



Our ref.: 6510177/2026/ESDP/SPC/VLab

20 January 2026

Annex: 1

Subject: Contributions to the WMO Space Programme VLab Trust Fund

Action required: CGMS members are kindly requested to consider making voluntary financial contributions to the WMO Space Programme VLab Trust Fund, in accordance with CGMS WGIV/A53.04

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), I am pleased to convey our appreciation for the continued collaboration between the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) members and WMO in strengthening capacity development and the effective use of satellite data, particularly through the WMO-CGMS Virtual Laboratory for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology (VLab).

The VLab remains a cornerstone of WMO's capacity building activities related to satellite meteorology, providing coordinated training and expert networking that enhance Members' ability to access, interpret, and apply satellite data for weather, climate, water, and related environmental applications. The sustained success and effectiveness of the VLab depend on secure and predictable funding to ensure the continuity of its technical support and activities. Recently, however, a decrease in regular contributions to the VLab Trust Fund has created challenges in maintaining the current level of support, making additional voluntary contributions increasingly important to safeguard the sustainability of the VLab.

In this context, and further to the outcome of CGMS Working Group IV meeting, I wish to draw your attention to action CGMS WGIV/A53.04, which states:

"CGMS members are invited to contact WMO to provide contributions to the WMO VLab Trust Fund to ensure the continuation of technical support for the VLab through the VLab Technical Support Officer as well as for the implementation of VLab projects."

WMO would therefore like to invite CGMS Members to consider making voluntary financial contributions to the WMO Space Programme VLab Trust Fund. Contributions to the Trust Fund directly support:

- The continuity of the VLab Technical Support Officer (TSO), ensuring smooth operation, coordination, and technical assistance across the VLab network;
- The implementation of VLab projects, including training activities, development of learning materials, and support to VLab Centres of Excellence; and
- Support experts and early-career professionals from developing countries in their participation in training events and regional satellite conferences.

WMO stands ready to provide further information on contribution modalities, governance arrangements, and the planned use of funds, as well as to engage in bilateral discussions with interested CGMS members.

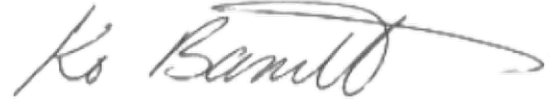
To: CGMS Members listed in the Annex

cc: CGMS Secretariat, email: cgmssec@eumetsat.int

We would be grateful if you could communicate your interest or any questions regarding potential contributions by contacting the Chief of the WMO Space Programme Section Ms Natalia Donoho at ndonoho@wmo.int.

I would like to thank CGMS members for their continued support and close cooperation, and I look forward to strengthening our partnership in support of global capacity development in satellite meteorology.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ko Barrett', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Ms Ko Barrett
for the Secretary-General

| CGMS Members | | | |
|--------------|--------------|---|--------------------|
| Last name | First name | Position | Organization (A-Z) |
| SHAN | Zhongde | Administrator | CNSA |
| Cc BIAN | Zhigang | Vice-Administrator | |
| LI | Guoping | Chief Engineer | |
| CHEN | Zhenlin | Administrator of CMA | CMA |
| Cc CAO | Xiaozhong | Deputy Administrator | |
| Wang | Jinsong | Director-General of NSMC | |
| Cheli | Simonetta | Director of Earth Observation Programmes | ESA/ESRIN |
| Cc Greening | Marie-Claire | Programme Coordinator, Coordination Office, EOP-CC | ESA HQ |
| Evans | Phil | Director-General | EUMETSAT |
| Cc Counet | Paul | Head of Strategy, Communication and International Relations | |
| Taube | Anne | International Relations Officer Strategy, Communication and International Relations | |
| Mohapatra | Mrutyunjay | Director-General | IMD |
| Somanath | Shri. S. | Chair, Secretary DOS | ISRO HQ |
| Cc Desai | Nilesh M. | Director | ISRO/SAC |
| YAMAKAWA | Hiroshi | President | JAXA |
| OKI | Riko | Director, Earth Observation Research Center | |
| NOMURA | Ryoichi | Director-General | JMA |
| Cc BESSHO | Kotaro | Director, Satellite Programme Division | KMA |
| LEE | Miseon | Administrator | |
| Cc KIM | Yoon-jae | Director-General of NMSC | KMA |
| CHANG | Dong-Eon | Administrator | |
| Cc Kim | Yoon-jae | Director-General of NMSC | NASA Headquarters |
| St.Germain | Karen | Director of the Earth Science Division | |
| Cc Sid | Boukabara | Senior Programme Scientist for Strategy | NOAA/NESDIS |
| Irene | Parker | Assistant Administrator for Satellite Services (Acting) and Deputy Assistant Administrator for Systems (DAAS) | |

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|------------|----------|--|-------------|
| Cc Kutny | Mary Ann | Director (Acting), International and Interagency Affairs | |
| Bakanov | Dmitry | Director-General of ROSCOSMOS | ROSCOSMOS |
| Shumakov | Igor | Head of ROSHYDROMET | ROSHYDROMET |
| Cc Tasenko | Sergey | Director of SRC Planeta | |