

### SAON Board meeting 16th October 2019

### 16-17:30 CET / 10-11:30 am EST

### Teleconference

### Minutes

### 1. Introductions and adoption of agenda

Sandy Starkweather (vice-Chair) welcomed the participants. The agenda was adopted (Appendix 1). The list of participants is found in Appendix 2, the list of documents is found in Appendix 3, and the list of actions is found in Appendix 4.

### 2. SAON Strategy and Implementation Plan

Sandy Starkweather (SAON Vice-Chair) summarised the work that the Road Map Task Force has done in drafting the document *Guidelines for contributing to SAON’s Roadmap for Arctic Observing and Data Systems* (ROADS). The Task Force finalised the current version 30th August and it was currently under review. The plan is to submit the document as a white-paper to the 2020 Arctic Observing Summit.

Review comments have in general been positive. More specific comments were in the categories:

* There could have been a better description of the proposed governance structure, especially the relationship between the ROADS process and the Committees. The governance system around the ROADS process should not be too complicated; there were comments especially to the proposed *Advisory Panel*.
* There could have been more accurate descriptions of the data component of the system.
* There was a wish to add descriptions of examples of initiatives that are already aligned with the process.
* Indigenous participation in the process

Jan Rene Larsen (SAON Secretary) added that there had been a wish to add milestones to the work. The details around this was under deliberation, but it could be added that work should be undertaken within the framework of the Arctic Science Ministerials and the Arctic Observing Summits.

### 3. Committees

### 3a Arctic Data Committee (ADC)

Peter Pulsifer (ADC chair) informed the meeting that the planning of the 3rd Polar Data Forum had been the focus over the past months. The review of abstracts had been finalised, and it was expected that there would be 36 oral presentations and 23 poster presentations. There will be working sessions and ‘hackathons’. Topics will include ‘policies, broader context, and scenarios’, federated search, semantics and interoperability. More than 100 participants are registered.

### 3b Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)

The Committee had been discussing the ROADS process and how the Committee should be engaged in it. It had also discussed submitting a white paper to the AOS, and there had been an offer from Helen Joseph, Canada to work with the Committee on this. A topic would be an analysis of the reports that the countries have submitted on their capacity/capability to support SAON goals, especially Goal 1.

### 4. Arctic Science Ministerial

### 4a H2020 call: *Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus*

A decision from the Board meeting in Arkhangelsk was that a small group of SAON Board members had a physical meeting 17th July 2019 in Potsdam, Germany in order to discuss how SAON should be engaged in a response to call. The meeting had recommended that SAON in the first phase stays neutral and maintain the dialogue with the consortia.

Jan Rene Larsen went through the scope section of and other parts of the call text, including their timelines. It had been decided that the SAON Board should ask existing consortia to earmark resources to enable SAON participation in the call. SAON should seek to formulate what role it should have in the proposal. SAON should formulate what it wants to get out of the project, also in terms of funding (man-months, travel, workshops).

Jan Rene Larsen also went through a draft one-pager that could be offered to the consortia. It was agreed that the draft should be converted into a straw-man text that should be discussed at the coming Board meeting. It was known that three consortia have been established.

* Action: Secretariat to prepare a “straw-man” text on the H2020 call for discussion at the coming Board meeting.

Jan Rene Larsen highlighted the connection to the ArcticGEOSS application that had been submitted to GEO. In the application, there was an assumption that that Earth Observations based pilot services would be financed and implemented and that these would be a contribution to ArcticGEOSS.

GEO currently has a discussion about the definition of GEOSS and there is a proposal on moving away from the regionally based GEOSS’es. Mikko Strahlendorff (Finland) believed that the principle of regional GEOSS’es should be maintained; this would be particularly relevant for the Arctic, which covers Asia, Europe and North America.

Tuukka Petäjä (University of Helsinki, Finland) presented the consortium with the tentative name *Integrative and Comprehensive Understanding on Polar Environments 2* (iCUPE2). It will combine in-situ measurements on short-lived climate forcers and pollutants in the Arctic and in the Antarctica with satellite remote sensing observations on glaciers and biomass. There are model components, like chemical transport models or pollutant life cycle models. The initiative already provides data sets, and these are seen as precursors of the services to be developed. There are currently 15 institutes engaged in the consortium, some of these are also engaged in other consortia.

Eva Kruemmel (ICC) asked about the engagement with Arctic indigenous communities and was interested in the details, including if this would cover the Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council.

Tuukka Petäjä explained that the project plans to establish contact with communities in Greenland and the Saami community.

