## SG-RFC cooperation with the Group on Earth Observations (GEO)

## Introduction

1. Until the last meeting of SG-RFC, WMO was contributing to GEO Task IN-01-C4. Most of the work consisted of assisting the Leader for Task IN-01, who usually reported Radio Frequency issues to GEO Plenary and other bodies. Recently, GEO approved a new 2017-2019 Work Programme.
2. While the new Work Programme has different contents and format as compared with GEOSS 10 Years Implementation Plan, where Task IN-01-C4 was defined, the Radio Frequency Coordination support from SG-RFC to GEO is likely to be maintained or enhanced. GEO has, in many occasions, acknowledged the importance of and its reliance on the support received from SG-RFC.

## GEO Radio Frequency Coordination Task in 2017-2019

1. In the GEO Work Programme 2017-2019, the new RFC task is under GEO Foundational Tasks of both "Satellite based Earth Observation Resources" and "In Situ based Earth Observation Resources". There has been some coordination of RF issues within GEO Programme Board but not many consultations with task communities.
2. Although the process of transition to the Work Programme was not so clear, the task substance basically remains unchanged. Relevant texts can be found in the long version of the Work Programme (see page 139 and 142).

## Follow-up by GEO after WRC-15

1. After successful protection of 5GHz C-band issues in the WRC-15, a letter was sent to GEO community asking if there are any key issues for advance coordination towards the WRC-19. The task is fully leveraged by the WMO Steering Group on Radio Frequency Coordination. The task activity would be “on demand”, in case if any issues are raised by GEO Members and Participating Organizations. There were three requests received from the GEO communities in response to the letter as follows:
   1. The GEO Global High-Frequency Radar Network requested to raise awareness of the need for protection of 13MHz and 25MHz bands. The GEO Secretariat and WMO provided guidance and possible actions.
   2. The GEO Secretariat provided a quote to support a charter for establishing an OGC Spectrum Model Language Domain Working Group that will develop a standard data model for electromagnetic field data would be useful in efforts to mitigate interference between wireless communications and Earth imaging.
   3. The GEO Secretariat sent a support letter to a public notice issued in late April by the United States Federal Communications Commission seeking comments from affected user communities in response to a proposal by the wireless industry to share 1675-1680 MHz with GOES and future GOES-R downlink services.

## References

[1] GEO 2017-2019 Work Programme <http://wis.wmo.int/file=3176> (25/11/2016)

## Recommended Text

1. The session noted that GEO had just undergone a transition from the GEOSS Ten Year Implementation Plan to a new 2017-2019 Work Programme. It also noted that while the transition to new Programme was not strait forward, GEO reliance on the work of SG-RFC will continue and probably will be enhanced.
2. In the GEO Work Programme 2017-2019, the RFC task is under GEO Foundational Tasks of both "Satellite based Earth Observation Resources" and "In Situ based Earth Observation Resources". Currently, GEO is in the process of internal discussions of RF issues with its Programme Board and task communities. It is very likely that the task activities will be on demand, based on requests by GEO Members and Participating Organizations. Few requests have already arrived and will be forwarded to SG-RFC.
3. …………………………

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