



SAON Board meeting 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020

16-17:30 CET / 10-11:30 am EST

Teleconference. Minutes

## 1. Introductions and adoption of agenda

Sandy Starkweather (Chair) welcomed the participants. The agenda was adopted (Appendix 1). The list of participants is found in Appendix 2 and the list of documents is found in Appendix 3.

## 2. Arctic Observing Summit 2020

Hajo Eicken (USA) presented the conference statement<sup>1</sup>. It was structured as key conclusions and recommendations. It contains summaries from the different working groups from the Summit, along with a synthesis of the different white papers that were submitted for the five different themes. In addition, there will be an invitation for submissions to a special issue of the journal *Arctic*<sup>2</sup>, that will seek to bring some of the white papers that were submitted to the AOS into a more public format. Finally, there will be a call to action that will be presented to the Third Arctic Science Ministerial process. It will be shorter and more focused on actionable items.

The first key message is to use the SAON ROADS process to identify essential Arctic variables, and prioritize shared Arctic variables, and link those to specific societal benefits and information needs. The second key point is to enhance co-ordination of observations, including identification of gaps. The third key point is from the food security working group and is about not just having focus on individual observing variables, but consider these in a broader, holistic context. The final recommendation relates to the work of data and interoperability.

Hajo Eicken summarised the four formal input mechanisms that the Arctic Science Ministerial has: ISAR-6, Arctic Observing Summit, IASSA and a website designed for the purpose.

Allen Pope (IASC) added that there will also be a process where organisations, representing the broader community, will be invited to provide direct input.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://arcticobservingsummit.org/sites/default/files/Arctic%20Observing%20Summit%202020%20final%20version-4.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://arcticobservingsummit.org/sites/default/files/RDS-Arctic-SpecialIssue-AOS%202020-Call%20for%20Manuscript%20Submissions-final.pdf>

Larry Hinzman (USA) encouraged SAON Board members to bring the conference statement to the attention of their national ASM3 representatives and ask them to bring it forward as a national priority. He believed that the message should come from multiple, different directions to document that these topics has high priority from everybody.

Rodica Nitu (WMO) informed the meeting that the WMO Secretary General may attend ASM3 and that the statement may be used as basis for preparing his participation and engagement prior and during the ASM3.

Sandy Starkweather thanked organizers of the AOS for the close partnership throughout the Summit and the continued cooperation through the ROADS process.

### 3. The ROADS process

Sandy Starkweather explained that the next step is to reconvene the Roadmap Task Force (RMTF) and in addition to invite representatives from the AOS Working Groups. The RMTF should review the recommendations from the AOS and bring the ROADS document into a format where it can be submitted to the journal *Arctic* by September.

She added that one of the key audiences for the outcomes of the ROADS process is national policymakers, and research funders. She emphasised that Board members can promote the ROADS process through national research policymakers by explaining what the process is expecting to achieve.

### 4. Governance

Jan Rene Larsen (SAON Secretary) explained that the proposed process has been driven from a couple of different directions, including the AOS, the ROADS process and developments within CON. The meeting document presents deliberations on arranging a series of virtual retreats to discuss various options and recommendations.

One significant development is that there are five AOS working groups, each on different themes and it would be relevant to continue a discussion about the continuation of these and how at least some of these related to CON objectives.

Other retreat topics include relationship with Arctic Council Working Groups and national engagement in SAON: How does the mandate for SAON translate into national engagement?

Helen Joseph is the former member of the Board from Canada and led the external review of SAON, and she has been asked to be the facilitator for the retreats.

Sandy Starkweather added that one additional topic to include could be the SAON relationship with the Permanent Participants.

Ingunn Limstrand (Norway) proposed that the SAON relationship with GEO should also be a topic to address in the suggested process.

Sandy Starkweather supported this idea, noting that several countries have similar discussions about connections between entities.

The Board was encouraged to review and comment on the document. The retreats were planned to run over summer and autumn 2020.

## 5. Arctic Science Ministerial

### 5a 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM3)

Jan Rene Larsen drew the Board's attention to the draft report from Norway on SAON that will be submitted to ASM3, noting that all countries could provide a similar report.

Yuji Kodama (Japan) provided details about the ASM3 on 1) Request for input, 2) The science process, 3) The joint statement and 4) The response to COVID-19.

