

CEOS SEC-337 SIT Chair Written Report

CEOS Entity: SIT Chair Team

Prepared by: JAXA

- Discussions with IMEO continue. The Methane Best Practices document is being progressed by Paul Green, John Worden and team and will be circulated for virtual endorsement in the coming month or so.
- The SIT Chair Team is working with the GHG Task Team to prototype a controlled release database in collaboration with IMEO.
- A follow up call with the Global Carbon Project was held in early July and agreed to identify a suitable interface person in CEOS to sustain the discussion. Clement Albergel of ESA has volunteered to be the contact point.
- Neha Hunka of ESA has volunteered to step in as AFOLU Co-lead for ESA
- All CEOS agencies are encouraged to register ASAP (and no later than August 18) for SIT TW in Darmstadt on 9-11 September, kindly hosted by EUMETSAT
- The SIT TW draft agenda is advancing. The current (draft) week at a glance is as follows:

Tuesday, September 9	Wednesday, September 10	Thursday, September 11
Side Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEC-339 (<i>closed meeting</i>)• FutureARD• 2026 CEOS Chair Themes• CEOS COAST-VC - Demonstrations of New Products & Improvements• Unlocking EO for public service – UKSA Theme• AFOLU, GFOI & Country Engagement• Biodiversity Study Team	Welcome Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Aquatic Carbon EO Data Impact Interoperability and Data Quality Greenhouse Gas Observations	Virtual Constellations: State of the Global Observing System Other Working Group and Thematic Topics Core Business Greenhouse Gas Observations Systems Engineering Office CEOS Chair and SIT Chair Themes (current and future) Biodiversity
	TBA	

- A SIT TW session titled "Virtual Constellations: State of the Global Observing System" will invite all VCs to give a brief 10-15 minute presentation, with content to follow a prescribed template. We will ask that all VCs stick to three slides only, one slide providing a visual timeline of all missions relevant to the Virtual Constellation (the CEOS MIM Database team will assist with automated production of consistent timelines and will be in touch regarding

that), one slide covering key planning/coordination notes for SIT and CEOS agency awareness, and one slide focused on thematic products and applications.

- The session will conclude with a discussion on how we might introduce more systematic and consistent VC reporting so that we can achieve regular overviews of gaps and opportunities. We hope this will also be an opportunity to clarify how VCs can make suggestions and reports to CEOS leadership meetings regarding such gaps and opportunities.
- Some other headline objectives/themes of SIT TW include:
 - CEOS AFOLU Roadmap Implementation
 - Aquatic Carbon Roadmap Update
 - WGClimat Terms of Reference and CDR Inventory updates
 - Review Draft CEOS Global Stocktake Strategy Issue 2
 - Review WGISS Interoperability Handbook v2
 - Future of CEOS Analysis Ready Data
 - Methane Best Practices Implementation and IMEO Collaborations
 - Proposal for a sustained presence for biodiversity within CEOS

CEOS SEC-337 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: CEO Team

Prepared by: Eirini (Irena) Drakopoulou, July 2025

1. Ongoing work with working groups, virtual constellations and others updating the deliverables in the tracking tool.
2. Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy
3. The CEO team joined this meeting where the CEO delivered an update on the work plan and Eirini (Irena) Drakopoulou presented EOMI during the first day of the annual meeting in UNCopuos.
4. [Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: 2025 \(COPUOS 68\)](#):
25 June - 4 July 2025 | Vienna, Austria
5. Update on discussions with agencies wanting to become Associates or Members in particular: AfSA , Hellenic Space Centre (HSC) the CEO team has assisted the drafting of the formal letter expressing interest in becoming a CEOS Member. It is currently being reviewed by the board members of HSC and it will be shared with the CEOS Secretariat for review. The same process has been followed by the Institute of Space Studies of Catalonia on the drafting of the formal letter expressing interest in becoming a CEOS Associate Member. Kenyan Space Agency (KSA) have also communicated with the CEO team and received the relevant guidance. The Norwegian Space Agency (NOSA) was nominated as the CEOS Chair for 2027.
6. Working Group Climate
7. Working Group Disasters
8. Working Group on Information Systems and Services
9. Working Group on Calibration and Validation
1. The CEO provided an update/overview at the meeting in India (WGCV-55: 8-11 July 2025) following CEOS meetings take place in the coming weeks.
2. ESA Living Symposium (LPS), the whole CEO team participated in the Symposium
3. SDG Coordination Group will be rescheduled. The CEO team has already communicated with the SEO team about it.

