

**GEO Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

This document is submitted to Plenary for information.

- 1 GEO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**
- 2 2024 AUDIT REPORT**

1 GEO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

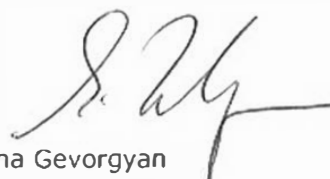
Group on Earth Observations

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The following appended financial statements, comprising Statements I, II, III, IV and V, and the Notes to the Financial Statements were properly prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards. I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and information, all transactions during the year have been properly entered in the accounting records and that these transactions, together with the related financial statements and notes, fairly present the financial position of the Group on Earth Observations at 31 December 2024.



Thomas Asare
Assistant Secretary-General
World Meteorological Organization
5 June 2025



Yana Gevorgyan
Secretariat Director
Group on Earth Observations
5 June 2025



Brian Cover
Controller
World Meteorological Organization
5 June 2025



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

5 June 2025

STATEMENT I

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024
(in thousands of Swiss Francs)

	Note	2024	2023
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3.1	1	1
Contributions receivable	3.2	930	1,203
Advances for projects and meetings	3.3	132	217
Other receivables	3.4	186	145
Funds held by WMO	3.5	7,466	5,776
		<u>8,715</u>	<u>7,342</u>
Non-current assets			
Contributions receivable	3.2	627	133
		<u>627</u>	<u>133</u>
Total assets		<u>9,342</u>	<u>7,475</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Deferred revenue	3.6	3,889	2,403
Payables and accruals	3.7	9	148
Employee benefits	3.8	283	212
		<u>4,181</u>	<u>2,763</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred revenue	3.6	654	181
Employee benefits	3.8	3,057	2,838
		<u>3,711</u>	<u>3,019</u>
Total liabilities		<u>7,892</u>	<u>5,782</u>
Net assets		<u>1,450</u>	<u>1,693</u>
NET ASSETS/EQUITY			
Fund balances	Sttmt III, 3.10	430	673
Working Capital Fund	Sttmt III, 3.10	2,000	2,000
Employee benefits reserves	3.9	(980)	(980)
Total net assets/equity		<u>1,450</u>	<u>1,693</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT II

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
(in thousands of Swiss Francs)

	Note	2024	2023
Revenue			
Voluntary contributions	5.1	5,772	4,380
In-kind contributions	5.2	176	181
Other revenue	5.3	161	119
Total Revenue		6,109	4,680
Expenses			
Salaries and employee benefits	6.1	4,137	4,245
Travel	6.2	609	604
Meetings	6.3	604	311
Other expenditure	6.4	575	828
Supplies, consumables and other running costs	6.5	251	270
In-kind expenditure	6.6	176	181
Total Expenses		6,352	6,439
(Deficit) / Surplus for the year		(243)	(1,759)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT IV

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
(in thousands of Swiss Francs)

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(243)	(1,759)
Interest and Service Charges on employee benefits liabilities	334	345
(Increase) decrease in contributions receivables	(221)	28
(Increase) decrease in advance for meetings	85	145
(Increase) decrease in other receivables	(41)	(71)
(Increase) decrease in funds held by WMO	(1,690)	930
Increase (decrease) in deferred income	1,959	459
Increase (decrease) in payables and accruals	(139)	104
Increase (decrease) in provisions	-	-
Increase (decrease) in liabilities for employee benefits	(44)	(181)
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	<u><u>1</u></u>	<u><u>1</u></u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT V

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS
STATEMENT OF COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND ACTUAL AMOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

(in thousands of Swiss Francs)

	Budget for 2024	Actuals	Budget Under/(Over) spent
A. Core Secretariat Operations			
1. Staff Costs and Employee Benefits	1,090	1,389	(299)
2. WMO Enterprise Information and Telecommunications	75	80	(5)
3. IT (licenses, subscriptions, and hardware)	40	41	(1)
4. Rent and Utilities	100	79	21
5. Bank Charges and Audit costs	10	-	10
6. Publications and Printing	36	36	-
7. Training	100	67	33
8. Incidentals	5	3	2
9. WMO Support Costs (7% PSC on direct costs)	300	320	(20)
10 Total Core Secretariat Operations	<u>1,756</u>	<u>2,015</u>	<u>(259)</u>
B. GEO Work Programme Support			
1. Staff Costs and Employee Benefits	1,050	1,050	-
2. GEO Knowledge Hub	40	40	-
3. Total GEO Work Programme Support	<u>1,090</u>	<u>1,090</u>	<u>-</u>
C. Communications and Partnerships			
1. Staff Costs and Employee Benefits	450	463	(13)
2. Total Communications and Partnerships	<u>450</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>(13)</u>
D. Member Services			
1. Staff Costs and Employee Benefits	450	450	-
2. Total Member Services	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>-</u>
E. Secretariat Activities			
1. Secretariat Staff Mission Travel	400	342	58
2. Travel to GEO Meetings for Developing Country participants	200	157	43
3. Support for GEO Meetings and GEO Participation in Events	90	106	(16)
4. Total Secretariat Activities	<u>690</u>	<u>605</u>	<u>85</u>
F. Post-2025 Implementation Plan Development			
1. Post-2025 Implementation Plan Development	200	176	24
2. Total Post-2025 Implementation Plan Development	<u>200</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>24</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>4,636</u>	<u>4,800</u>	<u>(164)</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements as at 31 December 2024

NOTE 1: PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) is as follows:

a) To lead a worldwide effort to build a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) over the period 2016-2025.

b) To carry out the Group on Earth Observations Strategic Plan 2016-2025

A central part of GEO's Mission is to build the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). GEOSS is a set of coordinated, independent Earth observation, information and processing systems that interact and provide access to diverse information for a broad range of users in both public and private sectors. GEOSS links these systems to strengthen the monitoring of the state of the Earth. It facilitates the sharing of environmental data and information collected from the large array of observing systems contributed by countries and organizations within GEO. Further, GEOSS ensures that these data are accessible, of identified quality and provenance, and interoperable to support the development of tools and the delivery of information services. Thus, GEOSS increases our understanding of the Earth processes and enhances predictive capabilities that underpin sound decision-making.

c) GEO is established on a voluntary and legally non-binding basis, with voluntary contributions to support activities.

d) GEO consists of a Plenary and Executive Committee, a Secretariat and committees and working groups. GEO meets in plenary at least annually at senior-official level, and periodically at the Ministerial level. GEO takes decisions by consensus of its Members.

e) The GEO Secretariat was established in Geneva in May 2005. The Secretariat serves as the centre of the international coordination for the worldwide GEOSS effort.

