

GOFC-GOLD Executive Committee Teleconference – 17 October 2007

Participants: Tony Janetos, Michael Brady, Curtis Woodcock, Ivan Csiszar, Olga Krankina, Chris Justice, Martin Herold, Johann Goldammer and Erin Naydenov

Highlights and Action Items

- Potential ExComm meeting in spring 2008
- GTOS biennial report to include an update on GOFC-GOLD
- GOFC-GOLD to occupy a seat at the GEO Ministerial Summit.
- Global Assessment of Fire to be completed over the next 2-3 years
- REDD source book to be presented at CIFOR Forest Days during COP 13

Details

1. Remarks from the Chair

- An ExComm meeting is being discussed for spring 2008 prior to an STB meeting.

2. GTOS/G3OS/GEO matters

- GTOS update and requests for GOFC inputs: Martin Herold reported that he has contributed to the GTOS biennial report's supplement on the Essential Climate Variables. This is in preparation for COP 13 in Bali. FAO/GTOS will have a booth and a side event. **Action:** Martin Herold will follow-up with GTOS about the GTOS COP 13 events. There will be a two page update on GOFC-GOLD in the GTOS biennial report. GOFC-GOLD has contributed to the essential climate variables' terrestrial standards including fire, land cover and biomass. Martin Herold reported that the progress report on the land cover standard still needs to be finalized; the overview for the biennial report is complete. Ivan Csiszar reported that the fire standard progress report will be drafted over the next two weeks. The fire overview for the biennial report is being finalized.
- GEO work plan tasks and Ministerial Summit plans: GTOS : will be represented by John Latham and Michael Brady at the GEO plenary and Summit.. GOFC- GOLD will occupy one of the seats of GTOS at the Summit.. There will be poster space available for GOFC-GOLD at the summit. **Action:** Michael Brady will follow up with the ExComm regarding posters. John Townshend will attend the first day of the summit to represent IGOL. The two GOFC-GOLD articles (Fire Early Warning Systems and Land Cover) have been submitted to the publisher for the GEO book. GOFC-GOLD (Elaine Prins) is trying to get the task definition related to geostationary satellites revised to include the fire geostationary constellation.

3. Fire IT Update and Issues for Discussion

- IT meeting follow-up and plans: Chris Justice reported on the Fire IT meeting. The report will be available shortly. IT rotation was discussed. GOFC-GOLD has been invited to share a booth/side event with ESA at COP 13. **Action:** ExComm to determine where best to showcase Fire IT work (GTOS or ESA). The Global Assessment of fire was discussed at the IT meeting. This would be carried out over the next 2-3 years, taking advantage of the new datasets that are available to piece together a fire assessment. There will be a workshop next year to define the inputs, outputs and targeted users of the assessment. The RN's could participate by developing the interpretation of the statistics and provide a narrative of the broader aspects of fire in their regions. Johann Goldammer indicated that this would be a good opportunity to bring together the two networks (GOFC-GOLD and Global Wildland Fire Network). The 13 regional networks would be involved in ground truthing. Ecosystem

sensitivity and Carbon sequestration could be included in the assessment. Tony Janetos suggested that the atmospheric dynamics community be involved. Olga Krankina requested that a Fire IT member join the December 13th Regional Network telcon to update the RN's on this initiative. Funding opportunities should be sought from the international community. The Global Assessment of Fire can be discussed further at the Early Warning Workshop in Edmonton.

- Direct Broadcast workshop follow-up and plans: The Direct Broadcast workshop was hosted by Conabio. There was a request to form a working group on direct readout stations for land. The Working group would be within GOF-C-GOLD, the co-chairs are from the US Forest Sciences and Geo Sciences Australia. Chris Justice recommended that the ExComm set up this thematic group as there is a high demand for this work and the group would improve the dissemination of information from satellite systems.
- Other Fire IT Activities: Ivan Csiszar reported that the report from the 2005 Montreal Fire IT meeting will be published in a book chapter. The reviews are now back and the chapter will be finalized. The report needs to be updated as many items are now obsolete. **Action:** Ivan Csiszar will distribute the document to the Fire IT for input.

4. Land Cover IT Update

- IT fall meeting plans: Tony Janetos will attend the first few days of the IT meeting. Sergey Bartalev will not participate due to the time and efforts required to obtain a US visa. This will be a concern for any future US based meetings. The LC IT report will be available shortly.
- REDD update and plans: The draft REDD source book will be presented at the COP, via a CIFOR Forest Days side event. There may be a Winrock REDD side event at the COP. GOF-C-GOLD's work on REDD will likely be highlighted at the GTOS and ESA booths. **Action:** Martin Herold to send the details of the CIFOR event to the ExComm. The technical inputs in the source book will be offered to the international community as an independent international panel.

5. Regional Networks

- RN telcon follow-up and plans: Olga Krankina reported on the RN telcon. Martin Herold participated to update the RN's on LC IT activities. Not all of the participants were able to participate, however other networks have expressed their interest in participating in the upcoming RN telcon. The next RN telcon will be on 13 December. Michael Brady reported that he will discuss the RN telcon program at the Accra meetings. RN funding opportunities will be discussed at the next RN telcon.
- Urumqi meeting follow-up and plans: Olga Krankina reported that the workshop was successful. The regional specifics on land cover mapping and fire were discussed. The summary report will be submitted to Martin Herold as a land cover newsletter item.
- Africa network and fire meeting plans: Michael Brady reported that the planning for the two November events is well underway. There are six agencies providing funding. The organizing committees have been identifying participants from the entire continent. The AfriFire Network is incorporated into the events.

6. Any other business

- The next ExComm telcon is planned for Wednesday 21 November at 10:30 ET

7. List of Documents Circulated

1. Updated GEO task management report

2. GOFC-GOLD events schedule
3. Land Cover IT meeting report

GOFC-GOLD Project Office