

## **GOFC-GOLD Executive Committee Teleconference – 21 February 2008**

Participants: Tony Janetos, Michael Brady, Curtis Woodcock, Chris Justice, Garik Gutman, Johann Goldammer, Jaqueline Sambale, Olga Krankina, Carlos Souza, Reuben Sessa, Lisa Bowker and Erin Naydenov

### **Highlights and Action Items**

- ExComm meeting planned for 5-6 June 2008 in Helsinki
- REDD Sourcebook receiving strong global interest
- GOFC-GOLD to contribute to GEO constellation team for land surface imaging
- WMO/CFS workshop on fire weather planned for 14-16 July in Edmonton
- STB meeting tentatively set to be held with the LC IT workshop mid October in Jena
- Regional Networks and land Cover teleconferences to be held in March
- GOFC-GOLD to support Amazon RN workshop mid September in Brazil

### **Details**

#### **1. Remarks from the Chair**

- 2008 event schedule and confirmation of key events: The 2008 schedule was reviewed. The ExComm has tentatively decided to hold the meeting 5-6 June in Helsinki following the NEESPI meeting. **Action:** Garik Gutman will help the project office to correspond with the local host on planning the ExComm meeting.
- IT membership matters/changes: The updated GOFC-GOLD membership list was reviewed, required changes should be sent to Erin Naydenov. The membership procedures and criteria were agreed on and have been added to the GOFC-GOLD management document.

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

- GTOS update and requests for GOFC inputs: The TOPC panel report is available at [www.fao.org/gtos/doc/pub53.pdf](http://www.fao.org/gtos/doc/pub53.pdf). The report outlines the TOPC priority areas including the assessments of the available standards for the terrestrial ECV's. Han Dolman is the TOPC Chair. GTOS is determining the requirements for the GCOS report for the UNFCCC. GTOS will likely attend the UNFCCC expert meeting on methods and tools and on data and observations in Mexico City, 4-7 March. GTOS will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> GlobCover End User Consultation meeting on 10 March in Rome, where the Land Cover version 1.0 will be presented. The FRA 2010 meeting will be held 3-7 March in Rome. Reuben Sessa requested that the ExComm pass on any comments to help improve GTOS support to GOFC-GOLD. GTOS will now distribute a monthly update to the panels.
- GEO Tasks: The GEO Constellation task meeting will be held in China on 26 February with a sub-group working on land surface imaging. Curtis Woodcock has prepared an intervention for the meeting to highlight the upcoming data gap in high resolution observations. GOFC-GOLD will propose that member nation efforts be coordinated to; collect, process and make openly available moderate resolution imagery for the 2009-2011 time period. GOFC-GOLD would play a technical advisory role. Garik Gutman suggested that this work be done with the Global Land Survey group. John Townshend will be at the meeting and will deliver the intervention. **Action:** ExComm should send comments on the text to Curtis Woodcock. **Action:** Tony Janetos will send the intervention to Bryan Bailey (completed). GEO Forest

Observation workshop goals have been reformulated and is being planned for late 2008. The workshop is being organized by Doug Muchoney of GEO.

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

- Activities and plans: Chris Justice reported that the US Forest Service, NASA and EPA are having a fire strategy meeting in late February. There will be a Direct Broadcast workshop in Bangkok in March to follow up to the 2007 meeting in Mexico where the working group on direct readout stations for land was formed. **Action:** Michael Brady to attend the Bangkok meeting to explain how GOF-C-GOLD can support this new community. Johann Goldammer and Chris Justice will meet to plan IT activities in March. Chris Justice suggested that the Fire IT should hold a workshop in late 2008. Both SAFNET and RedLatif are planning workshops. Several upcoming GFMC activities are linked to the Fire IT including a fire experiment in central Asia and Mongolia, and a GFMC meeting. There will be a GOF-C/WMO/CFS sponsored workshop, “Advances in Operational Weather Systems for Fire Danger Rating” in conjunction with the “Meeting of the WMO Expert Team on Agrometeorological Aspects of Sustainable Agricultural Development”, 14-16 July at Edmonton. There may be an EWS team meeting in Germany in summer 2008.

### **4. Land Cover IT Update**

- Activities and plans: Jacqueline Sambale reported that the LC IT telcon in February has been postponed until 12 March. There will be a REDD working group telcon on 25 February. The first draft of the REDD sourcebook is available for comment on the LC-IT website. The next LC IT meeting is planned for October in Jena and will likely include an STB meeting. Martin Herold and Chris Schmillius will attend the GlobCover and FRA 2010 meetings at FAO in March.

### **5. Regional Networks**

- Activities and plans: Olga Krankina reported that the next RN telcon will be 13 March. Requests for RN participation in ExComm events should be announced at the RN telcon. Michael Brady indicated that RN representatives should attend the Jena LC IT meeting. Olga Krankina reviewed the announcement for the NERIN land cover mapping at high latitudes workshop, 9-10 July in Syktyvkar, Russia. **Action:** Reuben Sessa will suggest a FAO representative to present LCCS at the workshop. John Townshend has been continuing efforts to develop an East Asia RN. A meeting is being planned with the Chinese Academy of Forestry for 19 March in Beijing (postponed). SEARRIN will be involved in the meeting to seek regional collaboration on regional Earth observations.
- Funding Support Plans: The project office and START are reviewing the updated activity schedule to budget for upcoming events. **Action:** ExComm members should review the schedule and advise Erin Naydenov of any funding needs.

### **6. Any other business**

- Amazon RN workshop discussion: Carlos Souza reviewed plans for an Amazon RN workshop in 2008. The focus of the Amazon RN is on land cover in the Amazon Basin. The workshop will be held in Belem, Brazil, where a field trip could be arranged to visit a validation site. Carlos Souza requested that the ExComm participate and provide lessons learned from other successful RNs. Curtis Woodcock suggested that this workshop be linked to the planned GEO forest observation workshop. **Action:** Curtis Woodcock will send details of the GEO workshop to Carlos Souza and send information to Doug Muchoney. Olga Krankina suggested that LCCS could be a topic at the workshop. Plans should be developed

to begin to link in with other South American regions. Carlos Di Bella of RedLatif and other South American participants interested in the REDD topic could be invited. There are several ongoing LCLUC projects that could be linked to the RN in order to expand beyond the Amazon region. **Action:** Carlos Souza will distribute the draft Amazon RN participants list. Mid September was deemed the most likely date. Carlos Souza is in the process of seeking support for Amazon RN activities and would like to send out the workshop proposal in March. Michael Brady reported that GOFC-GOLD will provide some support for the Amazon workshop.

– The next ExComm telcon is planned for Thursday 20 March 2008 at 10:30 ET

#### **7. List of Documents Circulated**

1. February update for event schedule 2008
2. Plan for Amazon RN workshop (from Carlos Souza)
3. GEO LSI task description (from Curtis Woodcock)
4. GOFC-GOLD Membership list
5. NERIN workshop announcement (from Olga Krankina)

GOFC-GOLD Project Office