

# Meeting of Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)

# 14th September 2020 15-16 CET / 9-10 am EST Draft minutes

### 1. Welcome to the call

Lisa Loseto (Chair) welcomed the participants to the meeting, and the participants introduced themselves. The agenda and list of participants are found in Appendix 1 and 2. The list of documents is found in Appendix 3.

### 2. Review of actions/decision from the call on 28th May 2020

Lisa Loseto summarised the actions and decisions.

### 3. CON: Governance discussion/planning

Jan Rene Larsen made reference to an ongoing discussion about the structure and governance of CON, CON’s relationship with other bodies and the CON chairmanship. In parallel, a series of workshops within the SAON Board had discussed and reviewed different aspects of the governance structure within SAON.

Helen Joseph (HCJ Consulting) explained that the first workshop was about the ROADS governance structure. The first part was about ‘the existing landscape’ with presentations, while the second part focused on the ROADS Advisory Panel and its mandate and composition. There was a good engagement on the call, and recommendations, notes and presentation had been made available.

Lisa Loseto explained that the purpose of the CON workshop would be to consider a replacement for her as a chair, perhaps using a principle of a rotating chair among countries and organizations. It could also consider the composition of CON and review and revise the objectives of the committee. In reviewing the tasks and goals of SAON, it should answer questions like ”What is the best architecture or governance setup to be able to support these tasks and these goals”? It was also anticipated that a discussion about national SAON structures/committees would be part of the agenda.

It was agreed that the workshop would be held. Lisa Loseto, Helen Joseph and Jan Rene Larsen would draft an agenda proposal and circulate it among participants for comments. The duration would be 3 hours. One additional objective of the workshop would be for committee members to get to know CON and each other a bit better.

### 4. Upcoming H2020 call: Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus (LC-CLA-20-2020)

Jan Rene Larsen briefly summarized the situation where SAON was a partner in the three consortia established. SAON had formulated identical expectations to the three consortia and a small SAON group had been in dialogue with the consortia over the summer. The applications had been submitted in September, and they were currently under review by the European Commission. Formally, it is the AMAP Secretariat as a legal entity that is the partner in the applications.

### 5. Addressing SAON CON Objective 1.1: Conduct an inventory of national observational capacities.

Bill Manley (University of Colorado, USA) explained that the Polar Observing Assets Working Group (POAWG) was established in spring 2020 with the endorsement of CON. Since then, a core group had meet monthly to clarify the scope and contents of the work. The overall goals are to facilitate the discovery and interoperability of information about observing assets, such as observing sites, transects, observatories, research projects and observing systems. The work would also entail making these details about observing assets (which are metadata) more findable, accessible, interoperable, and re-usable (the FAIR principle). It would be the “best practices from the data world”, dealing with metadata about datasets, but in this case, metadata about observing activities and assets. The first task will be to create a registry of polar observing systems.

Etienne Charpentier (WMO) described the WMO OSCAR system and proposed that this platform could be a contribution to the inventory. It could both provide a list of meteorological and other domain platforms, but it could also be a platform for recording harvested information.

Bill Manley responded that WMO has been a leader in this regard, especially with the advancement of best practises for metadata for observing stations. He was interested in knowing more about OSCAR and WIGOS, but also emphasised that the group would not establish an inventory of individual assets, nor an inventory of observing sites or platforms. He would be interested in engaging WMO in the discussion in the group.

### 6a. Reporting from ADC: Polar to Global Online Interoperability and Data Sharing Workshop/Hackathon held 2nd September

The Arctic Data Committee (ADC) has initiated a series of workshops, and the latest was held 2nd September. The work is organised under three themes: 1) data interoperability, 2) vocabularies and 3) data policies. More information is available on the ADC web site.

### 7. 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial

The date for the Ministerial is now in 8-9 May 2021 in Tokyo, Japan. As preparations for the Ministerial, a series of webinars will be held. The webinar on 20th January 2021 will be “ASM3 Theme 1, Observe: Observing networks; Data sharing - towards implementation”.

### 8. Other upcoming events

Events listed on the SAON web site has briefly presented.

