

GOFC/GOLD Executive Committee Teleconference – 15 April 2004

Participants: John Townshend, Chris Justice, Ivan Csiszar, John Latham, Chris Schmallius, Kathleen Landauer, Johann Goldammer, Garik Gutman, Rhonda Davis, Michael Brady

Highlights and Action Items:

- GOFC-GOLD 2004-2005 budget presented and improvements discussed.
- Upcoming Land Cover-IT meetings clarified.

Details:

1. GOFC-GOLD Budget

- Michael Brady explained draft GOFC-GOLD budget spreadsheet, which was distributed to ExComm.
- Suggested improvements include: include subtotals; identify minimum resources required for operational regional networks; prepare detailed and summary versions; place on website in password-protected section and regularly update; include funds in summary budget to those directly available for GOFC-GOLD activities; and include funds in detailed budget from related programs, e.g. GFMC.
- Current 2004-2005 budget is about CAD\$1 million, of which two thirds of the funds have been obtained.

2. NEESPI Regional Meeting at Rostov on Don, 23-24 August

- Garik Gutman explained that a preliminary list of attendees has been prepared and that invitations will be sent.
- The meeting will address two topics for the non-boreal subregion: land cover dynamics and hydro meteorological data.

3. Land Cover Implementation Team Meeting Planning:

General:

- Chris Schmallius asked for clarification regarding three upcoming land cover-related meetings (LC-IT harmonization; LCCS2; IAO-USAID). John Latham briefly explained the nature of the meetings. He also agreed to send the ExComm a separate note with more detail and how they fit in the GTOS-GOFC-GOLD arena (sent by email).
- Chris and John will meet at ESA next week (with Alan Belward) to plan the upcoming LC-IT Harmonization meeting, which has been discussed for July.

4. GOFC Reports

- Project Office is still tracking down MSWord versions of old reports. Scanning is being considered for reports available only in hardcopy form.

5. Any other Business

Fire IT Proposal to FAO for FRA:

- John Latham apologized to the Fire IT for not being able to meet the previous week in Italy to review the fire proposal. He assured the IT that it is important that FAO support the proposal and that the matter needs to be revisited.

GEO Link to GOFC:

- John Townshend explained that GTOS is part of the GEO, which is a planning process involving national level governments. A final report is expected by February 2005. It remains unclear who

will monitor implementation of the agreed upon plan. It is important that GOFC-GOLD's role is in line with the GEO plan.

Next meeting: May 20, 2004 (to be coordinated by the Project Office)