GEO Architecture and Data Committee
Tenth MEETING
7 May 2009
Palazzo dei congressi, Stresa

Meeting Record

1. Opening remarks (B. Ryan)
The chairman B. Ryan welcomed participants. Focus areas for this ADC meeting would be the preparation of the Washington and Ministerial GEO plenaries. Also the need for outreach towards users less familiar with Earth Observation was highlighted

2. Summary of Reconciliation process (M. Tanner and J. Pearlman)
Strategic targets had been defined and iterated prior to the meeting. In their current formulation, most are not measurable and further improvement at the T3 committee meeting will be needed. The Monitoring part of M&E should focus on assessing progress with respect to the workplan, whereas the Evaluation part assesses progress towards these strategic targets. The current plan of action is as follows:
Align the workplan with the roadmap and the 10-year targets, produce the Monitoring and Evaluation document, provide these for review by committees and present them at the plenary.
For overarching task coordination the committee concluded that overhead is to be minimised and the self-organising model already used by some carbon tasks can be considered a model to follow.
Recommendation: update the wording of the task descriptions, in particular replace "free access" by "access conform data sharing principles".

3. GEO Secretariat update (M.Tanner)
The coordination of overarching tasks was briefly revisited to clarify its origin: The GEO plenary requested to bring the workplan to a higher level, and to reinforce the processes that allow identification and implementation of synergies.
The Washington plenary schedule was presented as follows: 16 Nov: ExCom and ADC Co-Chair, 17 Nov: GEO-VI Plenary, Reception at The Smithsonian, 18 Nov: GEO-VI Plenary, IGOS reception, 19 Nov: GEO/IGOS-CoP Symposium, 20 Nov: GEOSS in the Americas.

4. World Data System (WDS) (M. Mokrane, ICSU)
The WDS currently consists of 50 geological and astronomical data centres in 12 countries. Its team works on a single data access portal, using minimal common metadata. The standard protocols that it uses are compatible with GEOSS: e.g OGC-CSW for catalogue services, OAI-PMH for metadata harvesting, 19155 for metadata definitions, The WDS Scientific Committee will review opportunities for interaction with GEOSS .

5. Architecture Implementation Pilot Phase 2 Progress –(N. Alameh)
The deliveries of the AIP-2 are foreseen for the middle of 2009, and transfer to operations is planned during the second half of 2009. The deliverables consist of demonstration videos, persistent exemplars (registered and reliable services) and a document tree including transverse technology guides. During the meeting, demonstration videos of the portals were shown. A major open issue were the differences resulting from the use of multiple clearinghouses. Discussion focused on inconsistencies in information submitted during component registration, the need for additional metadata in the registry, and differences in ingestion of identical metadata by the clearinghouses.

6. Communications Component of GEO – (R. Saracco, IEEE)
The presentation addressed communication challenges that occur in areas with limited internet. It was noted that mobile infrastructure is expanding rapidly and provides broader access to information. There was a recommendation that GEOSS could address connectivity beyond GEONETCast and GEONet for users in the field without high-speed internet or a GEONETCast receive station.

7. IOC Task Force and Requirements Document – (I. DeLoatch and D. Nebert)
The presentation addressed the maintenance of legacy data, the definition of metadata beforehand versus their derivation from content, in the interfacing with Google KML, and SDI community tutorials for the EO community. Subsequently the following four deliverables were addressed:

- The Concept of Operations Plan
- The Consolidated User Requirements Document
- The Evaluation of existing CGI components
- The recommendations for long-term CGI evaluations

The near-term actions identified were: identification of problems and their remedies, refinement of the registration, processing the lessons learned from usability testing in Stresa, evaluation of data from AIP2 testing, complete and execute the plan for additional testing, the implementation of active maintenance of the information content of registries, and finally the formulation of draft recommendations for the ExCom

8. GEOSS Registries and Clearinghouse (D. Nebert)
Components and Service Registry: version 2 was deployed on 6 May 2009. The next update will include a registration wizard. Website links account for more than half of the current registry content. The next most frequent form of content are observing systems, and finally only very few datasets have been registered. Consistency of registry entries remains a challenge, and re-registering of components might be needed.
Standards registry: Regional teams are being formed, but current commitment seems low. A regional team meeting is proposed for November in Washington DC.
Best-Practices registry: It seems groups developing best practices have already developed their own independent communication paths, and there is a lack of submissions. One editor has left the team.
User Requirements Registry: Recent resurgent interest from the UIC will re-activate the work on this task

9. Task Progress DA-09-01b (Ken McDonald, NOAA)
The task in its current evolved form will focus on assessment of capabilities of entries reported in GEOSS registries, and addition of yet un-registered capabilities, followed by an analysis of harmonization opportunities. The outcome will be a set of GEO recommendations. The task team is composed of CEOS-WGISS experts and additional respondents to the call for participation. Kick-off is foreseen for the last week of May. The CEOS-WGISS contributors to this task will already meet in May during the WGISS meeting, where they will address their contribution to this task.

