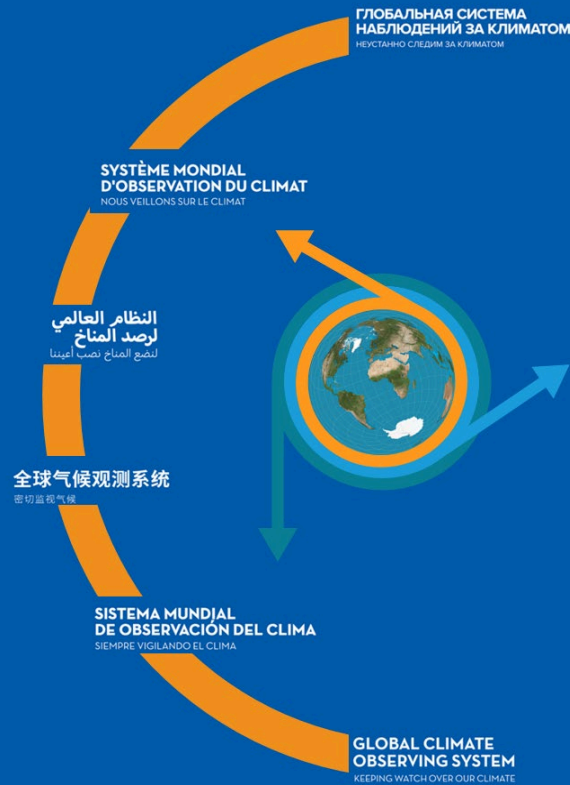


# 30<sup>th</sup> GCOS Steering Committee

7-8 December 2022

## Item 2.6 – Panel TOR and membership Decision 7



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# Terms of Reference for GCOS Panels

The General Regulations on Panel Members and Chairs was approved in May 2010 and it hasn't changed since then.

GCOS Panels Members ToRs were approved during the GCOS-SC-27 in 2019 (Doc. 11). The SC-23 in 2015 agreed on the AOPC, OOPC, and TOPC Terms of Reference.

**Annex A** is an update of the previous documents

**Annex B** contains the initial list of the ex-officio members for the panels

**Annex A:**

## **Terms of Reference for GCOS Panels**

This document defines the membership and working procedure of the expert panels of GCOS, and the terms of reference of the GCOS panels.

**Section 1** specifies the composition of the GCOS panels and contains the TOR for Panel members and chairs (common to all members of the GCOS panels)

**Section 2, 3 and 4** contain respectively the TOR for the AOPC, OOPC and TOPC.

# Section 1: Terms of Reference for GCOS Panel members and chairs and composition of GCOS panels

**Membership of the panels** will consist of:

- a. Up to **15 core members** including the panel chair and co-chair;
- b. **Ex-officio members**: No more than 6 or not exceeding one third of the core membership if it is less than 15;
- c. A representative of each panel sponsor at their own expense.

**Panel Chairs:**

- The Chair shall be appointed by the GCOS Steering Committee with the approval of the panel sponsoring programmes.
- The panel chair shall serve for **3 years**. Subject to approval of the GCOS Steering Committee this may be **extended for an additional 3-year period**. After 6 years of service, the GCOS Steering Committee and the panel sponsoring programmes may approve an **extraordinary 3-year extension**.
- The Panel Chairperson may nominate a co-chair or deputy chair, selected within the panel members, that will be subject to approval by the GCOS SC and the panel sponsoring programmes.

## Core Members:

- Members of the Panels should be technical experts in their individual capacity. Specific duties of the panel members are specified in the Panel Member ToR (Sections 2, 3 and 4).
- Membership should provide for geographical and gender representation.
- New Members should be selected by the Panel Chairperson and shall be appointed by mutual consent of the Chairperson of the Steering Committee, Director of GCOS and the Secretariat of the panel sponsoring programmes.
- **Members shall serve for 3 years. Subject to approval of the Panel Chairperson this may be extended by an additional 3 years. After 6 years of service, the GCOS Steering Committee may approve each 3-year extension.**
- At the request of the panel chairperson and with the approval of the GCOS Steering Committee Chairperson, **members that will not have satisfactory discharged the expectations as described in this section Annex A can be dismissed from the role of Panel members at any time.**
- The GCOS Secretariat will support travel to meetings and related costs.

## **Ex-officio Members:**

In addition to the core members, related programmes/organizations/networks will be invited to nominate experts based on the work programme of the relevant GCOS Panel.

- Panel Chairs can, on annual basis, propose programmes/organizations/networks to be represented by ex-officio members at panel meetings. These proposals shall be approved by the Steering Committee.
- Ex-officio members should be technical experts. Specific duties are the same as for a core member. Ex-officio members shall ensure a connection between the panel and the organization they represent and shall regularly report to the organization and to the panel.
- The duration of the ex-officio member appointment depends on the nominating organization who at any time can nominate a different expert.
- Ex-officio members shall be invited to participate to all panel meetings.
- In general, the nominating organization shall provide travel support to the panel meetings.

Section 2 - The Atmospheric Observation Panel for Climate (AOPC) Terms of Reference

Section 3 - The Ocean Observations Physics and Climate Panel (OOPC) Terms of Reference

Section 4 - The Terrestrial Observation Panel for Climate (TOPC) Terms of Reference

# Annex B: List of ex-officio members 2022-2023

- AOPC:**
- GAW
  - WGClimate
  - C3S

- OOPC:**
- GOOS/OCG (GOOS Ocean Coordination Group)
  - GOOS/BGC (GOOS Biogeochemistry panel)
  - GOOS/BioECO (GOOS Biological and Ecosystems panel)
  - GOOS/GRAs (GOOS Regional Alliances)
  - WCRP/CLIVAR

- TOPC:**
- GCW
  - WGClimate
  - Global Terrestrial Network for Hydrology (GTN-H)
  - Global Terrestrial Network for Glaciers (GTN-G)
  - Global Terrestrial Network for Permafrost (GTN-P)

The Steering Committee is asked to agree the revised terms of reference for the panels and their members. The Steering Committee should also approve the initial list of ex-officio members.

## DRAFT DECISION (7)

The Steering Committee approves the panel composition, the terms of reference of panel chairs and members, and the panels' term of reference contained in Annex A to Document 2.6 and that it should be implemented immediately.

The Steering Committee approves the initial list of ex-officio members for the panels contained in Annex B to Doc.2.6, noting that the panel chairs may propose changes for approval by the Steering Committee in the future.



# Thank you



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