to confer with LSI-VC and its GEOGLAM Subgroup leads regarding the visibility of CEOS Agriculture activities.
* Agriculture is an important and currently underrepresented pillar of the CEOS AFOLU Roadmap.
* LSI-VC is also following up action SIT-39-09: *Relevant CEOS Agencies are asked to designate a point of contact for engagement in the LSI-VC Polarimetric Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (PolInSAR) Team, which includes support for systematic observations over Reference Sites.* CEOS Secretariat attention and follow up is requested. The SIT Chair Team has also sent out a call for agencies to designate points of contact for this activity.

*Discussion*

* Eric Laliberté (CSA, CEOS Chair) appreciated the report from LSI-VC and welcomed invites for other Virtual Constellations at future Secretariat meetings. With the recent engagement with UNCCD, UN CBD, Ramsar, and others, it is clear there is a lot more awareness about the importance of space-based EO. CEOS should think carefully about the overall approach to manage engagement.
* Steven Ramage (CEOS Executive Officer) recalled action SEC-324-03:
	+ *CEOS Executive Officer to coordinate submissions from CEOS Agencies to the GEO Work Programme for 2025-2027, and report at CEOS Plenary regarding the status of these submissions.*
* It would be useful for the CEOS Executive Officer to understand if LSI-VC intends to submit any proposals for the new GEO Work Programme, in particular around the GEO-Wetlands activities.
* Ake Rosenqvist (JAXA) noted that he and others from CEOS agencies and GEO-Wetlands are in regular contact with the Ramsar STRP and Secretariat. A new proposal for GEO-Wetlands is under preparation. There will be representation across the GEO and Ramsar STRP work plans in some fashion.
1. **CEOS Executive Officer (CEO) Report**

Steven Ramage (CEOS Executive Officer) reported:

CEOS Plenary decision items

* The following items are included in the draft Plenary agenda:
	+ Item 1.3: Endorsement of the minor revision to the CEOS Strategic Guidance Document.
	+ Item 2.4: Proposal regarding the evolution of the EETT and way forward to a sustained presence for biodiversity in CEOS.
	+ Item 3.2: Endorsement of Medhavy Thankappan from Geoscience Australia (GA) as the next Working Group Calibration and Validation (WGCV) Vice Chair (2025-2026) and subsequently WGCV Chair (2027-2028).
	+ Item 3.5: Endorsement of the updated WGISS Terms of Reference.
	+ Item 3.6: Endorsement of Vincent-Henri Peuch from the European Centre for Medium- Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) for the position of next WG Climate Vice Chair (2025-2026) and subsequently WG Climate Chair (2027-2028).
	+ Item 3.6: Endorsement of the CEOS-CGMS Statement to UNFCCC COP 29 SBSTA 61.
	+ Item 4.4: Endorsement of Issue 2 of the CEOS-CGMS Greenhouse Gas Roadmap.
	+ Item 7.4: Endorsement of the CEOS-ARD Strategy 2024.
	+ Item 10.1: Endorse the 2024 CEOS Plenary Montréal Statement.
	+ Item 10.2: Endorse the nomination for the 2026 CEOS Chair.

UNCCD

* The external request process review of the letter from UNCCD is at Step C, thanks to the effort by the SIT Chair Team. The progress and outcome of Step B was presented at SIT Technical Workshop.
* The SDG Coordination Group has been invited to UNCCD COP-16 in December this year. However, there have been challenges in ensuring someone can attend on behalf of CEOS, as they would have to attend as part of their national delegation. Hence, the SDG Coordination Group would like to explore the possibility of CEOS gaining accreditation as a Civil Society Organisation (CSO) of UNCCD.
	+ As a CSO, there would be no direct demand of CEOS, however it would give CEOS a more formal role at UNCCD COPs. This would not be targeted for COP-16 as it is too late, however the SDG Coordination Group would like to have something in place to allow CEOS to formally attend COP-17 in 2026.
	+ It was suggested that when formally responding to the letter, CEOS could include a request for accreditation as a CSO.

*Discussion*

* David Borges (SEO, NASA) noted that Neil Sims (CSIRO, SDG Coordination Group member) is hoping to attend COP-16 with the Australian delegation and will ensure a connection with CEOS. The timeframe for the potential CSO accreditation would be before UNCCD COP-17, so further discussion on this will take place in 2025.
* Eric Laliberté (CSA, CEOS Chair) understands the desire for CSO accreditation, however we must keep in mind that CEOS has no central budget and funding support is still required from individual agencies.
* Katy Matthews (NOAA) asked whether the underlying data from the CEOS Executive Officer’s report on action SIT-39-01 during SIT Technical Workshop will be made available.

