

UIC Draft Report to C4: Issues and Recommendations 25 September, 2008

The UIC Co-Chairs

Ellsworth LeDrew, IEEE

Thierry Ranchin, France

Francesco Pignatelli, EU

Gary J. Foley, USA

***Jai Parihar, Indian Space Research
Organisation***

Some Conclusions

The objectives of the UIC meeting were set and achieved.

- Fruitful discussion between the different Committees during the week; potential cooperation identified.
- Stresa meeting (ISRSE-33, UIC meeting in May 2008) - an excellent meeting for advertising GEOSS & engaging users
- Re-stress the tremendous importance of continuing US-06-01 and 02 in the new WorkPlan for the recognition of the users importance and requirements within GEOSS
- Identified the good achievements/plans of the different Communities of Practices and IGOS-themes in UIC
- Prepared a set of comments about the new WP, identifying where the role of users, CoP/Themes and Committee work should be better described and enhanced.

UIC-ADC Collaboration

- Populate the Requirements Registry from the work of US-06-01 plus the work of the CoPs/IGOS-themes
- Develop jointly, with CBC also, GCI training modules that would be useful to “novice” users and enhance UIC & CBC member use of GCI
- A UIC effort, GNU is using the Wiki. More use of Wiki by UIC activities will happen
- Joint work on AIP2 is progressing very well

UIC-CBC Collaboration

- Build a common CBC/UIC Call for Participation (based on the ADC CFP model) for issuing in 2009 for engaging users from both Committee perspectives of the GEOSS process
- Agreement on the importance of the process to link technology (built by ADC), to users and their audience including donors and decision makers
- In the framework of task US-06-01, agreement to jointly identify the names of experts, who will populate the Advisory Groups in charge of the implementation of this task

UIC and CoPs/IGOS-themes

- A dozen comprehensive presentations of accomplishments and plans
- Workshops being planned by most groups that can be used to engage users for GEOSS and, in some cases, identify requirements. (To list on UIC web site)
- A significant body of science unveiled that needs to become part of GEOSS through GCI & the Wiki. Also to point to from the UIC web site

Some Issues

- Work Plan 09-11 is a start, but needs much more work iteratively with the Committees
- Integration of Work Plan, Targets and Performance Metrics is needed to finalize
- Present this as a draft Work Plan to Plenary for guidance; insufficient time to finalize
- The plans of CoPs/IGOS-themes need to be explicitly in this Work Plan

Some Issues

- US-06-01 & 02 are ongoing tasks and need to be reviewed/reinstated in this Work Plan
- The UIC has embraced the increased opportunities for collaboration with the other GEO Committees. This renewed focus on user needs and Committee collaboration requires additional UIC skills and membership. This includes the development and issuance of a broad call for participation to be circulated by the GEO Secretariat to greatly expand the membership.

Some Issues (continued)

- Expand the Task/Sub-task write-ups in this Work Plan to describe role of each Committee in 2-3 sentences. Either the Secretariat or the Committees could do this between now and the Plenary and presented as a draft.
- Show all comments received in each version of this Work Plan for the Committees and Member Countries to see

Some Issues (continued)

- Have more conference calls of Co-Chairs, both two Committee calls and all Committee calls
- Monthly? reports to Committees by GEO Director
- Make earthobservations.org a more user-oriented entry point to GEOSS, with more attention to engaging the “novice” users; add tutorials and examples of how past “novice” users have been engaged and learned the benefits of GEOSS.

Some Issues (continued)

- Recognize in this Work Plan that the User Interface Committee develops methods and processes to engage the broad range of users in GEOSS and to ultimately capture from these users the outcomes and benefits from Earth observations
- Revise the Task Sheet format to get reports that are useful and timely to all of the relevant Committees