



Science and Technology Committee - 9

San Francisco, 16-17 December 2008

2008 Report on STC activities

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2008 Meetings

- ✓ **STC 6, 11-12 February 2008, Hannover (hosted by BGR)**
- ✓ **STC 7, 22-23 May, Geneva**
- ✓ **STC 8, 8-9 September, Paris (hosted by COSPAR)**
- ✓ **STC 9, 16-17 December, San Francisco (hosted by USGS), in parallel to Fall AGU meeting**



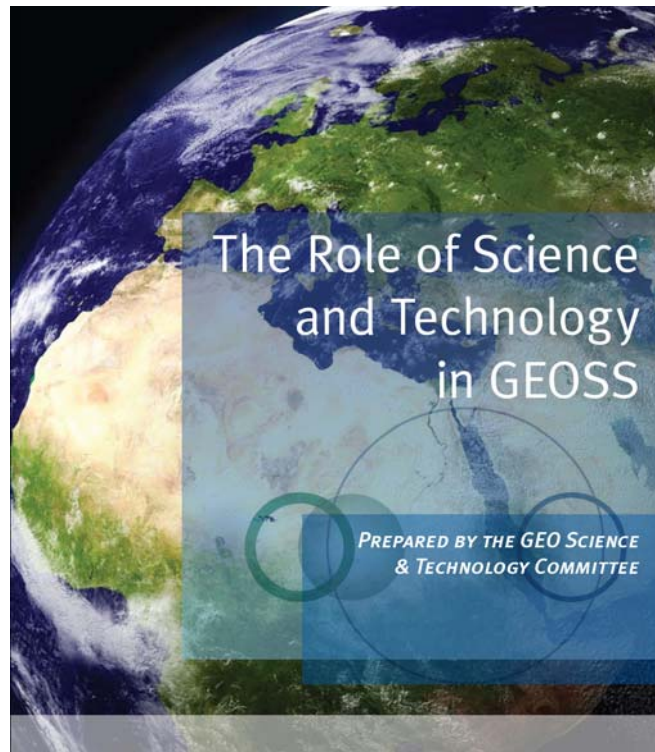
2008 Current activities /1

- ✓ **Follow-up of 19 GEO tasks of the 2007-2009 Work Plan (cluster approach, task adaptation)**
 - ✓ **STC 6 Climate, Water and Weather**
 - ✓ **STC 7 Agriculture, Ecosystems and Biodiversity**
 - ✓ **STC 8 Energy, Disaster and Health**

- ✓ **Providing advice on key GEO development (Input of the S&T Community to:**
 - ✓ **GEO Common Infrastructure and GEO Portal**
 - ✓ **Data Sharing Principles**
 - ✓ **IGOS-P transition**
 - ✓ **Work Plan design, etc..**



2008 Current activities 2/



- ✓ **Promoting GEO within S&T Community:
*Role of S&T in GEOSS***
- ✓ **Liaising with other committees (define
needs of and contribution to S&T –
prioritise)**
- ✓ **Transmit to GEO the needs for and opinion about Global Earth
Observation expressed by the S&T Community**



Mandate and Issues

- Official mandate: *" The Science and Technology Committee will engage the scientific and technological communities in the development, implementation and use of a sustained GEOSS in order to ensure that GEO has access to sound scientific and technological advice"*.
- In practice: Tedious work overseeing the S&T content of 19 tasks
- Attendance: Ever changing participation of members, both in numbers and in disciplines (to be balanced – core group of participants)
- Actual STC Core Membership: mixed of active researchers and officials involved in science policy with different objectives
- Work initiated on defining:
 - GEO S&T membership: confirming/ renewing the nominations through the GEO principals and participating organisations
 - Role and Functioning of the STC in implementing content into Work Plan 2009-2011



Advice on Key GEO issues 1/

- GEO Common Infrastructure and GEO Portals:
Participation to Initial Operating Capability IOC-TF (open)
- Data Sharing Principles: STC had underlined as highest priority,
 - the quality of data,
 - the need for more raw data than aggregate data for research,
 - the need to have free and open access to data for research and education
 - the recognition that we need to live with the existing national policiesData Sharing Principles Task Force (decided at GEO-V)
- IGOS-P transition
 - Transition recognised as positive
 - IGOS-P themes representatives participation to STC left open



Advice on Key GEO issues 2/

- Work Plan design: STC Recommended for WP 2009-2011
 - Reduced number of tasks with minimal overlapping
 - led to Overarching Tasks
 - Two transverse S&T tasks under direct oversight:
 - ST-09-01 Catalyzing R&D Funding for GEOSS
 - ST-09-02 Promoting awareness and Benefits of GEO in the Science & Technology Community
- Ongoing process in early 2009
 - Management of Overarching tasks
 - Content of Work Plan further defined
 - Detailed Description of Transverse S&T tasks
- Performance Indicators Workshop: STC members took active part in September Workshop
 - Monitoring and Evaluation Task Force (decided at GEO-V → preparing 2010 mid-Term review)
- Target Task Team created in March 2008
 - document open for review



Other Recommendations and Proposed Actions presented to ExCom

- ✓ **S&T objectives: promote key S&T international activities of relevance to GEO (GEO S&T branding)**
- ✓ **Promote awareness through:**
 - ✓ **Survey S&T community**
 - ✓ **Report**
 - ✓ **Workshops**
- ✓ **Promote active engagement at policy level to influence programming (e.g FP7 calls target GEO activities)**
- ✓ **Create expert groups as foreseen in the terms of reference of the Committee (through tasks)**
- ✓ **Producing position papers on key issues (report from tasks, IGOS-P like)**



Conclusion

The work done by the S&T Committee until now was of great value to assess the need in terms of S&T within GEO and to launch initial S&T activities

An effort has to be made in the 2009-11 WP to make it a more strategic body to engage the S&T Community within GEO

This will be implemented with the development of the **GEO Science and Technology Roadmap to be produced in 2009, to address the committees' objectives, scope and action plan.**

This effort will be supported through the STC Transverse tasks.