On the *request for input*, requests had been sent out to 25 countries, EU and six indigenous organisations. The request includes an update on initiatives presented to ASM2 and new initiatives for ASM3. It also includes a description on how to strengthen international cooperation. He finally described the anticipated process for soliciting input from international organisations.

On the *science process* he made reference to the three above described events, an online event on the 15<sup>th</sup> June arranged by IASC, IASSA and APECS and the Third Briefing Meeting to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> June.

On the *joint statement*, he informed the meeting that an outline had been drafted and sent to the Science Advisory Board for their comments.

The organising committee is discussing the *response to COVID-19* and the situation with regards to a physical meeting in November 2020. Deliberations include postponing the meeting or making it an online meeting. He expected a final announcement in June.

### 5b 2nd Arctic Science Ministerial follow-up

Jan Rene Larsen explained briefly about the project *Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus* that is an EU-supported project coming out of the second Arctic Science Ministerial.

The three known consortia had submitted a phase-1 response to the H2020 call. SAON had been in a dialogue with the consortia and statements about SAON related activities had been included in the submitted responses. The consortia were currently awaiting a reply to the submissions from the EU before they could engage in a phase-2 response to be submitted in the autumn 2020. The Secretariat had written to the three consortia asking them to consider the engagement of SAON in the second phase and outlined different models that would preserve confidentiality.

## 6a ADC

Peter Pulsifer shared key points of activities of ADC, making reference to outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Polar Data Forum and the AOS2020. ADC had been closely engaged with the AOS data WG and had played an active role in formulating the AOS statement. The group would submit a paper to the journal *Arctic* as described earlier.

The Committee had had discussions on how to keep the momentum and was developing plans for bimonthly webinars or hackathon. The annual ADC meeting will be held as an online meeting. It usually takes place in November.

A group had been established that was reviewing existing data policies.

Ingunn Limstrand (Norway) was interested in knowing who is deciding on the data policy. She was interested in the process of the formalization about policies, the ownership for these and stressed the need for this to be an open discussing.

Peter Pulsifer answered that the first policy was a statement of principles and practices and was released by IASC in 2013. The new group will review this in relation to other policies and make recommendations to IASC and the SAON Board.

Vito Vitale was interested in knowing about the relationship with the Antarctic data community.

Peter Pulsifer acknowledged the need for this and noted that the chair of the group, Stein Trondstad (Norway) is also a member of the *Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management*. He emphasized that the IASC document was a statement of Principles and Practices, since it was not possible to establish policies.

Strahlendorff Mikko (SAON Vice-Chair) believed that the work could be an opportunity to better align the policies of research organizations with public institution policies.

## 6b CON

CON has continued its discussions on governance, membership, and chairmanship. It had also had a dialogue with the newly established POA Working Group. The mandate of this group is to define metadata standards for observational assets. The next CON teleconference is on 28<sup>th</sup> May.

## 7. SAON presence at

The different events listed were reviewed. For several of these there was uncertainty if they would be held as physical meetings. It was noted that a session proposal had been sent to the Arctic Circle in Reykjavik autumn 2020.

## **8 Any other business.**

### **8a. Financial statement. SAON Secretariat**

The 2019 financial report for the SAON Secretariat was presented by Jan Rene Larsen

### **8b Topics specifically with IASC**

Sandy Starkweather proposed that Sten Lund should be invited to be engaged in the mentioned governance retreats.

