

# **Climate Working Group Draft Terms of Reference**

## **Purpose**

Ensure a coherent and cross-cutting GEO approach to advance the use of Earth observations in support of the Paris Agreement on climate change.

## **Duties**

- Identify how GEO/EO can support countries in meeting their NDCs (Nationally Determined Contribution);
- Review and internalize the IPCC and other relevant reports to identify gaps (observations, etc.) that GEO could address;
- Review the Implementation Plans of all GEO Work Programme activities relevant to the Paris Agreement to identify potential gaps and synergies;
- Review and recommend from these GEO Work Programme Activities where GEO is best placed to act, e.g., climate modelling/science; mitigation, adaptation;
- Facilitate communication between the leads and participants of these GEO Work Programme activities;
- Stimulate the initiation of projects, case studies or pilots involving participants from multiple GEO Work Programme activities to enhance collaboration across GEO and to address identified gaps; and
- When and where appropriate, act as a focal point for engagement with external stakeholders and international organizations and processes relevant to the Paris Agreement.

## **Membership**

- Membership in the Working Group is open to any representative of a GEO Member, Participating Organization, Associate or Observer, and also to organization and individuals that do not have any officially recognized status within GEO.
- Participation by individuals involved in related GEO Work Programme activities is encouraged.
- Each GEO Work Programme activity with deliverable addressing the Paris Agreement should identify a liaison member to the Working Group.
- Representatives of key UN and international organizations (UNFCCC, IPCC, WMO, GCOS, UNEP, CEOS, CGMS, etc)
- Representatives of national and regional stakeholders
- Representatives of key science bodies (GCP, IUGG, etc)
- Secretariat staff who has expertise in Climate will provide support to the activities of the Working Group, as allocated to the Engagement Priorities Coordination Foundational Staff.

## **Operating Procedures**

- The Working Group will operate by consensus.

- The Working Group will select two or more co-chairs.
- Meetings will generally be held as teleconferences unless there is agreement from Working Group members to hold an in-person meeting.
- The Working Group will provide reports on its activities to GEO Secretariat as part of GEO Work Programme monitoring, and also bring specific issues to GEO Programme Board if necessary.
- The terms of reference of the Working Group will be revised at the transition to each new GEO Work Programme.