



GEO Programme Board 17th Meeting

Outcomes and Actions

Videoconference
11-12 June 2020

www.earthobservations.org
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Session 1

Draft Agenda

- No changes proposed. Adopted rev 1 as distributed.

ExCom Outcomes

- PB took note of the outcomes and actions from ExCom 51.

Session 1

COVID-19 and GEO

- PB should issue a statement on how it is addressing COVID-19, possibly during the 2020 GEO Symposium.
- PB should look at the consequences of the pandemic on the GWP, including:
 - Impacts on engagement priorities
 - Need to strengthen certain GWP activities or add new activities
 - Potential to accelerate connections with non-EO data, e.g. statistics, mobile phone data, as well as connections with commercial sector
- Engagement teams and other existing PB structures should lead COVID-related contact with GWP activities.
- A document, with recommendations, should be prepared for Plenary.
 - An outline of the document should be presented to PB-18.
- **Action 17-1: Co-chairs and Secretariat to prepare a recommendation on how the document for Plenary will be prepared. Due: 30 June.**

Session 2

GEO Knowledge Hub Implementation Plan

- PB endorsed the GKH implementation plan for presentation to ExCom with the recommendation that it be approved.
- PB noted that the GIDTT recommendations were accepted by the GKH team. The GIDTT recommendations should be included in the document to the ExCom regarding the GKH.
- **Action 17-2: A cover note to ExCom to be drafted by PB co-chairs, Secretariat and GIDTT regarding PB recommendations. Due: ExCom document deadline.**
 - The note should reference previous ExCom concerns, if any, and how they were addressed.
- PB recommended that the GIDTT consider developing implementation plans for other components of the GEOSS infrastructure.

Session 3

GEO 2020 Virtual Symposium

- PB thanked the Symposium subgroup, notably the co-chairs Kathy Fontaine and Kerry Sawyer, and the Secretariat, in particular Wenbo Chu and Rik Baeyens, for their efforts in organizing the Symposium.
- Regarding the recommendation for a continuing webinar series, the PB:
 - Supported the use of a webinar series as a means of sharing information across the GEO community;
 - Recommended that the PB engagement teams suggest the use of webinars to the GWP activities with which they work as one tool among others in sharing their results;
 - Will collaborate and coordinate with the CD-WG to leverage their plans for the development and delivery of webinars and other appropriate tools.
- **Action 17-3: Secretariat to report on their capacity to support a continuing webinar series. Due: PB-18.**

Session 3

Cloud Computing Programmes

- **Action 17-4: Secretariat to report on lessons learned to date from the programmes, and transition plans at the end of the programmes. Due: PB-18.**
- **Action 17-5: Secretariat to provide mid-term reports from the GEO-AWS projects to PB members. Due: 30 June.**
- **Action 17-6: PB members to contact the Secretariat (D.Cripe) if they are interested in serving as expert reviewers of the EBVs in the Cloud project proposals. Due: as soon as possible.**
- PB requested that the Data-WG look at the potential for misuse of data collected from users of cloud computing services.

Session 4

Foundational Task Working Groups

- PB revised the terms of reference for all WGs to remove the limit on the number of commercial sector members. All nominees from commercial sector organizations nominated by GEO Principals are approved as WG members.
- The Secretariat was requested to monitor commercial sector involvement and raise any issues that may arise to the PB.
- Nominations of the two individuals recommended by the Secretariat were approved.

Private Sector Subgroup

- The terms of reference for the subgroup were approved as distributed. In response to ExCom action 51.3, the terms of reference refer to the “need to create opportunities for SMMEs to leverage EO”.

Urban Resilience Subgroup

- The PB congratulated the SG on the progress they have achieved. PB noted that one objective of the SG is to propose that urban resilience be approved as a 4th GEO engagement priority.

Session 4

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Subgroup

- The PB thanked the team for their work and wished them well as they continue.
- The PB noted the request for additional participants, with attention to geographic, gender and generational diversity.

Awards Subgroup

- The PB noted that the Awards process will be launched at the opening session of the GEO Symposium.

Engagement Teams

- **Action PB-17-7: Secretariat to propose a set of questions to guide Engagement Team interaction with the Flagships and Initiatives. These will be circulated to PB members for comment prior to scheduling calls with the Flagship and Initiative leads which will include Secretariat staff and Engagement Team members. Draft questions due: 30 June.**

Session 4

Future PB Meetings

- The PB agreed with the recommendation that the 18th PB meeting which was to take place in Ghana will be held as a videoconference.
- The PB recommended that the PB co-chairs and the Secretariat scheduled dates for a possible fourth (virtual) meeting of the PB in 2020, taking account of the Executive Committee meeting schedule.

Any Other Business

- The PB supported the offer from China to host the GEO Data and Knowledge Week in 2021.
- PB recognized the need to accommodate different time zones in setting virtual meetings.
- **Action 17-8: Secretariat to circulate a table of PB members by time zones. Due: 30 June.**

Attendance

GEO Members

Australia

Canada

China

European Commission

Finland

France

Germany

Ghana

Greece

Italy

Japan

Norway

Pakistan

South Africa

United Kingdom

United States

Participating Organizations

CEOS

IEEE

ESA

IUGG

ESIP

MRI

GODAN

OGC

GRSS

SWF

IAG

UN Environment