

**SAON Governance Review**

**Workshop #2 – Governance of SAON’s**

**Committee on Observations and Networks**

**Tentative – Last week of November 2020**

***Objectives of workshop:***

1. *To review the mandate of the Committee on Observations and Networks - CON - (e.g. terms of reference and objectives); examine other similar mandated Committees and Working Groups for complementarity/overlap; draft changes and amendments as appropriate*
2. *To review the membership of the CON, understand individual and organizational backgrounds and expectations; discussion of areas of strengths amongst members; identify any gaps in membership*
3. *To review the structure of CON; discussion of Chair (and co-chair) position; and determine draft changes and amendments to structure to best support SAON CON objectives*

***Agenda (3 hours)***

10:00 Introductions

10:05 Reference to the Code of Conduct <https://www.assw2020.is/code-of-conduct>

10:10 Review and confirmation of above workshop objectives

***Part A* – *Review the Mandate of the CON***

10:15 Presentation on the CON Mandate (Lisa Loseto/Jan Rene Larsen)

* Discussion of the CON terms of reference and objectives; short historical perspective
* Discuss current structure, concept on National Committees and alternative structures
* Discuss other committees or working groups that exist and that might complement or overlap? Consideration of how best to link, for example, Arctic Council Working Groups or AOS Working Groups with CON.

 ***Part B – Existing CON Membership: Background and Expectations***

11:00 Opportunity for members to speak of their background and expertise – both as individuals and from an organizational perspective

* Discussion of strengths that are present amongst CON members
* Identification of any gaps; where additional representatives may need to be sought; discussion on how to reach out to any additional representatives
* (either in this workshop or a separate workshop) How to obtain greater Indigenous participation in the CON?
* Discussion of capacity issues in leading and participating in the CON; recognition of the considerable level of effort required to do this; and associated time and resource commitment

***Short Break – 10 minutes***

***Part C* – *Reporting Structure of CON***

12:00 Presentation of Current Reporting Structure of the CON (Lisa Loseto)

* Review and discussion of current structure, reporting and chairmanship, consideration of possible co-chair position (see also discussion on capacity issues above)
* Relationship with other initiatives
* Advice and views on organizational structure. Can improvements be made? Is there more than one option to be considered (pros/cons of each)?
* How can a ‘new structure/governance’ better support the objectives of CON and SAON

12:45 Wrap Up and Next Steps; Reminder of future workshops

1:00 End of the Workshop

**CON Governance Workshop Participants** (to be further discussed; recognizing that a workshop of approximately 20 individuals might be appropriate)

* Current CON members
* AOS Executive Committee and WG Leads
* Indigenous participants (in addition to current CON members)

Potential pre-reads:

* [SAON Strategy, especially Goal 2](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Strategy_and_Implementation/SAON_Strategy_2018-2028_version_16MAY2018.pdf)
* [SAON Work Plan – the part on Goal 2](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Strategy_and_Implementation/SAON_Implementation_Plan_version_17JUL2018_Status_approved.pdf)
* [CON Terms of Reference](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Committees/CON/Terms_of_Reference/CON_ToR_agreed_version_5th_May_2017.pdf)
* [CON Work Plan](https://www.arcticobserving.org/committees/con/con-work-plan)