## Appendix 1. Agenda

SAON Board meeting 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020

16-17:30 CET / 10-11:30 am EST

Teleconference

### Draft agenda

1. Introductions and adoption of agenda (5 min)  
*[Sandy Starkweather]*
2. Arctic Observing Summit 2020 (10 min)  
*[The conference statement. Peter Sclosser]*
3. The ROADS process (10 min)  
*[The process should be defined, documented, and be in a publicly accessible format for the ASM3. The plan is to submit it for the special edition of the journal Arctic that will report on the outcomes of AOS2020. The deadline for submission is 1<sup>st</sup> September. Sandy Starkweather]*
4. Governance (15 min)  
*[A discussion on how to develop the relationship with other entities and how to develop the SAON national structure. Jan Rene Larsen]*
5. Arctic Science Ministerial
  - a. 3<sup>rd</sup> Arctic Science Ministerial (10 min)  
*[How should SAON provide input to ASM3? One proposal is for national representatives to put forward a joint proposal to support SAON. The draft reporting for Norway is available. Jan Rene Larsen]*
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Arctic Science Ministerial follow-up (5 min)  
*[The project Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus. Jan Rene Larsen]*
6. Committees (20 min)
  - a. ADC *[Peter Pulsifer]*
  - b. CON *[Reference is made to documents 04 and 05 from the Board meeting 8<sup>th</sup> April. Lisa Loseto]*
7. SAON presence at (15 min)
  - a) ISAR-6 Special session S20 Zoom session: May 14<sup>th</sup> 13:30 GMT (5:30 AKDT / 9:30 EDT / 15:30 CEST / 22:30 JST)
  - b) EU-PolarNet webinar “Stronger together”: 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 10:00 – 13:00 CEST.
  - c) International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS X): 15-19 June 2020, Arkhangelsk, Russia. <https://icass.uni.edu/>
  - d) Arctic Circle 2020 Assembly. October 8–11, 2020 in Reykjavík, Iceland. [A session proposal has been submitted] <http://www.arcticcircle.org/>
  - e) UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 (UNDOS): Copenhagen Arctic Workshop 21-23 October 2020 *[Craig Lee and Molly McCammon to be invited to discuss SAON engagement with the Board]*

- f) Arena for the gap analysis of the existing Arctic Science Co-Operations (AASCO) 2-3 November 2020, Monaco. Registration 15 May 2020.  
<http://www.atm.helsinki.fi/peex/index.php/aasco>
  - g) 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial. 21-22 November 2020, Tokyo, Japan <https://asm3.org/>
  - h) Arctic Circle Japan Forum November 21-23, 2020.
  - i) EO for Polar Science Workshop (date unknown). <http://eo4polar.esa.int/>. Contribution submission 1st June 2020
  - j) Arctic Circle Berlin Forum (date unknown).  
<http://www.arcticcircle.org/forums/berlin/announcement>
  - k) ASSW 2021 [*A session proposal has been submitted*]. <https://assw2021.pt/>
8. Any other business (10 min)
- a. Financial statement. SAON Secretariat
  - b. Topics to pursue with IASC [*1) Joint fellow, 2) Invite Sten Lund to present the results of the IASC Indigenous Action WG to SAON*]
9. Next telephone conference: 10<sup>th</sup> June 16-17:30 CEDT / 10-11:30 am EDT.

## Appendix 2. List of participants

Heikki/SIOS	SIOS
Helen Joseph	
Jan Rene Larsen	
Yuji Kodama	
Yoo Kyung Lee	
Sandy Starkweather	
Rodica Nitu	
Peter Schlosser	
Jórunn Harðardóttir	
Roberto Delgado	
Allen Pope	
David Arthurs	Polar View
Justiina Dahl	SPRS
Lisa Loseto	
Peter L Pulsifer	
Vito Vitale	
Agnieszka B. Moeller	
Ingunn Limstrand	
Hajo Eicken	
Srdan Dobricic	
Larry Hinzman	
Strahlendorff Mikko	
Nicolas Segebarth	
Cathy Coon	
Maribeth Murray	

(Affiliation and other details will be added)



### Appendix 3. List of documents

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Document no</i>	<i>Document Title</i>	<i>Document author</i>
0	08	<a href="#">Draft agenda version 13th May 2020</a>	Executive
0	07	<a href="#">GoToMeeting dial-in</a>	Secretariat
0	-	<a href="#">Board meeting 8th April 2020. Draft minutes version 12th May 2020</a>	
2	(link)	<a href="#">Arctic Observing Summit. Draft conference statement</a>	
4	06	<a href="#">Governance review</a>	Secretariat
4	10	<a href="#">Upcoming ADC activities</a>	
4	(From Board meeting 8th April 2020)	<a href="#">Architecture considerations for SAON CON - presentation</a>	CON chair
4	(From Board meeting 8th April 2020)	<a href="#">Architecture considerations for SAON CON - discussion paper</a>	Secretariat
5a	05	<a href="#">Reporting on SAON to ASM3. Draft report from Norway</a>	Secretariat
5b	04	<a href="#">Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus. Draft response to consortia</a>	Secretariat
8a	09	<a href="#">Financial report, SAON Secretariat, 2019</a>	Secretariat

Link to meeting documents: <https://www.arcticobserving.org/governance/board/board-meetings/12-board-meetings/402-5th-may-2020-meeting-documents-for-board-meeting-teleconference>