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| **326-01** | CEOS Executive Officer to provide to CEOS Secretariat the underlying data compiled for the assessment of the level of activity of all CEOS constituent groups (SIT-39-01), as presented during SIT Technical Workshop item 1.3. | **SEC-329** |

Steven Ramage (CEOS Executive Officer) continued the report:

GEO Symposium, Open Data and Open Knowledge Workshop and Programme Board

* The CEOS Executive Officer participated in a panel at the GEO Symposium on Biodiversity and Ecosystems. A presentation was made on the work of the CEOS Ecosystem Extent Task Team.
* There were a few questions regarding commercial sector engagement with CEOS, highlighting the need for commercial sector guidance of the type being worked on by the SEO and CEOS Chair (covered under the SEO report below).
* The CEOS Executive Officer also moderated a panel at the Open Data and Open Knowledge workshop on space-based Data. There were some discussions around analysis ready data standards, to which Steven pointed the group to CEOS-ARD. Other relevant topics included:
	+ Advocating for greater adoption of open standards and Open Data Cubes in the GEO community.
	+ Enhancing capabilities for joint calibration and validation of remote sensing data and products. References made to QA4EO and CEOS WGCV.
	+ Strengthening regional collaboration and capacity development around space-based data in GEO, including links to *in situ* data.
* Following all these discussions, the CEOS Executive Officer has ensured that future work on the GEO Infrastructure team will incorporate work done by CEOS.
* Katy shared the current [open call for GEO Work Programme inputs](https://earthobservations.org/resources/post-2025-gwp-call). The deadline is 31 October, and there are some proposal writing workshops next week on 14 and 16 October. The topics should be aligned with the post-2025 vision (Earth Intelligence For All).

## Working Group Reports

**WGClimate**

Jeff Privette (NOAA, WGClimate Chair) reported:

* WGClimate-21 was held on October 7th as a virtual, half-day meeting. This was a condensed meeting, focusing on activity status updates and final adjustments for CEOS Plenary.
* The Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Task Team has worked over the summer to finalise Issue 2 of the CEOS GHG Roadmap, which has been shared with the CEOS community for review ahead of its endorsement at CEOS Plenary.
* For UNFCCC COP-29 Earth Information Day, WGClimate is awaiting SBSTA decisions on three topical themes submitted for consideration. It will likely be a half-day only event. There will not be a meeting on topical themes as was done last year.
* Wenying Su (NASA, WGClimate Vice Chair) has progressed the Global Stocktake (GST) Lessons Learned document, which will be finalised in time for SIT-40.
* Regarding the Space Agency Response to the GCOS Implementation Plan, all responses have been compiled, and this compilation will be shared before the review by GCOS in early 2025.
* The ECV Inventory Gap Analysis and Coordinated Action Plan will have a soft release on 18 October 2024. This will no longer be for endorsement at CEOS Plenary, and the team will seek virtual endorsement by SIT-40 instead.

*Discussion*

* Matt Steventon (CEOS Chair Team) sought clarification on whether the CEOS-CGMS SBSTA Statement is presented for endorsement at CEOS Plenary. Originally the deadline for submission to UKSA and subsequent communication to the UK delegation to SBSTA was 1 October 2024. As such, the Statement was marked as for information only at CEOS Plenary, in anticipation of a virtual endorsement process.
* Beth Greenaway (UKSA) noted that UKSA has had requests for edits to the SBSTA Statement, including from GEO. Jeff Privette (NOAA, WGClimate Chair) is aware of this request, and his position is that the suggested addition is not relevant, and the document should be closed for edits.
* Jeff noted that the SBSTA Statement has gone through a CEOS Principal review via email, but not formal endorsement. Therefore, it should be considered for endorsement at CEOS Plenary.

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| **326-02** | CEOS Chair Team to ensure the CEOS-CGMS SBSTA Statement is marked as ‘for endorsement’ at CEOS Plenary. References to the ‘ECV Inventory Gap Analysis and Coordinated Action Plan’ should also be updated to reflect that it will not be presented for endorsement at CEOS Plenary 2024. | **COMPLETE** |

**WGDisasters**

Laura Frulla (CONAE, WGDisasters Chair) reported:

* WGDisasters-22 was held in Budapest on 1-4 October 2024.
* The existing Wildfire pilot is coming to an end, and hence WGDisasters is considering a new pilot led by the Australian National University. It was agreed to study the possibility of a fuel-based wildfire probability and mitigation pilot and develop a proposal for WGDisasters-23. The fire prevention aspect has a strong link with EW4All and Biodiversity.
* Lilit Minasyan from the Crisis Management State Academy of Armenia presented the latest activation of the Recovery Observatory Demonstrator due to flooding in Armenia.
* A small group was designated to help develop materials for the EW4All presentation to the CEOS Plenary, based on existing and planned interactions with WMO and UNDRR. The main expected contributions are to Pillar 1 and to some extent Pillar 2. A broader CEOS approach to EW4All is required in the coming months and WGDisasters will participate in this through the recently created subgroup.
* WGDisasters-22 actions are now being compiled, and the work plan will be updated accordingly.
* WGDisasters-23 will be held in March 2025 (dates TBC) in Italy at the invitation of the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV). WGDisasters-24 will be held in September (dates TBC) in Argentina at the invitation of CONAE.

**WGCapD**

WGCapD was not represented at SEC-326.

