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IMPLEMENTING THE VISION FOR THE SPACE-BASED OBSERVING SYSTEM COMPONENT OF THE WMO INTEGRATED GLOBAL OBSERVING SYSTEM IN 2040

Abstract

The 18th World Meteorological Congress (Cg-18) held in Geneva, Switzerland, in June 2019, took several major decisions for the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations systems authoritative voice on weather, water, climate and related environmental services. In its Resolution 1, Congress provided for a new WMO Strategic Plan, setting the directions and priorities for the work of WMO during 2020-2023 and up to 2030, with the guiding vision that "by 2030, we see a world where all nations, especially the most vulnerable, are more resilient to the socioeconomic consequences of extreme weather, climate, water and other environmental events; and underpin their sustainable development through the best possible services, whether over land, at sea or in the air." Resolution 37 declared the transitioning of the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) to operational status commencing in 2020, and in its Resolution 38, Congress adopted the Vision for the WMO Integrated Global Observing System in 2040. The Vision provides high-level targets for the evolution of the surface and space-based observing system components of WIGOS in the coming decades. Guided by this Vision, WMO, the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS), the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) and other academic, public and private entities of the Global Weather Enterprise are now working together to implement the space-based observing system component of WIGOS, which serves all WMO application areas. This paper reviews the current status of the space-based observing system, presents the agreed baseline of satellites and instruments and discusses the Key Performance Indicator adopted by WMO Members to measure progress towards implementing the space-based observing system in line with the Vision for WIGOS in 2040.