NOTE 2: ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

1. Financial arrangements for the administration of GEO are specified in the following:

- a) GEO-World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Standing Agreement;
- b) WMO Staff and Financial Rules and Regulations;

- c) Delegation of responsibility from the Secretary-General of WMO to the GEO Secretariat Director;
- d) WMO-GEO Service Level Agreement, revised on 19 October 2016 with retroactive application from 1 January 2015; and
- e) GEO Rules of Procedure, updated on 7 November 2019.

Under the Standing Agreement, WMO Financial and Staff Regulations and Rules apply to the transactions of GEO. The accounts of GEO are maintained in accordance with these requirements. Management have considered that it is appropriate to prepare these financial statements on a going concern basis as there is no reason to believe that voluntary contributions sufficient to support its activities will not continue.

2. The financial statements of GEO have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) using the historic cost convention.
3. During 2024, no new IPSAS standards came into effect.
4. As of 31 December 2024, the date of the Statement of Financial Position, the following IPSAS Standards had been issued, but had not taken effect:
 - IPSAS 43 – Leases
 - IPSAS 44 – Non-current assets held for sale or discontinued operations
 - IPSAS 45 – Property, Plant and Equipment
 - IPSAS 46 – Measurement
 - IPSAS 47 – Revenue
 - IPSAS 48 – Transfer Expenses
 - IPSAS 49 – Retirement Benefit Plans

IPSAS 43 through 46 will come into force on 1 January 2025 and IPSAS 47 through 49 will come into force on 1 January 2026. The potential effects of these standards are being evaluated. GEO implemented a new ERP solution which went live effective January 2025. As part of new ERP implementation and as allowed by the relevant standards, IPSAS 47 & 48 are planned to be adopted early with effect from January 2025.

5. In accordance with IPSAS requirements, and reflecting the nature of GEO's business, revenue from voluntary contributions received as well as pledges of voluntary contributions confirmed in writing are recognized as non-exchange transactions as per IPSAS 23 – Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions. GEO considers that there are restrictions on the use of all contributions, and that some of these restrictions meet the definition of a condition as described under IPSAS 23.
6. The Statement of Cash Flow is prepared using the indirect method.
7. The functional and reporting currency of GEO is the Swiss Franc (CHF). Transactions in currencies other than CHF are translated into CHF at the prevailing United Nations Operational Rates of Exchange (UNORE) at the time of transaction. Assets and liabilities in currencies other than CHF are translated into

CHF at the prevailing UNORE year-end closing rate. Resulting gains or losses are accounted for in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Revenue, contributions and receivables

8. In accordance with IPSAS requirements, and reflecting the nature of GEO's business, revenue from contributions as well as pledges of contributions confirmed in writing are recognized at their estimated realizable value as non-exchange transactions as per IPSAS 23 - Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions.
9. GEO considers that there are restrictions on the use of all contributions and that some of these restrictions meet the definition of a condition as described under IPSAS.
10. Pledged voluntary contributions are recognized when confirmed in writing by donors at their estimated realizable value. Other voluntary contributions are recognized at the point in time when they are received. When projects are coming to an end and in the event that some contributions will not be fully expended on the project for which they were given, then at that point in time, and in accordance with the donor agreement, the amount which will not be expended is recognized as amounts to be refunded to donors and included in the Statement of Financial Position as Contributions refundable to donors.
11. In-kind contributions of services that directly support approved operations and activities, which have budgetary impact, and can be reliably measured, are recognized and valued at fair value. These contributions include use of premises and salary costs. They are treated as both revenue and expense in the Financial Statements.
12. Receivables are stated at amortized cost less allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts and discounted if cash flows are not expected within twelve months from the reporting date and the effect of such discounting is material.
13. Interest revenue is recognized as it accrues.

Expenditure

14. In accordance with the accrual basis of accounting expenditure recognition occurs at the time of delivery of goods or services by the supplier or service provider and is recorded in the accounting records and recognized in the financial statements in the periods to which they relate.

Financial Instruments

15. GEO adopted IPSAS 41, Financial Instruments, as of 1 January 2023. This Standard replaced IPSAS 29 and established new requirements for classifying, recognizing, and measuring financial instruments.
16. Financial instruments are recognized when GEO becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument until such time as when the rights to receive cash flows from those assets have expired or have been transferred and GEO has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.
17. IPSAS 41 introduces a principles-based approach to the classification of financial assets and requires the use of two criteria: the entity's model for managing its financial assets and the contractual cash-flow characteristics of those assets. Depending on these criteria, financial assets are classified in the following categories: 'financial assets at amortised cost' (Amortized Cost), 'financial assets at fair value through net assets/equity' (FVNA), or 'financial assets at fair value through surplus or deficit'.
18. Receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in active markets. Receivables comprise contributions receivable in cash or other receivables. Receivables are stated at amortized cost.
19. All non-derivative financial liabilities are recognized initially at fair value, and subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method.

Funds held by WMO

20. GEO does not maintain its own bank accounts. Its funds are administered by WMO. The Segment Reporting in Note 8.1 shows that the funds held on behalf of GEO as at 31 December 2024 amounted to CHF 7,466,000, which was comprised of CHF 4,834,000 for the GEO Trust Fund, CHF 179,000 for the LDN/GEO Trust Fund, CHF 2,174,000 for GEO Global Ecosystems Atlas and CHF 279,000 for the GEOGLAM Trust Fund.

Property, Plant and Equipment

21. Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) are capitalized if their cost is greater or equal to the threshold limit set at CHF 5,000 and are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Depreciation is to be provided for PPE over their estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. GEO does not have any Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) at 31 December 2024 or 2023.

