

Session #1 – Konferenzraum 2	31 May 13:30-15:30
European Commission - ESA Strategic Cooperation on Earth Observation	
Moderator:	Gilles Ollier (EC-DG Research & Innovation) and Michael Berger (ESA-EOP)
Format	Presentations
Objectives	
<p>In looking back on a long cooperation in the area of Earth observation, the European Commission and ESA recognise, given the major societal, scientific and economic challenges facing mankind, the need to further intensify their working relationship and bundle their effort ensuring the strive for ground breaking science and innovation and bringing EO innovations to market.</p> <p>With a view to the growing international space infrastructure, the European Commission's DG Research and Innovation (DG RTD) and ESA's Earth Observation Programmes (EOP) plan to ensure utmost complementarity of their activities and intensified collaboration, leveraging on their own programmes and developing a common strategy for engaging with stakeholders and users. Some of the planned high-level strategic goals include to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - jointly support research & innovation addressing some of the major societal and scientific challenges - develop a cooperation framework for setting up and executing aligned actions - identify mechanisms and programmes/projects that qualify for an increased cooperation and joint activities, - support the development of the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS) by combining complementary expertise and assets in space and non-space technologies, - engaging stakeholders and potential users benefitting from EO through EO based decision support tools (policy making and monitoring), and - fostering global market development/uptake of European EO based innovations. <p>For the time being the EC DG RTD – ESA EOP cooperation focuses on four themes, namely, The Arctic, Food Security, Renewable Energy, and Climate. In addition to this, ESA is strongly coordinating with EC RTD and related stakeholders for the implementation and improvement of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).</p> <p>The Session intends to outline and inform the European GEO community about the various activities which are underway or planned for the near future.</p>	
Time	Talk
13:30 – 13:45	Welcome and Introduction Gilles Ollier (EC-RTD) & Michael Berger (ESA-EOP)
13:45 - 14:05	The Arctic Pilot Ola Grabak (ESA)
14:05 – 14:25	Food Security Espen Volden (ESA)

14:25 – 14:45	Renewable Energy Zoltan Batalis (ESA)
14:45 – 15:05	Climate Services Stephen Briggs (ESA)
15:05 – 15:25	GEOSS portal improvements Joost Van Bemmelen (ESA)