

# Outcomes and Actions from the 18th Programme Board Meeting

18<sup>th</sup> GEO Programme Board Meeting

GEO Secretariat

Videoconference  
1-3 September 2020

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## Session 1: GEO Work Programme

### 1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

- Agenda, rev1 adopted as distributed.
- Action: Secretariat to address all open actions or propose a new date. Due: PB-19.
- PB requested that the Secretariat notify PB members in advance if it is not possible to meet the document distribution deadline for some documents.

### 1.3 ExCom 52 Outcomes

- PB noted the relevant outcomes from the ExCom meeting. All topics will be addressed by PB in specific sessions during PB-18.

### 1.4 GEO Work Programme Update

- PB welcomed the OEA and the CCI-WHC Community Activities to the GWP.
- Action: OEA leads asked to respond to questions raised by PB members. Due: PB-19.
- PB approved the GWP update for presentation to ExCom at its 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

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## Session 1: GEO Work Programme

### 1.5 2020 GEO Virtual Symposium: Lessons Learned

- PB thanked the Symposium SG leads, Kathy Fontaine and Kerry Sawyer, the Symposium SG members, and the GEO Secretariat for their organization of the 2020 GEO Virtual Symposium.
- PB to consider establishing a new Symposium SG at its 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, taking account of the lessons of the 2020 Symposium and GEO Week 2020.
- PB suggested that the Secretariat contact the GIDTT for advice regarding the organization of online meetings, as needed.

## Session 2: Reports from Subgroups

### 2.1 Awards Subgroup

- PB approved the Subgroup Terms of Reference.
- PB suggested that the SG consider creating a new award category for groups/teams and consider asking GEO regions to publicize and pre-review nominations from their regions.
- PB requested that the SG formalize the criteria and processes to ensure that the selection of award recipients is fair and transparent.
- PB will review at a later date whether a formal role for the ExCom is needed.

## Session 2: Reports from Subgroups

### 2.2 Urban Resilience Subgroup

- PB endorsed the proposal for presentation to the ExCom for approval.
- PB requested that the engagement priority be inclusive of all human settlements, not only cities.
- PB noted the importance of having a dedicated Secretariat officer supporting this engagement priority. The document should also discuss the expected resource demand on the Secretariat.
- PB recommended that the SG continue to engage GWP activities, regional GEOs and others in the GEO community.

## Session 2: Reports from Subgroups

### 2.3 Private Sector Subgroup

- PB welcomed the progress achieved by the SG, recognizing the importance of private sector participation in GEO.

### 2.4 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Subgroup

- PB thanked the SG for their work, noting the useful information that is starting to come out of the process.

### 2.5 Update on the Engagement Teams

- PB thanked the Secretariat for the report and for organizing the calls. PB also thanked the members of ETs and the GWP leads for their time and commitment.
- PB members were requested to provide their comments via email regarding the ET process.

## Session 3: Working Groups and Other Business

### 3.1 GEO Foundational Task Working Groups

- PB thanked the WG leads and coordinators for the presentations and for their efforts in setting up the WGs.
- PB recommended that the GKH team and the CD-WG discuss opportunities for collaboration.
- PB highlighted the importance of working with other key international organizations in the climate domain, while communicating the unique value that GEO can offer. PB requested that the CC-WG promptly forward any significant issues on external engagement to the PB.
- PB recommended that the Data WG consider creating a dedicated subgroup to look at issues of data ethics. This should consider both specific issues such as the potential misuse of the personal data of GEO cloud programme users, and more generic ones like the need for GEO to adopt a set of ethical principles to complement its data sharing and data management ones. The following PB members volunteered to participate in the next WG meeting where data ethics would be discussed: Suchith Anand, Massimo Craglia, and Siri Jodha Khalsa.

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## Session 3: Working Groups and Other Business

### 3.2 Pacific Islands Advisory Group

- PB thanked Tony Milne for his presentation on behalf of the PIAG.

### 3.3 GEO Cloud Computing Programmes

- PB thanked Douglas Cripe for his report, appreciating the frankness of the lessons learned, both positive and negative.
- PB members acknowledged the need for capacity development to enable developing countries to make best use of cloud computing tools and other emerging technologies.

### 3.4 Any Other Business

- PB thanked members whose terms will be completed at the end of 2020.

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## Participation

### GEO Members

- Australia
- Canada
- China
- European Commission
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Italy
- Japan
- Kenya
- Norway
- Pakistan
- South Africa
- United Kingdom
- United States

### Participating Organizations

- CEOS
- ESA
- ESIP
- GODAN
- GRSS
- IAG
- IEEE
- IUGG
- MRI
- OGC
- POGO
- SWF



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# Thank You

Communicate and Collaborate with GEO:



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