Intangible Assets

22. Intangible assets are stated at historical cost less accumulated amortization and any impairment losses. GEO does not have Intangible Assets at 31 December 2024 or 2023.

Employee Benefits

23. GEO recognizes the following employee benefits:
- a) short-term employee benefits which fall due wholly within twelve months after the end of the accounting period in which employees render the related service
 - b) post-employment benefits;
 - c) other long-term employee benefits; and
 - d) termination benefits.
24. Employee benefits are recognized as expenses on an accrual basis. Similarly, terminal payments to staff members, including repatriation grant, accrued annual leave, repatriation travel and removal on repatriation are expensed on an accrual basis.
25. Retirement, death, disability and related benefits of GEO staff are covered under the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), by virtue of GEO's affiliation with WMO.
26. GEO, through its administrative relationship with WMO, is a member organization participating in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), which was established by the United Nations General Assembly to provide retirement, death, disability and related benefits to employees. The Pension Fund is a multi-employer defined benefit plan. As specified by Article 3(b) of the Regulations of the Fund, membership in the Fund shall be open to the specialized agencies and to any other international, intergovernmental organization which participates in the common system of salaries, allowances and other conditions of service of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.
27. The plan exposes participating organizations to actuarial risks associated with the current and former employees of other organizations participating in the Fund, with the result that there is no consistent and reliable basis for allocating the obligation, plan assets, and costs to individual organizations participating in the plan. WMO and the UNJSPF, in line with the other participating organizations in the Fund, are not in a position to identify WMO's and GEO's proportionate share of the defined benefit obligation, the plan assets and the costs associated with the plan with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. Hence WMO and GEO have treated this plan as if it were a defined contribution plan in line with the requirements of IPSAS 39. GEO's contributions to the plan during the financial period are recognized as expenses in the statement of financial performance.

28. Unrealized actuarial gains/losses are taken directly to reserves in the period in which they occur.

Budget Comparison

29. The Statement of Comparison of Budget and Actual Amounts (Statement V) compares the final budget to actual amounts by activity for GEO Secretariat expenses only, while the Statement of Financial Performance (Statement II) presents expenditures classified based on the nature of the expense for all GEO entities, including the extrabudgetary funds. As the bases used to prepare the budget and financial statements differ, Note 7 provides a reconciliation between the actual amounts presented in Statement V and the actual amounts presented in the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement II and Note 8.2.

Provisions and Contingent Liabilities

30. Other commitments, which do not meet the recognition criteria for liabilities, are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements as contingent liabilities when their existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events which are not wholly within the control of GEO.

Critical Accounting Estimates

31. Preparing financial statements in accordance with IPSAS requires GEO to make estimates, judgements and assumptions in the selection and application of accounting policies and in the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. For this reason, actual results may differ from these estimates. Accounting estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis and revisions to estimates are recognized in the year in which the estimates are revised and in any future year affected. Significant estimates and assumptions that may result in material adjustments in future years include: actuarial measurement of employee benefits; impairment on assets; classification of financial instruments; and contingent assets and liabilities. Changes in estimates are reflected in the year in which they become known.

Segment Reporting

32. The financial statements are based on a fund accounting basis, showing at the end of the period the consolidated position of all GEO funds. A fund is a self-balancing accounting entity established to account for the transactions of a specified purpose or objective. Funds are segregated for the purpose of conducting specific activities or attaining certain objectives. Fund balances represent the accumulated residual of revenues and expenses.
33. A segment is a distinguishable activity or group of activities for which financial information is reported separately. GEO classifies all projects, operations and fund activities into four segments.

34. GEO Trust Fund segment directly supports GEO Secretariat activities.
35. The GEO/LDN Trust Fund supports activities for the GEO Land Degradation Neutrality program.
36. The GEO Global Ecosystems Atlas Trust Fund supports activities relating to the GEO Global Ecosystems Atlas program.
37. The GEOGLAM Trust Fund supports activities related to the GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring program.
38. Inter-segment transfers include revenue and expense arising from transfers between segments. Such transfers are accounted for at cost and eliminated on consolidation.

NOTE 3. ASSETS AND LIABILITES**Note 3.1: Cash**

39. GEO maintains Petty Cash for immediate miscellaneous disbursements only. All other GEO funds are held and administered on behalf of GEO by WMO as described in Note 3.5 below.

Note 3.2: Contributions receivable

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
Voluntary contributions pledged - Short Term	930,000	1,203,000
Voluntary contributions pledged - Long Term	627,000	133,000
Total contribution receivable	1,557,000	1,336,000

40. Contributions receivables are revalued from the underlying currency into Swiss francs at 31 December 2024.
41. Contributions receivable has slightly increased in 2024 due to timing differences related to the payment of outstanding pledges and there were more long-term pledges received in 2024 than in 2023.

Note 3.3: Advances for projects and meetings

42. Advances for projects represents advances sent to implementing partners. The advances are recognized as expenditures once projects have been implemented and implementing partners have reported to GEO how they have expensed the advance.
43. Advances for the organization of GEO meetings represent advances given to institutions for the organization of GEO meetings outside Geneva, based on a Letter of Agreement in which the recipient organization commits, inter alia, to providing an expenditure report for the advance within three months of the conclusion of the meeting. The advances are recognized as expenditures when meeting is held.
44. The current balance of CHF 132,000 (CHF 217,000 at 31 December 2023) relates to advances for projects that are expected to take place in 2025.

Note 3.4: Other receivables

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
Home country taxation	135,000	82,000
Education grant advances	59,000	35,000
Travel refundable	11,000	10,000
Advance to donor	1,000	-
Prepaid expenses	-	40,000
Provision for delays in collection of other debts	(20,000)	(22,000)
Total other receivables	186,000	145,000

45. Home country taxation represents advances made for staff to pay income taxes required by their home country governments, as well as refunds due from governments.
46. Employees entitled to grants for the education of their eligible dependents may request advances at the beginning of the school year. The amount of the advance which is accrued is based on the number of months of attendance relative to the school year.
47. Travel refundable represents advances that were sent to travellers who were not able to participate to the GEO meetings which should be reimbursed to WMO.
48. Advance to donor represents the amount sent to an implementing partner who needs to refund GEO for the unspent balance.
49. Prepaid expenses represent payment in advance for goods and services receivable in future years.
50. Provision for delays in collection shown in 2022 includes CHF 20,000 in respect of prior year income tax claims that have not yet been confirmed.

