

## **GOFC/GOLD Executive Committee Teleconference – 20 May 2004**

Participants: John Townshend, Chris Justice, Ivan Csiszar, John Latham, Chris Schnullius, Kathleen Landauer, Johann Goldammer, David Skole, Paul Reichert, Garik Gutman, Martin Herold, Michael Brady, Murugi Larsen

### **Highlights and Action Items:**

- Plans are in place for GOFC-GOLD/FAO Workshop on Harmonization of Global Land Cover Products, FAO Rome, Italy, 15-16 July 2004.
- GOFC-GOLD SE Asia Regional Fire Workshop, Putra Jaya, Malaysia is in progress this week.
- Funding constraints might affect NEESPI Regional Meeting at Rostov on Don, 23-24 August
- FRA 2005 fire proposal to be resubmitted to FAO with focus on support for regional network participation.
- ExComm to explore opportunity to hold annual S&T Board meeting in China, which could be combined with the establishment of an East Asia GOFC-GOLD regional network
- ExComm members to review and make nominations for S&T Board membership.
- ExComm to review second version of the IGOL (Integrated Global Observations of the Land) proposal before presentation at the IGOS-Partnership meeting on 27 May at FAO.

### **Details:**

1. CEOS Workshop on Rapid Response Systems, 5-6 May 2004 Wuhan, China
  - John Townshend reported on the successful meeting, which was partly sponsored by GOFC-GOLD and included over 200 participants from about 20 countries. He will evaluate whether a report will be prepared for dissemination by GOFC-GOLD.
2. GOFC-GOLD/FAO Workshop on Harmonization of Global Land Cover Products, FAO Rome, Italy, 15-16 July 2004
  - Chris Schnullius confirmed the workshop dates and FOA venue. John Latham confirmed that Paul Reichert, Reuben Sessa and Antonio Di Gregorio would attend and demonstrate the LCCS2. Chris described the agenda and will distribute it shortly.
  - Kathleen Landauer confirmed that \$10K would be available from START for the workshop.
  - John Latham requested that legends of the test beds to be used at the workshop be sent to FOA beforehand.
3. SE Asia Fire Workshop, Putra Jaya, Malaysia 17-19 May 2004
  - Chris Justice reported that the workshop was underway and going well. A workshop report has been requested.
4. FRA 2005 Fire Proposal
  - Johann Goldammer explained that the GFMC is preparing a narrative report on fire and land cover change, which will compliment the individual country reports. He discussed the proposal with FAO, who is interested, but could not provide funds. FAO will prepare written support for the proposal, which can then be provided possibly to NASA.
  - He explained that the FRA 2005 is an important exercise for exposing the important effects of fire, and thus needs the full attention of GOFC-GOLD and FAO-FRA.

- Chris Justice explained the contents of the two-part proposal. The first is the regional network component, which is targeted for FAO support. The second is technical backstopping, which can be funded from space agencies (NASA, ESA, JRC, etc).
  - John Latham explained that the proposal is being resubmitted through GTOS and will be discussed again with Peter Holmgren. Paul Reichart added that new discussions are underway.
5. Plans for S&T Board meeting: date (late October), location and venue, Board composition, budget
- John Townshend explained that while attending the Wuhan meeting in China he met with the Chinese Academy of Sciences. There appears to be an interest to have the next S&T meeting in Beijing and to hold a complimentary meeting to initiate development of an East Asia Regional Network. The Chinese would cover local costs.
  - Other ExComm members agreed in principle with having the S&T meeting in China, particularly if it helped to build commitment to creating a new GOF-C-GOLD regional network, which might involve China, Japan, and the Koreas. Others observed that the ExComm likely has many linkages in the region, which could be utilized for support.
  - Dates were discussed and a general consensus was that November 2004 might be appropriate, particularly as October is busy with several other GOF-C-GOLD activities.
  - Michael Brady was asked to estimate other costs for international participation at the meeting in China. He was also asked to solicit nominations from ExComm members regarding S&T Board membership.
6. NEESPI Regional Meeting at Rostov on Don, 23-24 August
- Garik Gutman explained that a preliminary agenda has been prepared. He reviewed the funding situation, which was currently insufficient to hold the meeting. A decision to hold the meeting will be made by 10 June.
  - John Townshend commented that there may be a reluctance among agencies to provide funds because of the lack of clarity of NEESPI and the role of GOF-C-GOLD. John asked Garik to send information about meeting resources to ExComm members.
7. Any other Business
- IGOL Theme:
- John Townshend distributed by email the second version of the IGOL (Integrated Global Observations of the Land) proposal. He requested that ExComm members send comments before he presents it at the IGOS-Partnership meeting on 27 May at FAO. To date, the UNEP, USGS, ESA and others have endorsed the concept.
  - John Latham welcomed the proposal and appreciated the effort to deliver the initiative at the IGOS meeting.

**Next meeting: July 15, 2004**