

# TERMS OF REFERENCE

## CEOS WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE (WGC)

The CEOS Working Group on Climate will:

- Review and assess, on behalf of CEOS, the generation of Fundamental Climate Data Records (FCDRs) and derived Essential Climate Variable (ECV) products supported by Member space agencies, complementary with existing entities and roles,
- Contribute to the review of compliance of satellite missions and products with the GCOS Climate Monitoring Principles and with the “Guideline for the Generation of Datasets and Products meeting GCOS Requirements” (GCOS-143),
- Identify multi-agency implementation teams for each product and review their actions, and ensure that a coherent implementation plan exists for each and every product taking full account of other pertinent international initiatives such as SCOPE-CM and science programmes,
- Make recommendations to the above teams and receive recommendations from them, for transmission to CEOS Agency Principals,
- Ensure coherence of climate product generation supported by space agencies, including with other relevant international initiatives, in particular SCOPE-CM, and
- Undertake any other relevant activities as instructed by CEOS Chair.

In addition, it will:

- Provide guidance to CEOS regarding the GEO Climate SBA implementation plan, and review relevant reports on behalf of CEOS Plenary, including:
  - o The update of documents such as the CEOS Response to GCOS requirements, and
  - o The update of reports to SBSTA/UNFCCC on CEOS climate actions, as requested;
- Support the work of GCOS in defining and delivering the Essential Climate Variables required by the UNFCCC;
- Support and advise on the overall relation of CEOS to the UNFCCC and its subsidiary bodies, and to the IPCC

In carrying out the tasks above, it will:

- Undertake an analysis, addressing each ECV in turn, of the extent to which the current status of production of satellite climate records meets the GCOS requirements, including an analysis of the consistency of definitions of ECVs,

- Work with the CEOS Virtual Constellations to ensure a coherent and consistent approach to the provision of climate records across their various topical areas,
- Promote openness, traceability and access to climate data, codes and products,
- Facilitate the inter-comparison of model outputs with data by identifying a subset of parameters key to the IPCC needs and encourage providers to deliver the necessary data in the required form,
- Interact with Science programs, such as WCRP and IGBP, to assist them in enabling their analysis, assessment and feedback to space agencies on the production of climate records
- Build on the work of the CEOS WGCV, GSICS, and the QA4EO initiative to support the calibration and validation underpinning the production of climate data records,
- Coordinate with existing in situ networks to integrate complementary measurements and observations.

The Group shall operate under the procedures for the conduct of established CEOS Working Groups.