



CEOS Chair 2009
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19th November 2008

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Dr. Hans-Peter Plag
Vice-Chair of the GGOS Steering Committee,
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Dear Dr. Plag,

Thank you for your email to various CEOS contacts of 12th September 2008 enquiring about the GGOS relationship with CEOS. Having raised the issue with my colleagues in the CEOS Secretariat, I have been informed of our past collaboration through the framework of the former Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS) Partnership - which was dissolved in May and the Themes of which have been integrated into GEO. CEOS has placed considerable effort into ensuring a successful transition of the IGOS Themes into the GEO framework and the establishment of equivalent Communities of Practice therein.

The recent CEOS Plenary in South Africa discussed the benefits of increased cooperation with GGOS and concluded that CEOS would like to encourage GGOS, if not already doing so, to explore the benefits of the Communities of Practice within GEO, whilst establishing a stronger involvement with the CEOS Working Groups. Such an approach is likely to be more productive than engaging as an Associate at Plenary level which these days focuses on coordination of agencies with satellite observing systems.

We hope that GGOS is positive to this suggestion, recognising that it reflects our mutual interests and structures, and I look forward to hearing from you so that I may put you in contact with the Working Group Chairs to discuss their current activities in support of the GEOSS space segment - and how you might best develop working level dialogue between the counterparts in each organisation.

Yours sincerely

Darasri Dowreang
CEOS Chair