The CEOS calendar is regularly updated, and members of the CEOS Secretariat are requested to continue providing input regarding upcoming events.

Upcoming events

The following CEOS meetings take place in the coming weeks:

SIT

- [2025 SIT Technical Workshop](#) : September 9th - 11th, 2025 | Darmstadt, Germany

Plenary

- [39th CEOS Plenary](#) : November 4th - 6th, 2025 | Bath, UK

Working Groups

- [WGDisasters-24](#) : September 29th - October 5th, 2025 | Bariloche, Argentina
- [WGISS-60](#) : October 13th - 17th, 2025 | Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany
- [WGClimate-23](#) : October 24th, 2025 | Virtual
- [WGCV SAR Subgroup Meeting](#) : October 27th - 30th, 2025 | Vancouver, Canada

Virtual Constellations

- [LSI-VC-18](#) : September 3rd - 5th, 2025 | Ispra, Italy

The next external meetings in July and August 2025 include:

- [IGARSS 2025](#) : August 4th - 8th, 2025 | Brisbane, Australia
- [76th International Astronautical Congress](#) : September 29th - October 3rd, 2025 | Sydney, Australia
- [UNFCCC COP-30](#) : November 10th - 21st, 2025 | Brazil
- [ESA Council Meeting at Ministerial level, CM25](#) : November 26th - 27th, 2025 | Bremen, Germany
- [AGU 25](#) : December 15th - 19th, 2025 | New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
- [WMO CM-16](#) : March 1st - 31st, 2026 | -
- [16th Session of Consultative Meetings on High-Level Policy on Satellite Matters \(CM-16\)](#) : March 3rd - 4th, 2026 | Geneva, Switzerland

CEOS SEC-337 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: SEO

Prepared by: David Borges

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- **CEOS L-Soft Listserv Spam/Quarantine Issue**
SEO continues to troubleshoot the Listserv issue where Microsoft flags some email traffic as spam and/or quarantine. Concurrently, SEO is doing a landscape analysis and exploring other distribution list platform options to determine if a wholesale shift is required. Trial systems are being developed using Mailman and Groups.io platforms with evaluation ongoing.
- **Proposal for CEOS Zenodo Implementation Process**
Over the past several years, multiple CEOS groups have approached SEO and asked if CEOS has a formal process to secure DOI for appropriate CEOS documentation. SEO developed a proposal to address these requests which was presented during SEC-336. SEO requests SEC decision on SEC-336-02 action.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- N/A

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- IGARSS 2025, Brisbane Australia, 3-8 August

CEOS SEC-337 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WGCapD

Prepared by: Daniel A. Matsapola

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance

- *On June 30 – 01 July, the WGCapD held its 14th annual meeting in hybrid format, hosted by UNOOSA during UN COPUOS, following the ESA Living Planet Symposium.*

CEOS CEO attended in person with Europe-based agencies.

- *The WGCapD-14 benefited from the 110 countries attending UN COPUOS and the rich capacity building discussions from the ESA Living Planet Symposium.*
- *ESA will become Vice Chair at CEOS Plenary 2025*
- *The Vice Chair position remains vacant after AEM resignation.*
- *Major changes at GEO Secretariat reported.*

Additional points (for written reference only):

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Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only)t

- *The 9th edition of the AfriGEO Symposium will take place in Dakar, Senegal, from **7 to 9 October 2025** and is being co-hosted by Centre de Suivi Écologique in Senegal. The theme for this year's Symposium is **From Data to Impact***
- *AmeriGEO Week will take place in Bogotá, Colombia, from **11 to 15 August 2025** and is being co-hosted by IDEAM and IGAC in partnership with Canada at the National University of Colombia.*
- *South Africa's National Space Conference will be held at CSIR International Convention Centre on **20 – 22 August 2025** under the theme "**Space for Societal Resilience, Transformation and Intelligence**"*

CEOS SEC-337 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WGClimat

Prepared by: Wenying Su, Vincent-Henri Peuch

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

1. Participation in GCOS Steering Committee Meeting

WGClimat participated in the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) Steering Committee meeting, held at INPE from July 7–10, 2025. At the meeting, GCOS decided that the next *Status Report* and *Implementation Plan* will be developed and published concurrently, with a target release in Q1 2027. This timing is intended to inform the second Global Stocktake in 2028.