10. Task Progress DA-09-02a (Rick Lawford, WCRP)
Anticipated outcomes are an inventory of significant data centres in all Societal Benefit Areas, and alliances between different data centres with similar objectives. Currently the first phase of a two-phase survey as been completed, and a first data-centre alliance workshop is planned for November 2009. Results from the first phase are online on the CEOP home page. Initial analysis shows large differences between established operational centres and more recent initiatives with respect to the adoption of new technologies.

11. Task Progress AR-09-04 (Michael Williams, EUMETSAT)
GEONETCast has achieved global coverage through EUMETCast, FENGYUNCast and GEONETCast Americas. The scope of the data available on GEONETCast is being broadened significantly. The Initial Operating Capability of GEONETCast is in place and being exploited, and further effort is focussed on capacity building, user engagement and integration with the GEOSS Common Infrastructure (GCI). GEONETCast and the GCI are interfaced using the EUMETSAT EO portal and should be complete by the end of this year.

12. Feedback, Schedule, Actions, AOB
Issues to be raised in ADC/UIC joint meeting:
Subcategories are needed in the registry. Communities of Practise are to identify data gaps,

Issues to be raised to C4
Minimisation of bureaucracy, encouragement of organic coordination, be careful for recommendations that would have resource impacts.

Schedule
14-18 Sep 2009 Melbourne
8-10 March 2010 Argentina
May 2010 Istanbul
Sep 2010 South Africa

Actions
All to review the strategic targets and the document on preparations for the 2010 ministerial summit, and provide comments to the GEO secretariat.

Participants

Nadine	Alameh	OGC	Nadinesa@mobilaps.com
Mirko	Albani	ESA/CEOS	Mirko.Albani@esa.int
Alessandro	Annoni	JRC	Alessandro.Annoni@jrc.it
Michael J.	Bender	US EPA	Bender.Michael@epa.gov
Herve	Caumont	ERDAS/OGC	Herve.Caumont@erdas.com
Roberto	Cossu	ESA/CEOS	Roberto.Cossu@esa.int
Ivan	Deloatch	USGS	ideloatch@usgs.gov
Jean	Dusart	JRC	Jean.Dusart@jrc.ec.europa.eu
Kathy	Fontaine	US/NASA/GOES	Kathy.Fontaine@nasa.gov
Yukio	Haruyama	RESTEC/Japan	haruyama_yukio@restec.or.jp
Gobe	Hobona	OGC/GIGAS	Gobe.Hobona@nottingham.ac.uk
Marten	Hogeweg	ESRI	Mhogeweg@esri.com
Rudolf	Husar	Washington University	Rhusar@me.wustl.edu
Siri Jodha Singh	Khalsa	IEEE/ICEO	SJSK@nsidc.org
Rob	Koopman	GEO Secretariat	RKoopman@geosec.org
Rick	Lawford	Canada/WCRP	Lawford@umbc.edu
Pascal	Le Grand	European Commission	Pascal.Le-Grand@ec.europa.eu
Ronald	Lowther	Northrop Grumman	Ronald.Lowther@ngc.com
Matlou	Mabokano	DST/South Africa	Matlou.Mabokano@dst.gov.za
Ken	McDonald	NOAA	Kenneth.McDonald@noaa.gov
Lionel	Menard	Mines Paris Tech	Lionel.Menard@minesparistech.fr
Mustapha	Mokrane	ICSU	mustapa@iscu.org
Stefano	Nativi	CNR	Nativi@imaa.cnr.it
Dough	Nebert	USGS (telecon)	ddnebert@usgs.gov
Brian	O'Donnell	WMO	BODonnell@wmo.int
Jay	Pearlman	IEEE	jay.pearlman@ieee.org
Ivan	Petiteville	ESA/CEOS	Ivan.Petiteville@esa.int
Bernd	Richter	BKG/Germany	Bernd.Richter@bkg.bund.de
Erin	Robinson	Washington University	emr1@wustl.edu
Barbara	Ryan	WMO	BRyan@wmo.int
Roberto	Saracco	IEEE	Roberto.Saracco@telecomitalia.it
Ryosuke	Shibasaki	University of Kyoto	shiba@csis.u-tokyo.ac.jp
William	Sonntag	US EPA/OEI	Sonntag.william@epa.gov
Mike	Tanner	GEO Secretariat	MTanner@geosec.org
Robert	Thomas	Compusult	RThomas@compusult.net
Terence	van Zyl	CSIR	TvZyl@csir.co.za
Sally	Wannop	EUMETSAT	Sally.Wannop@eumetsat.int
Michael	Williams	EUMETSAT	Mike.Williams@eumetsat.int
Alberto	Ridner	CONAE	aridner@conae.gov.ar