



Meeting of Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)

15th December 2015 10-11 AM EST / 16-17 CET (Teleconference)
Minutes

1. Updates on SAON board call

The SAON Board had a telephone conference on 8th December 2015, and Christine Daae Olseng (SAON Chair) shared information about some of the topics from the meeting. She mentioned that the SAON Board has decided to conduct an external review of SAON.

2. Comments on revised inventory document and 3. Inventory template

An updated version of the 'CON Inventory Work Plan' had been made available to the meeting and was discussed. Several members said that they would be able to provide information to the mentioned inventory work. Vito Vitale (Italy) said that national efforts were ongoing to organise such information. Eva Kruemmel (ICC) and Sarah Kalhok (Canada) mentioned the Polar Data Catalogue as a relevant source of information. Some participants raised concern about the effort needed. It was emphasized that a valuable contribution would also be to provide a status on the national effort to organise the information.

Jan Rene Larsen (SAON Secretary) explained about the draft templates that had been drafted and emphasized that in this first version, only very simply information would be collected, but that later versions of the templates could be more comprehensive. It was agreed that the members would review the plan and the templates and provide comments to the Secretariat prior to the next meeting of the Committee.

4. Theme updates

The meeting was given brief updates on the work on detailed inventories within a specific Arctic theme:

Arctic Fisheries: It was explained that the Peter Pulsifer, chair of the Arctic Data Committee (ADC) has initiated an initiative within ADC to organise an overview of these data.

Atmosphere: Vito Vitale is planning to develop a questionnaire on atmospheric physics. Etienne Carpentier (WMO) said that relevant information may be available through the WMO OSCAR database, which will be operational by 1st March 2016. It will contain information about all observational platforms, and is meant also to cover the Global Cryosphere Watch. Vito Vitale will contact Sandy Starkweather and Etienne Carpentier to discuss how to further develop this activity.

Global Terrestrial Network for Permafrost: Vladimir Romanovsky (USA) had offered to consider how SAON can support GTN-P. Hughes Lantuit (Germany) had had a dialogue with Lisa Loseto (Canada) on the same topic.

Community Based Monitoring: Eva Kruemmel explained that a Polar Knowledge proposal has been submitted, putting emphasis on the terrestrial biodiversity component, and that work on a European component is ongoing.

5. Arctic Observing Summit (AOS)

Updates were given on the Arctic Observing Summit. CON will meet during AOS (14 March 2016).

Appendix 1: Agenda

- 1) Updates on SAON board call
- 2) Comments on revised inventory document
 - a. Will update for submission to AOS for small paper
- 3) Inventory template
- 4) Theme updates
 - a. Fisheries update
 - b. Atmospheric
 - c. GTN-P
 - d. CBMP
- 5) Artic Observing Summit
- 6) Other

Appendix 2: List of Participants

Name	Affiliation
Christine Daae Olseng	SAON Chair, Norway
Etienne Carpentier	WMO
Eva Kruemmel	ICC
Jan Rene Larsen	AMAP Secretariat
Jeremy Mathis	USA
Libby Larsen	USA
Lisa Loseto	Canada
Sarah Kalhok	Canada
Susan File	Canada
Tetsou Sueyoshi	Japan
Tom Christensen	Denmark
Vito Vitale	Italy

More information about the participants and their affiliation is found at <http://www.arcticobserving.org/governance/board/board-members>

Appendix 3: List of meeting documents

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Document no</i>	<i>Document title</i>
1	1	CON Inventory Work Plan (draft, version 13DEC2015)
2	-	Networks, Projects, Programs, and Platforms: Metadata Reporting Description (draft, version 13DEC2015)

The documents can be found at
<http://www.arcticobserving.org/committees/con>

Appendix 4: Actions

Action No	Action	Who	When
1	Members to review the inventory plan and the templates and provide comments to the Secretariat	Committee members	Before the next meeting of the Committee
2	Contact Sandy Starkweather and Etienne Carpentier to discuss how to further develop the atmosphere inventory activity	Vito Vitale	Before the next meeting of the Committee