Note 3.5: Funds held by WMO

51. GEO does not maintain its own bank accounts and its funds are administered by WMO. Funds held by WMO represent the amount of GEO funds that are in WMO bank accounts.

Note 3.6: Deferred Revenue

52. GEOs has deferred revenue relating to cash voluntary contribution covered by agreements with conditions as of 31 December 2024 amounting to CHF 4,543,000.

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
Short-term	3,889,000	2,403,000
Long-term	654,000	181,000
Total deferred revenue	4,543,000	2,584,000

53. Most of the deferred revenue balance in 2024 relates to new projects and are expected to be implemented in 2025 and CHF 654,000 by 2026.

Contingent Revenues

54. There are contingent assets in the amount of CHF 2,645,000 at 31 December 2024 (CHF 2,728,000 in 2023). This represents agreements which have been entered into with donors for contributions for future years but where that future year funding is still subject to some parliamentary budget approval.

Note 3.7: Payables and Accruals

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
Payables	9,000	94,000
Accruals	-	54,000
Total payables and accruals	9,000	148,000

55. Payables to vendors relate to amounts due for goods and services for which invoices have been received.
56. Accruals are liabilities for the cost of goods and services that have been received or provided to GEO and which have not been invoiced by suppliers as of the reporting date. In 2023, CHF 54,000 expenses which belong to 2023 were accrued and accounted for but only paid in 2024.

Note 3.8: Employee Benefits Liabilities

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
Non-current liabilities – Long-term benefits	3,057,000	2,838,000
Current liabilities – Short-term benefits	283,000	212,000
Total benefits	3,340,000	3,050,000

Employee benefits comprise:

- **Post-Employment Benefits**

57. Post-employment benefits are defined benefit plans consisting of United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), After-Service Health Insurance Plan (ASHI) and Repatriation Grant and related benefits including accrued annual leave.
58. Arrangements relating to the UNJSPF are set out in paragraphs 79 to 89.
59. ASHI is a plan that allows eligible retirees and their eligible family members to participate in the United Nations Staff Mutual Insurance Society (UNSMIS) post-retirement.
60. Repatriation benefits consist of a repatriation grant lump sum, travel of the staff member and eligible dependants and shipment of their personal effects upon separation from the Organization.

- **Other Long-Term Employee Benefits**

61. Other long-term employee benefits include accumulated balances of annual leave and, where applicable, compensation payments in the case of death, injury or illness attributable to performance of duties.
62. As the accumulated balance of annual leave is generally not wholly utilized in the 12 months following the balance sheet date, it is considered by IPSAS 39 as an "other long-term employee benefit".

	2024	2023
	<i>(Swiss Francs thousands)</i>	
After-service health insurance	2,824	2,612
Annual leave accrued on retirement	292	245
Repatriation grant	224	193
Total benefits	3,340	3,050
Current liabilities - Short-term benefits	283	212
Non-current liabilities - Long-term benefits	3,057	2,838
Total benefits	3,340	3,050

Actuarial Valuations of Post – Employment and Other Separation – Related Benefits

63. Liabilities arising from post-employment benefits and other separation-related benefits are determined by a professional independent actuary. These employee benefits are established for staff members who are entitled to such benefits under WMO Staff Regulations and Staff Rules. A full actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2024. The prior valuation performed on 31 December 2023 was also a full actuarial valuation.
64. The CHF 219,000 (8.1%) increase in the liabilities is mainly due to the following:
- An increase of 10.4% arising from an additional year of service and interest on liabilities of the after-service health amounting to CHF 334,000;
 - A decrease of 2.8% following payment of benefits amounting to CHF 92,000
 - An increase of 0.5% due to a net actuarial loss on the benefits of CHF 14,000.
65. The accrued benefit obligation represents that portion of the present value of future benefits that had been accrued from the staff members' date of entry on duty until 31 December 2024, the date of valuation. Active staff members' benefits are considered fully accrued when they reach their dates of full eligibility for benefits.

Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

66. During each actuarial study, WMO in conjunction with the actuary, reviews and selects assumptions that will be used by the actuaries in the year-end valuation to determine the expense and contribution requirements for WMO's after-service benefit plans (post-employment benefits and other separation-related benefits and unused annual leave).
67. The following assumptions have been used to determine the value of post-employment and other separation-related employee liabilities for WMO at 31 December 2024:

- *Economics assumptions*

ASHI

Discount rate: 1.30% (2023: 1.70%)

The discount rate is estimated to approximate the single equivalent rate such that the present value of the plan's cash flows (i.e. expected as from 31 December 2024; for 2023 as from 31 December 2023) using the single rate that equals the present value of those cash flows using the spot rate at each maturity of the AA Corporate Bonds yield as at 31 December 2024 (2023: 31 December 2023) for the relevant currency (primarily CHF, with approximately 8% in EUR and 6% in USD). The reference spot rates are based upon the Aon yield curve and were provided by the UN Headquarters.

For sensitivity analysis purposes, an estimate of the liability for ASHI has been prepared utilizing the Swiss government bond rates as opposed to the AA Corporate bond yield. If this rate had been utilized in the estimate of the ASHI liability, the amount of the liability would have increased by 29.1%, or approximately CHF 0.822 million to CHF 3.646 million at 31 December 2024.

