

Meeting of the SAON CON Committee	
When	14 April 2015, 15:00-16:00 (CET) / 9:00-10:00 (EST)
Venue	Teleconference – GoToMeeting
Participants	Jan Rene Larsen (AMAP), Kjetil Tørseth (Norway), Jennie Knopp (Canada), Lars-Otto Reiersen (AMAP), Libby Larson (USA), Lisa Loseto (CON chair, Canada), Mike Gill (Canada), Peter Pulsifer (ADC chair, USA), Roland Neuber (Germany), Tuukka Petäjä (Finland), Vito Vitale (Italy)
Minutes	Jan Rene Larsen

AGENDA

1. Welcome to the call
2. Review of document “proposed next steps” (Lisa and others)
 - a. Highlights from first meeting (Lisa)
 - b. Updates since the meeting (Lisa)
 - c. EU PolarNet (Jan)
 - d. Proposed next steps (Lisa)
 - e. CBM atlas (Peter?)
 - f. Open discussion on next steps
3. ADC updates (if Peter is available for the call)
4. AOV – short introduction
5. SAON Board meeting – May 4th (Jan)
6. Next call and discussion on frequency of calls

MINUTES

Ad 1) Welcome to the call

Lisa Loseto welcomed the participants to the call. The participants introduced themselves.

Ad 2) Review of document ‘proposed next steps’

The document ‘SAON CON Meeting Outcomes, Further Discussions and Draft Plan’ had been drafted by the Lisa Loseto and had been circulated for review to the participants prior to the meeting. On the work on indicators and inventories, Lisa Loseto had noted some concern or hesitation. She believed that CON should focus on smaller, specific goals, and also emphasized the relationship with the Arctic Data Committee (ADC).

Jan Rene Larsen made a presentation on the EU PolarNet project putting emphasis the three tasks where AMAP is co-lead: “Strengthen international cooperation and implement the Trans-Atlantic Research Alliance”, “Optimisation of existing monitoring and modelling programmes”, and “Data Management and Interoperability”. In the discussion about the CON involvement in the projects, the participants were informed that a meeting will be arranged with the Project Manager Nicole Biebow from the Alfred Wegener Institute. Furthermore, a document will be developed that further details how the work with the tasks should be organized.

Jan Rene Larsen also made a presentation based on input from the SAON Chair Tom Armstrong. He believed that CON should determine for itself what its priorities are, but that there are external forces are (including):

- SAON is a formal "Arctic wing" of GEO and has responsibility for helping GEO understand (and even prioritize) observational assets used by any and all countries
- Indicators (of change), especially those related to climate, are a major priority of the US Arctic Council Chairmanship.

On the latter, Tom Armstrong is working with the US Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) and the AMAP US HoD Mike Kuperberg to define the resources that can be made available to CON. Lise Loseto expressed the view that the work with indicators should go through a proof of concept phase based on a defined subject like food and water security.

Peter Pulsifer informed the meeting about a project on developing a mechanism for Community-Based Monitoring (CBM) and Traditional Knowledge (TK) to contribute to terrestrial biodiversity monitoring. The project proposal was a response to a call from the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS). The project is meant to be based on the CBM-Atlas (www.arcticcbm.org) and the focus will be on contributing data as well as using data.

Ad 3) Arctic Data Committee (ADC) updates

Peter Pulsifer informed the meeting about status of the ADC, focusing on the work programme of the Committee:

- Establishing a map of the arctic data management "ecosystem" or "universe"
- Develop recommendations on a common set of metadata elements relevant across Arctic sciences, to facilitate interoperability and sharing between Arctic data repositories and online portals
- Provide a report and guide on data publication and citation for Arctic researchers
- An interoperability experiment

He added that through other projects, he was in a dialogue with the International Permafrost Association (IPA) and an initiative on arctic fisheries and that cooperation with these initiatives could be of value.

Based on discussions from the Committee meeting in Ottawa, Vito Vitale had developed a proposal for the development of cooperation on atmospheric observations in the Arctic. It was agreed to circulate the paper to the Committee and to seek to find an opportunity to discuss this at the coming ASSW.

Ad 4) AOV – short introduction

Lisa Loseto introduced the Arctic Observing Viewer (www.arcticobservingviewer.org). The facility can provide overviews of arctic observational activities and is designed as a decision support tool. It has been developed with US AON, funded by the US NSF. It was agreed to arrange a targeted session where the AOV can be demonstrated for ADC and CON.

Ad 5) SAON Board

Lisa Loseto informed the participants that the SAON Board will have a teleconference in the beginning of May and that the prime goal will be to inform the Board about the status of the Committees' work. Members of the Committees will be invited to attend.

Ad 6) Next call and discussion on frequency of calls

It was agreed that the Committee should meet approximately once a month and that the purpose of the next meeting should be to further define goals and activities.

Actions

What	Who
Develop a document that will detail how the work with the EU-PolarNet tasks should be organized	Jan Rene Larsen
Cooperation on atmospheric observations in the Arctic – circulate document	Jan Rene Larsen
Cooperation on atmospheric observations in the Arctic - arrange talks at ASSW	Vito Vitale
Arrange session where the AOV can be demonstrated for ADC and CON	Lisa Loseto and Jan Rene Larsen