



March 5, 2026

Subject: Common Space's Independent Satellite Mission

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Mercy Corps, I am pleased to express our support in principle for the creation of an independent, high resolution satellite mission. We believe that such an initiative has the potential to dramatically transform crisis response, anticipatory action and humanitarian aid by leveraging Earth observation technology to deliver timely, open data that will enable rapid and detailed analysis and insights.

Mercy Corps is a global non-profit organization that focuses on building resilience among some of the most vulnerable communities impacted by protracted or acute crises. While we regularly use free and open satellite data to support our work, it does not always have the spatial detail we need to understand and adapt to new situations on the ground, especially in places where access is limited.

Mercy Corps has worked for years to access affordable and reliable commercial high-resolution satellite data that can further support our work in responding to violent conflict, population displacement, climate disasters, food insecurity, and environmental degradation. Yet despite our efforts, access to such data remains uneven and prohibitively restrictive for most of our teams, not to mention the many local organizations and communities that need insights from this data the most.

A dedicated humanitarian satellite that is ethically governed and designed around global public-good principles could close these critical gaps and dramatically expand the impact of geospatial information in vulnerable regions.

We recognize the urgent need for reliable, real-time geospatial data in decision-making processes to address humanity's greatest challenges. We look forward to engaging with this effort led by Common Space and contributing our expertise where possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at [t4d@mercycorps.org](mailto:t4d@mercycorps.org) for further information about the potential we see in this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua T. DeWald".

Josh DeWald  
Vice President of Technical Support, Evidence, and Program Quality

**Caveat:** Mercy Corps is familiar with one of the founders involved in the development of Common Space through past professional collaboration. However, Mercy Corps has **no formal relationship, affiliation, or endorsement** of Common Space or its founders, and this letter should not be interpreted as such.

**Portland Office**  
45 SW Ankeny Street  
Portland, OR 97204  
503.896.5000 tel  
503.896.5011 fax

**Edinburgh Office**  
96/3 Commercial Quay  
Edinburgh EH6 6LX  
Scotland, UK  
+44.131.662.5160 tel  
+44.131.662.6648 fax

**Washington, DC Office**  
1111 19th Street, NW  
Suite 650  
Washington, DC 20036  
202.463.7383 tel  
202.463.7322 fax