### 4b 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM3)

The Ministerial will be held late November 2020 in Tokyo, Japan, co-hosted by Iceland and Japan. There is a wish to have an early input from Arctic scientists and the Arctic community at large into the meeting, and the process will be iterative. There is an opportunity from the ASM3 web site to provide input.

In addition, input will be sought from

* ISAR-6 in Tokyo, Japan (March, 2020)
* ASSW/AOS, Akureyri, Iceland (March/April 2020)
* ICASS10, Arkhangelsk, Russia (June 2020)

Yuji Kodama (Japan) added that there will be a so-called Arctic Science Fair one day before the actual Ministerial. A Science Advisory Board will be established; it will create a ‘science summary’ and a ‘joint statement’ and finally give advice on the structure of any follow-up. He believed that SAON should be one of the organisations that should be asked to submit a deliverable. A connection has been established to the Indigenous Peoples’ Secretariat, asking them to appoint a member for the Science Advisory Board. Key words for the Ministerial will be ‘inclusiveness’ and ‘transparency’.

### 5. Arctic Observing Summit (AOS)

Hajo Eicken (USA) reported that the planning for the conference is going according to schedule. The deadline for submitting white papers had been extended to 15th November. Progress is made on making a clear link between the SAON ROADS process and AOS working group activities. The first version of the agenda is planned to be circulated in November.

### 6. WMO invitation to SAON

Etienne Charpentier (WMO) reported on a message provided earlier that WMO had written to WMO members of the Arctic countries, asking them to nominate focal points from meteorological services to be liaising with SAON Board members. Five countries had responded to the request. Work on mapping the SAON and WMO strategies is ongoing.

### 7. AWI MUSE (5 min) [Nicole Biebow]

(Postponed)

### 8. Requests on Letters of Support from external initiatives (10 min)

(Postponed)

### 9. Requests on Letters of Support from external initiatives (10 min)

(Postponed)

### 10. Any other business

Jan Rene Larsen reported that the SAON Board members from Denmark, Helle Poulsen and Jannie Staffansson from Saami Council had left their positions and that there consequently currently were no representatives to the Board from these to entities. Both were thanked for their contribution to SAON.

### 11. SAON chairmanship

Jan Rene Larsen reported that Thorsteinn Gunnarsson had announced that he would step down as the chair for SAON by the end of 2019. He had recommended that Sandy Starkweather was selected as the new Chair. Jan Rene Larsen added that according to the ToR for SAON, it is the Arctic Council that appoints the chair of SAON, while IASC appoints the vice-Chair. The practise that has developed is that it is AMAP that appoints the chair, and he would put the appointment of Sandy Starkweather on the agenda for an AMAP HoDs meeting to be held mid January 2020.

Thorsteinn Gunnarsson was thanked for his effort as chair. It was agreed that he had made a big impact on the development of SAON.

## Appendix 1: Agenda

1. Introductions and adoption of agenda (5 min)  
   [*Thorsteinn Gunnarsson*]
2. SAON Strategy and Implementation Plan (15 min)  
   [*The document* Guidelines for contributing to SAON’s Roadmap for Arctic Observing and Data Systems (ROADS) *is currently under review.* *Sandy Starkweather*]
3. Committees (15 min)
   1. ADC *[Peter Pulsifer]*
      1. 3rd Polar Data Forum: 18-22 November 2019
   2. CON *[Lisa Loseto]*
4. Arctic Science Ministerial (15 min)
   1. 2nd Arctic Science Ministerial follow-up (15 min)

[*Horizon 2020 - Work Programme 2018-2020. LC-CLA-20-2020: Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus (page 53-54)*]

* 1. 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial (*Thorsteinn Gunnarsson*)

1. Arctic Observing Summit (5 min) *[Peter Schlosser]*
2. WMO invitation to SAON
3. AWI MUSE (5 min) [*Nicole Biebow*]
4. Requests on Letters of Support from external initiatives (10 min)  
   [*What should the policy be? Jan Rene Larsen*]
5. SAON presence at (15 min)
6. Ocean Obs ’19: Arctic Observing System. Breakout session (16-20 September, 2019)
7. Arctic Circle: Assembly, Reykjavik, Iceland (10-13 October, 2019)
8. Arctic Earth System Modelling Workshop, Reykjavik, Iceland (26 - 27 November, 2019)
9. International Symposium on Arctic Research, ISAR-6, Tokyo, Japan (2-6 March, 2020)  
   [*Email from Volker Rachold on preparations for ASM3*]
10. Artic Science Summit Week (Thorsteinn)
11. Any other business (5 min)
    1. False emails from SAON chair Thorsteinn Gunnarsson
    2. Arctic GOOS (Craig Lee)
12. SAON chairmanship
13. Next telephone conference: 13th November 16 CEDT / 10 am EDT. It will be a two-hour meeting.

