## GEO and SAON. SAON as ‘ArcticGEOSS’[[1]](#footnote-1)

SAON can apply to be a member of the GEO family at three levels ([https://www.earthobservations.org/geoss\_wp.php#](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.earthobservations.org%2Fgeoss_wp.php&data=02%7C01%7C%7C279aaf9b65a745b9d8e208d5404ab983%7C9f9ce49a51014aa38c750d5935ad6525%7C0%7C0%7C636485612044644462&sdata=OZbLoQU4bIlRM09miCmQjET3qfzpuiUGRGvq%2Fj%2BdTVk%3D&reserved=0)):

         *Community Activities*: This list is maintained by the GEO Secretariat

         *GEO Initiatives*: This requires an implementation plan (which is the SAON Strategy). The plan will be reviewed by the [Programme Board](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.earthobservations.org%2Fgeo_pb.php&data=02%7C01%7C%7C279aaf9b65a745b9d8e208d5404ab983%7C9f9ce49a51014aa38c750d5935ad6525%7C0%7C0%7C636485612044644462&sdata=psS9v%2Fps0ExIzMH6%2FbGx1FhFkcF3K7Utg5t%2Bv0m%2F9Ug%3D&reserved=0); they may come back with proposals for modifications. *GEO Initiatives* are encouraged to seek a political mandate, which will allow them to enter the next level.

         *GEO Flagships*: These all have a political mandate

AmeriGEOSS, EuroGEOSS, etc are *GEO Initiatives*, and this is probably the level, where SAON should start?

The Programme Board will have its next meeting 31st of January. The next after this is May, June, or July and again in the autumn.

The requirement to SAON is about reporting to GEO. The reporting to SAON’s parents (as it is described in the SAON ToR’[[2]](#footnote-2)) should fulfils GEO’s requirements.

1. The question was also discussed at the Board meeting in Prague in April 2017: https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board\_meetings/2017\_Prague/06\_GEO\_and\_SAON\_15MAR2017.docx [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Terms\_of\_Reference/saon-terms-of-reference.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)