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| Meeting of the SAON Executive Committee | |
| When | 25th March 2019, 16-17 CET / 11-12 am EST |
| Venue | Teleconference |
| Participants | Eva Kruemmel, Jan Rene Larsen, Mikko Strahlendorff, Peter Pulsifer |
| Apologies |  |
| Meeting notes | Jan Rene Larsen |

**Agenda:**

1. Agenda for SAON Board meeting 10th April
2. Agenda for SAON Board meeting 26th May
3. ArcticGEOSS application
4. *Roadmap* Task Force (RMTF)
5. Upcoming call: LC-CLA-20-2020: Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus
6. Reporting from:
   1. Value tree analysis workshop, Helsinki, Finland
   2. SAO meeting in Ruka, Finland
   3. EC-PHORS-9 meeting Geneva, Switzerland
7. Arctic Circle China Forum, May: <http://www.arcticcircle.org/forums/china/>
8. Next Executive meeting is 15th April 16-17 CET / 10-11 am EST

**Minutes:**

Ad 1. Agenda for SAON Board meeting 10th April

The draft proposed by Jan was agreed. Mikko asked for the value tree workshop to be added to the agenda.

Ad 2. Agenda for SAON Board meeting 26th May

The draft proposed by Jan was agreed.

Eva expressed an interest to know more about the response from SAO’s to Thorsteinn’s recent presentation and also know more about the two requests from AMAP to SAON. Both topics would be on the agenda for the Board teleconference 20th March.

Peter proposed a focused discussion on the ‘funding landscape’.

Ad 3. ArcticGEOSS application

Jan had received a request from the GEO Secretariat if the submitted application was for a Community Activity or an Initative.

Mikko argued that an Initative application should be submitted. The idea would be that if something is missing then the review would inform SAON about the additional information that should be added. He offered to review the application with the ambition to potentially submit it as an Initiative application.

Ad 4. Roadmap Task Force (RMTF)

Jan explained briefly about the work that Sandy Starkweather and he have done on drafting a letter of invitation and proposing the composition of the group.

Ad 5. Upcoming call: LC-CLA-20-2020: Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus

The upcoming H2020 call (LC-CLA-20-2020: *Supporting the implementation of GEOSS in the Arctic in collaboration with Copernicus*) was discussed.

Mikko provided information about two consortia under development. The discussion was about avoiding SAON to ‘take sides’ if the two consortia compete. Ideally SAON and its Committees should engage with whoever is awarded the grant. He proposed to develop a ‘clarification package’ that could be directed to all consortia. When there is text in the call that is specific for SAON, SAON should describe the actions that SAON would like to be taken and that these should be taken together with the SAON structure. As an example he mentioned the ADC work on federated search. This mechanism would also be a solution to the problem that even though the draft call text is not known to all, the proposed text could address some of the topics that the call text raises.

That could be a way of guiding even competing teams to search for actions that get to the same goal. This would for instance include ADC planning and structures. This should ideally happen before summer. He believed that the SAON Board could potentially play a role in motivating the two consortia to merge.

Eva would like to have the discussion at the Board meeting and not just among potential European partners. One issue is that SAON needs funding in order to upgrade the operational basis and in order to get funding we need to be real partners on the proposals and to have a budget attached to the work. The fact that there is more than one consortium is an issue for this. SAON should be an active partner in the proposal development.

Peter proposed a potential mechanism that had worked for other proposals where you put in a work package without necessarily knowing the full proposal or overall goal. This could also be the appropriate role for SAON, for instance in establishing the long-term vision and sustainability. As a concrete way forward at the data side, he noted that the ADC is currently putting together the results of the various workshops that has been held as well as the coming Polar Data Forum. Such a summary would describe what has already been established and vision and CON could do something similar. For the CON part, he noted that Hajo Eicken is drafting a text for NSF that could be relevant.

Ad 6. Reporting from different initatives.

This was not covered.

Ad 7. Arctic Circle China Forum

This was not covered.