

5<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

Eric Lindstrom (GOOS Co-chair)  
 John Gunn (GOOS Co-chair)  
 Stephen Briggs (GCOS Chair)  
 David Legler (NOAA Office of Climate Obs)  
 Asahiko Taira (JAMSTEC)  
 Tetsushi Komatsu (JAMSTEC)  
 Jiabiao Li (SOA SIO)  
 Jung Keuk Kang (KIOST)

cc  
 Dake Chen (SOA SIO)  
 Jae Hak Lee (KIOST)  
 Albert Fischer (GOOS Director),  
 Carolin Richter (GCOS Director)  
 Mark Bourassa (OOPC Co-Chair)  
 Ken Ando (JAMSTEC)

Dear TPOS Workshop Sponsors

### Re. Tropical Pacific Observing System (TPOS) 2020 Workshop outcomes and next steps.

We are pleased to be able to provide the final report from the TPOS-2020 Workshop, and would like to sincerely thank you for your support of this important process.

The main recommendation of the meeting was to establish a TPOS 2020 project, with the aim to oversee the transition of the observing system to an integrated and more robust and sustainable system through 2020 and beyond.

The proposed TPOS 2020 Project Goals are:

- To refine and adjust the TPOS to monitor, observe and define the state of ENSO and advance scientific understanding of its causes.
- To determine the most efficient and effective method to support observation and prediction systems for ocean, weather, and climate services of high societal and economic utility, including underpinning research.
- To advance/refine the degree to which the tropical Pacific (physical and biogeochemical) and its climate impacts are predictable.
- To determine how interannual to multidecadal variability and human activities impact the relation between marine biogeochemistry and biology to carbon budgets, food security, and biodiversity.

The TPOS 2020 Project would be coordinated by a Steering Committee and supported by a Resources Forum and Project coordinator. The recommended project scope and structure is in section 8 of the report.

To take this project forward, we would like to recommend two energetic Steering Committee co-chairs, Dr William (Billy) Kessler (NOAA PMEL, USA), and Dr Neville Smith (retired, Australia).

*The Ocean Observations Panel for Climate is sponsored by the Global Ocean Observing System the Global Climate Observing System and the World Climate Research Program. OOPC provides advice on scientific requirements to the Joint Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology.*

Billy and Neville have complementary skills and will provide strong and proactive leadership for the TPOS project, giving it the best chance of success.

Dr William Kessler has built his career in observational oceanographic research in the tropical Pacific, and is a passionate advocate of ocean observations, with an interest in innovative approaches to observing system design. He has been an active member of TOGA and CLIVAR Panels, and has collaborated strongly internationally including undertaking extended fellowships in CSIRO in Hobart, Australia, IRD in Noumea, New Caledonia and LEGOS, Toulouse, France. Dr Kessler is also currently editor of the Journal of Physical Oceanography.

Dr Neville Smith has been a leader in the ocean and climate observations area for 25 years and was involved with the establishment of a number of innovative observing and ocean forecasting initiatives. He is a member of the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change as vice-chair of Working Group 2, the Group responsible for impacts, adaptation and vulnerability scientific assessments. He was elected to the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering in 2005. Dr Smith was the Deputy Director (Research and Systems) at the Bureau of Meteorology before retiring early in 2014 and was previously the Bureau Chief Scientist and head of the Bureau of Meteorology Research Centre.

If you have any questions, comments or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact us directly or via the OOPC coordinator Katy Hill ([khill@wmo.int](mailto:khill@wmo.int)) by 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014 so we can move swiftly forward with establishing the TPOS 2020 Project.

TPOS 2020 Project side events will be held at the WMO and IOC Executive Councils, where the vision for and steps towards implementation of the TPOS 2020 project will be discussed.

All the best,



David Anderson

and

Toshio Suga

Co-Chairs, TPOS 2020 Workshop Scientific Organising Committee)