- The *Status Report* will be a concise summary targeting policymakers, accompanied by a separate, detailed technical annex.
- The *Implementation Plan* will be a focused document outlining a small number of high-priority actions.
- A new set of Essential Climate Variable (ECV) requirements will be published separately in Q4 2028.

2. SBSTA 62 Outcomes

The 62nd session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) took place in Bonn, Germany, from June 16–26, 2025. Statements from GCOS, the IPCC, the World Climate Research Programme, and the World Meteorological Organization were included in the opening plenary. Key takeaways include:

- SBSTA reaffirmed the importance of sustained, systematic observation of the climate system as a foundation for scientific research.
- SBSTA welcomed progress in the IPCC's Seventh Assessment Cycle, including ongoing work on:
 - The Seventh Assessment Report,
 - A methodological report on short-lived climate forcers,
 - A Special Report on Climate Change and Cities,
 - And encouraged initiation of a methodological report on carbon dioxide removal (CDR) and carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS).
- The importance of enhancing inclusivity and regional representation in IPCC activities was emphasized.
- SBSTA highlighted the value of the research dialogue in delivering current scientific knowledge, identifying gaps and needs, and addressing research capacity constraints—particularly in developing countries, least developed countries, and small island developing States.
- Scientific needs were noted across several thematic areas, including:
 - Multi-hazard impacts of global warming,
 - Advances and gaps in attribution science,
 - Research needs and gaps in modeling sustainable mitigation pathways,

- Deployment of Carbon Dioxide Removal technologies,
- Science-based greenhouse gas reporting methodologies for carbon accounting.

3. UNFCCC Engagement Activities

- The WGClimate UNFCCC engagement team is preparing key messages for Earth Information Day and coordinating participation in events at COP 30.
- The COP 30 Side Events and Exhibits Online Registration System (SEORS) opened for applications on July 16 and will close on July 21, 2025. All submissions must be authorized by the applicant's National Focal Point or Designated Contact Point by July 28. Additional information is available at <https://seors.unfccc.int>.

4. CEOS-CGMS Statement to SBSTA 63

WGClimate is drafting the CEOS-CGMS Statement on Progress in Supporting UNFCCC Needs for Global Observations for the 63rd SBSTA session. The 2025 statement will emphasize knowledge gained from sustained Earth observation in the following key thematic areas:

- Earth's energy imbalance
- Land cover change and ecosystem dynamics
- Ice loss and glacier retreat
- Sea level rise monitoring and projection
- Early warning and disaster response

WGClimate is also seeking recent examples of how space-based observations are supporting national inventory reporting (e.g., Biennial Transparency Reports) and adaptation planning.

5. Update to WGClimate Terms of Reference

WGClimate is currently reviewing and updating its Terms of Reference to reflect evolving priorities and activities.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- WGClimate and GHG Task Team will meet with the CGMS Working Groups, ahead of CGMS Plenary on June 2, 2025. A draft agenda has been proposed.
- A side meeting at SIT Technical Workshop 2025 will be arranged to discuss space-based ocean carbon measurements with GCOS.
- WGClimate-23 will be held as a virtual meeting on Friday October 24, 2025.
- WGClimate-24 will be held jointly with the GCOS Panels the week of February 9, 2026, in Harwell, UK.

CEOS SEC-337 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: Working Group on Calibration and Validation (WGCV)