Pensionable Remuneration Increase Rate: 2.50% (2023: 2.30%)

Salary increase rate:

The salary increase rate as per UNJSPF salary scale has been applied, as per following sample rates:

At 31 December 2024		
Age	General service staff	Professional staff
20	6.83%	9.07%
30	6.47%	7.07%
40	5.27%	5.27%
50	4.87%	4.27%
60	4.47%	3.97%

At 31 December 2023		
Age	General service staff	Professional staff
20	6.63%	8.87%
30	6.27%	6.87%
40	5.07%	5.07%
50	4.67%	4.07%
60	4.27%	3.77%

Healthcare cost increase rate:

As at 31 December 2024, the health care cost increase rate has been set to a constant rate for the future of 2.40% which is in line with the long-term nominal medical trend rates as per the UN guidelines. As at 31 December 2023, it was set to 2.60%.

Medical Claim cost rate:

The medical claim cost rate as at 31 December 2024 based upon the full medical claims estimate were the following:

Sample Age	Annual per capita cost (CHF)
50	4,115
55	4,544
60	5,016
65	5,815
70	7,073
75	9,733

80	12,417
85+	12,791

The contributions rates under the premium-based approach that were applied as at 31 December 2024 were the following:

	Payable by insured person	Payable by WMO
Retired member only	3.4%	6.8%
Retired member with one dependent	4.4%	8.8%
Retired member with more than one dependent	4.8%	9.6%

Administrative Expense Rate

In connection with the revised medical claims cost rate, an administrative expense of CHF 171 per covered person per year has been incorporated in the actuarial valuation. Administrative expenses are forecast to increase at a rate of 1.0% as of 31 December 2024.

Repatriation

Salary increase rate:	Same as ASHI
Discount rate (using US dollar yield curve*):	5.30% (2023: 4.90%)
Travel cost increase rate:	1.00% (2023: 1.20%)

**the spot rates have been provided by UN Headquarters*

For sensitivity analysis purposes, an estimate of the liability for repatriation related entitlements has been prepared utilizing the Swiss government bond rates as opposed to the AA Corporate bond yield. If this rate had been utilized in the estimate of the repatriation related entitlement liability, the amount of the liability would have increased by 67.6%, or approximately CHF 0.151 million to CHF 0.374 million at 31 December 2024.

- Demographic assumptions

The tables of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund have been applied for both 2022 and 2021 with respect to mortality, disability and early retirement rate, as these are based on the demographic experience of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund. Turnover rates are based upon WMO specific experience. The following provides the details relating to the demographic assumptions:

Disability:	UNJSPF tables for 2024
Mortality:	UNJSPF tables – The post-retirement mortality rates utilized are headcount weighted, gender-distinct mortality rates with static longevity improvements applied for healthy retirees and beneficiaries

Retirement rates: UNJSPF tables – The retirement rates are gender-distinct and vary based upon professional or general service staff and years of service

Participation: 95% of future retirees are assumed to elect post-retirement medical coverage for 2024 and 2023

Spousal coverage: 60% of future retirees are assumed married at retirement and elect coverage for their spouse for both 2024 and 2023. Males are assumed to be 3 years older than spouse

Turnover rates: Based upon WMO specific experience as summarized in the following table for 2024:

Age	Turnover Rate
30	20%
35	12%
40	7%
45	4%
50	4%
55	4%
60+	4%

The turnover rates for those aged over 55 are only applied if the staff member is not yet eligible for ASHI.

68. Reconciliation of Defined Benefit Obligation for 2024

	After service health insurance	Repatriation	Total
	<i>(Swiss Francs thousands)</i>		
Benefit obligation at 31 December 2023	2,612	193	2,805
Service cost for 2024	228	53	281
Interest cost for 2024	44	9	53
Benefits paid in 2024	(74)	(18)	(92)
Actuarial (gain)/loss	14	(13)	1
Benefit obligation at 31 December 2024	2,824	224	3,048

69. Reconciliation of Defined Benefit Obligation for 2023

	After service health insurance	Repatriation	Total
	<i>(Swiss Francs thousands)</i>		
Benefit obligation at 31 December 2022	2,442	280	2,722
Service cost for 2023	213	61	274
Interest cost for 2023	58	13	71
Benefits paid in 2023	(75)	(134)	(209)
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(26)	(27)	(53)
Benefit obligation at 31 December 2023	2,612	193	2,805

70. Reconciliation of recognized actuarial gains / losses for 2024

	After service health insurance	Repatriation	Total
	<i>(Swiss Francs thousands)</i>		
Actuarial gains (losses) at 31 December 2023	(1,036)	56	(980)
Movement in reporting period	(14)	13	(1)
Actuarial gains/(losses) at 31 December 2024	(1,050)	69	(981)

71. In the 2024 valuation of employee benefits liabilities, the actuaries have determined gross actuarial loss under post-employment benefits and other separation-related benefits of CHF 1,000 (2023: gross actuarial gain of CHF 53,000).
72. The total actuarial loss of CHF 1,000 represents a loss of CHF 14,000 relating to After Service Health Insurance and a gain of CHF 13,000 relating to repatriation related liabilities.
73. Annual Expense

	2024	2023
	<i>(Swiss Francs thousands)</i>	
Service cost	281	274
Interest cost	53	71
Total	334	345

74. The composition of the defined benefit obligation for ASHI between active staff members and retirees is as follows:

	2024	2023
	<i>(Swiss Francs thousands)</i>	
Active staff members	1,550	1,115
Retirees	1274	1497
Total ASHI obligation	2,824	2,612

After-Service Health Insurance – Sensitivity Analysis

75. Two of the principal assumptions in the valuation of the After-Service Health Insurance are: (i) the rate at which medical costs are expected to increase in the future; and (ii) the discount rate used to determine the present value of benefits that will be paid from the plan in the future.
76. A sensitivity analysis was undertaken to determine the impact of the above assumptions on the liability and service cost under IPSAS 39.
77. The effect of an increase of one percentage point and the effect of a decrease of one percentage point in the assumed medical cost trend rates are shown below:
78. The effect on the ASHI Defined Benefit Obligations of an increase of one percentage point and the effect of a decrease of one percentage point in the assumed medical cost trend rates are shown below:

