

## **Terms of Reference**

### **Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network: Executive Council**

12 May 2017

Members of the GOA-ON Executive Council (EC) are appointed for one 3-year term with the possibility to extend service for one additional term to a maximum of 2 terms. For a member who subsequently becomes Co-Chair, the maximum period of service may be extended up to 9 years, with a maximum period of 6 years as Co-Chair.

Appointments will normally begin at the start of the calendar year and finish on the last day of a calendar year.

#### **Composition of the Executive Council:**

- The EC will be composed of the Co-Chairs plus up to 18 additional members.
- Members will be nominated<sup>i</sup> with effort to have geographic diversity and gender balance, and will be chosen as
  - experts in fields of ocean observing (ocean biology and biogeochemistry), chemical oceanography, biological oceanography, biological experimentation, sensors and instruments, modelling, and data management.
  - representatives of government agencies, relevant intergovernmental bodies<sup>ii</sup>, and national scientific programs.
- Co-chairs should ideally have both scientific expertise and strong policy or funding linkages.

#### **The responsibilities of the EC members are:**

- Attend, in person<sup>iii</sup>, one EC meeting annually, nominally two full days. Annual EC meetings will likely be scheduled in conjunction with other workshops and meetings to reduce travel requirements by EC members.
- Prior to the EC meetings, report in writing<sup>iv</sup> any matters relevant to GOA-ON in the thematic area of their appointment.
- Participate in quarterly teleconferences with the EC (planned at least 4 weeks in advance with sufficient flexibility in proposed dates).
- Provide relevant information for the quarterly GOA-ON newsletter.
- Provide input<sup>4</sup> on the international community needs regarding GOA-ON related issues. Suggest actions for GOA-ON to address these needs and work with the EC and partner organizations to execute actions.
- Represent GOA-ON, particularly in their area of expertise, at international meetings and workshops, and report on significant outcomes relevant to GOA-ON within three months of the meeting<sup>iv</sup>
- Promote the awareness of GOA-ON to the public, policy makers and within the scientific community.
- Encourage national and international funding agencies to support the activities of the GOA-ON.
- Encourage coordination of efforts and collaboration with organizations and

projects involved in ocean acidification observations, impacts and data delivery.

If EC members are unable to provide significant contribution to GOA-ON, for example by not participating in the in-person annual meetings and quarterly teleconferences, the Co-Chairs in consultation with the EC have the option to nominate new members to replace them, after notifying them and giving them an opportunity to re-engage.

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<sup>i</sup> Nominations sought from existing members, on the basis of wider consultations and agreement of the nominated individual

<sup>ii</sup> Currently IOC, IOCCP, GOOS and OA-ICC; others not excluded if strong interest

<sup>iii</sup> Effort will be made to centrally cover the costs of in-person meeting participation. Arrangements will be discussed further on an individual basis depending on the EC member needs

<sup>iv</sup> Written reports to the GOA-ON Secretariat/Project Office, and until established to the Co-Chairs