**9. Any Other Business**

(There were none)

**10. Next teleconference: Doodle will be circulated**

## Appendix 1: Agenda

1. Welcome to the call  
   [*Lisa Loseto*]
2. Review of actions/decision from the call on 28th May 2020  
   [*Lisa Loseto*]
3. CON: Governance discussion/planning [Jan Rene Larsen] [30 min]
   1. Would CON like to have a Retreat? [Lisa Loseto]  
      [*Goal of a retreat: Focus on the ‘Governance to support SAON CON objectives/tasks’*
      1. *Review SAON CON objectives (and tasks), and evaluate how the current structure of SAON CON supports facilitation of these objectives or how structure should be revised.*
      2. *Possible discussion on prioritizing tasks/activities based on feasibility (resources/capacity)*
   2. Retreat invites
   3. National Committees, capacity, including white paper for AOS
4. Upcoming H2020 call: Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus (LC-CLA-20-2020) [*Jan Rene Larsen*]
5. Addressing SAON CON Objective 1.1: *Conduct an inventory of national observational capacities*.   
   [*A document by William Manley et al submitted to the Arctic Observing Summit is a framework for this activity. Jan Rene Larsen]*
6. Reporting from ADC:
   1. Polar to Global Online Interoperability and Data Sharing Workshop/Hackathon held 2nd September
7. 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial [*Jan Rene Larsen*]
8. Other upcoming events [*Jan Rene Larsen*]
9. Any Other Business
10. Next teleconference: Doodle will be circulated

## Appendix 2: List of Participants

| **Affiliation** | **Name** | **Institution and address** | **Phone** | **e-mail** |
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| **Countries** | | | | |
| Canada | Helen Joseph | Helen C Joseph  HCJ Consulting  21241 Seventeenth Road  Dalkeith, Ontario |  | helen@hcjconsulting.ca |
| Canada | Lisa Loseto | Freshwater Institute  501 University Cres.  Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N6 |  | [Lisa.Loseto@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Lisa.Loseto@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) |
| Canada | Christina Barnard | ArcticNet  1045, avenue de la Médecine Local/Room 4081 Université Laval Québec (Québec) G1V 0A6 Canada | +1 (418) 656-5036 | [christine.barnard@arcticnet.ulaval.ca](mailto:christine.barnard@arcticnet.ulaval.ca) |
| Finland | Eija Asmi | Finnish Meteorological Institute  P.O. BOX 503  FI-00101 Helsinki |  | eija.asmi@fmi.fi |
| Finland | Hanna K Lappalainen | UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI  P.O. Box 4 (Yliopistonkatu 3) 00014 University of Helsinki |  | haklappa@ad.helsinki.fi |
| USA | William Manley | Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR) University of Colorado Campus Box 450 Boulder, CO 80309-0450 |  | [william.manley@colorado.edu](mailto:william.manley@colorado.edu) |

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| **Organisations** | | | | |
| AMAP  (SAON Secretariat) | Jan René Larsen | Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme Secretariat  Visiting: Hjalmar Johansens gate 14, 9007 Tromsø Postal: The Fram Centre, Box 6606 Langnes, 9296 Tromsø | +45 23 61 81 77 | [jan.rene.larsen@amap.no](mailto:jan.rene.larsen@amap.no) |
| SIOS | Heikki Lihavainen | Svalbard Integrated Arctic Earth Observing System  SIOS Knowledge Centre, P.O.Box 156, N-9171 Longyearbyen |  | [director@sios-svalbard.org](mailto:director@sios-svalbard.org) |
| WMO | Etienne Charpentier | World Meteorological Organization  7 bis, Avenue de la Paix  Case postale No 2300  CH-1211 GENEVE 2 | +41 22 730 82 23 | echarpentier@wmo.int |

More information about Committee members and their affiliation is found at https://www.arcticobserving.org/committees/con/members

## Appendix 3: List of documents

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| Agenda item | Documents |
| 0 | [Draft agenda, version 13th September 2020](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Committees/CON/20200914/03_SAON_CON_Telephone_Conference_14SEP2020_Draft_Agenda_version_13SEP2020.docx) |
| 0 | [GotoMeeting dial-in](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Committees/CON/20200914/02_GoToMeeting.docx) |
| 3a | [Governance review version 10th June](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20200610/14_Governance_review_10JUN2020.docx) |
| 3c | [Summary Report of State of Readiness on Arctic Observations](https://arcticobservingsummit.org/sites/default/files/2019_047_Summary%20Report%20of%20State%20of%20Readiness%20on%20Arctic%20Observations.pdf) |

The documents are found here: <http://www.arcticobserving.org/committees/con/meetings>