## Appendix 2: List of Participants

| (More details, including affiliation will be added) |  |
| --- | --- |
| Adam Houben | Canada |
| Agnieszka B. Moeller | Poland |
| Allen Pope | IASC |
| Cathy Coon | USA |
| Etienne Charpentier | WMO |
| Eva Kruemmel | ICC |
| Hajo Eicken | USA |
| Halldór Jóhannsson | Arctic Portal |
| Ingunn Limstrand | Norge |
| Jan Rene Larsen | SAON Secretariat / AMAP |
| Justiina Dahl | Sweden |
| Loseto, Lisa | CON chair |
| Mikko Strahlendorff | Finland |
| Peter Pulsifer | ADC chair |
| Roberto Delgado | USA |
| Sandy Starkweather | SAON vice-Chair |
| Tuukka Petäjä | Finland |
| Vito Vitale | Italy |
| Yuji Kodama | Japan |

## Appendix 3: List of meeting documents

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| **Agenda item** | **Document no** | **Document Title** | **Document author** |
| 0 | 04 | [Draft agenda version 16th October 2019](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20191016/04_SAON_Board_Meeting_16OCT2019_Draft_Agenda_ver_16OCT2019.docx) | Secretariat |
| 0 | 02 | [GoToMeeting dial-in](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20191016/02_GoToMeeting.docx) | Secretariat |
|  |  | [SAON Board meeting 25th September 2019. Draft minutes version 16th October 2019](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20191016/SAON_Board_Meeeting_25SEP2019_Draft_Minutes_Version_16OCT2019.docx) | Secretariat |
|  |  | [SAON Board Get-together 12th October 2019. Draft minutes version 16th October 2019 (incomplete)](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20191016/SAON_Board_Meeeting_12OCT2019_Draft_Minutes_Version_16OCT2019.docx) | Secretariat |
| 2 | (links to RMTF documents) | [Guidelines for contributing to SAON’s Roadmap for Arctic Observing and Data Systems (ROADS). Version 30th August (under review)](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/RMTF/Version_30th_August_for_review/SAON_RMTF_Synthesis_Draft_version_30th_August_2019.pdf) |  |
| [Composition of RMTF. Version 30th August 2019](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/RMTF/Version_30th_August_for_review/Composition_of_RMTF_version_30AUG2019.docx) |  |
| 3a | (link) | [Third Polar Data Forum](https://polar-data-forum.org/) |  |
| 4a | (link) | [Horizon 2020. Work Programme 2018-2020](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20190715/06_h2020-wp1820-climate_en.pdf) |  |
| (link) | [SAON H2020 meeting 17th July 2019. Meeting notes](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20190911/17_SAON_H2020_meeting_17th_July_2019._Meeting_notes.docx) |  |
| 5 | (link) | [Arctic Observing Summit (AOS) themes](https://arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2020-theme-and-sub-themes) |  |
| (link) | [AOS white paper process](https://arcticobservingsummit.org/white-paper-and-short-statement-instructions) |  |
| 9.1 | (link) | [Ocean Obs ’19: Arctic Observing System. Breakout session](http://www.oceanobs19.net/breakout-sessions/) |  |
| 9.2 | (link) | [SAON related break-out sessions at Arctic Circle](https://www.arcticobserving.org/events/379-10-13-october-2019-arctic-circle-assembly) |  |
| 9.3 | (link) | [Arctic Earth System Modelling Workshop, Reykjavík, Iceland](https://www.arcticobserving.org/events/381-26-27-november-2019-arctic-earth-system-modelling-workshop-reykjavik-iceland) |  |
| 9.4 | (link) | [ISAR-6 Second Circular](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20190911/10_ISAR-6_Second_Circular_20190807.pdf) |  |
| (link) | [Email from Volker Rachold](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Board_meetings/20190911/09_Email_from_Volker_Rachold.docx) |  |
| 9.5 | (link) | [Arctic Science Summit Week 2020, Akureyri, Iceland | 27 March - 2 April](https://www.assw2020.is/) |  |

Meeting documents are found at <https://www.arcticobserving.org/governance/board/board-meetings/12-board-meetings/385-meeting-documents-for-board-meeting-teleconference-16th-october-2019>

## Appendix 4: Actions

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|  | Agenda item | Action | Who | When |
| 1 | 4a | Prepare a “straw-man” text on the H2020 call for discussion at the coming Board meeting | SAON Secretariat | 1st November 2019 |