

# GCOS Regional and National Activities

GCOS Secretariat  
29<sup>th</sup> Session of the GCOS Steering Committee

ГЛОБАЛЬНАЯ СИСТЕМА  
НАБЛЮДЕНИЙ ЗА КЛИМАТОМ  
НЕУСТАННО СЛЕДИМ ЗА КЛИМАТОМ

SYSTÈME MONDIAL  
D'OBSERVATION DU CLIMAT  
NOUS VEILLONS SUR LE CLIMAT

النظام العالمي  
لرصد المناخ  
لنضع المناخ نصب أعيننا

全球气候观测系统  
密切监视气候

SISTEMA MUNDIAL  
DE OBSERVACIÓN DEL CLIMA  
SIEMPRE VIGILANDO EL CLIMA

GLOBAL CLIMATE  
OBSERVING SYSTEM  
KEEPING WATCH OVER OUR CLIMATE



- **The GCOS Regional Workshops.**
  - 3 of these workshops have been held (for the South Pacific, East Africa and the Caribbean).
  - held jointly with WMO (WIGOS) (& Copernicus with East Africa).
  - A fourth was being planned in Eastern Europe before the COVID-19 with WMO's Regional Association 6 (Europe).
  - These workshops, and their outcomes, have been well received especially by the UNFCCC SBSTA which has encouraged us to continue.
- **National GCOS.**
  - A few countries such as Switzerland, Germany and Austria have created “national GCOS”.
  - In addition, some countries have well-coordinated climate observations, e.g. Chile has just announced a national Climate Observatory.
  - GCOS has not considered how to relate to them in an organised way.
- **National Focal Points.**
  - Countries have appointed national GCOS Focal Points. (list is very out-of-date ) with people who no longer work in that role.
  - There is an urgent need to revisit the role of the national focal points.
- **The GCOS Cooperation Mechanism (GCM) and the GCOS Network Manager**
- **The CBS-LC-GCOS (Commission on Basic Systems, Lead Centres, GCOS)**
  - an example of engagement with WMO at the regional level.
- **GOOS regional Alliances**

- Currently, there is no overall clear aim of the regional activities. The regional activities should support the mandate of GCOS – improving climate monitoring. Given the nature of many observations system this does mean a focus on national efforts. Based on the regional workshops, the overall aim should be:

**AIM**

**To identify, support and advocate for solutions to the difficulties faced by countries with limited resources in implementing, archiving and disseminating climate observations.**

- Restart the regional workshops, initially with WIGOS. In the longer term consider involving other organisations in the workshops.
- Produce a new ToR for the GCOS National Focal Points
- In discussions on the GCM include (agenda item 3.4):
  - The GCM providing support across all the ECVs
  - The GCM identifying available support from other organisations

## DECISION

The GCOS steering committee agrees that the aim of regional activities is to identify, support and advocate for solutions to the difficulties faced by countries with limited resources in implementing, archiving and disseminating climate observations.

That the GCOS Secretariat

- 1) prepares a plan for these regional activities for the next session of the GCOS Steering Committee including draft ToR for GCOS Focal Points and
- 2) also restarts the regional workshops