

GGOS - Global Geodetic Observing System
Working Groups and GEO Committee Representatives Meeting
Friday, February 17, 2006
DGFI Library, Munich 8:30 – 12:30
Draft Minutes

Attendees:

Altamimi
Beck
Behrend
Bettapur
Bye
Drewes
Ma
Neilan
Poutanen
Pavlis
Pearlman
Plag
Richter
Rothacher
Schoene
Zerbini

Ad Hoc Agenda:

- Discuss GEO (Group on Earth Observations) 2006 Work Plan (dated 9 January 2006) and GGOS contributions to Task Matrix
 - Explore process for ITRF to be identified as a ‘Transverse Activity’ of GEOSS (cross-cutting element of all GEO benefit areas and committees)
 - Note that most of the GEO committees will meet at the end of February, into early March, and so the GGOS committees need to quickly prepare
- GGOS Working Groups – internal organizations of GGOS, WG charters, organization and support for external support (e.g., GEO Committee Representatives need WG support)
- IGOS-P (Integrated Global Observing System Partnership) – integration process between IGOS-P and GGOS

For reference, the accompanying pdf file: **GEO_TaskListMatrix_GGOS2.06.pdf** has been edited for internal GGOS use. Tasks that were agreed to by the group as good candidates for GGOS contribution are highlighted in yellow, those where more detail is

needed are underlined in green. Other discussion points on the tasks are briefly captured in the pop-up notes, which do not print but can be viewed on screen. A list of the tasks is included at the end of these minutes.

The meeting began with a great deal of discussion and explanations on GEO and its processes, what was needed for IAG – GGOS to become involved in GEO, and specifically how to engage in and contribute to the current GEO 2006 Work Plan and Task List Matrix (for related documents see: <http://geodesy.unr.edu/ggos/geo/>). The framework is set by the GEOSS (GEO System of Systems) Ten-Year Implementation Plan released in April 2005, which identifies Nine Societal Benefit Areas of the Ten-Year Implementation Plan (see: <http://earthobservations.org/default.asp>), these 9 areas are:

Agriculture,	Energy,
Biodiversity,	Health,
Climate,	Water,
Disasters,	Weather
Ecosystems	

Four GEO committees are established to address different aspects relative to these benefit areas, and GGOS has identified representatives to each of these committees -- it is their responsibility to engage in the work of the committees on behalf of GGOS.

GEO Committee	GGOS Representatives, Lead listed first
Architecture and Data	Noll, Richter, Neilan
User Interface,	Shum, Boucher, Plag
Science and Technology	Zerbini, Pearlman, Rothacher
Capacity Building and Outreach	Combrinck, Drewes, Rizos

GEO also has a special Working Group on Tsunami Activities, and Schoene and Plag represent GGOS in that forum.

It was noted that the GEO process is really fast moving and that the meetings of these committees are called on very short notice. Since the meetings are coming very soon, these notes are meant to capture the key points and may be rather terse. The Task List Matrix was distributed at the meeting and it identifies the 2006 tasks, however, on the spreadsheet the tasks are only identified by number and need to be cross referenced to the Work Plan. This is a longer document which can be accessed at the GGOS Steering Committee internal website.

The group decided to go through this Work Plan (via beamer) to see what specific tasks IAG-GGOS could contribute to. This was facilitated due to the efforts of Engen and Drewes in their position paper prepared for the retreat as they did a cross reference of the two documents and recommended tasks that should be considered for GGOS. (see: <http://geodesy.unr.edu/ggos/sci/> under Topic 11 for the paper “The Contribution of

GGOS to GEOSS”, file 2006GGOS to GEOSS.doc). It was noted that even the description in the work plan may be rather vague, and that each GEO Committee was preparing a detailed (few page summary) on each listed task. Plag was able to show the detailed reports for the Tsunami Working Group as examples, which he had recently obtained.

After further discussion, it was agreed that:

- Each GGOS committee representative must contact their GEO Committee Chairs and request the latest detailed task plan.
- Task plans should be sent to Plag to post on the internal GGOS SC website
- Committee representatives are to review the detailed task sheets and see if there are potential areas where GGOS should contribute to or at least comment on, if the details in the work plan or task matrix were too vague to confirm during the days discussion.
- It is appropriate to list our organization as IAG-GGOS. There had been question as to if only IAG should be listed, but Bye pointed out that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) lists GLOSS (Global Sea Level Observing System) which is not a GEO participating organization, but works on behalf of IOC. For GEO member countries and participating organizations see:
<http://earthobservations.org/default.asp>.

It was also emphasized again the value of the two-fold approach, collectively working as IAG- GGOS but also through each of our respective national committee representatives as much as possible (e.g., the US group will attempt to enlighten and influence our US national representatives concerning GGOS). Beck noted that getting the IAG- GGOS visibility is important and that we must be able to deliver on any commitments. Further, it is through the national committees that governments will make specific commitments that can potentially lead to allocation of resources.

It has been proposed to get the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (system) identified as a transverse activity. Plag will contact the GEO Secretariat to explore the process. Currently there are a number of transverse activities identified:

- GEO-Netcast
- User Engagement
- Architecture
- Data Management
- Capacity Building
- Outreach

Geo-Netcast has an associated white paper passed on to the GGOS Data and Information System Working Group and will be discussed at the upcoming meeting of the Architecture and Data Committee Meeting. It was discussed that this is a rather complex system proposed by EUMETSAT and NOAA, and that it is important to demonstrate what has been accomplished in our community and our users in terms of distributed data and data product access.

Some additional points:

- Consider better representation of IAG-GGOS within CEOS in order to better advocate for gravity missions
- Need to understand better what the column – ‘Contributing User’ means and where IAG-GGOS might appear
- Check and verify GEOSS data sharing principles

Due to time constraints, the additional agenda topics were not explicitly addressed. It was subsequently agreed by a number of attendees that a future meeting specifically devoted to the internal organization and the balance of the working groups is of high priority.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Neilan,
February 21, 2006

Summary of task numbers where GGOS should contribute

Data And Architecture Committee:

DI-06-01

DI-06-02

REVIEW EN-06-02

CL-06-02 (Bettapur To Help – Importance Of Gravity)

AR-06-07 – In-Situ Networks, Pearlman Net WG To Support

AR-06-08

DA-06-01

DA-06-02

DA-06-05

User Interface Committee:

DI-06-08

CL-06-04

CL-06-05

CL-06-06

Science And Technology Committee:

DI-06-03

REVIEW EN-06-01, WE-06-03

Capacity Building And Outreach Committee

DI-06-12

CB-06-01

CB-06-02

CB-06-03