



GROUP ON
EARTH OBSERVATIONS

GEO-V

19-20 November 2008

Completion of IGOS-P Transition

Document 13

As accepted at GEO-V

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The draft Paper on the Transition of the IGOS Themes into GEO, as presented to the 10th Executive Committee Meeting, was adopted by the IGOS-Partnership and IGOS Theme leaders at the dedicated IGOS-P-14 bis meeting, in Cape Town on 27 November 2007, just prior to the GEO IV Plenary meeting and Ministerial Summit.

At IGOS P-14bis, a Declaration was drafted for IGOS-P to formally dissolve itself at its 15th Meeting should the Transition of the IGOS Themes and activities into GEO be declared successful and complete.

At its 15th Meeting on 28 May 2008 at UNESCO in Paris, the IGOS Partners declared their satisfaction with the Transition of the IGOS Themes into GEO. The Declaration to dissolve the IGOS Partnership following successful integration of the IGOS Themes and activities into GEO therefore took effect.

To mark the achievements of the former IGOS Themes, including their current work under the GEO umbrella and other planned activities, a large dedicated symposium in 2009 is being planned, to be held in conjunction with the GEO Plenary VI.

A Programme Committee has now been established to determine the scientific content and structure for this event, including Plenary Sessions, Panel Sessions, Poster Sessions, the potential for an Exhibition and subsequent publications. The GEO Committee Co-Chairs are invited to nominate individual ADC, CBC, STC, and UIC representatives to serve on this Symposium Programme Committee.

The proposed 2009-2011 Work Plan fully takes into account the transition of the IGOS Themes into GEO.

During the 4th Committee Co-Chairs Coordination (C4) meeting, the need for a continued sound integration of the IGOS Themes with current GEO CoPs was advocated. This should also involve CBC and STC to a higher degree, with the goal of the UIC being to maintain the Transition momentum. Also the CoPs and (former IGOS) Themes needed to be formally recognised within GEO. Each one of them should be represented on the UIC and this needed to be reflected in a formal statement. Some of the Themes had already created or become COPs, but integrity would be kept for those Themes that did not want to follow suit. To facilitate joining the Committee, the UIC will formally invite the individual Themes to initiate dialogue.

One of the foci of the Themes in the future will be to widen the scope from scientific observational requirements to more broad application oriented ones, with a view to the implementation of GEOSS.
