



## **SAON Board meeting 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 10AM-12PM EDT / 16-18 CEST / 14-16 UTC (Teleconference). Draft minutes**

### **1. SAON Board Chairmanship**

Tom Armstrong (out-going Chair) thanked all members of the Board for the support during this chairmanship and thanked in particular the members of the Executive Committee. Larry Hinzman (incoming Vice-chair) thanked Tom Armstrong for his work as the first chairman of the SAON Board.

It was noted David Hik (IASC) has stepped down as vice-Chair, and that the new Chair has to be nominated by AMAP. The composition of the Executive Committee changes when the chairmanship of the Arctic Council changes, and USA and the AC PPs have not appointed new members of the Committee.

The agenda was approved (Appendix 1). The list of participants is found in Appendix 2.

### **2. The Committees**

Peter Pulsifer (ADC chair) gave a status presentation on the work of the Arctic Data Committee (ADC) (Title 'Establishing an Arctic Data Network through International Collaboration', link can be found in Appendix 3).

He highlighted the Committee's general work model, where deliverables should contribute to addressing strategic priorities over the short, medium and long term, but with tangible deliverables over a short time frame. He noted that representatives are nominated as national representatives, but that the Committee in general is open to all "interested and engaged" participants. The Committee intends to use existing capacity while working to generate new resources, and mentioned that the Committee had applied for funds from the Belmont Forum.

The Work Packages of the Committee are

1. Documenting and understanding the Arctic data management ecosystem
2. Identifying and promoting common metadata elements
3. Engaging in data citation and publication movement
4. Promoting interoperability through action – interoperability experiment

In the following discussion, Larry Hinzman noted that resources for the work are needed and that the countries should try to identify resources, also as in-kind contributions. Peter Pulsifer responded that the

sources could be the national science foundations, but that more solid and secure funding would be needed if the Committee for instance should built and maintain regular data systems.

Lisa Loseto (CON chair) gave a status presentation on the work of the Committee on Observations and Networks (link can be found in Appendix 3). The initiatives that the Committee has started or are considering are

- Link with ADC
- Atmospheric observations
- EU PolarNet
- CBM atlas
- USGCRP- Indicators

In addition to this, Lisa Loseto introduced a new proposal where the Committee should establish an inventory of Arctic Council (AC) Working Group (WG) projects. In the discussion of this project, Jim Gamble (AIA) noted that there already is an effort within the AC on this. He described the 'Tracking Tool', but also noted that this proposal could serve a wider range of purposes. Lisa Loseto answered that she was glad that the groundwork already existed but that there perhaps was room for improvement, like a need for a better interface. She wanted to take the tracking tool to the next level. Larry Hinzman proposed that the Committee takes contact to Julia Gourly, the US SAO, on this.

Also for CON, Larry Hinzman noted that resources for the work are needed and that the countries should try to identify resources, also as in-kind contributions. He thanked the two Committees for their work.

### **3.a. Guidance on delivery of National Implementation Plans (NIPs) and related inventories**

Jan Rene Larsen (AMAP, SAON Secretary) proposed that the SAON Board through CON should establish a project that would create overviews and inventories of Arctic observational activities. He noted that for some countries this would also be relevant in the context of EU PolarNet (See agenda item 4.b.)

Lars-Otto Reiersen (AMAP) believed that a relevant CON project could be to establish inventories of national projects and plans, and that this would be more relevant than updating the AC Tracking Tool. Reidar Hindrum (CAFF) proposed that this work should be done in collaboration with the AC WG Secretariats. Martin Jeffries (USA) would like to see a white paper on the need for the mentioned inventories. He noted that it could be a large effort, and that it could end as an incomplete project due to the lack of interest and lack of support.

### **3.b. Outreach**

Lars-Otto Reiersen saw a need for improving the SAON outreach activities. He believed that the information provided through the SAON web site is insufficient. He noted that SAON has made a flyer, a web site, and a newsletter, but that outreach is still insufficient.

Eva Krüemmel (ICC) agreed that there is a need for better outreach, but argued that it first needs to be determined who SAON wants to reach and then what kind of information should be provided. She asked, as an example, if SAON wants to reach out to politicians and decision makers more effectively.

Larry Hinzman said that there are ways to make SAON more visible and that fora like 'Cryolist' and 'Arcticinfo' are efficient circulations. He believed that it would be more efficient to do something smaller and more frequent.

Reidar Hindrum proposed that SAON should be more visible through GEO. Tom Armstrong added that SAON has status as 'the Arctic wing of GEO'.

Martin Jeffries noted that SAON is involved in the 2016 'Arctic Observing Summit' in Fairbanks, and proposed that Board members would be present. He believed that SAON should be identified more closely with AOS. Peter Schlosser (ISAC) added that one of the co-chairs of AOS is from SAON and that AOS would welcome closer integration with SAON. Larry Hinzman proposed that SAON should engage the SAON community in the preparation of white papers that are solicited for the AOS. Kathy Crane (USA) said that an effort should be made to coordinate the international funding effort, and Peter Schlosser said that the AOS has such a theme and would like to see a dialogue among the funders, but that the Organizing Committee is struggling to make the funders talk together.

Larry Hinzman concluded that further discussions about outreach should be taken in the Executive Committee.

#### **4.a. Group on Earth Observations (GEO)**

Jan Rene Larsen explained briefly about SAON's connection with GEO, noting that GEO has had a seat in the SAON Board almost from the beginning, that SAON has status as a component of the 'GEO Cold Region (WA-01-C3)', and finally that an agreement had been negotiated that make SAON 'the Arctic wing of GEO'.

