

Report from the Science and Technology Committee

As Accepted at GEO-III

The goal of the GEO Science and Technology Committee (STC) Committee is to engage the scientific and technological communities in the development, implementation and use of a sustained GEOSS in order to ensure that GEO has access to sound scientific and technological advice. STC objectives can be summarized as:

1. Enable GEO to make decisions on best available and sound scientific and technological advice, through the solicitation of input from a broad, trans-disciplinary scientific and technological community
2. Ensure scientific and technological integrity and soundness of annual GEO work plans.
3. Monitor and review output and deliverables of GEO work plans.
4. Identify individual experts and groups to participate in ad hoc GEO work groups.
5. Facilitate linkages and partnership with major relevant international research programmes as well as organisations willing to contribute.

Towards these objectives, the STC Co-Chairs held several organization meetings in conjunction with the GEO Secretariat to set the course for targets and activities for 2006. The 1st STC Committee meeting was held at UNESCO, Paris, on 19 and 20 April 2006. The objectives of this meeting were to review the Task Sheets and their progress as reported by the Secretariat and Task Leads and Co-Leads, review Executive Committee status, to discuss committee status and report, to discuss interactions with other committees, review of plans for developing the 2007-2009 Work Plan, and to plan for further Committee activities. An important outcome was the decision to hold an STC Science meeting to develop a Science Plan to address Science and Technology across all Tasks in all Committees.

The Science and Technology Plan meeting was held in Brussels on 22 September to develop a Plan outline and writing schedule, as well as a vision/strategy statement to clarify Science and Technology's role within GEO.



The STC also participated in Committee Co-Chairs meetings to further interaction and coordination between the Committees.

The 2nd STC meeting will be held in Bonn immediately following the GEO III Plenary. The objectives of this meeting are to: review progress of 2006 Work Plan Tasks, discuss 2007-09 Work Plan implementation, finalize outline for the Science and Technology Plan, and to consider Interactions with Other Committees and relationship to funding agencies and foundations.