

DRAFT RESOLUTION 4.4/3 (Adopted by the WMO EC-65)
Avoiding Gaps in Essential Space-based Observation

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

Noting that space-based observations provide the major part of input data to Numerical Weather Prediction, are a vital support for severe weather monitoring and Nowcasting, and play a unique role for global climate monitoring,

Noting further that the Commission for Basic Systems adopted Recommendation 4 (CBS-15) - Actions towards avoiding gaps in essential space-based observation,

Considering:

- (1) That under current plans, a gap is anticipated by 2020 for imagery and sounding missions on the early morning orbit,
- (2) The risk of delay inherent to the forthcoming transition to a new generation of systems of the United States on the afternoon orbit,
- (3) The anticipated termination of the additional GOES mission providing frequent South America coverage,

Considering further that:

- (1) The requirement for hyperspectral infrared sounding from geostationary orbit will not be accommodated on all geostationary positions in the coming decade according to current plans, but that the possibility to implement such capability through alternative ways, including through free flyers, can be explored,
- (2) There is no path towards an operational follow-on of the planned Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) space-borne radar mission, which is expected to play an important role for global climate monitoring, operational hydrology, and tropical cyclone monitoring, building on the TRMM mission successfully operated over 15 years,
- (3) The long-term continuity of upward radiation measurements at the top of atmosphere is not planned on the afternoon orbit after the first JPSS mission,
- (4) There is no long-term plan for limb sounders to monitor stratospheric ozone and greenhouse gases,
- (5) **Coordination is needed to maintain the continuity of satellite-based solar, solar wind and other space weather measurements.¹**

Urges satellite operating Members to take initiatives and develop plans to fill such gaps;

Invites the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) to monitor the plans with the support of the CBS Expert Team on Satellite Systems and to coordinate efforts towards a comprehensive, robust and optimized space-based observing system.

¹ Highlighted by WMO for the purpose of the CGMS Space Weather ToR meeting