**Inventory of WMO GCW network for SAON**

1. **Introduction to the Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW)**

The World Meteorological Organization's Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW) is an international mechanism for supporting all key cryospheric in-situ and remote sensing observations. To meet the needs of WMO Members and partners in delivering services to users, the media, public, decision and policy makers, *GCW provides authoritative, clear, and useable data, information, and analyses on the past, current and future state of the cryosphere*. GCW includes observation, monitoring, assessment, product development, prediction, and research. It provides the framework for reliable, comprehensive, sustained observing of the cryosphere through a coordinated and integrated approach on national to global scales to deliver quality-assured global and regional products and services.

1. **Introduction to** **GCW observing network - CryoNet**

The core component of the GCW surface observation network is called CryoNet. The GCW network builds on existing cryosphere observing programmes and promotes the addition of standardized cryospheric observations to existing facilities in order to create more robust environmental observatories. The GCW network distinguishes between [*stations* and *sites*](http://globalcryospherewatch.org/cryonet/site_types.html)*.* In order for a surface station or site to be included in the CryoNet, it must meet certain [criteria](http://globalcryospherewatch.org/cryonet/requirements.html).

1. **Reporting the state of the CryoNet inventory – Arctic component**

*‘Does national inventories exist?’*

An inventory for the Arctic part of CryoNet is in the process of being established.

*‘If yes, please briefly describe these: Scope/Coverage’*

There are currently 36 sites in the CryoNet pre-operational testing phase (refer to [GCW Surface Network](http://globalcryospherewatch.org/cryonet/sites.php?category=core) for the full list). CryoNet aims to be operational in all cryospheric environments on a global scale, currently there are 10 sites situated in the Arctic. An inventory, exclusively focusing on the CryoNet Arctic component activities, is presented in the appendix. The themes covered by CryoNet stations are: the cryosphere, the atmosphere, the hydrosphere and the biosphere. The minimum temporal commitment of CryoNet stations/sites is between four to ten years depending on their status.

*‘Do the inventories cover Arctic programs, networks, projects or platforms? Other?’*

CryoNet builds on existing cryosphere observing programmes, hence stations/sites are part of other Artic programs; refer to the appendix (column ‘Other networks to which this site belongs’) for more information.

*‘Is the information in the inventories openly accessible? If yes, is the information accessible to an automated harvesting process?’*

The information in the inventories is openly accessible on request (can be sent via email), but not to an automated harvesting process. Contact information: Mr. Etienne Charpentier ([echarpentier@wmo.int](mailto:echarpentier@wmo.int)); Mr. Clément Hutin ([chutin@wmo.int](mailto:chutin@wmo.int)).

For more information on GCW please visit the [GCW webpage](http://globalcryospherewatch.org/).

**Appendix - Inventory of the GCW CryoNet Arctic component activities**

(Double click on the spread sheet to access links and other features)