ASHI Benefit Obligation at 31 December 2024	Discount rate currently reflected	Discount rate increase +1%	Discount rate decrease -1%
Amount	<u>2,824</u>	<u>-21.00%</u>	<u>29.10%</u>
Repatriation Related Benefit Obligation at 31 December 2024	Discount rate currently reflected	Discount rate increase +1%	Discount rate decrease -1%
Amount	<u>224</u>	<u>-8.00%</u>	<u>9.40%</u>
ASHI Benefit Obligation at 31 December 2024	Healthcare cost currently reflected	Healthcare cost increase +1%	Healthcare cost decrease -1%
Amount	<u>2,824</u>	<u>2,855</u>	<u>2,061</u>
Effect	<u>-</u>	<u>1031</u>	<u>-763</u>
Service cost and interest cost 2024	Healthcare cost currently reflected	Healthcare cost increase +1%	Healthcare cost decrease -1%
Amount	<u>272</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>176</u>
Effect	<u>-</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>-96</u>

Expected Costs during 2024

79. The expected contribution of GEO in 2024 to the employee benefit plans is CHF 83,000.

United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF)

80. WMO is a member organization participating in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (the "Fund"), which was established by the United Nations General Assembly to provide retirement, death, disability and related benefits to employees. The Fund is a funded, multi-employer defined benefit plan. As specified in Article 3(b) of the Regulations of the Fund, membership in the Fund shall be open to the specialized agencies and to any other international, intergovernmental organization which participates in the common system of salaries, allowances and other conditions of service of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.
81. The Fund exposes participating organizations to actuarial risks associated with the current and former employees of other organizations participating in the Fund, with the result that there is no consistent and reliable basis for allocating the obligation, plan assets and costs to individual organizations participating in the Fund. GEO and the Fund, in line with the other participating organizations in the Fund, are not in a position to identify GEO's proportionate share of the defined benefit obligation, the plan assets and the costs associated with the plan with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. Hence, GEO has treated this plan as if it were a defined contribution plan in line with the requirements of IPSAS 39, Employee Benefits. GEO's contributions to the Fund during the financial period are recognized as expenses in the Statement of Financial Performance.
82. The Fund's Regulations state that the Pension Board shall have an actuarial valuation made of the Fund at least once every three years by the Consulting Actuary. The practice of the Pension Board has been to carry out an actuarial valuation every two years using the Open Group Aggregate Method. The primary purpose of the actuarial valuation is to determine whether the current and estimated future assets of the Fund will be sufficient to meet its liabilities.
83. GEO's financial obligation to the Fund consists of its mandated contribution, at the rate established by the United Nations General Assembly (currently at 7.9% for participants and 15.8% for member organizations) together with any share of any actuarial deficiency payments under Article 26 of the Regulations of the Pension Fund. Such deficiency payments are only payable if and when the United Nations General Assembly has invoked the provision of Article 26, following determination that there is a requirement for deficiency payments based on an assessment of the actuarial sufficiency of the Fund as of the valuation date. Each member organization shall contribute to this deficiency an amount proportionate to the total contributions which each paid during the three years preceding the valuation date.

84. The latest actuarial valuation for the Fund was completed as of 31 December 2023, and a roll forward of the participation data as of 31 December 2023 to 31 December 2024 will be used by the Fund for its 2024 financial statements.
85. The actuarial valuation as of 31 December 2023 resulted in a funded ratio of actuarial assets to actuarial liabilities of 111.0% (117.0% in the 2021 valuation). The funded ratio was 152.0% (158.2% in the 2021 valuation) when the current system of pension adjustments was not taken into account.
86. After assessing the actuarial sufficiency of the Fund, the Consulting Actuary concluded that there was no requirement, as of 31 December 2023, for deficiency payments under Article 26 of the Regulations of the Fund as the actuarial value of assets exceeded the actuarial value of all accrued liabilities under the plan. In addition, the market value of assets also exceeded the actuarial value of all accrued liabilities as of the valuation date. At the time of this report, the General Assembly has not invoked the provision of Article 26.
87. Should Article 26 be invoked due to an actuarial deficiency, either during the ongoing operation or due to the termination of the Fund, deficiency payments required from each member organization would be based upon the proportion of that member organization's contributions to the total contributions paid to the Fund during the three years preceding the valuation date. Total contributions paid to the Fund during the preceding three years (2022, 2023 and 2024) amounted to USD 9,499.41 million, of which 0.01% was contributed by GEO.
88. During 2024, contributions paid to the Fund by GEO amounted to USD 0.5 million (2023 USD 0.5 million). Expected contributions due in 2025 are approximately USD 0.5 million.
89. Membership of the Fund may be terminated by decision of the United Nations General Assembly, upon the affirmative recommendation of the Pension Board. A proportionate share of the total assets of the Fund at the date of termination shall be paid to the former member organization for the exclusive benefit of its staff who were participants in the Fund at that date, pursuant to an arrangement mutually agreed between the organization and the Fund. The amount is determined by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board based on an actuarial valuation of the assets and liabilities of the Fund on the date of termination; no part of the assets which are in excess of the liabilities are included in the amount.
90. The United Nations Board of Auditors carries out an annual audit of the Fund and reports to the Pension Board and to the United Nations General Assembly on the audit every year. The Fund publishes quarterly reports on its investments and these can be viewed by visiting the Fund at www.unjspf.org.

Note 3.9 Employee Benefits Reserves

91. The Reserve for Employee Benefits represents the actuarial gains and losses arising from the actuarial valuation of the employee benefits liabilities which were determined by a professional actuary at the end of each financial period.

Note 3.10 Fund Balances

92. In accordance with the GEO Rules of Procedure dated 7 November 2019, the Working Capital Fund (WCF) was established to hold surplus funds remaining in the GEO Trust Fund at the end of the calendar year, capped at CHF 1.5 million. Through the approval of the budget for 2023, the level of the WCF was increased to CHF 2.0 million.
93. At 31 December 2024, the total fund balance of GEO, excluding the WCF was CHF 430,000 (CHF 673,000 at 31 December 2023).
94. In 2023, GEO Financials were separated into three Trust Funds to be able to manage more closely and more transparently the Secretariat costs from the extrabudgetary activities. Two additional Trust Funds were created: GEO/LDN and GEOGLAM. In 2024, an additional Trust Fund was added: GEO Global Ecosystems Atlas. This is further represented under Note 8, Segment reporting.