**WGCV**

Philippe Goryl (ESA, WGCV Chair) reported:

* Next week is the WGCV-54/WGISS-58 joint meeting at USGS EROS, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA on 15-18 October 2024. Final agenda and logistical preparations are underway.
* The preliminary agenda for the [Workshop on Pre-flight Calibration and Characterisation of Optical Satellite Instruments for Earth Observation](https://ceos.org/meetings/workshop-on-optical-space-sensor-pre-flight-calibration-and-characterisation/) was released, following the confirmation of oral and poster presentations. The workshop is split according to six key themes related to the development and characterisation of satellite instrument calibration, and also includes sessions for poster presentation and discussions.
* The *Best Practices for the Validation of Aerosol, Cloud, and Precipitation Profiles (ACPPV)* was finalised and shared with the WGCV community, prior to WGCV-54 endorsement and 2024 CEOS Plenary presentation (for information).
* A *Good Practice Guidelines for UAV-based Surface Reflectance Validation* report will be presented to WGCV-54 for endorsement, and then to Plenary for information.
* WGCV (Philippe Goryl, Nigel Fox, Peter Strobl) attended the first Stakeholder Meeting of the CIPM (International Committee for Weights and Measures) Sectoral Task Group on Climate Change and Environment (on 16-18 September 2024, in Sevres, France). The workshop aimed to provide a global focal point for metrology activities related to climate change and the environment. Topics were related to two main themes:
	+ Metrology in support of the physical science basis of climate change and climate observations.
	+ Metrology as an integral component of operational systems to estimate greenhouse gas emissions based on accurate measurements and analyses.
* CEOS WGCV plays a key role in assessing and providing Fiducial Reference Measurements (FRMs), bridging field observations, metrology and Earth observations. Rigorous metrology principles are fundamental for Cal/Val and EO activities, and feedback is measurable in terms of data trustability and quality assurance/certification. Involvement of metrology principles from the beginning of a satellite development project (in terms of FRM and uncertainty budgets in the products) are appreciated by the community.
* There is an interest in having more ground field networks to serve for Cal/Val activities, and eventually as FRM providers. To achieve that WGCV will try to foster more collaboration with networks such as EURAMET and continue and reinforce the collaboration with WMO. WGCV plays a major role in this domain and will contribute to a session at the ESA Living Planet Symposium 2025.

**WGISS**

Tom Sohre (USGS, WGISS Chair) reported:

* WGISS-58 will be held next week at USGS EROS in Sioux Falls, SD, USA. The meeting will be held jointly with WGCV-54.

## CEOS Systems Engineering Office (SEO) Report

David Borges (SEO, NASA) reported:

* The CEOS Chair and SEO have developed draft “CEOS Commercial Engagement language”, splitting an existing SEC action into SEC-324-01a to address CEOS-external language to be posted to CEOS website, and SEC-324-01b to address CEOS-internal language to be distributed across CEOS internally. The draft text was shared with the SEO written report.
	+ The headline message is that the commercial sector is welcome to participate at the working level (e.g., Working Groups, Virtual Constellations), while not at the executive level (e.g., CEOS Plenary and SIT).
* The proposal is to address SEC-324-01 at the SEC level rather than Plenary, and David requested feedback by SEC-329, scheduled for November 14. SEC-324-01 will be closed and replaced by the following new actions.

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| **326-03** | CEOS Secretariat to review the draft external language around CEOS commercial engagement, which is proposed to be posted on the CEOS website. | **SEC-329** |
| **326-04** | CEOS Secretariat to review the draft internal language around CEOS commercial engagement, which will be distributed internally to advise CEOS entities on the rules for their engagement with the commercial sector. | **SEC-329** |

*Discussion*

* Eric Laliberté (CSA, CEOS Chair) agreed with the proposed actions.
* Eric noted that Canadian company Catalyst/PCI Geomatics requested to present at CEOS Plenary. He will deny this request. It highlights the need for improved guidance. Eric plans to direct them to a new page on the CEOS website, to be prepared by the SEO, which provides a consolidated list of contacts for all CEOS working teams.

David Borges (SEO, NASA) continued:

* The SDG Coordination Group is evaluating representation at UNCCD COP-16, per official requests to attend and participate in a Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Unit High Interactive Dialog Panel, received from UNCCD, GEO-LDN, and the GEO Secretariat.
* The *“CEOS Through the Years: 1984-2023”* Storymap has been completed by the CEOS Communications Team and added to the website: <https://ceos.org/about-ceos/history/>

## AOB

Charles Wooldridge (NOAA) announced his retirement. His final day of work will be November 15, 2024. Charles will be in Montreal and looks forward to farewelling CEOS friends at that occasion. Katy Matthews will be stepping up as the primary point of contact for NOAA in CEOS.

CEOS Secretariat members thanked Charles for his friendship and years of service to CEOS.

## Next Meeting and Adjournment

Eric Laliberté (CSA, CEOS Chair) thanked the participants of SEC-326. The next CEOS Secretariat meeting, SEC-327, will be held at CEOS Plenary, at 9am (Montreal time) on Tuesday 22 October. Eric wished all those travelling to Montreal a safe journey.