Prepared by: Cody Anderson, WGCV Chair, USGS

- WGCV-55 took place last week in Hyderabad, India (8-11 July 2025). Lively and productive discussions featured in sessions including the CEOS-FRM Assessment Framework, subgroup and agency reports, CEOS-ARD, data quality, the CEOS Product Validation Platform, the WGISS Interoperability Handbook, and WMO GSICS. WGCV thanks ISRO for hosting this excellent meeting.
 - A commercial engagement session on Thursday 10 July was attended by six Indian commercial companies, who shared their current Cal/Val activities and challenges, as well as their usage of CEOS initiatives like RadCalNet and CEOS-ARD.
 - Newspace India Ltd. (liaison between ISRO and the Indian commercial sector), SatSure, KaleidEO (SatSure subsidiary), Azista Aerospace, Pixxel, and Antaris Space. SatSure and Pixxel were very knowledgeable wrt CEOS, WGCV, and CEOS-ARD. Pixxel uses RadCalNet frequently.
 - Actions taken in the meeting aim to increase communication and sharing of WGCV initiatives and subgroup activities, advance the FRM Assessment Framework and Product Validation Platform, and continue developing guidance and protocols for Land Product Validation, pre-flight calibration, and data quality.
 - WGCV endorsed Version 2 of the Roadmap towards an Assessment Framework for CEOS-Fiducial Reference Measurements (FRMs), as well as the Land Cover and Change Map Accuracy Assessment and Area Estimation Good Practices Protocol (subject to final feedback).
- WGCV-56 will be held at USGS EROS in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, US, in April 2026. The prospect of holding this meeting jointly with LSI-VC-19 is being considered.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- The 32nd Workshop of the WGCV SAR Subgroup will be held at the Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Vancouver Canada, from 27-30 October 2025. The meeting will be hosted by SARlab of SFU and sponsored by MDA Space Canada.

CEOS SEC-337 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WG on Disasters

Prepared by: L.A. Frulla, Lorant Czaran, Andrew Eddy

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance

- *On June 18, the WGGIS and WG Disasters Chairs along with Nitant Dube, Lorant Czaran, Libby Rose, Ana Medico and Marcelo Uriburu Quirno, held a teleconference. We discussed the possibility of holding another joint meeting again (as we did in April/2023). WG Disasters proposed holding it in March next year, coinciding with the WG Disasters meeting number 25, during the terms of Lorant Czaran's (from UNOOSA) as WGDDisasters Chair, and Nitant Dube's (from ISRO) as WGISS Chair. Lorant mentioned that he was planning to hold WGD-25 in Europe, with Bonn or Vienna as possible options, and that UNSPIDER could also be involved in this meeting as an observer. One possible common topic for the meeting could be the concept of 'Decision-Ready' products, which combine a variety of datasets to provide information to decision makers.*

Additionally, Lorant may also be able to join the WGISS-60 meeting in person.

- *Two people from Kenya joined the WG Disasters: Paul Mwangi who is a Geospatial Analyst at the Disaster Risk Reduction Section of the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) and James Wanjohi Nyaga who is the Head of the Section. They expressed interest in joining the WG Disasters to explore potential collaborations from their Centre. We will meet them next week discuss the scope of this collaboration. WG Disasters, sees this as very positive because they could also be added to the EW4All Subgroup.*
- *Two oral presentations were given at the Living Planet Symposium 25 thanks of ASI participation:*
 - *Capacity Building and Technology Transfer in Earth Observation*
 - *Using satellite EO in global capabilities for disaster response*

I saw both presentations before they were presented and they were really comprehensive, clear and nice.

Additional points (for written reference only):

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Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only)t

- *The WG Disasters 24 meeting will be held in Argentina in September (dates TBC) at the invitation of CONAE, in the city of San Carlos de Bariloche, Río Negro province in the south of Argentina.*

CEOS SEC-337 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WGISS

Prepared by: Tom Sohre, Chair

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- WMO sent a request to the CEOS Secretariat regarding their “WMO Call to All Stakeholders to Collaborate on the Development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) Environmental Monitoring and Prediction Technologies, Tools and Applications”. The full letter and request is available [here](#).
 - WGISS could share a draft AI/ML white paper

Additional points (for written reference only):

- Updated [WGISS Connected Data Assets](#) webpage included [Datasets by Agency](#)
- WGISS Chair Team met with the WGDisasters Chair Team on June 18, 2025. Agreed to plan a joint meeting in March 2026 (WGISS-61).
- Matt Paget (CSIRO) will be representing WGISS within the ARD-OG.
- Published an [article for CEOS news](#) highlighting progress of AHVRR recovery efforts facilitated by WGISS.
- Participated in WGCV-55 with presentation on the current status of Interoperability Handbook Quality Factor; facilitated discussion on comments from COAST-VC and OGC on the Quality Factor.
- WGISS Chair Team will attend SIT-TW virtually to present on status of Interoperability Handbook in preparation for endorsement at Plenary

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- WGISS-60, October 13-17, 2025, Oberpfaffenhofen Germany
- Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP), July 22-25, Seattle WA (USA) + Virtual