

## **First review of COP-21 and potential impacts on Space Agencies**

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The Conference of the Parties on Climate was held in Paris from 11 November to 12 December 2016.

The Committee of Earth Observation Satellites was represented in both formal events as the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and various side events, both at Le Bourget for the official COP and at Le Grand Palais for a Public side event.

An universal agreement was reached on 12 December and approved by the 195 parties present at the Conference. The main aim of which is to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius and to drive efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

This agreement was acknowledged by Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC<sup>1</sup>, who said: “One planet, one chance to get it right and we did it in Paris. We have made history together. It is an agreement of conviction. It is an agreement of solidarity with the most vulnerable. It is an agreement of long-term vision, for we have to turn this agreement into an engine of safe growth.”

In addition, it captures essential elements to drive action forward by covering all the crucial areas identified as essential for a landmark conclusion:

- Mitigation – reducing emissions fast enough to achieve the temperature goal
- A transparency system and global stock-take – accounting for climate action
- Adaptation – strengthening ability of countries to deal with climate impacts
- Loss and damage – strengthening ability to recover from climate impacts
- Support – including finance, for nations to build clean, resilient futures

As well as setting a long-term direction, countries will peak their emissions as soon as possible and continue to submit national climate action plans that detail their future objectives to address climate change.

The scope of this oral presentation is to present the impact of the results of COP-21 on the programmes and activities to be carried out by CEOS and the Space Agencies .

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<sup>1</sup> UNFCCC – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change