

## **GOFC-GOLD Executive Committee Teleconference – 21 June 2007**

Participants: Tony Janetos, Michael Brady, Johann Goldammer, Garik Gutman, Ivan Csiszar, Chris Justice, Curtis Woodcock, Reuben Sessa, Kathleen Landauer, Martin Herold, Philippe Mayaux, Olga Krankina, Erin Naydenov

### **Highlights and Action Items**

- Quarterly meetings initiated for GOFC-GOLD teams and networks
- GOFC-GOLD prepares for the GEO Ministerial Summit
- Africa Regional networks to meet in November at Ghana
- ESA and GOFC-GOLD will exhibit tropical deforestation monitoring guide at COP 13

### **Details**

#### **1. GTOS/G3OS/GEO matters**

- GTOS update and requests for GOFC-GOLD inputs: Reuban Sessa reported on the recent ISO meeting, where LCCS was evaluated as a potential standard. LCCS is gaining further support from countries. NASA and GOFC-GOLD were thanked for supporting the meeting. **Action:** Reuben Sessa will circulate a short meeting report by late June. The UNFCCC Secretariat visited the FAO to discuss cooperation on initiatives, including the adaptation program. GTOS' terrestrial ECV standards work was highlighted as an area of interest for the UNFCCC. The updated ECV's will be posted to the GTOS website, <http://www.fao.org/gtos/topcECV.html>. **Action:** Reuben Sessa will develop detailed information on the ECV standards that GOFC-GOLD should further evaluate. There will be booth space allocated to GTOS at the COP 13 in December to raise issues and seek financial support. **Action:** GTOS to determine role of panels at event. The REDD topic was also discussed between the UNFCCC and the FAO. **Action:** Reuben Sessa will distribute the UNFCCC/FAO meeting summaries to the ExComm. GTOS is interested in the methodologies that are being used by the Regional Networks. Antonio de Gregorio plans to organize a workshop to discuss technical issues of LCCS in late 2007. Curtis Woodcock plans to provide additional comments on LCCS. A report stemming from the October LC IT meeting in Boston may be prepared, to formally submit comments on LCCS. The GTOS steering committee meeting is confirmed for 5-7 November in Nairobi.
- GEO work plan task update and Ministerial Summit plans: Michael Brady reviewed the updated GEO task management matrix for June (document circulated). The Land Cover Change task (DA0702) is lead by Martin Herold. GTOS/GOFC-GOLD has been invited to prepare an exhibit at the November Ministerial Summit in Cape Town. GOFC-GOLD has received a request to submit materials for the constellation for land surface imaging task (DA0703). GEO has requested a review of the task, including the revision of the task statements and teams. **Action:** Chris Justice and Michael Brady will draft comments on DA0703 for the GEO Secretariat. GOFC-GOLD is waiting for further guidance and clarification on the role of GOFC-GOLD in the task related to the FRA (AG0604). An exhibit for AG0604 as a near term success is planned for the Ministerial Summit. Philippe Mayaux reported that The FRA remote sensing survey is going slower than planned, but the JRC Trees-3 project is progressing well. For the capacity building component the JRC has introduced a request to another part of the European Commission to fund the activity. This program will take at least six months to be operational. In the meantime, several workshops are being organized. **Action:** Philippe Mayaux will link the capacity building component to

the Regional Networks in Africa. The early warning system for fire task (DI0613) is on the list of near term successes. Fire monitoring detection is included in a new GEO architecture implementation pilot activity. Philip Frost of SAFNet is connected to this activity. **Action:** Chris Justice will follow up with Diane Davies (at UMD) for further details on this activity. Michael Brady reported that the fire weather workshop planned for November in Ghana would contribute to DI0613, and could link to the pilot activity. The GEO UIC meeting is planned for the 1-3 August in Washington. GOFC-GOLD may have an exhibit at the GEO summit in late November. Two documents are being prepared for the GEO Ministerial summit in which GOGC-GOLD may be able to contribute. There is a request for additional early achievements; details on additional proposals can be found at (<ftp://ftp.nofc.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/pub/gofc/ENaydenov/List%20of%20early%20achievements.pdf>).

## **2. Fire IT Update and Issues for Discussion**

- IT June telcon report and plans: Chris Justice reported that the Fire IT telcon on 14 June was successful and that minutes have been prepared (document circulated). The Fire IT will focus on four objectives at the IT meeting in Thessaloniki. IT rotation including co-chairs was discussed. Project endorsement was discussed; projects that meet the goal of GOFC-GOLD can be endorsed and a formal process is being developed. Participation was moderate; this showed the level of engagement of the IT. The next quarterly telcon will have more interactive discussions.

## **3. Land Cover IT Update**

- Tropical deforestation monitoring: Martin Herold reported that a technical source book is being developed for guidance on methodological implementation. A draft should be available by early August. Preparations for COP 13 are underway; a booth will be hosted with ESA. GTOS will also have a booth and display area at the COP 13. **Action:** Reuben Sessa, Martin Herold and Michael Brady will coordinate the booths.
- IT July telcon and fall meeting plans: Martin Herold and Curtis Woodcock are developing a draft agenda for the telcon. The LC IT meeting date for October in Boston will be selected shortly.
- Martin Herold reported that the IGOL document was approved at the recent IGOS-P 14<sup>th</sup> plenary. The IGOL and IGOS themes will be linked with GEO activities. John Townshend has asked for photos and graphics for the IGOL report.

## **4. Regional Networks**

- Africa network meeting: Philippe Mayaux presented the status of the Africa meetings, planned for 12-16 November in Accra, Ghana. Two events will take place in the same week: a three day West Africa Regional Network (WARN) meeting, followed by a two day meeting on the fire early warning system for Africa. The WARN meeting will involve regional scientists and members of the other African regional networks. There is an organizing committee in place (document circulated). The lead organizer is Cheikh Mbow from University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal. A programme and list of invitees is being drafted. The results from these meeting may contribute to the GEO Ministerial Summit.
- Urumqi workshop: Olga Krankina reported that there would be a one-day workshop following the LCLUC Science team meeting. Input is sought from the GOFC-GOLD ExComm on the workshop agenda (document circulated). Olga Krankina requested that an

ExComm representative participate in the workshop, present an overview of GOFC-GOLD, and help guide discussions from a global perspective. Tony Janetos is considering attending.

- START work plan, budget planning status, RN telcon plans: Kathleen Landauer confirmed support for the Redlatif meeting and the Thessaloniki Fire IT meeting, Chair support, and to develop a summary of the data distribution and coordination activity for the IT's. Olga Krankina has a draft agenda for the upcoming RN telcon on 13 September. One goal is to get a sense of what activities the RN's can be involved in, such as the evaluation of products.  
**Action:** Erin Naydenov and Olga Krankina to develop a list of RN telcon participants.

#### **5. Any other business**

- Michael Brady reported that the Project Office had completed the annual report for 06/07 and the work plan for 07/08 for the Canadian Space Agency. The documents are available through the Project Office.
- The Fourth Science and Technology Board (STB) meeting is being discussed for 2008. An ExComm meeting should be held prior to the STB meeting. Garik Gutman proposed that the STB meeting be held in Sweden immediately following the June 2008 NEESPI meeting. Michael Brady suggested that the ExComm meeting could be added on to the Boston LC IT meeting in October 2007.

#### **6. List of Documents Circulated**

1. Updated GEO task management report
2. Minutes of June IT telcon
3. June update for event schedule 2007
4. Urumqi workshop agenda
5. Minutes of Africa meeting planning telcon

GOFC-GOLD Project Office