Martin Jeffries explained that the the US GEO Committee is interested in the Arctic and proposed that SAON Board members should be involved in the national GEO committees. He proposed that SAON is more involved with GEO, noting that GEO has many more resources than SAON and that SAON perhaps could influence the GEO Arctic thinking.

Larry Hinzman proposed that a small group should be organized on how the interaction with GEO should be. Members: Jan Rene Larsen, Martin Jeffries, Mikko Strahlendorf (Finland), Peter Schlosser, and Vito Vitale (Italy).

#### **4.b. EU PolarNet**

Nicole Biebow and Jan Rene Larsen provided a brief overview about the EU PolarNet initiative. The overall goal of EU-PolarNet is to develop an Integrated European Polar Research Programme that is co-designed with all relevant stakeholders and international partners. AMAP has a co-lead role on three tasks in the project:

- Task 1.3. Strengthen international cooperation and implement the Transatlantic Research Alliance
- Task 2.3: Optimisation of existing monitoring and modelling programmes
- Task 3.3 Data Management and Interoperability

From AMAP's side, Jan Rene Larsen is responsible for Tasks 2.3 and 3.3 and will seek to involve ADC and CON in the work. He said that Board and Committee members will be asked to provide inventory observational information in support of this. See also agenda item 3.a.

#### **4.c. Polar Data Forum**

Peter Pulsifer explained briefly about the second Polar Data Forum, to be held 27-29 October 2015, in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada (<http://www.polar-data-forum.org>). It is a follow up to the first Forum held in 2013. The Forum is a cooperation among IASC, ICSU, SAON, and SCAR.

#### **5. Next Board meeting**

It was agreed that the next Board meeting should be held in the conjunction with the Arctic Observing Summit (AOS) 12-18 March 2016 in Fairbanks, Alaska, USA.

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

There were none.

Larry Hinzman closed the meeting, thanked the participants, and informed the meeting that work within the Board in the period up to the March 2016 Board meeting will be organized through correspondence and teleconferences.

## Appendix 1: Agenda

1. SAON Board Chairmanship (Tom Armstrong, Larry Hinzman, Jan Rene Larsen)
2. The Committees (Peter Pulsifer, Lis Loseto)
3. Other SAON activities
  - a. Guidance on delivery of National Implementation Plans (NIPs) and related inventories (Jan Rene Larsen).
  - b. Outreach (Lars-Otto Reiersen)
4. SAON relationship with other initiatives/organisations
  - a. GEO (Tom Armstrong)
  - b. EU PolarNet (Nicole Biebow, Jan Rene Larsen)
  - c. Polar Data Forum (Peter Pulsifer)
5. Next Board meeting (face-to-face at ASSW/AOS, March 2016 in Fairbanks?)
6. AOB

## Appendix 2: List of Participants

Name		Affiliation	Email
Armstrong	Tom	SAON Chair (out-going)	tom@madisonrivergroup.com
Beszczyńska-Möller	Agnieszka	Poland	abesz@iopan.gda.pl
Biebow	Nicole	Germany	nicole.biebow@awi.de
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Hindrum	Reidar	CAFF	reidar.hindrum@miljodir.no
Hinzman	Larry	SAON vice-Chair (in-coming)	ldhinzman@alaska.edu
Jeffries	Martin	USA	martin.jeffries@navy.mil
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Jonsell	Ulf	Sweden	ulf.jonsell@polar.se
Crane	Kathy	USA	kathy.crane@noaa.gov
Kruemmel	Eva	ICC	ekruemmel@inuitcircumpolar.com
Larsen	Jan Rene	AMAP, SAON Secretary	jan.rene.larsen@amap.no
Loseto	Lisa	CON chair, DFO, Canada	Lisa.Loseto@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Manley	William	AOV	william.manley@Colorado.EDU
Ohata	Tetsuo	Japan	ohatat@jamstec.go.jp
Pulsifer	Peter	ADC chair, NSIDC, USA	pulsifer@nsidc.org
Rachold	Volker	IASC	volker.rachold@iasc.info
Reiersen	Lars-Otto	AMAP	Lars.otto.reiersen@amap.no
Schlosser	Peter	ISAC	schlosser@ldeo.columbia.edu
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Strahlendorf	Mikko	Finland	Mikko.Strahlendorff@fmi.fi
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Wilson	Simon	AMAP	swilson@inter.nl.net

More information about the participants and their affiliation is found at [www.arcticobserving.org](http://www.arcticobserving.org)

### Appendix 3: List of meeting documents

<b><i>Agenda item</i></b>	<b><i>Document Title</i></b>	<b><i>Document author</i></b>
1	<u>Agenda</u>	Executive Committee
2	<u>ESTABLISHING AN ARCTIC DATA NETWORK THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION</u>	Peter Pulsifer
2	<u>SAON CON (Committee on Observing Networks)</u>	Lisa Loseto
4b	<u>EU PolarNet</u>	Jan Rene Larsen

The documents can be found at: <http://www.arcticobserving.org/12-board-meetings/132-meeting-documents-for-board-meeting-teleconference-10-june-2015>

## Appendix 4: Actions

Action No	Action	Who
1	Contact is established to Julia Gourly, the US SAO, on the AC WG project inventory	CON
2	Arrange SAON Board meeting at AOS	SAON Executive
3	Group to be organized on how the how the interaction with GEO should be	Jan Rene Larsen, Martin Jeffries, Mikko Strahlendorf Peter Schlosser, Vito Vitale
4	Consider SAON outreach	SAON Executive