



Meeting of Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)

**30th October 2018 16-17 CET / 11-12 AM EST (Teleconference)
Minutes**

1. Welcome to the call

Hannele Savela (co-Chair) welcomed the participants to the meeting, explaining that the prime focus of the meeting should be to brain storm on CON activities for 2019. The meeting invitation and the list of participants are found in Appendix 1 and 2.

2. Second Arctic Science Ministerial

Jan Rene Larsen (SAON Secretary) briefly explained about the outcome of the Second Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM2), making reference to the statement from the meeting¹. The statement has three themes:

1. Strengthening, integrating and sustaining Arctic observations, facilitating access to Arctic data, and sharing Arctic research infrastructure;
2. Understanding the regional and global dynamics of Arctic change;
3. Assessing the vulnerability and building resilience of Arctic environments and societies.

In the statement, SAON is mentioned in the context of the first theme.

Prior to the Ministerial meeting, the Arctic Observing Summit, the European Commission's Joint Research Center and SAON were the hosts of a side meeting with the title *Towards a roadmap for coordinated Arctic Observing*. Sandy Starkweather (SAON Vice-Chair, USA) and Jan Rene Larsen both had presentations and were panel participants at the Science Forum at the day preceding the Ministerial meeting.

Sandy Starkweather added that there was a strong voice that SAON needs to demonstrate more than planning capacity. It is time to look at specific actions; there was an interest in seeing more data products coming out of SAON. She noted that was not a very strong participation in the CON meeting, and wanted the Board to address this.

¹ https://www.arcticsscienceministerial.org/files/ASM2_Joint_Statement.pdf

3. CON work plan

The discussion focused on identifying individual project within the current plan that could be funded.

The meeting specifically discussed project 4.5 (*Financial plan for SAON CON*). Sandy Starkweather noted that it will take some time to understand how funding mechanisms from ASM2 deliverables will work. The application for a status for SAON as ArcticGEOSS is crucial in this context.

At earlier Board meetings, there had been indications that the European Commission would be prepared to support SAON activities.

- ✓ Contact the European Commission on this topic (Jan Rene Larsen)
- ✓ Bring project 4.5 to the attention of the Goal 3 Task Force (Jan Rene Larsen)
- ✓ Arrange a dedicated meeting with the SAON Board and the GEO Secretariat to discuss SAON's application as ArcticGEOSS.

With regards to project 4.4 (subproject *Organising of a Technology Forum*), then the idea would be to convene a forum for the sharing best practices. The idea was originally planned to be held in the context of the Arctic Observing Summit. If it was to be held in 2019, a relevant opportunity and venue should be identified. Hannele Savela believed that if chosen wisely, it should not be too complicated to arrange.

Sandy Starkweather noted that there had been intensive discussions about Co-Production of Knowledge with Indigenous communities at the ASM2 Science Forum. It could be useful to have a dedicated discussion on this.

Two specific initiatives, both with involvement of Aleut International Association (AIA) were mentioned: *Air Pollution in the Arctic: Climate, Environment and Societies* (PACES²) and *Community Observation Network for Adaptation and Security* (CONAS³).

Jan Rene Larsen informed that AMAP has discussed formulating a pilot project on CBM. He also informed about a side meeting that he had attended during ASM2: *Collaborative Management and Community-Based Observatories*⁴

- ✓ Contact Finn Danielsen on the initiative *Collaborative Management and Community-Based Observatories* (Jan Rene Larsen)

With regards to project 4.4 (*Roadmap for optimisation of monitoring and modelling programmes*) then a draft of this EU-PolarNet deliverable should be presented to the Committee.

- ✓ Provide a draft of this deliverable by the next CON meeting (Jan Rene Larsen)

² <https://pacesproject.org/about>

³ <http://conas-ak.org/>

⁴ <https://www.nordeco.dk/2nd-arctic-science-ministerial>

4. INTAROS

The meeting agreed that it would be relevant to understand the status of INTAROS. Sandy Starkweather informed the meeting that she will meet with Hajo Eicken and Roberta Pirazzini prior to AGU. Roberta Pirazzini is responsible for WP2 (*Exploitation of existing observing systems*) within the project.

- ✓ Contact Stein Sandven and Roberta Pirazzini from INTAROS, asking them to present the status of deliverables of relevance for CON meeting (Jan Rene Larsen and Hannele Savela)

5. Next teleconference

Next teleconference will be held 5th December 16 CET / 10 AM EST.

Appendix 1: Meeting invitation

Dear SAON CON members,
cc SAON Board members,

The next CON telephone conference will be held 30th October 16-17 CET / 11-12 AM EDT.

We would like to use this opportunity to invite you to the meeting, where we will focus on fleshing out the CON Work Plan activities in 2019. Please join us to brainstorm what's coming next in SAON CON, and how to advance our goals in the best possible way in 2019!

You can find the CON Work Plan as an attachment to this message, to be used in preparation to the meeting. The Agenda and the meeting documents, including the dial-in information and link to the GoTo meeting will be found here: <https://www.arcticobserving.org/committees/con/meetings>

Looking forward to meeting many of you on-line on the 30th Oct!

Best wishes,
Hannele & Lisa

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Appendix 2: List of Participants

Name	Affiliation
Hannele Savela	SAON CON co-chair, Finland, INTERACT
Jan Rene Larsen	SAON Secretary, AMAP Secretariat
Kjetil Tørseth	Norway
Sandy Starkweather	USA
Tetsuo Sueyoshi	Japan

More information about the participants and their affiliation is found at <http://www.arcticobserving.org/committees/con/members>

Appendix 3: List of documents

GoToMeeting, dial-in information
Meeting invitation
CON work plan. Version 12th June 2018
Role of national SAON organisations. Version 30th October 2018
GoToMeeting, dial-in in

The documents are found here: <http://www.arcticobserving.org/committees/con/meetings>