

GOFC-GOLD Executive Committee Teleconference – 19 July 2007

Participants: Tony Janetos, Michael Brady, Chris Justice, Curtis Woodcock, Reuben Sessa, Martin Herold, Olga Krankina, Chris Schmuilius, Erin Naydenov

Highlights and Action Items

- Fire IT meeting to be held on 26 September
- Land Cover IT meeting and ExComm meeting planned for 23-26 October
- Fire IT to create the GTOS Fire ECV
- GOFC-GOLD considers a side event at the GEO Ministerial Summit

Details

1. Remarks from the Chair

- Tony Janetos outlined the plans for an upcoming face to face ExComm meeting, to be held prior to the Land Cover IT meeting on 23 October in Boston. An STB meeting is being planned tentatively for 29-30 May 2008 in Helsinki. GTOS will likely participate in the STB meeting.
- John Townshend made a successful presentation of the IGOL documents. The future of IGOL is to be determined. IGOL may declare itself a success and dissolve. As many organizations have adopted the IGOL recommendations it is not clear how they will come together in terms of land observations. Not all of the IGOL recommendations have been adopted. It is being suggested that the IGOL theme team migrate towards GEO, to help GEO coordinate all the land related observational tasks. This will be discussed further at the GEO User Interface meeting in August in Washington, D.C. IGOL could participate in the GOFC-GOLD STB meeting. **Action:** Michael Brady to distribute the IGOL report to the ExComm.

2. GTOS/G3OS/GEO matters

- GTOS update and request for GOFC inputs: Reuben Sessa reviewed the status of the ECV's. GTOS has a mandate from the UNFCCC to undertake the review the methods and standards that are available. There are a few gaps remaining including: fire, water use and ground water. GOFC-GOLD is requested to assist with the fire ECV and review the biomass and land cover ECV's. The next GTOS biennial report is coming out this year. There will also be a special supplement for the ECV work. The supplement will be complete prior to the UNFCCC COP in December in Bali. The ECV documents are submitted to SBSTA, in which a technical group will review the documents and develop recommendations. **Action:** Chris Justice will lead the fire ECV with the Fire IT. **Action:** Michael Brady to distribute the ECV documentation to the ExComm. The biomass and land cover ECV's still need a fair amount of work. GTOS and FAO will each have a booth at the Ministerial meeting in Nairobi. A GTOS side event is also planned. Tony Janetos and Barrien Moore to meet in September.
- GEO work plan task update and Ministerial Summit plans: Michael Brady reviewed the GEO task management report. The capacity-building task was removed and replaced with task CL0603. CL0603 deals with developing the framework and standards for the terrestrial observations. GOFC-GOLD needs to determine if there should be a GOFC-GOLD exhibit at the Ministerial Summit. Michael Brady may attend the summit. John Townshend will attend the Summit to represent IGOL. GOFC-GOLD needs to provide comments on the 2007-2009 GEO work plan; the constellation task needs to be updated. Two tasks are being considered

as early achievements to be highlighted at the Summit including the land cover task, and the fire early warning task. Descriptions of these tasks will be submitted to the GEO Secretariat. The descriptions will be published and distributed at the Summit.

3. Fire IT Update and Issues for Discussion

- IT telcon follow-up and plans: Chris Justice reported that the Thessaloniki meeting plans are underway. The IT is working on requirements for instrumentation. Chris Justice indicated the difficulty tracking the GEO communications. Help was requested in determining the points that are relevant for IT intervention. Michael Brady could make an initial judgment on what communication should be acted on.

4. Land Cover IT Update

- IT July telcon and fall meeting plans: Curtis Woodcock reviewed the telcon that was productive. A broad range of IT activities were outlined, indicating that there will be a lot of work at the October IT meeting.

5. Regional Networks

- RN quarterly network telcon plans: Olga Krankina indicated that there are logistical challenges in determining a time. Curtis Woodcock was requested to participate in the RN telcon to review the proposal to have the global validation activity as a joint effort between the LC IT and regional networks. Several cross network fire issues could be discussed at the telcon. **Action:** Olga Krankina to distribute the telcon agenda to the IT Co-Chairs for comment.
- Urumqi workshop: Olga Krankina reported that planning is underway. Support for regional participants is lined up through START. A speaker is required to present LCCS, which has a Russian version available. An ExComm member is also requested to present the GOFC-GOLD organization; Garik Gutman and Chris Justice will attend and could present GOFC-GOLD.
- Africa network meeting: Michael Brady reported that the organizing committee has had two telcons. A draft program has been distributed. Funding is in place. The results from these meeting may feed into the GEO Ministerial Summit.

6. Any other business

- Michael Brady and Erin Naydenov reviewed the report series status. A list of GOFC-GOLD reports was distributed for ExComm input. **Action:** Authors are requested to send in comments on whether the reports should go into the report series and a time frame.
- Next telcon date: 20 September 2007.

7. List of Documents Circulated

1. Updated GEO task management report
2. Minutes of July IT telcon
3. July update for event schedule 2007
4. Africa meeting program
5. Report Series status

GOFC-GOLD Project Office