NOTE 4: RISK ANALYSIS

Currency Risk

95. Credit risk and liquidity risk associated with funds held by WMO is minimized substantially by WMO ensuring that these financial assets are placed with major financial institutions that have been accorded strong investment grade ratings by a primary rating agency.

Liquidity Risk

96. GEO's cash and funds held by WMO at 31 December 2024 of CHF 7,466,000 (CHF 5,776,000 at 31 December 2023) is sufficient to meet its current liabilities at that date of CHF 4,181,000 (CHF 2,763,000 at 31 December 2023).
97. Implementation of GEO activities cannot commence until a contribution has been received and can spend until the limit of resources available. The control of fluctuation risk and the impact of support cost should be managed by the department to ensure that there is sufficient cash to meet contractual liabilities.
98. These procedures are adequate to ensure that there is sufficient cash to meet contractual liabilities.

Market Risk

Interest Risk

99. There was no exposure to interest rate risk during 2024, except normal exposure to bank interest.

Currency Risk

100. The GEO budget is prepared in Swiss Francs and is funded through voluntary contributions which are pledged in various currencies. Currency fluctuations between the Swiss Franc and currencies such as US Dollar and Euro do have an impact on GEO's cash revenue. Such fluctuations may be beneficial or

disadvantageous to GEO. GEO's funds are entrusted to WMO and managed through WMO's bank accounts.

NOTE 5: REVENUE

5.1 Voluntary contributions

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
Voluntary contributions	5,772,000	4,380,000
Voluntary contributions-pledged	-	-
	5,772,000	4,380,000

101. Voluntary contributions have increased in comparison to 2023 by 31% due to the timing difference of when we receive the contributions. Some 2023 contributions were only received in 2024.

5.2 In-kind contributions

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
Office space	176,000	128,000
Seconded staff	-	53,000
Total in-kind contributions	176,000	181,000

102. Contributions in-kind relate to the value of office space provided by WMO and staff secondments.
103. The value of office space rental provided by WMO is calculated based on the number of square meters times the current rental rate applied to WMO tenants. In 2024, it also included actual charges.
104. In 2024, there were no seconded expert, while in 2023, the seconded expert had only worked 4 months.
105. GEO also receives in-kind supports from members which are not recognized in these accounts as GEO does not have control over the in-kind services and could not measure the fair value of these services.

5.3 Other revenue

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
Interest	111,000	74,000
Support cost income	50,000	45,000
Total other revenue	161,000	119,000

106. During 2024 interest rates continued to increase enabling GEO to earn positive returns on cash balances.

NOTE 6: EXPENSES

	2024	2023
	<i>Swiss Francs</i>	
6.1 Salaries and employee benefits		
Staff costs (More temporary staff hired in 2023 than in 2024)	2,401,000	2,417,000
Employee benefits and social charges (Variance due to increased allowances)	1,222,000	1,206,000
Consultancy costs (Less consultancy work in 2024 than in 2023)	514,000	622,000
	4,137,000	4,245,000
6.2 Travel		
Travel of staff (Slightly less staff travel in 2024)	418,000	427,000
Travel – other (Includes a provision of CHF 1,000 for uncollectible advances sent to participants who could not attend meetings)	191,000	177,000
	609,000	604,000
6.3 Meetings		
Support to GEO Events (More in-person meeting took place in 2024 in comparison to 2023)	604,000	311,000
6.4 Other expenditures		
Support costs (Support cost in proportion of expenses)	440,000	409,000
Pamphlets, Publications, other printing	67,000	46,000
Other staff training (Budget for Staff training was CHF 100,000 less training took place in 2023)	67,000	14,000
Realized loss on currency exchange (Very high in 2023 due to the payment in other currency than Swiss francs. In 2024, CHF 46,000 of realized exchange loss relates to GEO Trust Fund. The remaining CHF 16,000 belongs to the other segments)	65,000	255,000
Hospitality (Catering during GEO Events in Geneva)	19,000	19,000
Bank charges (In 2024, includes CHF 3,000 written-off related to advance sent to travellers which meeting did not materialized and for which recovery is older than two years)	7,000	7,000
Unrealized gain/loss on currency exchange (Higher in 2023 mainly due to the number of Financial Support obligations. In 2024, it includes CHF 105,000 of exchange gain under GEO Trust Fund)	(90,000)	78,000
	575,000	828,000
6.5 Supplies, consumables and other running costs		
Information/Telecommunication (ICT charges)	80,000	65,000
Rental of office space (Charge for the square meters rented, in addition to the in-kind, plus utilities charges)	77,000	75,000
Common Services/Utilities (COS charges were higher in 2023 mainly due to the higher electricity and gas costs for that year)	41,000	74,000
Supplies and other running costs	37,000	40,000
Internet, Intranet, etc (Reduced subscription to additional software in 2023)	16,000	16,000
	251,000	270,000
6.6 In-kind expenditures		
Office space (Difference comes from utilities charges not recorded as in-kind in 2023)	176,000	128,000
Seconded staff (One seconded staff for 4 months in 2023)	-	53,000
	176,000	181,000

NOTE 7: STATEMENT OF COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND ACTUAL AMOUNTS

107. GEO's Operations Budget for 2024 was approved by GEO-19 Plenary held virtually on 8-9 November 2023. The approved budget covers GEO Secretariat spending only. Contributions and expenditures reported in these financial statements include activities outside of the Secretariat's budget related to specific project implementation.
108. GEO's financial statements are prepared on full IPSAS accrual basis using classification based on the nature of expenses in the Statement of Financial Performance (Statement II). The Statement of Comparison of Budget and Actual Amounts (Statement V) also shows expenditures based on the nature of expenses as shown in Statement II.
109. As required under IPSAS-24, where the financial statements and the budget are not prepared on a comparable basis, the actual amounts presented on a comparable basis to the budget shall be reconciled to the actual amounts presented in the financial statements.
110. The reconciliation between the actual amounts on a comparable basis in the Statement of Comparison of Budget and Actual Amounts (Statement V) and the actual amounts in the Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2024 is presented below:

GEO Reconciliation of Sttmt V to Sttmt II

Amount of expenditure, Statement V	Notes	4,800,000
<u>Plus expenses excluded from the Secretariat Budget:</u>		
GEOGLAM	8.2	491,000
GEO LDN	8.2	236,000
GEO Global Ecosystems	8.2	315,000
Microsoft programme	6.4	38,000
GEO-RESTEC, 16th Asia Oceania Symposium 2024, Japan	6.4	153,000
Seconded Expert - Japan - salaries	6.1	194,000
GEO Representation and Advocacy	6.2	3,000
In Kind expenditure	6.6	176,000
Bank charges	6.4	3,000
Unrealized exchange differences under GEO Trust Fund	6.4	(105,000)
Realized exchange differences under GEO Trust Fund	6.4	46,000
Provision for uncollectible advances	6.2	(1,000)
Write off	6.4	3,000
Amount of expense, Statement II		<u>6,352,000</u>

Discussion of Variances from budget to actual for 2024

The total spend on Salaries and Employee Benefits was higher than budgeted due to the payment of some 2023 consultancy invoices (captured under Special Service Agreements) in 2024 rather than 2023, and due to higher than budgeted use of consultants in 2024.

There was less actual travel than budgeted for in 2024 due to mission cancellations for both staff and GEO invitational travellers.

Support to GEO Meetings was higher than budgeted due to the inclusion of some expenditures related to the 2023 GEO Week event. These expenditures were not included in GEO's 2024 annual budget.

There was a small over-expenditure under IT (licenses, subscriptions, and hardware) and WMO Enterprise Information and Telecommunications due to product price increases during the year.

NOTE 8: SEGMENT REPORTING

STATEMENT I

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS
Note 8.1 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION BY SEGMENT
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024
(in thousands of Swiss Francs)

	GEO TRUST FUND	LDN/ GEO TRUST FUND	GEO Global Ecosystems Atlas	GEOGLAM TRUST FUND	Total	2023
ASSETS						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	1	-	-	-	1	1
Contributions receivable	-	68	721	141	930	1,203
Advances for projects and meetings	109	12	11	-	132	217
Other receivables	186	-	-	-	186	145
Funds held by WMO	4,834	179	2,174	279	7,466	5,776
	5,130	259	2,906	420	8,715	7,342
Non-current assets						
Contributions receivable	-	-	627	-	627	133
	-	-	627	-	627	133
Total assets	5,130	259	3,533	420	9,342	7,475
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities						
Deferred revenue	287	259	2,923	420	3,889	2,403
Payables and accruals	9	-	-	-	9	148
Employee benefits	283	-	-	-	283	212
	579	259	2,923	420	4,181	2,763
Non-current liabilities						
Deferred revenue	-	-	654	-	654	181
Employee benefits	3,057	-	-	-	3,057	2,838
	3,057	-	654	-	3,711	3,019
Total liabilities	3,636	259	3,577	420	7,892	5,782
Net assets	1,494	-	(44)	-	1,450	1,693
NET ASSETS/EQUITY						
Fund balances	474	-	(44)	-	430	673
Working Capital Fund	2,000	-	-	-	2,000	2,000
Employee benefits reserves	(980)	-	-	-	(980)	(980)
Total net assets/equity	1,494	-	(44)	-	1,450	1,693

STATEMENT II

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS
Note 8.2 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE BY SEGMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
(in thousands of Swiss Francs)

Revenue	GEO TRUST FUND	LDN/GEO TRUST FUND	GEO Global Ecosystems Atlas	GEOGLAM TRUST FUND	Total	2023
Voluntary contributions	4,928	243	262	339	5,772	4,380
In-kind contributions	176	-	-	-	176	181
Other revenue	147	4	10	-	161	119
Total Revenue	5,251	247	272	339	6,109	4,680
Expenses						
Salaries and employee benefits	3,704	13	107	313	4,137	4,245
Travel	515	20	15	59	609	604
Meetings	258	170	126	50	604	311
Other expenditure	409	33	67	66	575	828
Supplies, consumables and other running cos	248	-	-	3	251	270
In-kind expenditure	176	-	-	-	176	181
Total Expenses	5,310	236	315	491	6,352	6,439
(Deficit) / Surplus for the year	(59)	11	(43)	(152)	(243)	(1,759)

9. However, it is important to note that on January 20, 2025, the United States government announced a temporary suspension of foreign aid to reevaluate its international funding priorities. Since this event occurred after the reporting date, it is classified as a non-adjusting event under IPSAS and no adjustments have been made to these financial statements as there was no exposure to receivables due from the United States government as of 31 December 2024 for GEO.

2 2024 AUDIT REPORT



Corte dei conti

AUDIT REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the Financial Statements of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2024, the Statement of Financial Performance, the Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity, the Statement of Cash Flow and the Statement of Comparison of Budget and Actual Amounts for the year then ended, and the accompanying Notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) as at 31 December 2024, and its financial performance, its changes in net asset/equity, its cash flows and its comparison of budget and actual amounts for the Regular Programme General Fund for the year then ended, in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and the WMO Financial Regulations and Rules.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). In the field of financial statements audit, the ISSAIs are a direct transposition from the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). The Corte dei conti applies the provisions of the ISAs in so far as they are consistent with the specific nature of its audits. Our responsibilities under these standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of this report. We are independent of the GEO in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Nations system, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the GEO Secretariat for the Financial Statements

The Secretariat is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and WMO's Financial Regulations, and for such internal control as the Secretariat determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, it is the Secretariat's responsibility to assess the GEO's ability to continue operating, to disclose, where appropriate, matters related to going concern and to use the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Secretariat either intends to liquidate the GEO or to cease its activity or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the GEO's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Corte dei conti's objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements taken as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes its opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect any material misstatements that may exist. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.

In addition:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- We obtain an understanding of elements of internal control relevant to the audit, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not

for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the GEO's internal control;

- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Secretariat;
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use by Secretariat of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, and on the existence or not of a material uncertainty related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the GEO's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the GEO to cease its operation;
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Guido Carlino

President of the Corte dei conti