Dear CEOS Members and Associates,

The USA National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will host the 47th meeting of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Working Group on Information Systems and Services (WGISS) on April 29 to May 2, 2019, in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

The WGISS-47 meeting will be of significant interest not only to CEOS members but also to users of CEOS data and services. This meeting will focus on the four main domains addressed in WGISS (Data Preservation and Stewardship, Data Interoperability and Use, Data Discovery and Access, and Technology Exploration). It will also include a full day workshop addressing Future Data Architectures (FDA) elements demonstrations and interoperability analysis, and dedicated working sessions on Cloud Services, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning applied to EO, and on EO ontologies.

The meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for CEOS members to present their achievements and share results and lessons learned with other agencies, and to contribute to the definition and shaping of future data architectures, standards and approaches for making data available to users in the most effective way possible.

The WGISS meeting week at a glance is provided below:

**Monday, April 29**: WGISS meeting introduction, reports from WGISS Chair, GEO Secretariat, CEOS Executive Officer, and CEOS Systems Engineering Office, and the session on Data *PRESERVATION and STEWARDSHIP (including EO ontologies session)*.

**Tuesday, April 30**: Data *DISCOVERY and ACCESS* session, *TECHNOLOGY EXPLORATION* Session (including Cloud Services, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning sessions).

**Wednesday, May 1**: Workshop on Future Data Architecture elements demonstration and interoperability.

**Thursday, May 2:** Data INTEROPERABILITY and USE Session, reports from agencies on recent advances, WGISS meeting summary and conclusions, future plans and actions.

Below are some points that we wish to highlight:

* The dates are April 29 to May 2, 2019 (Monday through Thursday)
* The meeting website is <http://ceos.org/meetings/wgiss-47/>. At this site you will find the evolving draft agenda, meeting logistics (including instructions on visas and hotel information), and registration form. Over time you will be able to access this site to locate the final agenda, the presentations, and the meeting actions and minutes.
* We ask that EVERYONE who will participate (in person or by web conference) register by clicking the "Register" button on the meeting website.
* If you wish to give an agency report, please let us know when you register, or by emailing [mvpiepgrass@gmail.com](mailto:mvpiepgrass@gmail.com).
* If you need an invitation letter please let us know asap by emailing [mvpiepgrass@gmail.com](mailto:mvpiepgrass@gmail.com).

We hope you will be able to attend, either in person or by web conference.

Best regards,

Mirko Albani, ESA, WGISS Chair

Robert Woodcock, CSIRO, WGISS Vice-chair