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13 December 2019

Dear CEOS Colleagues,

On behalf of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), as the 2019-2021 Chair of the Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy (WGCapD), it is my pleasure to invite you to attend the 2020 WGCapD Annual meeting. The meeting will be held in Mountain View, California on March 9-13, 2020. NASA and the Vietnam National Space Center (VNSC) will be working with the broader WGCapD team over the next few months to prepare and finalize the agenda and discussion topics.

The WGCapD-9 Annual Meeting and its theme of “Identifying Opportunities for Synergies and Innovation” will provide an opportunity and platform to assess progress made thus far within WGCapD as well as coordinate planning for the future. During the meeting, working group members and representatives of other partner agencies from a variety of countries will share knowledge and experiences in different parts of the globe for capacity building and data democracy. Regionally focused sessions will provide an opportunity to collaborate and coordinate activities geographically and plans for a tour that could include visiting a leading private sector geospatial organization will introduce opportunities for future collaboration.

A logistics package will accompany this letter, which includes accommodation information and a room block code for the Radisson Hotel, transportation details, and local area information.

A WGCapD-9 webpage has been set up and is accessible via the following link: <http://ceos.org/meetings/wgcapd-9/>. A registration link will be added to the webpage shortly. Please register for the WGCapD-9 Annual Meeting by Jan 31st. In addition to the registration link and logistics package, you will also find the draft agenda and all pertinent documents as they become available.

We strongly encourage all colleagues requiring a visa for travel to the United States to begin that process immediately. This letter serves as an official invitation for your participation but should you require a personalized invitation letter, please let Christine Mataya (Christine.J.Mataya@nasa.gov) know as soon as possible.

On behalf of WGCapD Vice Chair Pham Thi Mai Thy and the WGCapD community, we look forward to seeing you in March in Mountain View, California. If you should have any questions, concerns, or specific requirements, please do not hesitate to contact me or Christine.

Yours sincerely,



Nancy D. Searby
2019-2021 CEOS WGCapD Chair
National Aeronautics and Space Administration